

# The Westerly



PWV & PWW Newsletter No.67 – March 2025



## Celebrating 800 years of Caring for Creation St. Francis of Assisi

In 2025, the church will celebrate the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the composition of **the Canticle of the Creatures**. In the spring of 1225, shortly after his experience at La Verna, St. Francis of Assisi chose to spend fifty days at the Monastery of San Damiano, where St. Clare and the first Poor Sisters lived. During his stay at San Damiano, Francis had been suffering through a night of pain caused by his illnesses, when he was visited by the Lord, who reassured him of His love and salvation. This event led Francis to compose the hymn of praise and thanksgiving to God that we all know.



To follow the celebration online, go to: <https://www.centenarifrancescani.org/>

### **The Canticle of Creatures (St.Francis)**

*Most High, all-powerful, good Lord, Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honour and all blessing. To You alone, Most High, do they belong, and no human is worthy to mention Your name.  
Praised be you, my Lord, with all Your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun, who is the day, and through whom You give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour; and bears a likeness of You, Most High one.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars. In heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind, and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather through which you give sustenance to your creatures.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister water, who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother fire, through whom You light the night, and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through those who give pardon for Your love, and bear infirmity and tribulation. Blessed be those who endure in peace, for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whom no one living can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal sin. Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will, for the second death shall do them no harm.  
Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks and serve Him with great humility.*

Care for Creation

# Celebrating 800 years of Caring for Creation

## St. Francis of Assisi [Continued]

The church owes a great debt to St. Francis of Assisi and to his *Canticle of the Creatures* for leading it to the conviction that all brother and sister creatures make up one family under God's loving care! All these wonderful creatures continue to lift our hearts upward to God in this glorious prayer of praise.

St Francis' unqualified love of all creatures, great and small, had grown into unity in his own heart. He was so open to reality that it found a place to be at home in his heart and he was at home everywhere and anywhere. He was a centre of communion with all creatures.

2025 is also the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of **the encyclical letter of Pope Francis, Laudato Si': on care for our common home**. The title comes from the canticle of Saint Francis, "**LAUDATO SI', mi' Signore**" – "Praise be to you, my Lord", and sets the theme for Catholic Church teaching that addresses both the environmental challenges facing the world and persistent poverty, weaving the two themes together as aspects of the same spiritual illness facing the world today. Pope Francis identifies the solution as a spiritual one and calls all human beings to embrace an **ecological conversion** in which they become inter-related and inter-dependent with all beings.

**It would be wonderful if all Christians could pray The Canticle of Creatures throughout 2025, as a path to ecological conversion and a new relationship with the Earth and all of God's creatures.**

## Lay Preachers & Lay Preacher Candidates can audit three Pilgrim subjects for \$50– ONLY!

### Study at Pilgrim in 2025

#### Opportunities for Lay Preachers and Lay Preacher Candidates

Pilgrim Theological College, in association with the Victoria Tasmania Lay Preachers Association, is offering generous audit scholarships for Lay Preachers and Lay Preacher candidates, for three introductory subjects in 2025.

The subjects are:

**Introduction to Hebrew Bible/Old Testament** with Monica Melanchthon (Tuesday afternoons Semester 1)

**Introduction to New Testament** with Sally Douglas (Tuesday evenings Semester 2), and **Christianity's Big Ideas** with Daniel Sihombing (Tuesday afternoons, Semester 2).

Each of these subjects is taught in person at the Centre for Theology and Ministry, 29 College Crescent, Parkville. Students are able to join classes and access resources online.

The audit fee for these subjects is **normally \$400**. Lay Preachers and Lay Preacher candidates are able to **enrol for the cost of \$50**.

Lay Preacher candidates are able to complete assessments linked with the content, provided by Lay Education Coordinator Mel Perkins.

