

How can anyone put his faith in Christ  
if he's never even heard about Him?  
How can he hear about Him if no one  
tells?

Romans 10:14

# To Be a Thriving Disciple Making Movement

November 25, 2017



SEVENTH-DAY  
**ADVENTIST**  
CHURCH

*Victoria*



Victorian Adventist  
COMMUNICATIONS

IntraVic Newsletter  
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Victorian Adventists

## A note from the Editor's Office



### Hitting the Bullseye

Road to Bethlehem, Speech Nights, Holidays, the festive season then the New Year - the end of the year is just around the corner - with all the good things that come with that. However, rather than winding down, the Conference team is sharpening it's focus and gearing up for the four year term ahead.

The Victorian Conference Constituency Meeting is in our memories now – good memories of a day when God's Spirit was clearly present. The team has been chosen to lead the conference forward for the next four years. You're probably asking, "So what's on the horizon for the conference?" Mission, vision, sharpening our strategic planning and goal setting.

Resourcing, training, promoting, equipping and empowering are key functions of our Conference team – particularly our departmental directors. So for each of the seven areas in our strategic plan, we've prayerfully identified the desired outcome and the types of activities which will foster that strategic focus. Then we've identified measures that can be used to evaluate progress. We've invited feedback from our Conference committee, our departmental team, our pastors and members. and we're formulating specific goals for each strategic area.

Our mission statement gives the focus for the church in Victoria: To make disciples for Jesus Christ of all peoples, communicating the everlasting gospel in the context of the three Angels messages of Rev 14: 6-12.

Our Vision statement brings further clarity: A thriving disciple-making movement across Victoria.

So, what will it take to be effective in seeing that vision become a reality? You may have heard of specific plans for evangelism in 2019. That's a major part of our strategy and there's more. We've identified seven strategic areas:

- Christ Centred Living: to grow closer to God and be prepared for Jesus return.
- Discipleship & Evangelism: which will involve vibrant disciple-making.
- Adventist Identity: a growing confidence in and commitment to our message and mission.
- Nurture & Compassion: exemplifying the love of Christ.
- Worship: drawing people into a closer experience and knowledge of God.
- Healthy Relationships: within families and the church community.
- Stewardship: to be faithful stewards of time, talent and resources.

So we're at the stage of goal clarification and identifying what action steps will lead to hitting the bullseye. We're committed to excellence and effectiveness. We've got a job to do, a mission to achieve, a vision to create. Please pray that God will continue to lead as we go forward.

May I take this opportunity in wishing you all God's rich blessing for the holiday season and the New Year as we together live for Jesus.

*Graeme Christian*

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#### Issue Schedule:

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April 15	May 27
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Adobestock - Markus Mainka

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# Discipleship Fishers of Men

Pr Cristian Copaceanu  
DIRECTOR PERSONAL MINISTRIES  
AUSTRALIAN UNION CONFERENCE

Does your mind hit snooze the minute you hear the word Discipleship? What does the word mean, and is it perhaps just a phase?

Fads come and go, leaving little to show for it, except perhaps nostalgia. The Adventist church has done its best keeping up with the fads... slide projectors in the 70's, satellite seminars in the 90's... As texts give way to tweets, door-knocking is losing ground to discipleship. Almost every new initiative, poster, flier, vimeo or facebook post or broadcast from official church channels sings the anthem of discipleship. But what is Discipleship?

Two thousand years ago, discipleship was not a fad, but a way of life. It remained so for almost 1800 years until the industrial revolution spawned education into an assembly line for the masses.

The Greek origin of Disciple did not mean a follower of Jesus. It was a

common word commonly used for the common apprentice in a common trade, profession or philosophy.

In case you blinked, it was common. The apprentice journey was an endless cycle of the master invites a protégé to follow, the protégé apprentices to the master, the master trains the apprentice, the apprentice becomes the master... and we are back at the beginning.

An apprentice or intern is synonymous with the biblical disciple. There is no magic or mystery to the word which is why it needed no explanation or definition in the Gospels. The locals knew what it meant.

Today it may be a trending buzzword in church circles but it should be as

common as Weet-bix and hay stacks! It is something that our children should associate with normal everyday life. It is a culture new believers should experience as natural, when they encounter Jesus. Finally it is the heart of Jesus' Great Commission. Go and make disciples.

Why? In a nutshell, life is better and eternity a possibility, with Jesus. Disciple-making involves the same basic elements that the common apprenticeship (discipleship) involved 2000 years ago, whether learning to fish for sardines or souls.

How do we reclaim the lost art of discipleship?

## Follow Jesus

To make disciples who in turn, make

“ Follow Jesus, be an authentic friend, invite your friends to follow you.

”

other disciples, we must first have some knowledge, experience and success in the Christian journey. You need to know how to use a fishing line before teaching someone else to do so. This by no means implies having attained perfection. But it does involve continual daily steps toward a closer relationship with Jesus.

A person can begin making disciples as soon as they take that first step with Jesus. Simply inviting others to walk with them, one step at a time. Keep stepping forward with Jesus in your spiritual, personal life, family study or work life. Ask God each day how you can know, experience and share Him more.

## Be Authentic

Who will you invite to follow you? This is one of the biggest challenges we face in our church and community when it comes to discipleship. We don't know anyone... much. Why would strangers follow someone they don't know?

You are not going to catch any fish if you are not at, by or in the water.

We will never make disciples if we are not genuine in our relationships with fellow church members and others. It is through authentic interactions with our friends that they will see Christ in us and want to know more. Spend time doing things you like with those who like them too. Find reasons to celebrate, eat and share life together. Authentic, effective lasting Biblical discipleship occurs in doing life together. From that starting point, friendship and trust develops. And from that point of commonality, our faith experiences can bless others.

## Invite Others

An experienced minister once told a young person considering pastoral ministry not to answer if he wasn't called. While not all are called to full time paid ministry, all ARE called to

discipleship. The only problem is for most of us the call to discipleship gets lost in the spam folder, our minds auto-filtering it as junk mail.

Jesus was focused ("Yes Peter, I mean you!"), He was direct ("Follow me!") and He was clear ("I will make you fishers of men") in making disciples. And after taking one step with Jesus, we are equipped to invite someone to join us, to follow us, to come fishing with us. But remain focused and clear. Be intentional about mentoring a young person in your church. Offer to support and be an accountability partner for a new believer in their devotional life. Take church members with you to visit and pray for each other. Pray with a non-believer going through difficult times. Invite non-Adventist friends to experience a Sabbath with you, or to share a healthy home cooked meal with you.

And all the while bring your children, youth and fellow believers on the discipleship journey with you.

Apprenticeships or internships are not passing fads but a part of every day life – as should be discipleship.

Follow Jesus, be an authentic friend, invite your friends to follow you.

Why? Anywhere with Jesus is better than everything without.

What will you do today to share your faith with others?



Cristian  
Copaceanu  
Director  
Personal  
Ministries  
AUC



# A Thriving Disciple Making Movement



Australian Union Conference  
ADMINISTRATION TEAM

The Australian Conference has recently changed its long standing vision statement from being a church that Knows, Experiences and Shares our hope in Christ, to being a Thriving Disciple Making Movement. We asked them to expand on this vision further

*Afraid of losing momentum, the early Seventh-day Adventist movement resisted forming an official structure for almost two decades. Reflecting on past protestant movements-turned-institutions, our pioneers vowed to avoid any structure inhibiting the march of present truth towards Zion.*

But with a relatively stagnant net growth, have the fears of our forbearers materialised, at least in the Australian Seventh-day Adventist Church? A church better known for our breakfast foods than our soul food? And if so, can the tide be reversed?

