



**Uniting Church in Australia  
SEACLIFF WEEKLY NEWS  
Sunday 5 May 2019  
EASTER 6**

**Jesus Reinstates Peter**

*John 21: 15- 19.*

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, **“Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”** “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you. “Jesus said, **“Feed my lambs.”** <sup>16</sup> Again Jesus said, **“Simon son of John, do you love me?”** He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus said, **“Take care of my sheep.”** <sup>17</sup> The third time he said to him, **“Simon son of John, do you love me?”** Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.” Jesus said, **“Feed my sheep.** <sup>18</sup> **Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.”** <sup>19</sup> Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, **“Follow me!”**

**Welcome to Seacliff Uniting Church!**

If you are new to the area, visiting friends or family, or on a holiday, to you we extend a warm welcome, and invite you to share fully in worship and fellowship. Our Minister until 23.6. 2019, is Rev. Gary Stuckey.

## **This Week at Seacliff**

**TakeUs2**

**Tonight**

**6.45 pm 5<sup>th</sup> May**

**Women's Night Fellowship 7.30pm Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> May**

**What's News**

### **TakUs2 for May**

Tonight, Viv and Jim Winn will take us on an armchair **Trip around the World!** Come along at **6.45pm** and join the Winns as they share some of the wonderful places from their travel book.

### **Two important matters for us as a congregation**

#### ***Ministry placement***

As advised over the last couple of weeks, information and response sheets are being distributed today for the Financial Planning exercise we need to do in preparation for the negotiations for a new minister in placement at Seacliff. The information needs no further explanation, I think.

Placements Committee met last Monday, so we could in theory see some action pretty soon. In the meantime, we ask for your thoughtful and prayerful response – responses by May 19<sup>th</sup> if at all possible. Many thanks.

Max

#### ***Congregation meeting***

Also today – a separate insert in the newsletter about the decision we need to make in a fortnight's time, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Yes, it looks like organisational stuff, but actually it goes to the heart of who we are as a Uniting Church and as the local Seacliff church community. Please attend and participate if at all possible.

Max

#### **Ministry placement**

As advised a few weeks ago, we need to undertake a Financial Planning exercise in preparation for the negotiations for a new minister in placement at Seacliff. This is just the preliminary notice that all the paperwork for the exercise will be handed out next week (or mailed to those not able to be present).

**Also** – first notice about a formal meeting of the congregation on **Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>**: there will be an insert in next week's newsletter giving all the necessary information. This one is to do with wider structures of the UCA in SA.

Max

## **WOMENS NIGHT FELLOWSHIP**

After the school holiday break, we meet again on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May, at 7.30 pm. We are to have a guest speaker, **Dr Ian Tucker**, who is going to speak to us on ‘**Continnence**’ which should be very interesting. **The Green Team** are on duty. Looking forward to being together again. See you there. Von

## **Cogs N Coffee**

Eight of us took on the challenge of possible showers and gusty conditions to ride via the airport and linear track to have coffee at Henley Beach. There was no rain and a nice tail wind on the home run. Next week, we will try for the Amy Gillet ride again meeting at Oakbank trail start between 9 and 9.15 am. Brian

## **Election Day May 18<sup>th</sup>.**

If you are able to help with any of these stalls and operations, please see the person whose name appears alongside it:

Plants	Colin and Libby
BBQ	Dene
Cakes	Heather

Rosters for the day will be prepared over the next couple of weeks. Max

## **COMN (Community Outreach Mission Network)**

Just to repeat that the date of the Network meeting to be held here at **Seacliff UC** is confirmed as **Wed 29<sup>th</sup> May**. Please see Max or Von if you are able to help with setting up tables and serving the shared meal (the meal is at **6pm**) and tidying up after. The meeting is open to all comers. The speaker will be **Mr. Paul Goh**, Synod officer for Transforming Justice and “CALD”: Culturally and Linguistically Diverse of the Uniting Church.