#### Enrol in a Pilgrim audit subject as a Lay Preacher or Lay Preacher candidate

Phone Erlinda Loverseed, Pilgrim Registrar, 03 9340 9982 or email [study@pilgrim.edu.au](mailto:study@pilgrim.edu.au)

To enrol as a new Lay Preacher candidate, visit the Lay Education page on the Pilgrim website: [www.pilgrim.edu.au/layeducation](http://www.pilgrim.edu.au/layeducation), or contact Lay Education Coordinator Mel Perkins, [mel.perkins@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:mel.perkins@victas.uca.org.au)



For PPW presbytery

**Simpson Grants**, and other grants, will be out in **March** start thinking now about how your congregation might apply for:

- ◇ small property
- ◇ eco-friendly
- ◇ IT & Office equipment
- ◇ mission
- ◇ Festival grants

In 2025 you will be able to apply for grants up to \$5000-.










**From the Editor:** If you missed an edition of The Westerly see [Newsletters – Presbytery of Port Phillip West \(ucappw.org.au\)](#). Rev Linley Liersch [Linley.Liersch@ppw.victas.uca.org.au](mailto:Linley.Liersch@ppw.victas.uca.org.au).







**Please click links or pictures for hyperlinks.**

**Next edition submissions 25th March 2024 .**

# Caring for Creation 2025 Lenten Calendar

Is Lent as a time to give up bad habits and take up fasting, it is also time to practice spiritual disciplines such as prayer and meditation. This calendar has them all!

Care for Creation 2025 Lenten Calendar Pilgrims of Hope						
SUSTENANCE SUNDAYS	MEATLESS MONDAYS	TALK ENERGY TUESDAYS	WISDOM WEDNESDAYS	TURNAROUND THURSDAYS	FISH & FOOTPRINT FRIDAYS	SUSTAINABILITY SATURDAYS
<p><b>2nd March</b> Let Sunday's quotes from St. Francis of Assisi's Canticle of Creation inspire a deeper appreciation for God's creation. <b>(Celebrate Clean Up Australia day today)</b></p> 	<p><b>3rd March</b> Lent is a time to live more simply and with joy as we draw closer to our Creator God. Let's unite our Lenten daily actions to Jesus' sacrifice on the cross</p>	<p><b>4th March</b> Make your Lenten Fast be a carbon fast. Reflect on your consumption of food and electricity. Try to lessen your footprint &amp; do things that recharge your spiritual energies.</p>	<p><b>5th March Ash Wednesday</b> <i>There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions.</i> LS 211 Watch <a href="#">Story of Stuff</a></p>	<p><b>6th March</b> Turn the tide on single-use plastic bags engulfing our waters and littering our streets. Remember to carry your own reusable bag. Visit <a href="#">Plastic Free July</a> for ideas.</p>	<p><b>7th March</b> Challenge yourself to reduce your carbon footprint. Google "carbon footprint tracker". Track your consumption patterns, Remember Fish Fridays for Lent</p> 	<p><b>8th March</b> Shop at green organic markets and try to buy what is in season. It's as "buy local" as you can get!</p> 
