

Multiculturalism Matters

UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA | PRESBYTERY OF SOUTH MORETON | 26 NOVEMBER 2014



Matu youth organise combined choir festival



YOUTH choirs from up to 13 Matu and Chin churches will perform at a special Singsong Service being organised by the Matu Christian Uniting Church. With the theme, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord (Psalm 150:6)", the musical celebration will be held on Saturday, December 13, from 6:30 pm at Logan UC, 129 Dennis Rd, Springwood. Supper will be served. The event is open to the public— folk from Uniting Churches are especially encouraged to come and support. Admission is free but an offering will be received for outreach and humanitarian work in Burma.

PHOTO shows the Matu Christian UC organising team at work: (from left) Manday Lai Thang, Biak Lai Thang, Zuali Cangmah and Euniki Cangmah.

Nuer young adults to attend NYALC

FOUR youth leaders from the Nuer UC Faith Community will attend the National Young Adult Leaders' Conference in Sydney next month.

This is the first time the Faith Community has sent members to this key Assembly event, which will involve 50-60 young leaders from Uniting Churches across Australia for a week of training, worship and Bible study with the UCA President, Rev. Dr Andrew Dutney.

Those attending are (from left) Nyaluak Leth, David Puot Top, Jackline Diew and Samuel Nen John-Phaltang.



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Multiculturalism Matters is published fortnightly and emailed with the Presbytery Newsletter. You are welcome to email, or copy and distribute. Each issue can also be downloaded from the Presbytery web site: <http://www.southmoreton.org.au>. Please email David if you would like to receive the newsletter directly by email. Submitted photos and stories reflecting the cultural diversity of the South Moreton Presbytery are welcome.

Dates to be set for Pastor commissionings



THREE new Pastors will soon be commissioned into multicultural congregations in the Presbytery.

JEONGSU (Jay) PARK (*far left*) will complete his Code of Ethics assessment in December prior to being commissioned as the Music Pastor at Calvary Korean UC, Mansfield.

MOSES LETH (*middle*) is ready to be commissioned as Pastor of the Nuer UC Faith Community at St David's UC, Coopers Plains.

JUNGMIN (David) LEE (*left*) is ready to be commissioned as Children, Youth & Young Adults Pastor at Gold Coast Korean Fellowship UC.

Study offers inspiration, information to embrace our cultural diversity

Rev. Andrew Ross and Pastor Karen Ross of Sunnybank UC, a cross-cultural congregation, review the new DVD study kit, *Building Bridges: Living God's Gift Across Cultures*, released by the UCA Assembly in July.

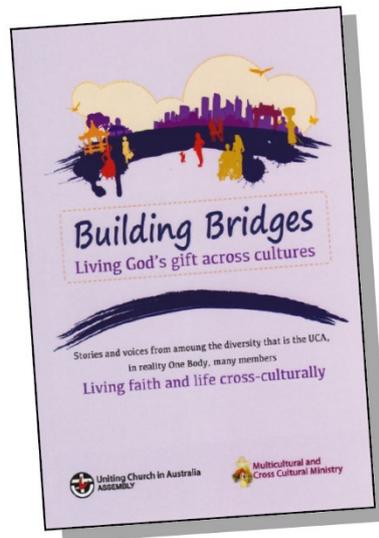
Karen writes:

I love hearing stories of empowering leadership!

Empowering leadership calls forth the gold in others and allows them the space they need to be and do all that God has called them to.

This study kit is a valuable resource for empowering cross-cultural ministry in the Uniting Church.

The resource contains a DVD of stories and voices from among the diversity of the church, and a workbook that promotes discussion around culturally sensitive expressions of hospitality, education and formation for cross-cultural ministry, women in ministry, and the



interests of 2nd-Generation. Parts of the workbook are translated into Chinese, Fijian, Japanese, Korean, Samoan, Tongan and Vietnamese.

These inspiring stories of other cross-cultural communities of faith will encourage churches in South Moreton Presbytery to honour and celebrate the journey of living faith and life cross-culturally.

This resource will be used regularly with our Church Council throughout 2015 to create space for us to explore how we can serve more effectively in these areas and empower the culturally diverse community that is Sunnybank UC.

Andrew writes:

This is a wonderful introduction to the nature of cross-cultural ministry within the Uniting Church.

It picks up a number of experiences across the church in Australia and invites us to reflect on those experiences in the context of the story.

The ongoing challenge is to explore how one's own local church might begin to embrace opportunities for cross-cultural ministry.

This resource is a good way to begin this conversation.

The Presbytery Office has 3 copies of this resource to lend to congregations, or copies can be bought for \$25 from the Assembly.

Let EVERYTHING
that has BREATH
PRAISE the
LORD.

Psalm 150: 6

6: 30 PM

Come *Worship* with us to

Praise for his *Glorious*

Logan Uniting Church

129 Dennis Rd, Springwood, QLD 4127

Refreshments (supper) will be served after the service.

Matu Christian Uniting Church

December 13th



Talanoa invites all to cross-cultural worship and talk

PARK Tongan UC at Highgate Hill is hosting a *talanoa*, inviting people to experience their cultural style of worship, hospitality and community conversation.

The event is being held next Friday, December 5, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

It is the idea of the Synod's Multi Cross Cultural Committee, which is keen to initiate a series of these events hosted by different multicultural congregations.

The events are designed to enable people to experience the worship and hospitality of different cultural traditions, and create opportunities for open discussion about a range of topics relevant to the Uniting Church's commitment to

being a multicultural church.

The Committee hopes that these events will also build stronger relationships between its work and Uniting Church multicultural congregations, communities and ministers.

The conversation topic for next Friday will be, "What does it mean to be a multicultural congregation in the Uniting Church?"

Rev. Maile Molitika of Park Tongan UC will offer his thoughts to start the discussion.

All UC people are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Rev. Molitika if you're able to stay for lunch: phone **0425 378 174**, or email **un79371@bigpond.net.au**.



MEMBERS of the Nuer UC Faith Community participated in a peaceful march through South Brisbane and the City on November 15, during the G20 Leaders Summit, raising concerns about South Sudan's political and humanitarian crisis.

The Qld Synod Multi Cross Cultural Committee,
in conjunction with Park Tongan UC, invite you to
a *talanoa* on cultural diversity in the church



Park Tongan Church

21 Hampstead Road
Highgate Hill

Friday, 5 December 2014

10:00 am — 1:00 pm



The Multi Cross Cultural Committee of the Qld Synod has decided to hold two meetings a year in the community, hosted by some of our culturally diverse congregations.

These meetings, open to anyone interested, will be an opportunity to experience the hospitality and traditions of different cultures, share stories and insights about the church's cultural diversity, and contribute ideas to guide the work of the Committee.

Park Tongan UC have kindly agreed to host this first 'community meeting,' sharing their culture and hospitality with us, in the spirit of a Tongan *talanoa* (open conversation from the heart).

It will include Tongan-led worship at 10:00 and an introduction to Tongan culture. Then Rev. Maile Molitika will offer his thoughts to open up discussion on the theme of our conversation time:

What does it mean to be a multicultural congregation in the Uniting Church?

We conclude the discussion with devotions, and then have lunch from 12:00.

Ministry agents and people from across the Uniting Church, especially from our multicultural congregations, are very welcome. There is no charge.

**For catering purposes, please let Rev. Maile know if you're coming:
phone 0425 378 174, or email un79371@bigpond.net.au**