Earlier this year at the AUC Executive meetings, pastors and lay leaders from around Australia committed to lead the church in becoming a 'thriving, disciple making movement'. However

throughout Christian history, it is not committee motions that have fuelled growth but the indwelling work of the Holy Spirit moving through willing vessels.

Campaigns and conventions, papers and programs, resources and restructures all have their place and value, but none come close to what God can do through committed Seventh-day Adventists in their local church and community context.

***What will it take to become a thriving, disciple-making movement once more? Communion, relationships and mission.***

## Communion with God

Zero – zilch – nada – nothing – that is our guaranteed mission success rate if we do not have a thriving, growing experience with Jesus each day (John 15:5). God has no need or desire for us to finish His work, rather He longs to finish His work in and through us. To do so we must have constant and continuous communion with Jesus.

'Read your Bible and pray every day' is more than a children's song – it is the essential blueprint for communion with divinity. Are you daily spending time in communing with God through prayer and Bible discovery? Are you listening and cooperating with that still small voice as you go about your day? Before fixing our families, our churches, our structures, our communities, we should be reaching up for a deeper communion with God, each day allowing Him to work in us so He can work through us.

## Relationships with others

We often imagine Jesus came to save us 'from sin' (Matthew 1: 21) but this generally translates to Jesus saving us from doing the 'wrong' thing.

Did Jesus simply live and die to save us from doing bad, dumb, harmful stuff? Or is there more?

According to the Apostle John, "sin" is 'breaking the law' (1 John 3:4). Jesus explains that the law is essentially an imperative to love God and others (Matthew 22:38-40).

So, by deduction, sin is the act of not

loving God and others. Jesus died to restore us to loving God and others.

***Put another way, Jesus lived, died, and rose again so we can have healthy, vibrant, loving relationships with Himself and those around us.***

He died to restore us to positive relationships, not merely to cleanse us from past wrongs.

How are your relationships? How would your spouse, children, parents, friends, church members, colleagues, bosses, neighbours or strangers driving on the same road describe you? Do your family members aspire to have your faith and character? What is your relationship like with your brothers and

“Are we too well known for our breakfast food and not so much for our soul food?”

sisters at church? How many young people in your local church see you as a role model?

How good is the news we are sharing if it does not have the power to restore us to loving relationships with those around us? Disciple-making is not merely a proclamation of truth but a personification of loving relationships. After all, Jesus called us to make disciples, followers, imitators of Him, and He is love – God "with" us.

***Ask God for love, wisdom, strength to reach in to those around you that the world may truly know we are disciples of Jesus by our love for one another.***

## Mission Movement

"The difference between an institution and a movement is that one crosses boundaries, the other guards them" (David Bosch, Transforming Mission, 50). Why does the Seventh-day Adventist Church exist? It is not to defend, protect or convey truth – God is more than capable to do that for Himself. Just look at the Bible

defended, protected and conveyed through generations no thanks to us and our relatively new movement.

***The Seventh-day Adventist Church exists to demonstrate the love and power of God in redeeming and restoring humanity to happiness, health and holiness*** (Matthew 5:14-16).

We cannot be a movement if we don't move. Move out of homes and into our neighbourhoods, out of our churches and into our communities, out of our comfort zones and into the war zone of the greatest controversy in history. How many non-Adventist friends do you have? How many new non-Adventist friends are you regularly making? How much time do you spend actively being in (but not of) the world?

***'Disciple making' is living and showing an experience so much better than what others have that they become jealous of and yearning for it.***

But how will the world ever be jealous of what we have if they don't see it? Hiding behind a computer screen, garden fence or church perimeter engenders no envy.

Follow in Jesus' footsteps. Leave home and go mingle with people where they are, make friends, eat together, and when asked tell others what Jesus has done for you – repeat again and again and again. As you place yourself in places and spaces in need of divine light, God will shine in and through you to reach out to his children still in darkness. He will impress you with loving actions, healing words, genuine sympathy at the right time, in the right way to draw others to you first and ultimately to Himself.

***The question we should be asking ourselves is not whether or not the Seventh-day Adventist church is still a movement. We should be asking whether or not we, as individuals, are still moving?***

Are we moving closer to God, closer to our fellow believers, and closer to our communities? The sum is greater than the parts – the church will move and be a movement as each one of us commits to move in our spheres of influence.





# Gospel Fest Glen Huntly

So one Sabbath afternoon in September Glen Huntly SDA Church hosted the inaugural GospelFest.

It was an afternoon of music, singing and worship. There were choirs from Ringwood, Wantirna and Glen Huntly churches and musical groups from the Rowville/Lysterfield and Casey churches.

There is incredible talent and skill within our churches and it was wonderful to see them coming together in worship.

Thanks to Kareene for such a wonderful afternoon and to all those who participated, sang, played, worshipped and supported.

Watch this space for Gospelfest 2018!



SPD Publishing Director Jared French (3rd from left) with Australian LE Team Leaders.

# A Special Sabbath Bairnsdale

All Sabbaths are special but on the 7th October the Bairnsdale Church family really did rejoice in something extra special.



A young woman named Andrea Peers was baptised by Pastor Andrew Wilson in a moving ceremony that marked Andrea's long journey towards accepting Jesus as her personal Lord and Saviour.

As she told us in her testimony, for years she had known of God but kept Him at arm's length. But our Lord doesn't give up easily. He showed Himself to Andrea through a vision of light, in a loving, comforting way when she had hit rock bottom.

Now she is happy to know that she belongs to Jesus for eternity.

We also had another reason to thank God that day.

Two couples who have led our ADRA Opportunity Centre were thanked with flowers and some food "goodies".

Carol and Gary Stoneman were there to establish the ADRA Centre on the church property from it's beginning in 2006, then in 2014 Lorraine and Ken Ryan took the reins.

ADRA specialises in office and used furniture, electrical goods and white wear, and has helped many people in the community over the years, giving away thousands of dollars in goods and aid. The current team aims to carry on from the good foundation laid by these two couples.

Judy Walker



Lorraine and Ken Ryan (L) with Carol and Gary Stoneman

# The LE's Came Warburton Church

LE team leaders from around Australia served for a full week, ministering in the different communities around the Warburton church.

Visiting homes for a total of 222 hours, our God surely blessed with book orders, acceptances of free literature and prayer. People accepted Bible studies, enrolled in correspondence courses and accepted Beyond DVDs and/or agreed to attend the various programs that the church will be running.

Before the LE team arrived, church members were instructed and skilled

on how to better connect and develop relationships with LE contacts. State team leader, Joe Paola, was impressed by the enthusiasm for mission of Brian Way and his team.

"We are confident," he says, "that as church members visit and make contact with those that we left in their care, connections will be made and God will add to His church."

Joe Paola.



The Warburton church follow up team

# Responding to God's Call Road to Bethlehem

The RTB team received a call from a lady who was on her way home from the funeral of a friend.

She wanted to share what the minister presiding over the funeral had told the mourners.

The friend nearly didn't go to RTB last year as she was feeling quite sick. However she made the effort, attending with a young family.

God spoke to her heart that evening and she was overwhelmed.

The minister said that as a result of her visit to Road to Bethlehem, she gave her heart to Jesus.

Praise God.



It is that time of year again - RTB is just around the corner.

Please pray about who you can invite to hear the story of God sending His son, Jesus, to save.

RTB flyers are now readily available.



Set up and pack up are vital to making Road to Bethlehem a reality Please mark the dates in your calendar and plan to attend even just for an hour or two.

- Set up: Dec 10, 8am (lunch provided)
- Pack up: Dec 14, 10pm  
Dec 15, 9am (lunch inc.)