<p><b>9th March</b> <i>"Be praised, my Lord, for sister moon and the stars: clear and precious and lovely they are formed in heaven."</i> Let Laudato Si', Pope Francis' encyclical on care for creation, be your guiding star this Lent.</p>	<p><b>10th March</b> A Meatless Monday helps your heart and also reduces deforestation and methane gas that result from raising livestock. See <a href="#">meatlessmonday.com</a></p>	<p><b>11th March</b> Do an Energy Audit this Lent. Replace the incandescent &amp; fluorescent bulbs with energy-saving LEDs. For inspiration listen to <a href="#">Outrage &amp; Optimism</a> podcast.</p> 	<p><b>12th March</b> <i>"The world is charged with the grandeur of God."</i> Gerard Manley Hopkins</p> 	<p><b>13th March</b> Plastic bottles are a scourge on the planet. Only 12% of plastic bottles are recycled. Turn this around by buying a reusable water bottle.</p>	<p><b>14th March</b> Go deeper with the footprint tracker and view your patterns from a spiritual perspective. Use the Ignatian Ecological Examen, found online in different formats at <a href="#">ecologicalexamen.org</a></p>	<p><b>15th March</b> Refrigerator Rescue. Throwing out food? Don't throw out those leek tops, or mushroom stems. Wash and freeze them and add them to stock for soup.</p>
<p><b>16th March</b> <i>"May you be praised, my Lord, with all your creatures, especially brother sun through whom you lighten the day for us."</i> Brother sun provides clean renewable energy!</p> 	<p><b>17th March</b> work on your "Earthcare" practices Consider using SOLVE Seasonal, Organic, Local, Vegetarian, Ethical food choices.</p>	<p><b>18th March</b> Australia has one of the highest per capita emissions of carbon dioxide in the world. Try unplugging your devices and driving less. Don't Buy "Fast Fashion" ...</p>	<p><b>19th March</b> <i>"...the most comforting speech in the world is the talk that rain makes by itself."</i> Thomas Merton <a href="#">Watch Creation Corner</a></p>	<p><b>20th March</b> Turn the tide and switch off from technology and go outside. Find a sit spot and get to know just one metre square, do this daily.</p>	<p><b>21st March</b> Consider composting. If your local council or neighbourhood doesn't have compost/FOGO collection yet, email, call or write a letter to ask "why".</p> 	<p><b>22nd March</b> Take the kids to the library to read an environmentally-themed book. <b>(Celebrate World Water day and Earth Hour today)</b></p> 
<p><b>23rd March</b> <i>"Be praised, my Lord, for brother wind and the air and clouds, clear skies and all weathers by which you give sustenance to your creatures."</i></p>	<p><b>24th March</b> Having fish instead of meat tonight? Check out the sustainability of the various fish or seafood species at <a href="#">GoodFish</a></p>	<p><b>25th March</b> SWITCH! Reduce your carbon footprint dramatically by switching your home electricity to a clean, renewable source.</p> 	<p><b>26th March</b> <i>"My work is loving the world. Here the sunflowers, there the hummingbird - equal seekers of sweetness."</i> Mary Oliver</p>	<p><b>27th March</b> Think about our children's future. Let's continue to advocate for policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	<p><b>28th March</b> Reducing our carbon footprint is best, but for the more difficult challenges of our lives i.e. Flying, we can buy carbon offsets to support CO2 reduction projects.</p>	<p><b>29th March</b> Experience the beauty and variety of creation. Visit your local botanic gardens or the beach. Sit in a park and listen to the birds. <b>Be present.</b></p>