### **Beyond Seacliff**

**John Bell, of Iona Community**, will be in Adelaide **this week, from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May**. We sing some of his songs. Topics to be covered include ‘Songs to enliven communities of faith’, ‘Keeping faith in an age of consumerism’ and ‘Exploring Celtic Spirituality’. On the pin board beside the ramp, there is a small flyer advertising these sessions; it contains bookings and other information.

## BACK PAGE

Worship Leader for Today: Rev Gary Stuckey HC  
Lectionary for Today: 5<sup>th</sup> May 2019: **Acts 9:1-6, (7-20);  
Ps 30 ; Rev 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19.**

Reminder for Stewards: **12.5. 2019**

David Rickard

Richard Lane

### **Welcome to our Church.**

Things you need to know, especially if you are a visitor.

**Fire exits** are marked. Please take note. In the case of an emergency evacuation please gather on the Western Lawns under the Pine Tree. **St John First Aid Kit** - on top of the pigeon holes up from the ramp. **Toilets** are available through the door front right of the Worship Area or out through the turn around point on the ramp. **Morning tea** is held after the service – we hope you will join with us. More information is available from the Steward's Table and displays scattered around "The Middle Hall".

### **Items for the Newsletter**

Please email items to  
[newsletter@seacliffuc.org](mailto:newsletter@seacliffuc.org)  
by 9.30am on Wednesdays.  
If you do not have access to email, please phone or call in at the church office and it will be forwarded for you.

Interim Ministerial oversight is in the care of Rev. Gary Stuckey.

**Gary's mobile no. is  
0488 017 187.**

### **Church Office Information**

Open Thursday and Friday

9.30am – 12.30pm

☎ 8296 1517

Email: [office@seacliffuc.org](mailto:office@seacliffuc.org)

Website: [www.seacliffuc.org](http://www.seacliffuc.org)

**Seacliff's place in the wider Uniting Church**  
***This is the first of two inserts with information for our  
Congregation meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May.***

1 Why we need to decide

You may be aware that the SA Synod of the Uniting Church is re-establishing the regional Councils known as Presbyteries after about 10 years of having just one to cover all of SA.

Some historical context:

- The normal arrangement across the UCA is to have several Presbyteries make up a (state) Synod; each Presbytery is a geographic area, and all the congregations within its boundaries belong to it.
- For the last 14 years or so, SA has had just the one Presbytery, with "Mission Networks" operating on a basis of *shared interest* rather than geography.
- Some of the Networks had a clearly-defined position around a traditional biblical understanding and/or traditional values of human sexuality.
- Seacliff joined the COMN (Community Outreach Mission Network): congregations in this Network shared a primary focus on a theology of care and service rather than on a theology of specified belief statement.
- The national Assembly meeting last July resolved to make provision for the UCA to recognise and conduct same-gender marriage. Following that, there were moves interstate for *non-geographic Presbyteries* to be established, so that people distressed or displeased by the Assembly decision could remain within the broader Uniting Church but stand aside from endorsing and being part of the church's new position re marriage.

Normally this is not possible, but an acceptable form of words has been found to make it possible in SA.

Back in January this year, the task group managing the process asked us for a *preliminary indication* (not binding) of whether we were likely to join the new non-geographic Presbytery. Given that we are presently part of COMN, Church Council resolved that we were unlikely to find the proposed new Presbytery a good fit for us, and would elect to become part of the area-based Presbytery within which we are located.

This was announced to our people the following Sunday, and there has not been any comment or response since then.

The time has now come when we are required to make the *formal* decision. In practice, the question is whether to re-affirm the earlier indication or change to the new Presbytery. For this we are required to conduct a meeting of the congregation.

- The meeting will be held on **Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>**, immediately following the conclusion of worship.
- We anticipate that the meeting will be very brief.
- The proposal to be put will be that Seacliff become part of the area-based Presbytery within which we are located.
- Voting will be by written secret ballot.
- If it turns out that there is any need for further information or discussion, the meeting will be adjourned and will *resume at 11.00 am*, after morning tea.

**Next week** there will be Insert #2 giving some information about the underlying philosophies and values of the different Presbyteries.

This is a significant exercise for the wider Uniting Church – we are all encouraged to take up the opportunity to take part.

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