You can also contribute financially. Acc Name - Road to Bethlehem;



BSB - 013- 017; Acc No - 1974-39585 (for funds to be used this year) or eGiving.org.au (through out the year).

Please do consider giving to this program, particularly as we are only in the second year of relocation to Lilydale.

Finally, please pray for Road to Bethlehem as we head towards Christmas, that we will be able to provide a program where God can continue to work in people's hearts and make Himself known to them.

Road to Bethlehem Team

# Drive Time Radio Ministry

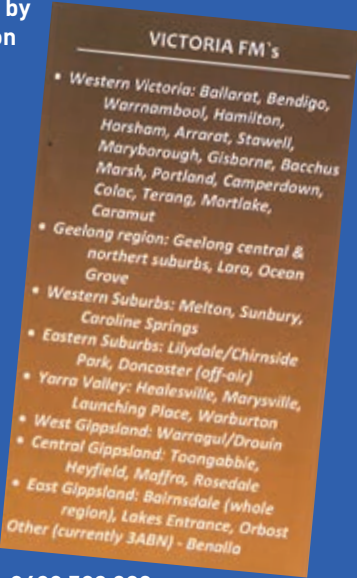


Is your church interested in local FM radio station ministry?

This ministry is growing and your church can contribute and benefit from involvement, through hosting a channel or by contribution to the programs aired.

Radio has always been an important tool for outreach for our Church, across the globe.

Join forces. Contact Pr Damir Posovac on 0432 593 299.



# Evangelism Karen Community

The Werribee congregation recently hosted an outreach series for the wider community. Members from as far away as Bendigo supported the program which saw a number of people from other denominations and the surrounding neighbourhoods attend. There was an average attendance of 80 and cause for celebration as six people recommitted to Christ through profession of faith, and seven through baptism.

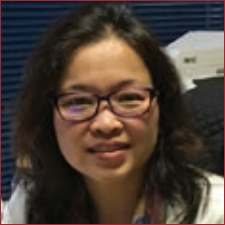




# New Executive Conference Administration

Introducing our new Executive Committee for the next term of office:

**SUE BEAMENT:** Sue has extensive leadership experience in pathfinders, youth and children's ministries. She has worked for the church in our schools and in the Conference and is active at her Ferntree Gully church as their local ADRA director.



**JENNY CHOO:** Attending Melbourne Asian SDA Church, Jenny has served on the school council, the conference evangelism committed and in local church leadership. A practicing lawyer, she also has a passion for young people and has served as a teen counsellor for the past five years.



**JINHA KIM:** Jinha and her husband Roy are currently pastoring the Melbourne City church plant. She has served the Conference for five years, has two cheeky boys and has recently become an Australian citizen.

**PAUL KOTANKO:** Paul has been a local church pastor for 15 years. He has also served as Field Director (President) for the Mongolian Mission for a term. Before studying to be a pastor at the Adventist institute of Advanced Studies (Philippines) he worked in banking and finance as qualified accountant for the Vic. Government.



**ANDREW LITCHFIELD:** Currently pastor for Mildura Church, Andrew attended Walla Walla and Andrews

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# Conference News 94th Constituency Meeting

## Conference Administration

The 94th Constituency Meeting of the Victorian Conference Seventh-day Adventist Church was held at the Nunawading Christian College Multi-Purpose Centre on 24 September 2017.

The day started with a devotional thought led by AUC President Pr Jorge Munoz, in which he challenged the Victorian Conference to be a Thriving Disciple Making Movement by being a place where the grace of God is manifested. This challenge shaped the remainder of what was a very positive day in which reports were shared with the 422 delegates present.



Key business items included the re-election of the three incumbent officers for the next four years. Pr Graeme Christian (President), Pr Craig Gillis (Conference Secretary) and Mr Graeme Moffitt (Chief Financial Officer) were all voted in with an overwhelming majority.

Reports from the different Departments were given and if you are interested in viewing any of these please go to <https://goo.gl/7BPHp8> or use the QR code. In particular, a very favourable report was received from AdventCare, indicating having met the requirements placed on it by the last Constituency meeting.



It was with pleasure that the Oromo, West



Proceedings began with Pr Jorge Munoz leading in worship

Melbourne Samoan and Gateway City congregations were accepted into the sisterhood of churches

Pr Christian shared with attendees the Conference's new Vision Statement.

To be a **Thriving Disciple Making Movement** across Victoria.

Our Mission Statement was also shared: **To make disciples for Jesus Christ of all peoples, communicating the everlasting gospel in the context of the three angels messages of Revelation 14:2-13.**

A departmental video was presented, sharing the vision and future direction of our leaders in their ministry.

Pr Christian introduced Pr Vadim Butov, who will be joining Victoria as our evangelist. Pr Butov shared a brief vision of what evangelism in Victoria will look like moving forward.

Opportunity was provided the delegates to share in small groups what it would look like to be a disciple-making movement in their area, and what resources would help their churches be effective in this.

The day concluded with Pr Christian giving tribute to our Heavenly Father for the way He has led the Victorian Conference during this past quadrennium, as well as His presence through His Holy Spirit on day of the Constituency meeting.



# Appointments Committee Conference Administration

Within weeks of the Constituency Meeting, the Appointments Committee had completed its work of appointing directors, associates and assistants to lead the departmental ministry within the Victorian Conference.

After much prayer and careful consideration, the following team of Departmental Leaders has been appointed:

**ADRA Director:** Rebecca Auriant  
**Children's Ministries Director:** Julie Catton

**Education Director:** Bryan Mercer  
**Associate Education Director:** Betty Lakovic

**Health, Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Director:** Andrew Jasper  
**Ministerial Association Secretary:** Darren Croft

**Trust Services Director:** Steve Whitson

**Youth Director:** Philip Hyland  
**Associate Youth Director:** Simon Gigliotti

We have seen one change for the next term of office, with Tarnya Garner replacing Danijela Trajkov as **Women's Ministries Director.**

In addition, conference administration has agreed to provide leadership for the following departments:

**Communications, Family Ministries and Public Relations Director:** Graeme Christian

**Religious Liberty Director:** Craig Gillis

# Women's Ministries Conference Administration

*Women's Ministries is an active and growing department. With an annual conference, leadership and outreach training, seminars and workshops, a young girls conference and fundraising opportunities, this department helps women lift up Christ in their home and church lives.*

We wish to thank Danijela Trajkov for her faithfulness" said Conference Secretary, Craig Gillis, "and for working over a period of many years to build this ministry up to what it is now. We trust that God will continue to bless her ministry as she continues in her pastoral role."

Danijela grew up a third generation Adventist in the strongly communist country of Croatia. She was only six when she first felt God's call to ministry. Life was not easy as a young Adventist, but God systematically opened doors and Danijela was able to complete her education at an Adventist high school and go on to study theology.

Ministry was and is a family business. Danijela and her husband Nick were working in Bosnia in 1993 when war broke out and the family was forced to flee. The Victorian Conference invited them to Melbourne, working with the Macedonian community. Danijela also volunteered in Women's Ministries for six years before accepting the position of Director in 2003. Since then she

has completed her Masters in Ministry and faithfully served the women of our state as well as pastoring a number of churches. She will continue to work with the Werribee church and Point Cook plant.

"I am happy to be passing on the directorship to Tarnya but my passion for Womens' Ministries has in no way abated. I look forward to continuing to serve women as part of my role in my local churches."

Tarnya Garner came to Australia from South Africa in 2008. God called her to ministry in 2015 and longing to fulfil His will in her life, she readily answered. She is currently studying an undergrad BMinTh through Avondale College.