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<p><b>30th March</b> <i>"Be praised, my Lord, for sister water, who is very useful and humble and precious and pure."</i> Water is scarce in some parts of the world and companies are commodifying it against the common good. Clean water is a human right.</p>	<p><b>31st March</b> Take Meatless Monday to the next level. Switch olive oil in &amp; butter out. Global livestock production creates more greenhouse gas than the entire transportation sector.</p>	<p><b>1st April</b> Energy Audit turns inward. Recharge your own batteries by giving up one electronic device for a week – or all devices for one day. Have dinner by candlelight – with a soy-based candle of course.</p>	<p><b>2nd April</b> <i>"...the word 'creation' has a broader meaning than 'nature', for it has to do with God's loving plan in which every creature has its own value and significance."</i> Laudato Si' 76</p>	<p><b>3rd April</b> Many nations are banning plastic cutlery, plates, straws, food containers and polystyrene cups. When you are ordering take-out, remember to bring a reusable container.</p>	<p><b>4th April</b> Pre-cycle before you buy. Choose products that have the least amount of packaging. Buy cereals, nuts, grains and other dry foods in bulk. Save \$\$\$ too.</p>	<p><b>5th April</b> Start a porch or window box garden, or join a community garden.</p> 
<p><b>6th April</b> <i>"Be praised, my Lord, for brother fire by whom the night brother fire is illumined for us. He is...full of power and strength."</i> Fire can also do great damage in areas affected by drought</p>	<p><b>7th April</b> Know your food miles, take the 200km supermarket challenge. Can you purchase only those goods that have travelled less than 200km.</p> 	<p><b>8th April</b> Walking school buses can get us more connected with neighbours, the local environment and reduce pollution from cars and congestion around schools. Be an active transport advocate.</p>	<p><b>9th April</b> Learn more about "God's Holy Fool", St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology. Learn about Saint Kateri, Patroness of the Environment.</p> 	<p><b>10th April</b> A lot of plastic lines our shores and ends up in the water, mistaken for food by marine life. Consider participating in the autumn and spring coastal clean-ups. It's fun and a good thing to do.</p>	<p><b>11th April</b> More and more packaging involves plastic...coffee pods, detergent pods, food items like cheese slices. Choose one product and write to the company to ask them to reduce the plastic in their packaging.</p>	<p><b>12th April</b> Buy a green plant. Whenever you water it, say a prayer of gratitude for the incredible beauty and variety of all God's creation. If you can, plant a tree; they are sponges for soaking up CO2.</p>
<p><b>13th April Palm Sunday</b> <i>"Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Earth, our Mother, who nourishes and sustains us bringing forth diverse fruits &amp; grains &amp; flowers of many colours."</i> Be a "tree of life"</p> 	<p><b>14th April</b> Adjusting how and what we eat is a big step, but when you're making the commitment as a group, you're more likely to see it through and reap the many health benefits— together.</p>	<p><b>15th April</b> Consider divest/invest: Divest your savings and super from fossil fuels (oil &amp; 'natural' gas) and invest in renewable energy projects or companies. Ask your bank or super to check for this. It's a win-win. <a href="#">Market Forces</a> can help.</p>	<p><b>16th April</b> <i>"Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope."</i> Laudato Si' 244</p>	<p><b>17th April Holy Thursday</b> At the Last Supper, Jesus called us to service. Laudato Si' calls us to care for creation &amp; care for the poor. What can I do today or next week to serve the poor?</p>	<p><b>18th April Good Friday</b> Review your ecological practices of this Lent. What can you continue after Easter? Let's renew our commitment to protect God's creation &amp; join our sacrifices with that of Jesus to bring forth a New Creation!</p>	<p><b>19th April Holy Saturday</b> "What kind of world do we want to leave those who come after us, to children who are growing up." Laudato Si'</p> 
<p><b>20th April Glorious Easter</b> Christ is risen and all of creation with Him! Savour the life that is in you and around you! The flowers bursting forth, the friends and your family, clean water and air! Be grateful for God's gift of creation! <b>Rejoice and be glad!</b></p>					<p>Special thanks to Mary Jane Gocher, Church of St. Francis Xavier, New York City</p>	

