



February 2024 ISSUE 11

PRESBYTERY OF THE RIVERINA

Discipleship and Education Committee

Removing the stops and roadblocks to learning. Like a roundabout, D&E strives to allow for the continuous journey forward in your faith through engagement and learning.



Rev Jenny Ducker from the Safe Church Unit
will be in the Riverina Region 12th to the 24th February.

Jenny will be visiting congregations during that time and your congregation should have received an email with a date and time Jenny will visit to work with you around the Safe Church requirements.

Please remember that the Uniting Church is responding to Government legislation around Safe Church requirements as well as responding to the gospel ethic of doing to others as we would have done to us.

There is a **Safe Church Training Day** being held at **Jerilderie** on the **17th of February** and you can register using this link <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=969eTL006UOKELYQRjGvKQxVCmfGA0tAj6xFq9JzYp9UM1JU1NQSvZET0UyRzM5TzBSSDVKVkZHUy4u> (hold your ctrl key down and click with mouse)

or be in touch Jenny Whitlock and Jenny will be able to register for you

The Safe Church Unit has its own website page with lots of resources that will be helpful for your congregation

<https://www.nswact.uca.org.au/support-services/safe-church-unit/>

You are invited to the Saltbush Regional Gathering in Ganmain

on the 24th of February

at Ganmain Uniting Church (53 Langham St Ganmain)

9am for a 9.30am start to 3pm.

Lunch and Morning Tea will be provided

Jenny Ducker will also be at this event

Please join us either in person or online via this Zoom Meeting

link

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/94814760429>

(hold your ctrl key down and click with mouse) or the Meeting ID: 948 1476 0429 to log in



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It is very helpful if you register for this event. You can register by clicking on the link below or be in touch and let Geoff Wellington know you intend coming along:

<https://nswactuca.eventsair.com/srg-riverina/registration> or GeoffW@nswact.uca.org.au

ATTENTION LAY LEADERS

Are you seeking some support for
your ministry?

Are you missing the collegiality of
sharing with other leaders?

Vital Leadership would love to support you in your ministry by providing this opportunity to form groups for you to participate in.

Book in to join a Leadership support group.



Leadership support groups / Group supervision

- ◇ Begun in Macquarie Darling Presbytery in 2021 as a trial over the past 3 years. 5 groups are running there and continuing due to their usefulness and effectiveness.
- ◇ We meet in small groups of 3 lay leaders with a Professional/Pastoral supervisor to reflect on key issues you're facing in your rural congregations.
- ◇ The group sessions are held 5 times a year for 2 hours on Zoom.
- ◇ The group time provides space for you to discuss the challenges of leadership, debrief about critical incidents and receive collegial and pastoral support to prevent isolation.
- ◇ Most groups also share resources for worship, pastoral care and spiritual reflection. We will provide the Professional/ Pastoral supervisors including myself to facilitate the groups and offer that to you at no cost to you or the region.

I'd love to hear from you if you're interested in being in a group.

Contact Rev Jan Reeve- Supervision Development Officer at

email janr@nswact.uca.org.au

or via this form link https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=969eTL006UOKElyQRjGvKRZCTcy1cCpDuEEjinE8YE5UMVQ0Uk9BU05RVEpFV1FPREhFSVpUMTZWQj4u&mc_cid=1be571031b&mc_eid=UNIQID



Scripture Union
New South Wales



Message from Rev. Andrew Parkinson the Associate Director at **Scripture Union NSW**, based in Central West NSW.

As we still don't have an **SU** Regional Worker in the Riverina, I am planning to start the year with a Riverina trip on the 12th-15th of February to catch up with pastors, church leaders & volunteers to see if there are ways that **Scripture Union NSW** might support their ministry in 2024 with resources, training, Rural Partnership Missions, camps, lunchtime school groups and more.

I'd love to catch up with you for a coffee and a chat (*my shout at the venue of your choice*) to hear about the UCA churches in the region. My Itinerary currently looks like this.