"I am blessed with a wonderful husband, a loving daughter, two wonderful Step-daughters and an adorable step grandson. I have a passion for people and their needs, I enjoy playing Beach Volleyball, hiking and nature and love my family. "

Welcome Tarnya.

# New Executive Cont...

Universities. He has served as a missionary (Micronesia), Youth Director for Uni and Young Adult ministries (S QLD Conference) and pastor.

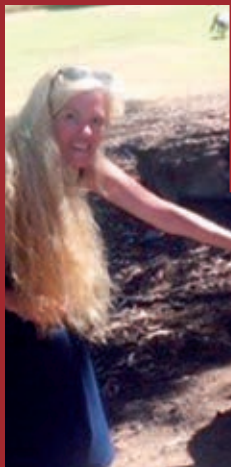
**MELISSA MARTIN:** Primary teacher trained, Melissa is currently a 'stay at home' mum. She grew up on the family farm in Gippsland and is now an active member of Macedon Ranges Church, leading out in Sabbath School, Adventurers and Happy Hands Art Time.



**WARWICK SCHMITZ:** Warwick has a broad senior management experience across a range of businesses. He is now working in the vocational education and training

Continued page 12

Danijela Trajkov, outgoing Women's Ministries Director, will continue to serve women in her role as local pastor



Tarnya Garner is picking up from Danijela and we look forward to her ministry

*"I am very excited about further advancing the missional potential of Women's Ministries and am looking forward to reaching more of our women, empowering them to serve Christ more effectively."*

Tarnya



New Executive Cont...

sector, and is co-director, with his wife Carolin, of Happy Hands Art Time Ltd. Warwick is an active member of Spotswood Church.



serves as a board member on a number of councils and as a project manager for 'House of Strength' for abused children with disabilities in Samoa.

JOHN ST MART: John has been a member of Dandenong/Casey for nearly 50 years and has been heavily involved in youth and ADRA work. He has twice been a recipient of the Managing Directors Award for Excellence.



Valley Adventist Church, where among other things, she is involved in running CHIP, organising church camps and is an elder.

KEVIN WOOD: Baptised in 1992, Kevin has been involved in ministry in various church roles ever since. A business manager for the independent Shepparton Christian College, He attends our church there and has served on the Executive/BOD, the Education Board and a number of sub committees in recent years.



Introducing... Staffing

It is our pleasure to introduce to our readers two new staff members to the Conference ministerial team.

Vadim Budov, who gave a presentation at the Constituency meeting in September, comes to us from Avondale. His role will involve pastoring and conference evangelism.

"I thank God and the leadership of the Victorian Conference," he says, "for the honour to work as Evangelist in one of the most challenging mission fields in Australia. During the past twenty-four years I have had the privilege of running numerous evangelistic campaigns in 13 countries. Outreach programs were developed that would address different audiences: Secular, Jewish, Buddhist, Muslim, Pagan and of various Christian denominations.

My family and I are moving to Melbourne from Avondale with an open mind. We want to study and understand the local culture, the needs of the community and develop programs which would be successful in the local

Elena Butova is also joining our pastoral team.

"I am thrilled," says Elena, "about the possibility of working with the members of the Victorian Adventist church family in discipleship and leadership development.

I was first trained as a medical doctor but later in life had a calling from God to the Gospel ministry.

In the last fourteen years, while I was running evangelistic programs, pastoring churches and teaching theology in a number of our colleges and universities, I have come to realise

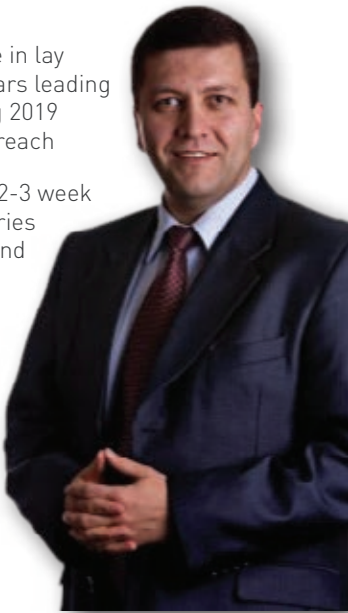
there is a great need to train and equip our church members in making friends for Jesus.

I would like to thank the Victorian

Victorian context."

Here is Vadim's vision for the next four years:

- To participate in lay training seminars leading towards the big 2019 Melbourne outreach
- Run sixteen 2-3 week evangelistic series in Melbourne and major cities in Victoria
- Train pastors and church members who would be willing to master the skills of public evangelism.



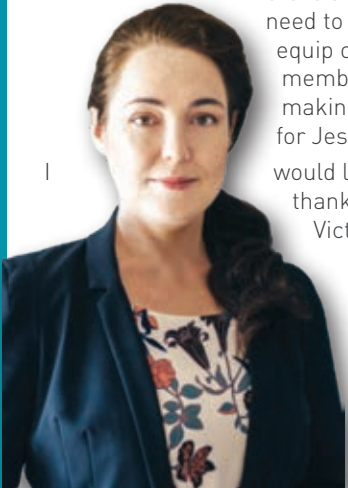
Conference for this wonderful opportunity."

Elena's vision for the next four years is:

- To participate in lay training seminars leading towards the big 2019 Melbourne outreach
- Run evangelism training seminars for the church members in a small group setting in Melbourne and across the conference as required
- Provide personal and small group training for the church members, Bible workers and pastors who are just beginning their ministry in the following areas:
  - a. Biblical exegesis and its application to preaching
  - b. Biblical expository preaching
  - c. Evangelistic preaching and personal Bible studies.

Elena will also work with a local church, in addition to evangelistic training.

Elena and Vadim have two children, Paul and Alex, and the family look forward to being part of the Victorian Adventist Community .



Administrative Report From the President

As I write this update on Conference news, I'm enjoying the recollections of recent events – the memories are positive – so let me share them with you.

AdventCare Yarra Ranges Opening

Thursday 26 October started like any other day but for anyone who was part of the opening of the newly refurbished wing, it was a high day. Everyone was impressed with the newly refurbished wing. We're very thankful for the work of ABE Constructions and Mr Geoff Rippingale as they've worked so closely. Without the fixed price building contract that was negotiated, the rebuilding work would not have been possible.

After the opening ceremony for the new wing, the hallways were crowded with impressed people. I heard so many expressions of delight. "That's a nice big room" were comments I heard as residents quickly and eagerly explored the new rooms, some with their walking frames. What a great day!

New Conference Committee

The newly appointed Executive Committee and Board of Directors met for the first time on Monday 30 October. I was very impressed with the level of engagement and the wisdom shared by the committee members and I'm thankful to be able to work together as we shape the way forward for the Conference. The committee met for a full eight hours – there's a lot to do and there are many specific requirements that need to be met at the first meeting.

Partner's In Ministry Coordinator

Mrs Rosie Croft was reappointed as Partner's in Ministry Coordinator. Rosie has carried this voluntary role over the last four years and her reappointment was in many ways a formality - everyone was happy for her to continue in the roll. We thank God for Rosie's commitment and the positive contribution she's making in caring for those who partner with their husband or wife in ministry.

Stewardship Coordinator Appointed

Pr Andrew Jasper has been appointed as the Stewardship Coordinator for the Conference, with his wife Keryn being appointed as a voluntary Assistant. We look forward to working with

Andrew and Keryn as they make their contribution in these roles.