# PROTECTIONS FOR PACIFIC ISLAND WORKERS IN AUSTRALIA YIELD BENEFITS

**We have requested that you write letters several times to improve the situation for people working on horticultural farms in Australia, including people from the Pacific Islands working on the Pacific**

## **Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) Scheme.**

The horticulture sector in Australia has historically been rife with wage theft and mistreatment of workers.

A key problem that occurred on the PALM Scheme was that some employers on the Scheme would bring

out workers from the Pacific Islands to work in Australia but not have lined up enough work for them. As a result, the workers would end up in financial hardship and unable to send money back to their families at home.

We lobbied for reforms to address the problem, and the current government responded by requiring employers to provide a minimum of 120 hours of work every four weeks. In November 2024, the government announced that checks on employers on the PALM Scheme showed they were complying with the new requirement. The check involved nearly one in three of the agriculture and horticulture employers. ●

# FURTHER GOVERNMENT ACTION ON ILLEGAL LOGGING

**In 2024, there was a very positive development with the Federal Parliament passing reforms to improve the Australian law that prohibits the importation of timber and wood products that have been produced through illegal logging.**

Many of you have taken action in support of the reforms over several years.

In September 2024, the Commonwealth Government reported that they have been taking further action to make the law more effective. The Government commissioned research into wood and timber products being imported into Australia. They examined everything from construction timber to paper drinking straws and wooden hair combs. Over 170 products covering 39 species were examined from 40

retailers across four states.

The testing showed that 25% of the products contained wood inconsistent with the declared species or place of origin. While the inconsistency is not necessarily evidence of illegality, it is a significant risk factor.

There was uncertainty around the origin of some of the products declared as Burmese teak. The JIM Cluster continues to campaign for the Australian Government to ban the importation of all timber and wood products from Myanmar, as at least part of the profits from the sale of such products goes to prop up the military junta in the country. ●

# VICTORIAN TREATY NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN

**On 13 January 2025 the Victorian Government and the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria jointly announced where the focus of treaty negotiations would be focused.**

Treaty is about making a better and fairer state for all Victorians.

Key areas to be addressed in the Treaty will include measures to support reconciliation, truth, education and healing between First Peoples' and those who have come since European

colonisation. The Treaty will also consider the role of a representative body of First Peoples in decision-making relating to Victorian Government programs and services for First Peoples.

Congregations can make statements in support of the Victorian Treaty Process. So far, St Michael's Uniting Church in the CBD, Brunswick Uniting Church and Sophia's Spring Uniting Church have made such statements, which have been provided to the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria, along with the Statement made by the Synod. If your congregation would also

like to make a statement in support of the Treaty Process, there is still time to do so. ●





# 2025 VicTas Synod LPA AGM and Conference



Onsite or  
Online

**When: Friday 21 March 7.00pm - 9.15pm**

Annual Service,  
Induction of new President,  
Session 1

**Saturday 22 March - 9.15am - 4.15pm:**

Sessions 2-4,  
Annual General Meeting of Synod LPA

**Where:** The Centre for Theology and Ministry  
29 College Crescent, Parkville

Free  
or  
Donation

## PROGRAMME

### Friday night

7.00-7.45pm Worship Service and Induction of New President

8.00-9.00pm Session 1: Rev Deacon Sandy Boyce

**Lay Ministry and the Council of Churches**

### Saturday

9.30-9.35 Opening remarks

9.35-9.50 Worship

9.50-11.00 Session 2: Rev Assoc Prof Monica Melanchthon,  
**Preaching the women in Hebrew Scripture/OT**

11.00-11.30 Morning Tea

11.30-12.45 Session 3: Emeritus Prof Bill Loader

**Sensing distance and proximity in engaging with  
Luke and John**

12.45-1.30 Lunch

1.30-2.45 Session 4: Chris Barnett

**Intergenerational worship**

3.00-4.00 Annual General Meeting of Synod Vic-Tas LPA

Register by **Monday, 17 March 2025**

Enquiries to LPA Secretary

[diane.e.wookey@gmail.com](mailto:diane.e.wookey@gmail.com)

## Lay Preacher Studies in 2025

Semester 1 /2 **Understanding the UCA** - 25 Feb to 30 June; 5 August to 17 Nov -

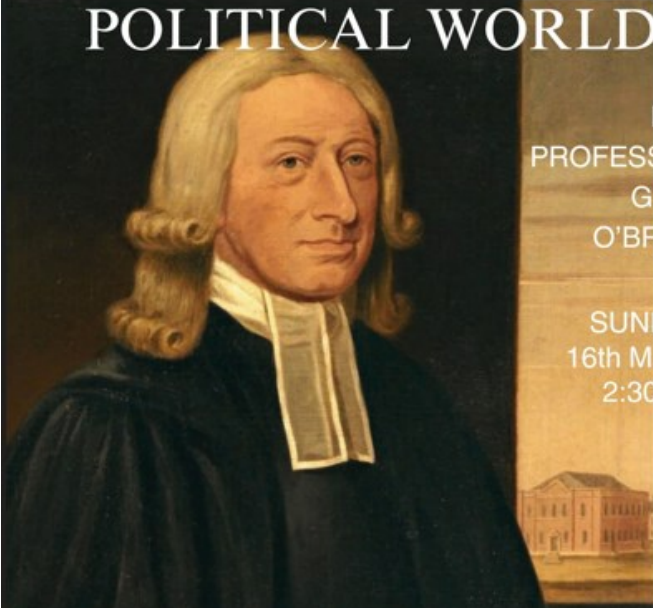
Semester 1 - **Exploring Theology in the UCA** -24 Feb to 26 May <https://victas.uca.org.au/exploring-theology-in-the-uca/>