Mon 12th Feb - Home → Young → Temora → Aria Park → Griffith

Tue 13th Feb - Griffith → Leeton → Narrandera → Jerilderee → Deniliquin

Wed 14th Feb - Deniliquin → Finley → Corowa → Albury

Thu 15th Feb - Albury → Gundagai → Yass → Home

If you or someone you know would like to take Andrew up on his offer of a coffee and a chat please contact him on

t 02 9638 9030 m 0417 415 716

e: andrew.parkinson@sunsw.org.au | w: www.sunsw.org.au



Safe Church Awareness Face to Face Workshop

If you are needing to complete this training please consider attending the next workshop being held in **May** (date to be confirmed).

Just contact D & E Committee Secretary - Jen Whitlock jandbw@bigpond.net.au and she will book you in.!!!!!! It's that easy.



Church Councils please check the Safe Church section of the Synod website to ensure you are meeting all Government requirements.

FUNERAL PRESIDERS TRAINING



The Discipleship & Education committee are seeking Expressions of Interest for Face to Face Funeral training in the Riverina. We need 5 people to register their interest in a funeral workshop, which will aim to give you support and information around conducting funerals in your congregation. Proposed date 29th June 2024

Please contact Jenny Whitlock Ph: 0429 818 657 Email: jandbw@bigpond.net.au

In the meantime if you need one to one assistance with funerals please contact Lorraine Hoffmann Chairperson D&E on 0427 204 051 or email lahoffman@bigpond.com

UME 23 – 25 October 2024—Presider at Funeral training will be available

Saltbush Lent Café

Lenten Saltbush online study

Wednesdays

28th Feb - 27th March

access via

<https://saltbushcommunity.uca.org.au/>



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Events & Courses

All dates subject to change.

2024 Calendar

JANUARY

14-18	XIV International Bonhoeffer Congress <i>Crisis and Hope: Reading Bonhoeffer for Today</i>	U
18-20	Discernment Retreat	D

FEBRUARY

1-2	Pulse Leadership Development	Y
2-4	Pulse Retreat Yourself 2024	Y
7-8	Presiding at Weddings	L M F
12	UTC Opening Service, Inaugural Lecture, New Student Orientation	U
17	Missional Leadership Hub Day	C L
19-22	UTC Uniting Church Studies Intensive Course (Audit only)	U
21 Feb - 7 Mar	Fundamentals of Transitional Ministry - Congregation	M
22	Ethical Ministry Refresher Train the Facilitator	M
23	UTC Higher Degree Research Colloquium	U
24 Feb & 2 Mar	Living Our Values (LOF1)	L M C
27 Feb - 16 Apr	Living Our Faith Exploring Theology (LOF3)	L M F

MARCH

1-3	Pulse Amplify Conference Hub	Y
5-6	UTC Extensive - Professional Supervision 1 (MIN503) Part 1 of 3	U
6-27	Saltbush Lenten Conversations	C
13	Mission Engagement Church Planting Expression of Interest Day	C M
14	Phase 3 of Ministry Early-stage In-service Training	M
20	Ethical Ministry Refresher Topic 2024A	M
22	UTC Higher Degree Research Colloquium	U

APRIL

2-3	UTC Extensive - Professional Supervision 1 (MIN503) Part 2 of 3	U
3	Intentional Interim Ministry (IIM) Presbytery Engagement Day	M
4-6	UTC Talanoa Oceania 2024 - Indigeneity: Belongings & Subversions	U

APRIL

8-9	Coaching Techniques for Ministry Development	M
12-14	Pulse Kids Camp Out Sydney	Y
18	Ethical Ministry Refresher Topic 2024A	M
20 & 27	Living Our Faith Leading Worship in the UCA (LOF2)	C L
26	UTC Higher Degree Research Colloquium	U

MAY

4	Phase 1 of Ministry Engagement Day	D
7-8	UTC Extensive - Professional Supervision 1 (MIN503) Part 3 of 3	U
7-21	Presiding at the Sacraments	C L
9 May- 27 June	Living Our Faith Exploring the Old Testament (LOF4)	L M F
15	Ethical Ministry Refresher Topic 2024A	M
16-30	Synod Mentor Training	M
23	Supervision Professional Development Day 1 of 2	M
24	UTC Higher Degree Research Colloquium	U

