

## MT WAVERLEY.-CHADSTONE INTERCHURCH COUNCIL

Joint Meeting with GWICC on Thursday August 25th 2016 at St Luke's UC at 7.30pm.

**Devotions:** Rev James Douglas based on this week's Gospel reading Luke 14 1, 7-14.

**Chairman's Welcome to Glen Waverley ICC representatives & MWCICC:** Veronica Nicoll asked the Glen Waverley delegates – Joe Persico, Jan Clear, Pat and Tony Hodges to introduce themselves.

**Apologies:-** as per attendance sheet held by Secretary

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### 1 News from the Churches

- 1.1 **The New Church:-** Marika Sivak reported that there is still no permanent minister but interstate and local ministers conduct services. Lectures are presented each fortnight.
- 1.2 **St Luke's UC:-** Rev James Douglas said there will be a Song-writing Workshop with 4 fortnightly sessions where people will be guided to write music and lyrics. All are welcome to participate. Allan Clausen said there was ongoing activity with the Tent of Nations in Bethlehem and the West Papuan Community.
- 1.3 **High Street Road UC:-** Val Coutts said that Rev Julie Ross has now left for her 6 weeks exchange ministry in Portland, Oregon. Rev Scott Finlay is "filling the gap". On Sunday August 28 from 3 to 5 pm, the Mt Waverley Uniting Churches are presenting a seminar "West Papua in Crisis: Spirituality, Resistance and the Churches" led by Rev Robert Stringer. All are welcome.
- 1.4 **St Mark's UC:-** Rev Raj Perera is leaving St Mark's after his 9 years of ministry. His Service of Release is on October 9<sup>th</sup>. He will be inducted at Noble Park UC on October 13<sup>th</sup>. It may be that the Melbourne Fijian and St Mark's UCs share one minister who will also serve as Chaplain to the Aged Care Centre.
- 1.5 **St Mary Madgalen RC:-** Father Chris Toms is home from hospital and rehabilitation but is not attending evening meetings at present. Louise Kulkens gave his report. The grade 3 and 4 children received their First Communion this month. The Stained glass window from behind the Altar has been moved to the front of the Church. This event was celebrated after a service with lunch and entertainment. Now the parish is voting on the design of the window to replace the one behind the Altar. There was a Bingo and Trivia Night for Parents and Friends. On 18<sup>th</sup> September, there will be a Trans-National Lunch after the 11.00am Mass. People will wear their National Dress and bring traditional food. The ICC Ecumenical Hymn Singing and Afternoon Tea will be at St Mary Magdalens on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2.30 pm. A loan of about 1 million dollars has been granted to redevelop and remodel the Primary School.
- 1.6 **Christ the Holy Redeemer RC (CoHR):-** Bernadette Allan said that a Church leadership committee has been formed. It is confirmation time with services at Sacred Heart and Christ the Holy Redeemer next week. There has been a welcome for the new Principal of the Primary School. A tour of the Holy Land begins next week. There will be an afternoon Mass, bands and a dance to celebrate a festival for the statue Grottaferrato which is hosted by CoHR.
- 1.7 **St Stephen and St Mary AC (SSSM):-** Doug Hastings said that Rev Kate Lord has initiated a group for secondary students. He had flyers with the programme for the rest of 2016. They will meet at SSSM on the first and third Sundays each month for dinner at 5 pm, games at 6 pm and finish at 8 pm. Activities include roller skating, random cooking, scavenger hunt, lawn bowls and pool party and more. All secondary school children are welcome. Cost is \$5 per meeting. In September and early October SSSM is celebrating a "Festival of Creation" with special church services and guest speakers. On Thursday October 6<sup>th</sup> Prof David Karoly will speak on Climate Change. All are welcome to this free presentation. Mainly Music has enrolled 90 families, mainly Chinese and Malaysian, and has had to close the "books". Each Tuesday and Wednesday 25 children participate in activities such as stories, painting etc while parents and grandparents have coffee and a chat with church volunteers. If any other church is interested in hosting Mainly Music, please contact the SSSM Youth Minister Becky Wells.
- 1.8 **St Philip's AC:-** Pat and Ann Hollinson were unable to attend this meeting but wished to remind people of the Fête at 9.00am on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- 1.9 **St John's UC:-** Rev Julie Ross finished her ministry in mid July. Rev Bill Perry is the minister for the rest of 2016. St John's invited all the current and former St John's people who live in this area to a "Back to St John's" on Sunday August 21<sup>st</sup>. This was a most successful and enjoyable occasion.
- 1.10 **Holy Family RCC:-** The Priest Father Nicholas Pearce has recently returned from World Youth Day. Veronica Nicoll has resigned as the Holy Family delegate on the MWCICC. She has suggested to Father Pearce that he identify some replacement delegates.
- 1.11

2 **Minutes of the meeting on June 23rd, 2016** were signed by Veronica Nicoll. Moved Margery Kennett, seconded Gavin Faichney

3 **Business arising:-**

3.1 **Ian Bock's book; banner illustrations:-** Ros Faichney reported that Ian Bock has a friend, Paul Gahan who is an illustrator. It is possible that Paul could paint banners for the Stations of the Cross. Paul also has a valuable collection of lithographs. It may be possible for the ICC to host an Art Exhibition. There will be more discussion at the next ICC meeting.

