

GLEN WAVERLEY and MT. WAVERLEY – CHADSTONE DISTRICT I.C.C.

Held at Holy Saviour Catholic Church, Vermont South

Wednesday, 9th September, 2015 at 7.30 pm.

JOINT MEETING MINUTES

Chair: Joe Persico.

Joe Persico welcomed all present.

Present: Joe Persico, Ray Lamerand, Francisco Disilvestro, Agnes De Roza, Gavin Faichney, Ros Faichney, Margery Kennett, Julie Ross, Jan Clear, Tony Hodges, Pat Hodges.

Apologies: John Hurst, Fr Chris Toms.

Minutes of the previous joint meeting were read and accepted. Moved Gavin Faichney, 2nd Julie Ross.

Business arising from the minutes

It was noted that Rev. Chris Skinner has died.

Faith Discussion. 1 John 2:1-29

Regular activities for 2015 (GWICC)

1. Christmas Display Board: Monash Council has given permission to erect a board at Central Reserve North on the corner of Springvale and Waverley Roads. Ray is to approach Harcourt's regarding sponsoring the sign. Theme – with so many displaced persons in the world we may repeat the theme of the Holy Family being refugees. Mt Waverley-Chadstone ICC uses a painting given by a parishioner for its sign.
2. At the AGM in November all positions will be declared vacant and there must be changes of office bearers, as set out in the Constitution.
3. Representation on the Council is low. Personal approaches to Churches are needed. Mt Waverley- Chadstone ICC has good representation from the Uniting, Anglican and Catholic Churches in its area. Rev Julie Ross is to speak with the Christian Science Church, (non Trinitarian) who has no ordained leaders. The Salvation Army, Welsh and Orthodox Churches are welcomed by the VCC. There are 29 member churches in the VCC. It is essential that Inter-Church Councils have the local clergy on side, without this there will be no progress. (Gavin advised that there is a social justice group that has achieved good results through postcard mailings.)

Glen Waverley & Mt Waverley-Chadstone ICC Joint meeting. Items for discussion.

- Scotty Maxwell from the Waverley Baptist Church is working with others to campaign for Australian Aid in the City of Monash. There is a booklet that has been prepared on the issue and the group are thinking about organising a petition. Our meeting agreed to support the group. Maybe letters, postcards and personal contact with politicians could be other avenues to follow.
- Reaching out to non-English speaking Christian communities. Many churches already work on this at cross-overtimes between services and through playgroups. It was resolved that we should reach out to NESP churches. There is a move underway to plant a church in Box Hill that is to focus on NESP.
- Ecumenical one day pilgrimage event for both IC Councils. This could perhaps involve groups of 4 churches that are close together organising a walk between churches. The idea was discussed and decided that a lot of planning and organisation would be needed to make it safe and feasible for old and young. To be considered for the future.
- Advertising Christmas Services on our website. This is to continue.
- Inter-Faith Relations would like more Christians to be involved. Jim Aylmer was invited to attend on behalf of Mt Waverley- Chadstone ICC and the Council was under the impression that only one representative is permitted. Joe Persico advised that anyone is welcome to attend meetings at the Monash Council. Once a person has attended 3 meetings he/she is

- entitled to apply for voting rights. There are currently 43 members in the group. There will be a seminar on domestic violence held at Clayton Uniting Church on November 11th.
- Mt Waverley- Chadstone ICC: Carols in Hamilton Place on December 11th, 2015. Preparations are going smoothly. Monash Council has given a grant to cover the cost of the sound system. People will be asked to supply their own chairs. There will be a children's' section with dressing up and colouring in.
 - Rev Julie Ross presented Joe with a copy of the 30 year history of the Mt Waverley- Chadstone ICC, compiled by Gavin. Lunch was held at St Stephen's and St Mary's Church in honour of the 150 year anniversary of that Church, to launch the book.
 - Lenten Studies: There used to be ecumenical Lenten studies held in private homes and these went well and many people would like to go back to this system but clergy appear to want to conduct these sessions 'in house'. People appear to want to go to one program only tend to stick to their own church. There has been a loss of ecumenical spirit in this area.

GW and Mt Waverley- Chadstone ICC member church happenings.

1. High Street Uniting Church: 13th December – Service and Fete. An all-day event with an exhibition of Christmas memorabilia. Donations of Memorabilia will be gratefully appreciated.
2. Jan Clear reported on the many ongoing activities at The Hub, Glen Waverley Uniting Church, including a 'Pleasant Sunday Afternoon' to be held on 26th October. There will be a focus on Christmas in The Hub.
3. St Justin's is celebrating 30 years for the parish and 20 years for the church building. There will be an open day on 25th October.
4. St Barnabas (GWAC) A church plant has been established in Officer, which commenced with a Playgroup and has grown substantially. It also has a close association with a church in Surabaya; a team travels there each year.
5. Good Shepherd: Fr Kaz has been ill but is now back on deck. The St Vincent de Paul Society has an ongoing project, knitting rugs, scarves, beanies and fingerless gloves for the homeless and disadvantaged.
6. St Christopher's: Fr Jacob and Fr Ralph have been at St Christopher's during Fr Pat's absence due to illness. The parish has a sense of transition as there is also a new youth co-ordinator.
7. Holy Saviour: The church and school work closely together on a range of issues.
8. St John's: The parish is very involved with The Friends of Vermace. Funds are raised to pay the salaries of teachers and school equipment is sent regularly.
9. Next Sunday there will be ecumenical singing at High St Uniting Church. All Welcome.
10. St Leonard's: Things are going well
11. St Luke's/High St Rd Uniting Church/MIG are looking to organise 'getting to know you' meetings in homes and small groups.
12. The Eastern Suburbs Asylum Group is meeting at High St Rd Uniting Church on 1st November.
13. Julie Ross advised that the Council of Christians and Jews has trialled a program of visits to churches and synagogues that has been well received. There is an opportunity for expansion of this program.

Correspondence

In

- VCC July Newsletter – Past Generals Secretaries Oration
- VCC August Newsletter Notifications regarding;
 - International Christian Peace Movement
 - Movie – The Good Life
 - A World in ferment
 - Concern Australia – Job description
 - Royal Commission in family violence
 - Between The Devi and the Deep Blue Sea

- VCC Notice of Regional Conference in Sale on 6th November. The VCC now has 1,000 volunteers who are trained to help in an emergency. The program is funded by the State Government.
- Scotty Maxwell: Correspondence re Australian Aid
- Ecological Aspects of War – Monash Inter-Faith Gathering

Out

All of the above to members and member churches.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

The next meeting of the Glen Waverley Inter Church Council, which will be the Annual General Meeting, will be held on 11 November at Glen Waverley Uniting Church, commencing at 7.30pm.