Semester 2 - **Exploring Christology** -7 July to 22 September <https://victas.uca.org.au/exploring-christology/>

Semester 3 - **Exploring Preaching in the UCA** - 13 October to 24 November - \$30 <https://victas.uca.org.au/exploring-preaching-in-the-uca/>

A UCA VIC/TAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLIC LECTURE

# John Wesley's POLITICAL WORLD



REV  
PROFESSOR  
GLEN  
O'BRIEN

SUNDAY  
16th March  
2:30 PM

WESLEY UNITING CHURCH  
148 LONSDALE STREET  
MELBOURNE

**FREE  
EVENT**

ATTEND LIVE OR EMAIL FOR LINK  
TO: [KEN.BARELLI@BIGPOND.COM](mailto:KEN.BARELLI@BIGPOND.COM)

## John Wesley Political World

**Prof. Glen O'Brien**


This book employs a global history approach to John Wesley's (1703–1791) political and social tracts. It stresses the personal element in Wesley's political thought, focusing on the twin themes of 'liberty and loyalty'. Wesley's political writings reflect on the impact of global conflicts on Britain and provide insight into the political responses of the broader religious world of the eighteenth century.

They cover such topics as the nature and origin of political power, economy, taxes, trade, opposition to slavery and to smuggling, British rule in Ireland, relaxation of anti-Catholic Acts, and the American Revolution. Glen O'Brien argues that Wesley's political foundations were less theological than they were social and personal. Political engagement was exercised as part of a social contract held together by a compact of trust.

The book contributes to eighteenth-century religious history, and to Wesley Studies in particular, through a fresh engagement with primary sources and recent secondary literature in order to place Wesley's writings in their global political context.

## World Day of Prayer Cook Island Resources Theme: "I made you wonderful" Project 2025

Helping women and girls experiencing gender-based violence by providing trauma healing [programs](#).

The Church as a  
Prophetic Voice in  
Australian Society

Past,  
Present &  
Future

UNITING CHURCH NATIONAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 3-5 OCTOBER 2025

✉ [ucnhs2025conference@gmail.com](mailto:ucnhs2025conference@gmail.com) [uniting.church/uca-national-history-society/](https://www.uniting.church/uca-national-history-society/)

### CALL FOR PAPERS

The Society invites papers that address this conference theme. Papers may focus on the period covering the Uniting Church (1977-2025) and/or refer to the history of its antecedent denominations, or of other denominations.

Proposals for papers up to 20 minutes in length, and abstracts of no more than 300 words, should be submitted to our email address by 31 March 2025. Enquiries welcome.

Email: [ucnhs2025conference@gmail.com](mailto:ucnhs2025conference@gmail.com)

# Spiritual Care Matters

REV. FI BOTTCHEER (DEACON—SUNSHINE MENTAL HEALTH)

I'm recovering from COVID, again, but it's taking longer this time - I tested positive before Christmas. Chronic illness isn't new to me, but this "long-COVID" has forced me to pay attention to my body in a way I haven't in a long time. Because when I don't, I literally drop.

Living with chronic illness often means pushing against, and sometimes through, physical limitations. Not being able to "push through" has made me wonder about the ways I subconsciously seek, or even depend, on needing permission for self-care and genuine self-expression.

I wonder – is it hard for you to give yourself permission to make mistakes, learn and grow? Or like me, do you often become trapped by the need to do something "right" or "worthwhile" or "good"?