2017 Constituency Meeting Actions

We've picked up and followed through on the relevant actions of the recent meeting. As you may be aware, I was instructed by the constituency meeting to communicate with our team of pastors, elders and teachers to ask them to clearly and unequivocally support and communicate our beliefs (particularly in relation to the Holy Scriptures, Creation, Marriage and family and the official position of the church on Same Sex Unions) to our members and society generally. You will probably recall receiving such a letter. I've received so many positive responses to that letter and I've lost count of those who've expressed appreciation for our beliefs and that we as a church are affirming our beliefs. One church, in dialogue with their leadership team, chose to affirm their belief in all 28 of our fundamental beliefs in response to the matter raised. How wise is that!

Finance Report

In recent months tithing receipts have gone up and this significant increase will help us meet the yearly budget to provide pastors for our churches and to support the ministries that are so valued in our Conference. We thank God and all our faithful church members.

Please pray for our pastors, teachers, elders, and conference leaders that we may all be effective in the work God has given us.

Many thanks.

Graeme Christian



God's Timing... Literature Evangelists

Max (name changed) is a lonely artistic man. He suffered from depression but has come through with a different perspective on life.

His ambition in life now is to help others, especially children, to express themselves. He started cartoon drawing two years ago as a means of sharing his own feelings and this blossomed into an idea of using his art to help others share theirs.

As I was showing Max our Beyond DVDs, stating that they are Bible based, he said, "If you had've come to my door four years ago I would never have talked to you now."

On asking about his beliefs he said, "I know there is a God, but I feel like a hypocrite. I have done some bad things." I replied, "God will forgive you." Saddened he said, "I know that, but I cannot forgive myself."

Max also shared with me the heartache of losing his sister. He said that she went to the doctor for something minor but was diagnosed with cancer. Nine weeks later his sister passed away and he is still struggling with the loss of his loved one. I was very pleased when he accepted to watch our Beyond DVDs.

At the end of my visit Max said, "You know, I was down at the library and had forgotten to take my watch to be repaired so I came back home for it. It looked like it was going to rain, so I decided not to go out again. It was then that you knocked on my door."

God's timing is perfect!

Please keep Max in your prayers as our church members visit him.

LE Sylvia Wall visited with 'Max'

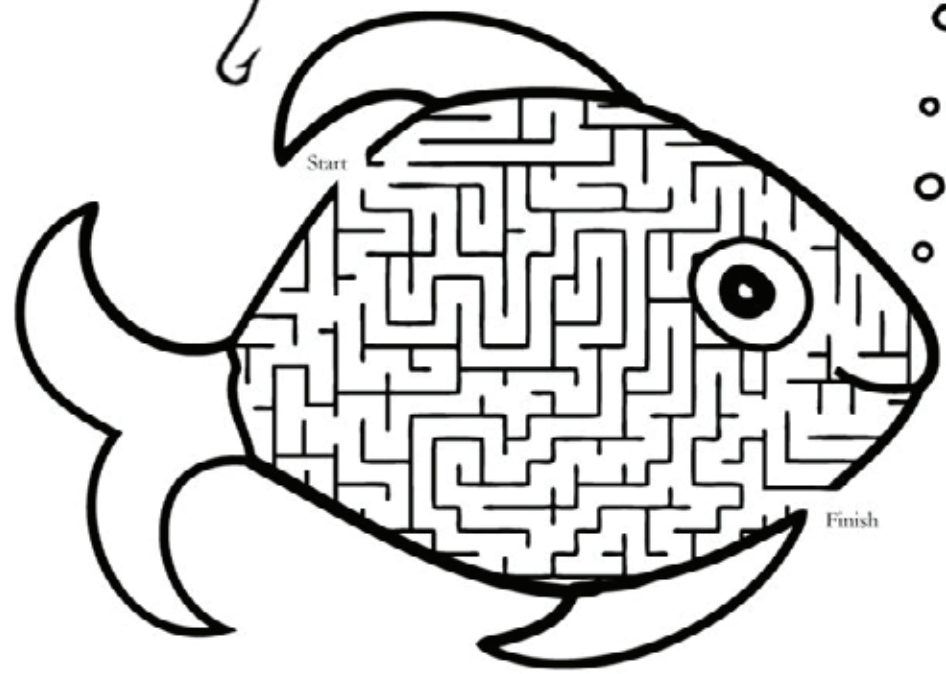




Once upon a time there was a fire in a small town. The fire brigade rushed to the scene, but the fireman were unable to get through to the burning building. The problem was the crowd of people who had gathered not to watch but to help put out the fire. They all knew the fire chief well – their children had climbed over his fire engines during excursions to the fire station, and the friendliness of the fire chief was legendary. So when a fire broke out the people rushed out to help their beloved fire chief. Unfortunately the townsfolk were seeking to extinguish this raging inferno with water pistols! They'd all stand there, from time to time squirting their pistol into the fire while making casual conversation. The fire chief couldn't contain himself. He started screaming at the townsfolk. "What do you think you're doing? What on earth do you think you're going to achieve with those waterpistols?!" The people realised the urgency of the situation. How they wanted to help the fire chief. So they started squirting more. "Come on" they encouraged each other, "We can all do better, can't we?" Squirt, squirt, squirt, squirt. Exasperated the fire chief yells again. "Get out of here. Your achieving nothing except hindering us from doing what needs to be done. We need fireman who are ready to give everything they've got to put out this fire, people willing even to lay their lives on the line. This is not the place for token contributions" Sometimes we get a bit indifferent to what it means to be a disciple for Jesus. We can do token things and think that it is enough. What do you think it means to be passionate about being a disciple for Jesus?

(Found here - <https://storiesforpreaching.com/category/sermonillustrations/discipleship/>)

FISHERS of MEN



And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." **Mark 1:17**

ARE YOU A DISCIPLE?

Circe the words below that describe how you would act if you were a disciple.

- FAITHFUL
- OBEDIENT
- understanding
- WHINER
- Teachable
- Joyful
- SELFISH
- COMPASSIONATE
- PRAYERFUL
- Stubborn
- Kind
- Willful
- LOVING
- Wise
- JEALOUS

RULES FOR CHILDREN IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE:

1. If you find that you're sitting in front of a child and they can't see, lean to the side.
2. If the children seated behind you are rustling papers, hand them a crayon.
3. If there is a baby that is crying, offer to take it from its parent and walk to the back of the church and rock it for a while. The parent really needs a break.
4. If the teenagers are whispering give them some Smarties. The rustling and crinkling will replace their whispering.
5. If an adult complains to an usher about the noisy children near them, offer to trade seats with that adult and then apologize to the parents of the children.
6. When a child is running around giving everyone high-fives during the time of passing the peace/greeting your neighbor make sure to give them an extra fun high-five, and then high-five the next five adults that you see.
7. If a child has worn tap shoes to church and is dancing on the wood portion of the floor, slip the sheet music for "The Entertainer" to the pianist and roll with it.
8. When the children can't hear because an adult around them won't take off their puffy jacket and it keeps squeaking and distracting the children, offer to help them off with their jacket and go hang it up for them where it goes.
9. When the three-year-old insists on standing on the front pew turned backwards looking at the rest of the people, give the child a pair of very dark glasses. That will prevent the child from catching any adult's eye, which would lead to distracting them. This will protect the adults who as we know have very short attention spans and are easily distracted.
10. When a child in front of you is very squirmy, and then they finally turn around and you realize suddenly, "Oh, it's Jesus!" take it in stride and play Got Your Nose till he turns around to the front again.