JUNE

1	Presiding at the Sacraments Refresher Session	C L
3-6	Women in Ministry Retreat (for Ordained women)	M
11-25	Living Our Values (LOF1)	L M C
21	UTC Higher Degree Research Colloquium	U
26	Cross-cultural Blessing Day	C M

JULY

1-5	UTC Intensive - Cross-cultural Ministry in Australia (THL230/THL486)	U
9-11	UTC The UCA Constitution Preamble & First Peoples Conference	U
11-16	17th National Assembly Meeting Hosted by NSW & ACT Synod [AM]	AM
16-17	UTC Extensive - Professional Supervision 2 (MIN525) Part 1 of 3	U
19	UTC Higher Degree Research Colloquium	U
24-25	Ethical Ministry Foundation	L M C
29 Jul- 16 Sep	Living Our Faith Exploring the New Testament (LOF5)	L M F



AUGUST

1-3	Discernment Retreat	D
13-14	UTC Extensive - Professional Supervision 2 (MIN525) Part 2 of 3	U
23	UTC Higher Degree Research Colloquium	U
28	Ethical Ministry Refresher Topic 2024B	M

SEPTEMBER

4	UTC May Macleod Lecture [U]	U
11-13	Soul Care Conference [M]	M
17-18	UTC Extensive - Professional Supervision 2 (MIN525) Part 3 of 3	U
19 Sep- 3 Oct	Presiding at the Sacraments	C L
24 Sep- 8 Oct	Living Our Faith Leading Worship in the UCA (LOF2)	C L
27	UTC Higher Degree Research Colloquium	U

OCTOBER

7-11	Pulse Uniting Youth Camp	Y
10	Ethical Ministry Refresher Topic 2024B	M
10 Oct - 28 Nov	Living Our Faith Proclaiming Jesus Christ (LOF6)	L M F
15 - 29	Synod Mentor Training	M
23 - 25	Presiding at Funerals	L M F
24	Supervision Professional Development Day 2 of 2	M
25	UTC Higher Degree Research Colloquium	U
28	Pulse Emerging Gen Resourcing Day	Y

NOVEMBER

6	Ethical Ministry Refresher Topic 2024B	M
9 & 16	Living Our Values (LOF1)	L M C
13 - 21	Ethical Ministry Foundation 4-session Program	L M C
29	UTC Higher Degree Research Colloquium	U

DECEMBER

2	Living Our Faith Lay Preachers Code of Ethics Workshop	L M C
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- D** Discernment pathways for those in ministry or discerning a call
- L** Ideal education or event opportunity for current or future lay preachers
- M** Ideal for further Ministerial professional development
- U** United Theological College (UTC) related content and study
- F** Formation pathways study or learning
- C** Learning opportunities for church and congregation community members
- Y** Youth program or Pulse program events
- AM** 17th National Assembly Meeting



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Camden Theological Library

A resource of the Uniting Church in Australia,
NSW/ACT Synod

<https://www.library.nsw.uca.org.au/>

Camden Theological Library is here to help you explore your Christian faith, with resources to help you serve your church and community.

Prayer for Compassion: "Dear God, open my heart to the needs of others. May I reflect your love and compassion in my actions, serving those who are suffering or in need.
In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen."

PRESBYTERY LIBRARY

Are you a lay leader taking services?

Are you feeling a bit tired or looking to do worship just a little bit differently?

Consider using one of the many Bible Studies

found in the Riverina Presbytery Library!!!!

There are multiply copies on many different subjects

These could be used by your congregation in lieu of the sermon...

A short bible reading followed by a question and answer time.

Want to know more??? Contact Lorraine Hoffman

Chairperson D&E on 0427 204 051 or

email lahoffman@bigpond.com



Bible Study

PRESBYTERY WEBSITE

New resources available for service leaders and lay Preachers. For all the latest on upcoming events check often to keep up to date. <https://riverina.unitingchurch.org.au/>

D & E CONTACT INFO

D & E Chairperson: Lorraine Hoffmann Ph: 0427 204 051 Email: lahoffman@bigpond.com

D & E Secretary: Jenny Whitlock Ph: 0429 818 657 Email: jandbw@bigpond.net.au