How do we allow ourselves to be truly loved by God, regardless of our "contribution" or whether what we're doing is any "good"?

**How do we give ourselves permission to simply be held by a God who loves us just as we are?**

Most of us have said "I'm often my worst enemy" at some time. Jesus challenges us to love our enemies.  
**Can we love our enemies when we don't love ourselves?**



## An invitation to join a Surfcoast Uniting Church CAMINO WALK

A meditative walk

From the Split Point Lighthouse to Urquhart's Bluff

**When:** Saturday, March 8, 2025, starting 10:30 AM

**Where:** Meeting in Aireys Inlet at the Lighthouse

**What to bring:** Don't forget the essentials: hat, sunscreen, water, good walking shoes.

The Camino Pilgrims are invited to join in a picnic lunch (BYO to share) at Urquhart's bluff at the end of the walk



Please note:

All Uniting Church Events are cancelled on days of fire danger ratings of extreme or higher. The Camino planning committee reserves the right to cancel the event if the weather conditions on the day are considered unsuitable for the planned activity. Please consult the church website for further information. Website: <https://surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au/news-blog/>

**International Women's Day 2025**

Thursday March 6, 2025  
2pm - 4pm

Yuma Auditorium,  
Centre for Theology and Ministry,  
29 College Cres, Parkville

**Keynote Speaker**  
Bronwyn Pike  
Chief Executive Officer  
Uniting Vic.Tas

**Guest Speaker**  
Sharon Hollis  
Synod's Associate General Secretary  
and Global Ambassador  
Thursdays in Black

**Dress Code:**  
Wear something Black  
or Purple in support of  
our event.  
Light Afternoon Tea  
will be provided.

Register online at:  
[events.humanitix.com/synod-international-women-s-day](https://events.humanitix.com/synod-international-women-s-day)  
or scan QR code

**All are invited to attend this event**

#IWD2025 #AccelerateAction

Uniting Church in Australia  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

WADAWURRUNG COUNTRY | QUEENSCLIFF | MAY 2-4

# 2025 sacrededge

*stories of the edge*

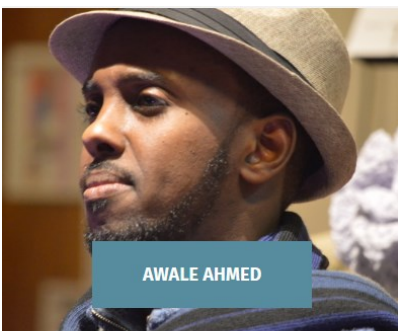
A Celebration of Diversity for ALL

ARTS • MUSIC • STORYTELLING  
MOVEMENT • FOOD • COMMUNITY

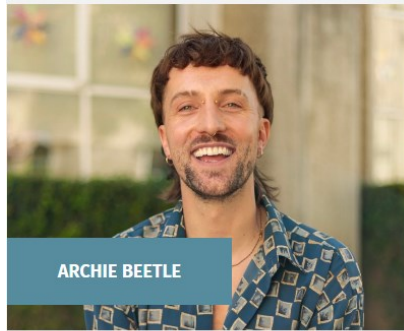


INFORMATION & BOOKINGS [www.unitingqueenscliff.org.au](http://www.unitingqueenscliff.org.au)

*A weekend of diversity and inclusion under one roof. Sacrededge brings Artists, Musicians and Storytellers together into a unique community over the Sacrededge weekend. Conversation and deep listening, music, stories and dance, art and ocean labyrinth, food and fun, concerts and workshops... with indigenous, refugee, environmental, LGBTIQ+ and disability advocates, all with their own particular spiritual focus.*



