

# Multiculturalism Matters

Newsletter of the Qld Synod's Multi Cross Cultural Reference Group | No. 1

22 FEBRUARY 2016



## National Reference Committee meets in Brisbane

THE Assembly's National Reference Committee for Multicultural and Cross-cultural Ministry is meeting in Brisbane this week (February 22-25).

UCA President, Stuart McMillan, Assembly General Secretary Colleen Geyer, and National Director of Formation, Education and Discipleship, Craig Mitchell, will join members of the Committee, drawn from across Australia, and Chairperson Rev. Kisoo Jang, National Director, Rev. Dr Apwee Ting (*pictured below*), and associated staff from each Synod.

The Committee meets twice a year, and assists the National Director and the Assembly in policies and strategies towards fulfilling the UCA's commitment to being a truly multicultural church.

**Committee members look forward to meeting a wide cross-section of Brisbane-area people at an open evening of food, worship, songs and stories at Sunnybank UC on Wednesday, February 24, at 6:30 pm. All are welcome.**

Pastor Moses Leth and Beatriz Skippen are the Qld Synod's members of the National Reference Committee. Pastor David Busch attends as a Synod/Presbytery staff member.



## Rev. Tino Scanlan retires

A SERVICE at Inala UC on January 31 marked the retirement of Rev. Tino Scanlan and the conclusion of his placement there.

A minister of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, Tino has been at Inala since September 2008. He also led Samoan language combined services with the *falefa* (involving four UC groups) and later *faleono* (six groups).

He was elected Chairperson of the UCA Samoan National Conference in 2011 and took up the role in 2014.

His unexpected retirement is on medical grounds.

**Photos show (top) Rev. Tino Scanlan at his conclusion service with Bremer-Brisbane Presbytery Minister, Rev.**



**Brian Hoole; and (above) Rev. Sani Vaeluaga, Presbyterian Minister (Pastoral Care) in Gippsland Presbytery, Victoria, speaking at the service.**

## Trinity offers cross-cultural ministry course

TRINITY College Qld is offering a new semester unit on Cross Cultural Ministry, on Monday nights, starting February 29.

The Bachelor-level unit is available for academic credit and others who wish to just audit (attend) the course.

It will look at the theology and practice of ministry in multicultural and cross-cultural settings, including the role of ministry in building

inclusive communities, and models for doing contextual theology.

This practical theology unit will be taught in an open, dialogical format by Dr Aaron Ghiloni, with guest contributions from theologians and ministry agents experienced in cross-cultural ministry.

Register your interest by email at [ask@trinity.qld.edu.au](mailto:ask@trinity.qld.edu.au) or phone 3377 9950. Enrolments are closing soon.

**Editor: David Busch, Multicultural Project Officer, South Moreton Presbytery**

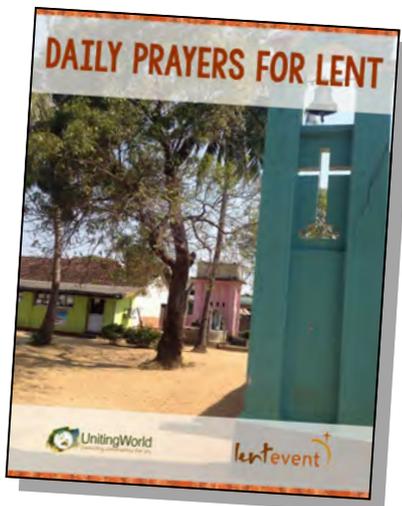
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*Multiculturalism Matters* is published approximately every 2 months. You are welcome to email, or copy and distribute. Each issue can also be downloaded from the South Moreton Presbytery web site: <http://www.southmoreton.org.au>. Submitted photos and stories reflecting the cultural diversity of the Qld Synod are welcome.



## Calvary Korean UC receives new minister

Rev. Jaegwun Chung is the new minister at Calvary Korean UC at Mansfield. Jaegwun comes from the Korean Methodist Church, having served in Hongcheon, Osan, Incheon and Wonju. He has moved to Brisbane with his wife, Booshim Park, and son Hohyeon (Daniel). Rev. David Won Kim concluded his placement there in January 2015. The photo, taken at the induction late last year, shows Jaegwun (front row, fifth from left) with his wife Booshim on his left. On the far right of the front row is Rev. Woo Chang Chun, who had offered supply ministry since February 2015.



## Lent prayers have a multicultural theme

DAILY prayers provided by Lent Event are featuring some of the riches of the UCA's multicultural character, drawing on Fijian, Spanish, Tongan, Arabic, Indonesian and Samoan cultures and languages.

And the Bible studies were written by former National Director for Multicultural and Cross-cultural ministry, Rev. Dr Tony Floyd.

Visit: <http://www.lentevent.com/>

## Next-Gen leadership to be a Reference Group focus

SUPPORT for Next-Gen leaders from diverse cultural backgrounds through a Synod-wide emerging leaders network, including an inaugural leadership camp, is one of the five priorities being adopted by the Synod's Multi Cross Cultural Reference Group.

The priorities have been identified in the Reference Group's strategic plan, developed at the invitation of the Synod General Secretary ahead of planning for the Synod's 2016-17 budget.

The five priority areas are:

- Help develop stronger links between culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) Faith Communities and Congregations and the wider UCA, primarily through Presbyteries and the Synod Reference Group, to enhance the mission of the church.

- Establish a Synod-wide Next Generation CALD Leaders Network and Development Program.

- Create cross-cultural experiences of worship and fellowship which, among other things, foster and showcase the leadership and gifts of young people and women in our CALD communities.

- Establish effective platforms of communication to connect people across cultural groups, and to encourage wider UCA cross-cultural engagement.

- Foster awareness of biblical, theological and ministry resources from different cultural perspectives, and encouraging greater reflection of cultural diversity in congregation worship and study.

The strategic plan is to be finalised by early March. The plan will direct the Reference Group's work for the next two years, whether or not Synod accepts all the resource requests.

Future editions of *Multiculturalism Matters* will provide further details of each of these areas.