3.2 **Ecumenical Event, October 16<sup>th</sup>.** Margaret Taylor is still away. Margery Kennett had informed Margaret that the ICC did not feel that it could organize the Bring Your Own Everything Picnic. However, it may be possible that SSSM could organize the picnic and invite other church members along.

3.3 **Pastoral Lunch Wednesday at CoHR Sept 21.** Bernadette Allen and Ros Faichney have sent out invitations to the Clergy and 6 people have responded. The invitation to ICC members will be attached to the draft minutes. After September 14 when numbers are available, Bernadette will co-ordinate the food and refreshments.

4 **Treasurer's Report:-** Moved Bernadette Allan, seconded Gavin Faichney

**MWICC Financial Statement 25/08/2016**

**Balance at 23/06/2016** \$2791.91

**Income**

Interest 4 cents

**Expenditure** Nil

**Balance at 25/08/2016** \$2791.95

5 **Correspondence:** As in the Agenda

City of Monash Grants Program. Ros Faichney attended the Recipients Ceremony on August 25 and was given a certificate. Ros submitted the acquittal form on August 25..

Kieron Hyland, Manager of Ritchies IGA, responded to say Ritchies will support the Carols as in earlier years. He needs more discussion with Ritchies regarding Food for Friends.

6 **General Business:-**

**6.1 Pilgrimage 2017 – Glen Waverley** Joe Persico had circulated a discussion paper on the Joint Ecumenical Event "Christian Pilgrimage Day". There were 4 options (see attachment to the Draft Minutes). Father Chris Toms supported Option D. Allan Clausen said Monash is a huge area so walking from one church to another is difficult. Rev Raj Perera suggested a group was needed to coordinate any of these activities. Christians are reluctant to discuss their faith. There are students and migrants in our area and at Holmsglen TAFE and Monash university who are keen to talk and wish to meet people. A letter drop was suggested but Doug Hastings said that one done by St Philip's was unsuccessful. Rev James Douglas suggested that a stall could be set up at an existing event, e.g. Oakleigh Festival, Clayton Festival, Chinese New Year in Kingsway, Body, Mind and Spirit.

**6.2 Methods to increase members/clergy of ICC – Glen Waverley** Re Clergy:- Rev James Douglas said that only about four clergy in MWCICC regularly attended meetings. Others presented devotions when their church was host. Not all ministers regularly attended other meetings either but have many commitments. The clergy often move from parish to parish while the lay people do not. Gavin Faichney said 80% of delegates attended VCC meetings. Not everyone supports ecumenism. Bernadette Allan said that even though Catholic children attend their schools, they are not regular worshippers later in life. People no longer feel they need to attend church. Louise Kulkens said a high proportion of SMM parishioners are from Asia and Africa. Gavin Faichney was encouraged while speaking to the local traders that they supported the Carols.

**6.3 Retirement of Allan Clausen –** Gavin Faichney gave a tribute to Allan Clausen who is retiring from the ICC after 23 years service. He has played a leading role particularly in maintaining relations with neighbouring churches, anti gambling, social justice and the community and has held most offices in the ICC.

**6.4 Appointment of Rev Raj Perera to Noble Park –** Gavin Faichney outlined the contribution Rev Raj has made to the ICC and local community. He has been called to serve at Noble Park UC.

**6.5 Food for Friends –** Margery Kennett said that more information will be given at the October ICC meeting.

**6.6 Friends of Vemasse: Allan Clausen** said that five members had recently returned from Vemasse with a better idea about the local situation. Communication is not easy. There is an Annual General Meeting on October 5 when these members will report back on their mission.

**6.7 Carols in the Village 2016 – Ros Faichney** reported on activities up to August 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Grant of \$4090 from Monash Council has been confirmed. Rev James Douglas has agreed to be MC at the Carols

again this year. Gavin delivered a letter to all the Mount Waverley traders and received a good response. To date, Monash Chorale, Don Jordan and his Brass Quintet, St Mary Magdalen PS, Mt Waverley South PS will definitely participate while an ensemble from Mt Waverley Secondary College and Oakleigh Brass are likely to do so. Other invitees are yet to respond. Equipment:- stage and steps are hired, sounds and lighting are booked. Julia Banks' office will be approached to donate printing, Margery Kennett will contact Jellis Craig regarding DL cards and bill boards. Monash Council will not deliver bollards or tape. Chairs are yet to be finalized.

**6.8 Ecumenical Hymn Singing – Louise Kulkens – October 23 at St Mary Magdalen at 2.30pm followed by afternoon tea.** Father Chris Toms will be sending letters to the churches soon.

## **7 Any Other business**

**7.1 Cards:-** Ros and Gavin Faichney brought a selection of the photos which they have taken of churches around the world. These could be sold at the churches, Ecumenical Hymn Singing and the Carols to go towards ICC funds. The suggested price was \$2 per card or 6 for \$10.

**7.2 VCC Web page:-** Joe Persico said that only MWCICC and GWICC had links appearing on the web page. Gavin Faichney will follow up this query.

**7.3 Public Liability Insurance** Joe Persico queried about insurance through VCC. Gavin said to write to VCC, say you are a member and ask if GWICC is covered and up-to-date.

The meeting finished at 9.15pm.

**Next Meeting: Meeting on Thursday October 27th at St John's UC at 7.45pm.**