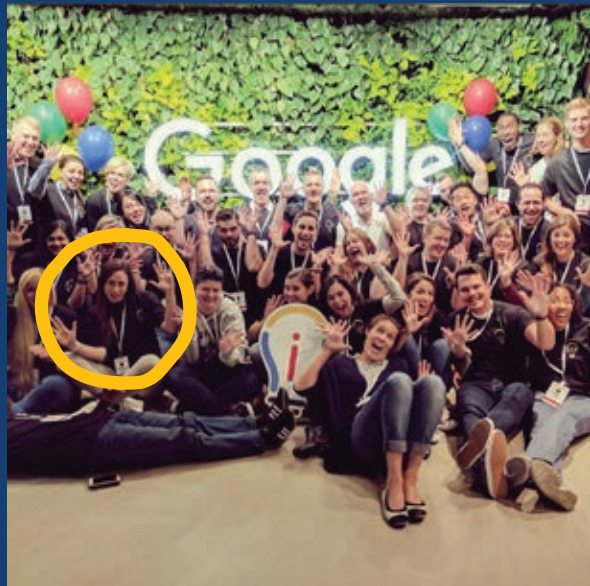
As a family read John 15 together. Talk about what it means to be connected to Jesus like a vine is connected to its branches. When we stay connected to him and grow with him, we will produce good fruit. This is how others know we are a follower of Jesus. Discuss some ways we can stay connected with Jesus.

Cindy Beal - Justice and Peace Consulting



Julie Catton  
Director of  
Children's Ministries  
30 9264 7777





## And Ana makes three

Ana Ferry is the third of our ASV teachers who have succeed in being selected for the Google Innovator program we mentioned in our last edition of IntraVic. Congratulations Ana!

## Official Opening Officer Primary

*"I now declare the Officer Primary Building, officially open..." were the resonant words of Mr Garry Runge, representative of the Federal Government, as he unveiled the plaque for the opening ceremony on Wednesday.*

Being partly funded by the State Government, the ceremony saw several dignitaries who gave their time to participate and support the official opening at the Officer Campus. The students at Officer campus performed a rendition of the Australian Anthem and received accolades from the visiting speakers.

Mr Jason Wood, Federal MP for the La Trobe electorate, was unable to make the opening due to an serious knee injury. However, his Chief of Staff, Mr Garry Runge, shared his support for not only this building but also future projects that Heritage College wishes to pursue moving forward. Mr Brian Mercer was another guest speaker and shared with us his endorsement of the quality of learning that takes place in a building that is so conducive to excellence for both teachers and students. The opening was closed with a prayer of blessing by our Chaplain, Pastor Faye.

With the ribbon cut and the plaque revealed, dignitaries, parents and students were invited to participate in a morning tea which was lovingly prepared by many parents and guided by our Event Coordinator, Mrs Marizanne Stark. A special thank you goes to all of our parents who attended the morning or watched the live stream on Facebook and to all the dignitaries for their valuable time. Thank you also to all teachers and students who helped organise the physical space for the learning to happen.

Finally, we need to acknowledge the contribution made by the State Government in giving \$900,000 to the project. Kneeler Design Architects were also present at the opening and instrumental in the design of the building. We look forward to more building projects like this in the future as we continue to grow our College for God's glory.

*Mr Sonny Aiono, Principal*



## Welcome

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Samuel Shehata to the role of Work Health & Safety Manager, effective 19 September 2017. Samuel joins us with 17 years of experience in education, corporate training, vocational training and assessment, compliance, people management and customer service management. Samuel has worked for educational institutions, Emirates Airlines and RTO's and comes to us from Octopus Training Group where he provided training in hospitality, Work Health and Safety and Competitive Systems and Practices. Samuel brings with him great experience both nationally and internationally and has travelled to around 70 countries. In his spare time, he volunteers for ADRA and enjoys serving people in need. Samuel will also be working part time for the Victorian Conference. Samuel has a Bachelor of Education and Cert IV in Hospitality, Training and Assessment and Work Health & Safety. "I am pleased to welcome Samuel to the ASV team. This is a critical role and Samuel brings great experience and knowledge which will provide much needed support to ASV and our schools," said Brian Mercer, Director of Education. Please join us in congratulating Samuel as he takes on this role.

*Fiona Thomas*



## ACEL

Every year, educational leaders across the country come together at the Australian Council for Educational Leaders (ACEL) Conference to access leadership-focused opportunities and learning.

Networking and workshops also further enhanced the richness of best practice shared with most current research in their field to aspire excellence. Delegates from every Australian state and territory as well as New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore and the United States of America actively contribute to the success of the event to encourage educational leaders to reflect on their practice, to build and strive for most effective actions in schools.

Following ACEL hosted in Melbourne last year, where twelve Adventist Schools Victorian leaders actively attended the conference, this year Brian Mercer also invited leaders to attend during their school holiday period. Five leaders were in attendance and networking in ICC Sydney, looking out over Darling Harbour. They returned to share on their reflections that respected the past to inform and lead the developments and actions in the

present, to ensure our future is positive and intentional – The basis for the theme of the conference: Respect, Lead, Secure: Setting the Learning Agenda. Keynote speakers also included David Marquet, Barbara Blackburn & Russell Quaglia (US), Past Sahleberg & Kirsti Lonka (FIN), Tania Mayor & Miriam Issa (AU) and David Hopkins & Ben Walden (UK).

*Betty Lakovic*



## Positions Vacant

### *Expressions of Interest – ELC Positions 2018*

ASV is seeking expressions of interest for qualified educators in their Early Learning Centre programs across all centres – Edinburgh College, Nunawading Christian College Primary and Heritage College Officer. Permanent part-time and casual positions are available from 7:00am – 6:00pm Monday to Friday.

Expressions of interest are also invited for applicants without qualifications yet interested in completing a traineeship to gain childcare qualifications.

For further information about working in our ELC's, please contact Margaret Andoh-Okai (elcdirector@asv.vic.edu.au) with expressions of interest and CV's to ASV HR Manager

at [asvhr@adventist.org.au](mailto:asvhr@adventist.org.au). Applications close on 30 November 2017

### *Expressions of Interest – Teaching Positions 2018*

With the continued expansion to school enrolments for 2018, Adventist Schools Victoria is currently recruiting additional teachers to join our professional learning communities at Edinburgh College, Gilson College, Henderson College, Heritage College and Nunawading Christian College. If you have a passion for teaching and would like to work in one of our schools, please submit your expression of interest to our Education Director, Brian Mercer, [asvhr@adventist.org.au](mailto:asvhr@adventist.org.au).

Applications close on Friday, 17 November 2017

### *Position Vacant - Casual Bus Drivers*

Adventist Schools Victoria is seeking to employment casual bus drivers to fill leave positions in its schools (Edinburgh College, Gilson College, Heritage College and Nunawading Christian College). The daily hours are generally four hours per day or two by two hour shifts (before and after school).

To apply, you must have the right to work in Australia, hold a light rigid license and be willing to obtain a Working With Children Check.

To apply, please highlight which school you are available for and send your resume and covering letter to Fiona Thomas, [asvhr@adventist.org.au](mailto:asvhr@adventist.org.au).



## Our Schools

### **Edinburgh College**

Phone: 03 9728 2211  
[edinburghcollege.vic.edu.au](http://edinburghcollege.vic.edu.au)

### **Gilson College**

Talors Hill Campus  
Phone: 03 9365 9365

Mernda Campus  
Phone: 03 9717 7300  
[www.gilsoncollege.com](http://www.gilsoncollege.com)

### **Henderson College**

Phone: 03 5024 5192  
[henderson.adventist.edu.au](http://henderson.adventist.edu.au)

### **Heritage College**

Narre Warren South Campus  
Phone: 03 9796 0100

Officer Campus  
Phone: 03 5943 2900  
[www.heritagecollege.com.au](http://www.heritagecollege.com.au)

### **Nunawading Christian College**

Primary Campus  
Phone: 03 9878 9927

Secondary Campus  
Phone: 03 9877 3555  
[ncc2.vic.edu.au](http://ncc2.vic.edu.au)







## ADRA Connections Trip Changing Lives

On Sunday September 24th, five students from Tasmania, who incidentally had never left the state before, embarked on a trip to Vanuatu! Three of these students were from Eastside Lutheran College.