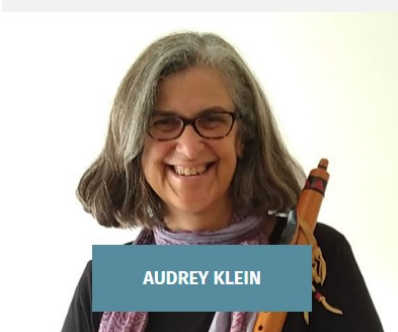
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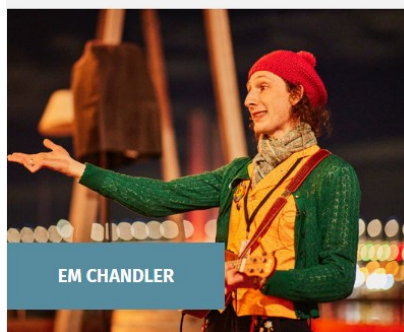
ARCHIE BEETLE



FIONA BOYES



AUDREY KLEIN



EM CHANDLER



JOEL MCKERROW



## LENTEN RESOURCES

### Hearing Luke's Gospel Afresh:

Studies on the third Gospel for Individuals and Groups



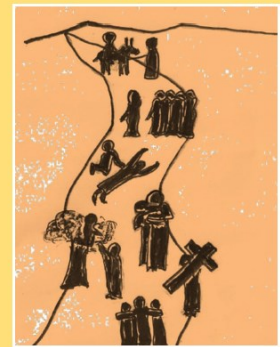
By Philip Liebelt

Phillip Liebelt is a retired UCA minister, Biblical storyteller and writer who is committed to Community Development, Social Justice and advocacy and living in Warranabool, Vic.

Order his Bible studies: [philipliebelt@gmail.com](mailto:philipliebelt@gmail.com)

Mobile: 0400 631 264

#### Hearing Luke's Gospel Afresh



Studies on the third Gospel  
for individuals or groups.

Philip Liebelt

## LENTEN BIBLE STUDY - MONEY TALKS: CAPITALIST ETHICS, COLONIALISM AND DIVINE GOVERNANCE: COVENTRY PRESS

Written by Uniting Church minister **John Bottomley**, the **Lenten Study Money Talks** engages the lectionary psalms and gospel texts for year C of the Revised Common Lectionary, Lent 2025.

The studies acknowledge it is not possible for a disciple of Jesus Christ to replace the worship of God with the worship of wealth. To order *Money Talks* online, go to <https://coventrypress.com.au/money-talks>

The following abridged review by Matthew Anslow was published in

*Uniting Church Studies* volume 25 no. 1, 2023.

I find the phrase "money talks" rather evocative. For me, it conjures images of smartly besuited people – specifically men – shaking chubby, orange-tinged hands on some dubious business deal involving property, a merger, or

### RESOURCE



### Lent celebration

Through 40 days of poetry and wondering, Presbytery of Gippsland Minister Rev Jennie Gordon has compiled a wonderful resource for congregations and faith communities to share during Lent.

[VIEW PDF](#)

# Events

- 2nd March**      **Clean Up Australia Day**
- 4th March**      **Shrove Tuesday—Pancake Day Fundraiser Uniting**
- 5th March**      **Ash Wednesday**
- 7th March**      **World Day of Prayer—Cook Islands** [Resources \(Page 6\)](#)
- 6th March**      **International Women’s Day**  
2-4pm            @ Centre of Theology & Ministry, 29 College Crescent, Parkville [Rego](#)
- 8th March**      **Camino Walk @ Airey’s Inlet** [\(page 7\)](#)
- 12th March**      **Back to the Future: Looking to Genesis to address Climate Change.**  
7:30—9:30pm    *Ecotheology Lecturer Mick Pope @ Brunswick Uniting Church, 212 Sydney Rd.*
- 16th March**      **John Wesley Political World** [Registration](#)  
@ Wesley UCA 148 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne
- 20th March**      **National Close the Gap Day**
- 22nd March**      **Lay Preacher Association & AGM**  
9:15am-4:15pm    @ Centre of Theology & Ministry, 29 College Crescent, Parkville [\(page 5\)](#)
- 2nd—4th May**      **Sacred Edge** [Rego](#)  
@ Queenscliff UCA [\(page 8\)](#)