They joined with five people from Victoria, a further seven from South Australia and two from Western Australia.

Their mission was to work together with local builders to support the establishment of a staff house at the Loukaru Adventist Primary School on Tanna Island. This house was for the principal who had been living in the school library for the past eight years.

Throughout the trip the team learnt how the students walked to school, many for over two hours, to receive an education. They were shocked that clean water was sometimes three km or more away from the villages and learnt how since 2016, ADRA Vanuatu has helped establish clean water to 25 different project sites in the provinces of Penama and Sanma.



The team also saw the devastation still evident from Cyclone Pam which destroyed buildings and crops back in 2015, and its impact on the livelihoods of the villagers.

One student commented that, "We have so much in Australia and yet still complain."

Through the daily worships people shared how true resilience in times of hardship comes from a relationship with Jesus. How, to be like Him, we must be kind, generous, grateful, humble. And how we must understand that everyone is made in the image of God regardless of economic, mental, physical and/or social status.

On the last day, two students shared how they wanted to know more about Jesus and requested baptismal studies - praise God.

If you are interested in being part of the July 2018 trip to Vanuatu - please contact your ADRA Director: Rebecca Auriant- [rauriant@adra.org.au](mailto:rauriant@adra.org.au)

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.  
John 13:34-35”

## Annual Appeal Local Projects

In Victoria, ADRA has partnered with Women's Housing which provides over 200 properties for women escaping domestic violence and also men in need. Our Redwood Community Centre in Warburton also provides accommodation, and vital support services for people struggling with mental health issues, alcohol and other drugs, family and domestic violence and food insecurity.



## Fun Mudder

The teens that braved the mud at our first ever Fun Mudder event, an action packed commando course, raised \$3000 for the annual ADRA Appeal.



## International Projects

The Good Governance and Livelihood Project is working with vulnerable groups and communities in three rural districts of Nepal. In a country with a significant reliance on the land for food and income, ADRA is providing micro-enterprise and entrepreneurship training and support. This project works with the vulnerable groups and communities, focusing on improving livelihoods through strengthened local leadership, environmental management strategies and income generation options.



The CHOICES for Children project focuses on improving health outcomes for rural communities in western Cambodia, helping them better address the risks of child malnutrition and improving their well-being. Parents and care givers are educated to make informed decisions about feeding practices, hygiene and sanitation. It also empowers food insecure families to have more sustained household livelihoods through extensive training.





# Recognition of Service

## AdventCare Bendigo

On 29 August 2017 we were delighted to recognise staff at AdventCare who have completed many years of service with us.

It was great to celebrate their commitment and service to the facility and the care of our residents. A presentation of certificates was made and then they enjoyed an excellent lunch to reminisce and to share stories of past experiences. Featured in the photograph are Pamela Kerr-Bayley [30 years], Sue Moyle [20 years], Glennys Dole [10 years] and Judith Hunt [10 years].

It was great to be able to celebrate with Pr Chrissie Cooper from the Bendigo Church with Pamela being a member of the local Church and our longest serving staff member.



Staff of AdventCare Bendigo were recognised for their commitment, service and care

Jean Mannix - Bendigo resident



# News from ADVENTCARE

## The Board-walk is Open!

### AdventCare Whitehorse

*There is a much used Board-walk that meanders alongside the Lake Road creek in a picturesque setting that connects AdventCare Whitehorse and the Laughlin Avenue retirement units.*

Residents and their families, staff and visitors use this walkway to visit and socialise in a safe environment. The old Board-walk was set at creek level and was prone to flooding during winter and could be slippery at times. Recognising this a major redesign was done and a new Board-walk was built that was



elevated above the flood level and a non-slip surface was installed. This has raised the Board-walk to give better views of the creek and an easier walk as the old walkway had slopes at each end. A special feature is the new seats and shelter situated halfway along the Board-walk that allows walkers to have a rest and sit and enjoy the beautiful scenery.

On 31 August we were delighted to have the Mayor of Whitehorse City Council, Cr Denise Massoud, officially open the new Board-walk to add significantly to the local community infrastructure. The occasion was celebrated by our unit and aged care residents who enjoyed the use of the new walkway before retiring for a sumptuous afternoon tea.

## Stage One Open AdventCare Yarra Ranges

*It was a special occasion on 26 October 2017 when the Mayor of the Yarra Ranges Council, Cr Noel Cliff, officially opened the first stage of the redevelopment of AdventCare Yarra Ranges.*

Following much community input and a commitment from the Board to maintain and expand services at the facility a redevelopment program was commenced early in the year in a two stage process.



The first stage has delivered 19 fully compliant resident rooms with en-suite, a new lounge and courtyard, and upgraded décor and the upgraded external appearance of the facility. New furniture has been purchased due mainly to a generous grant from the Upper Yarra Community Enterprise [local community bank] and has



resulted in a warm and restful living environment for our residents.

The Opening was followed by a tour of the new facilities and a wonderful tea with the residents and families.

Work will now commence on the second stage which will provide a further thirteen new resident rooms, a second new courtyard and upgraded dining and lounge area and reception area. When complete the facility will increase from 31 to 42 beds and will serve the community of the Warburton and Yarra Valleys. We are fortunate to have an excellent builder in Australian Building Enterprise and the work has progressed smoothly despite some unforeseen challenges in upgrading an older building.

We look forward to being able to provide permanent and respite residential care in Warburton for many years to come.

## Beds Available - Respite & Permanent

### AdventCare Bendigo

AdventCare Bendigo is located in Golden Square and offers excellent accommodation for people from around the North Central Victoria area. Offering an exceptional standard of residential care, we are ready to support families with changing care needs.

We offer Respite Care where you or your loved one spends time at the home to provide you with supported care and accommodation for a period of time up to nine weeks a year. This allows you to experience residential care and to have an assessment of your ability to function at home and your changing care needs. This also provides your carer or partner with a break so that they can recharge, have a holiday or fulfil another commitment whilst you are cared for.

Respite Care can be used regularly or prior to a permanent admission so that you are comfortable with living in the home and enjoying the activities it offers.

There are landscaped gardens which offer Residents the opportunity to take walks whilst enjoying their surroundings. AdventCare Bendigo promotes healthy living through excellent vegetarian meals, and caters for the personal needs and preferences of all residents.

Our activity co-ordinators liaise with residents to arrange social outings and activities. We offer on-site activities, bus outings and church services.

There is a real family atmosphere amongst staff and residents at AdventCare Bendigo. We welcome you to come in for a complementary guided tour.

Please contact us on (03) 5443 7999 or email [bendigo@adventcare.org.au](mailto:bendigo@adventcare.org.au).



## Running the Race

*Many of you are aware that the acting CEO of AdventCare, overseeing our three aged care facilities, is David Reece. But what you may not know about him is that he is a man passionate about running! So much so, that earlier this year he ran the Rio Maratona Marathon.*

"It requires careful planning, balancing distance, pace and mental focus," he says of training, "to achieve the goal. I maintain a base of around 20 km for my long run most weeks which enables me to train up in fourteen weeks for a marathon. And complementary to training is regular stretching, massage and a good healthy diet.

"Body, mind and spirit need to be aligned so that this tough race can be overcome, finished well and with a good recovery."

Somewhat like living for Christ isn't it?

"Do you not know that those who run in a race all run but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it." (1 Cor 9:24 NKJV)

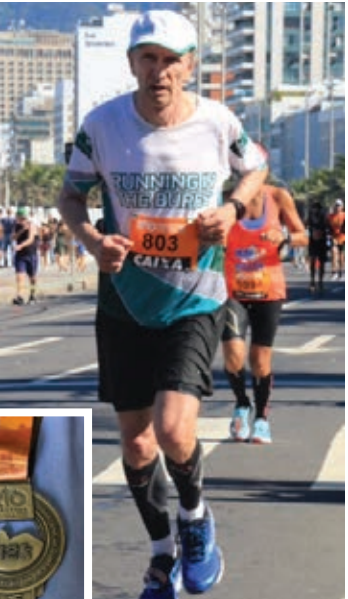
On the day of the Rio race, David rose at 4 am. Runners took a 40km bus ride - David's driver being particularly inspired to be part of the race over the roads so rough, any thought of a quick nap rapidly dispersed.

The event was scheduled to start at 7.30 - a little late given the weather forecast, but Brazilians do not like early mornings.

It takes the first three km, which is a loop back to the finish line, to weave through the crowd into a clear space. By the 10 km mark, David had a good pace but was aware of the need to revise his running plan. Drink stations were essential and a sound and light show helped him through the elevated tunnel at the 22 km mark. By 30 km, he slowed his pace to avoid cramps. But through Copacabana it was shadeless and he slowed further. The run finished in Flamengo to rapturous applause and David received a well earned medal. Well done, David.

Just like preparing for a marathon, our body, mind and spirit needs to be balanced and healthy. Our prize will mean we can spend eternity with God. Let's train and run the race of eternal value.

Lindy Sperring





# Harvest Victoria

## Training Intensive

DATE: February 19-24, 2018

WHERE: Belgrave Heights Convention Centre

TRAINERS: It is Written trainers Yves Monier, Director of Evangelism and Douglas Na'a, the Director of SALT Ministries, plus our own local expertise.

This training will inspire you to connect with Christ and move you into the harvest with Him by your side.

We will look at the Harvest Journey, the importance of prayer and renewal, how to make genuine friendships and lead them to Christ.

Various successful bridging events will be discussed. There will be training for conducting Bible studies that foster decisions to commit to Christ as well as practical training that will lead up to an evangelistic event.

The training is subsidised by the Conference but there may be a small fee to cover some expenses. This is a week-long live-in event, although day visitors are welcome so long as they commit to the entire duration of the training.

Online registration at [vic.adventist.org.au](http://vic.adventist.org.au)

# Move With the Power

## VicYouth

We asked attendees to tell you about this event - to share with you what it was like actually being there...

MWTP4 was a fantastic chance to gather with disciples from across the South Pacific Division to continue to build a Jesus centred ministry and life. It also gave opportunity for attendees to discuss and gain many weapons against the challenges of such a life for Christ in these times. It is a defining moment on my life in training for God's work in our church' Sarah Knott

To me, MWTP meant a personal revival and realising the importance of discipleship among the youth, all while being inspired by the hundreds of people around me who love God so much. Amiley Milovic

A practical Bible based learning experience centred on discipleship. A rekindling of my walk with Christ and fellowship with God and man so deep that the atmosphere was a glimpse into heaven. This will live as apart of me for the rest of my life. Caitlyn Edwards

Definitely the best decision I've made all year. Getting to be with like-minded

people committed to sharing Jesus and youth/young adult ministry was such a blessing. The friends I've made are life long and the time I spent at MWTP I'll never forget! Chimangu Kamanga

Firstly, a BIG thank you to VicYouth for the sponsorship to this amazing and spiritually uplifting event. It was a truly spirit filled event loaded with remarkably talented and inspiring speakers covering a range of topics from effective evangelism to strategic discipleship planning. The worships were amazing with over 800 delegates from the pacific in perfect harmony; perhaps a glimpse of what worship heaven may truly be like. Scott Woollard

MWTP was a life changing, spiritual experience. The week was filled with amazing food, amazing people, amazing speakers and overall, was such a God filled weekend! Tylah Ah Tune

It was an amazing week for me over



all. Thank you Phil and team for EVERYTHING. I have shared with pastor and elders of my church the importance of understanding and knowing your identity as SDA people. We made allegiance to the God who made us in His own image that our characters be like him stay connected to have visions and develop skills to build relationships and make disciples for the kingdom. Heta Erika

I am so blessed from the MWTP4, was my First time at MWTP4 and it best, Love it so much, an encouragement for me as a leader-leadership for God

work, From every session that I had attended full of blessings for me , and I shared to my department n everyone our God is good and He is coming soon! Merita Leitu

MWTP 4 has given me a fresh insight into how I could be more effective in the ministry areas I'm currently involved in. Kenny Roga

I can't thank you enough for the Move with the Power experience - it's really revitalised my spiritual journey and that of our young people at North Melbourne. Natasha Sua



# Safe Trip

## Ministerial Association

Wish your pastors a safe trip as they head back to Avondale in early February 2018.

Avondale will be hosting the AU-wide five yearly Ministers' Convention from the 6th to the 10th. This event sees over 500 ministers coming together for equipping, networking and being empowered in their ministry. The convention will include time for resource launches, inspiring presentations, worship environments and workshops, all with a focus on discipleship.

So wish them well as your pastors head north for this special time.

# Office Closure

## For Holiday Period

We wish to advise that the Conference Office and ABC Bookstore will be closed from Thursday, December 21 close of business, reopening Tuesday January 2, normal business hours. In cases of urgency, call 03 9264 7777.

Administration takes this opportunity to wish you a blessed and safe holiday period as you spend time with friends and family. And we pray you will take time to recall the significance of what our heavenly Father and His Son have done for us.

## SEASONS OF THE HARVEST

2017		2018		2019		
Nov - Jan		Feb - Apr		May - Oct	Nov - Jan	Feb - Apr
<b>PERSONAL RENEWAL</b>  Regionals: Belgrave Heights - Nov 11 Taylors Hill - Nov 18  Road to Bethlehem Dec 11-14  Youth Summer Camps Jan 11-28		<b>TRAINING PREPARE SOIL</b>  "Joining Christ in the Harvest" Training Intensive Belgrave Heights Feb 19-24  Leadership Training Weekend (Youth) March 2-4  City/Suburb Evangelism Trainings March 24 April 28  Big Camp - Eric Flickinger March 29 - April 2  Rural Ministry Tour April 21		<b>TRAINING SOW AND CULTIVATE</b>  Conference Evangelist Activated for Regional Harvests  Adventist Health Week May 12-20  City/Suburb Evangelism Trainings May 26 July 14 August 18  GROW Conference June 22-24  Rural Ministry Tours June 30 September 8  Regionals: Belgrave Heights - Oct 20 Taylors Hill - Oct 27	<b>RENEWAL SOW AND CULTIVATE</b>  Road to Bethlehem December 10-13  National Pathfinder Camporee Jan 1-6  Youth Summer Camps January 10-27	<b>PREPARE FOR HARVEST</b>  Continue Cultivating Interests  Hold Bridge Events  Full-fledged Advertising Campaign for Meetings
				<b>MAY</b>		
				<b>HARVEST</b>  John Bradshaw and Eric Flickinger May 4-31  4 venues in city/suburbs Rural locations can download programs  Special Celebration Baptism June 1 Melbourne Convention Centre		
				<b>CULTIVATE AND CONNECT</b>  Cultivate new interests  Nurture new members by connecting them to local church families  Equip new members for ministry		
					Jun - Nov	

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# Thrive

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have life, and may have it  
abundantly"**

**Jn 10:10**

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