



**Victorian**  
Council of Churches



# Council News

November 2019

Victorian Council of Churches

President:

Rev Fr Shenouda Boutros

Executive Officer:

Rev Ian Smith

18/60 City Road

Southbank VIC 3006

ABN 51 350 238 724

Ph: 03 9412 8488/9650 4511

web: [www.vcc.org.au](http://www.vcc.org.au)

<http://www.facebook.com/viccouncilchurches/>



## *Reflection*

Spring has truly arrived!... The blossom is in abundance, the annuals have all broken through the soil and are bursting into flower and everywhere we look we see the signs of new life - Spring is truly a season of promise.

As people of Faith who live out of the promises and hopes of Easter and the gift of Pentecost we, too, are intended to be signs of hope in the midst of our communities and neighbourhoods.

As we offer hospitality, compassion and sanctuary, our Communities of Faith act like those spring colours and fragrances that enrich this time of year...

The Council's prayer is that each expression of the Church continues to seek ways of being signs of hope and promise... and Council commits itself to praying for each and every expression of the Church wherever it's found.

*- Ian*

---

I am currently establishing my diary for early 2020 and would welcome opportunities to come and share stories of the Council activities with your Church or organization – you can contact me on 03 9650 4511 or email at [ian.smith@vcc.org.au](mailto:ian.smith@vcc.org.au)

## News from the Council

October has seen Council embark on two significant projects

- i. This project is designed to strengthen the relationships between our member Churches and Council. Standing Committee is doing this via two activities:
  - a. Past President Bishop Peter and Executive Officer Rev Ian are undertaking trips to the regional centres of Victoria to engage with the senior leaders of churches in those regions
  - b. President Fr Shenouda and Executive Officer Rev Ian are meeting with the Metropolitan church leaders
- ii. The second project is that the Standing Committee has engaged the services of an experienced facilitator Mr Phil McCredden to help the Standing Committee navigate the way forward and set priorities for 2020 and beyond. The findings will be shared with the wider Council in early 2020.

\*\*\*\* Council is pleased to announce that it has offered the Executive Officer Rev Ian Smith a twelve month extension. This will see our Executive Officer remaining with Council through to end of 2020. Standing Committee is conscious of the transitions that are occurring within our churches as well as Council and this extension will allow some continuity whilst transitions occur. \*\*\*\*

---

## VCC new Contact details

- phone: 03 9650 4511 or 9412 8487
- email [vcc@vcc.org.au](mailto:vcc@vcc.org.au)
- Web [www.vcc.org.au](http://www.vcc.org.au)
- Facebook [www.facebook.com/viccouncilchurches](https://www.facebook.com/viccouncilchurches)
- postal address PO Box 561 Flinders Lane Melbourne 8009

# The Richard McKinney Memorial Ecumenical Advent Lectures for 2019



## **Advent Lecturer: Dr Peter Wilkinson**

Dr Wilkinson is a missiologist and a former missionary Priest. He has worked as Director of the Clearing House on Migration issues at the Ecumenical Migration Centre; Consultant to the Royal Commission on Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse. Peter is married, and, President of Catholics for Renewal.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**The history of Australian Catholic Synods/Plenary Councils**

Ivanhoe Uniting Church 19 Seddon St Ivanhoe

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**The 2020 Australian Plenary Council**

St George's Anglican Church – 46 Warncliffe Rd, Ivanhoe East

## **Advent Lecturer: Rev. Ian Smith**

Rev Ian Smith is in pastoral ministry with Churches of Christ for 30 years. He is Executive Officer of the Victorian Council of Churches; a member of the State Government's Multifaith Advisory Group. Ian is Inaugural Chair of the Northern Intercultural and Interfaith Network.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**“Ecumenism-where to from here?”**

Mother of God Catholic Church – 63 Wilfred St, Ivanhoe East

**All lectures begin at 8pm.** Admission by gold coin donation.

Fellowship and supper 9:15 pm. Enquiries: [ann@audioio.com](mailto:ann@audioio.com) or Rosemary 9497 1017

## Volunteers reach out to fire victims

VCC EM was invited to the region at the request of Cardinia Shire Council and conducted outreach to all properties within the fire affected footprint from the March fires, a spokesperson for the organisation said.

Approximately 300 properties were visited over five days with 40 VCC EM volunteers providing psychological first aid and emotional spiritual care support where needed.

Teams also provided residents with information packs from the council, including updated information on the agencies available for support, a postcard inviting feedback to council about residents' current needs, written material aiming to build resilience and preparedness for the upcoming

Head on over to the Pakenham Star Gazette to [read more](#).

Emergency Management Commissioner Andrew Crisp came along to VCC EM's Area and Regional Coordinator Pre Summer Briefing to address the volunteers and thank them for the commitment and dedication that they have in supporting the agency and the community. Below, some photos from the visit of the Commissioner to the VCCEM office on 28 October, 2019.





## [Preparation underway, as Karlsruhe makes ready to receive WCC 11th Assembly](#)

As autumn is beginning to kick in, churches in Karlsruhe and across Germany are making headway in preparing to receive the World Council of Churches 11th Assembly in 2021.



## [WCC expresses appreciation for vibrant Finnish mission work](#)

As the Finnish Mission Council observed its centenary, Dr Risto Jukko, director of the World Council of Churches Commission on World Mission and Evangelism, spoke about the relation between Finnish mission work and the international mission movement.



## [Tveit: “Combating racism - a global ecumenical task”](#)

In a message to those gathered in Hampton, Virginia (USA), World Council of Churches general secretary Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit explored “Race, Repentance, and Reparation: An Ecumenical Opportunity.”



## [WCC general secretary nominated as presiding bishop for Bishops’ Conference of the Church of Norway](#)

The Bishops' Conference of the Church of Norway has nominated World Council of Churches general secretary Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit as its new presiding bishop.



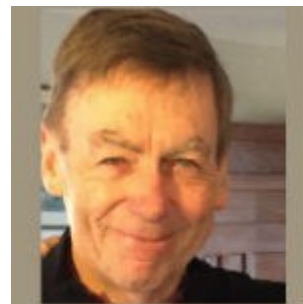
# National Council of Churches



## Reflection from the President

In the 8th Century, St. Bede writes of a certain esteemed leader who would sit for long periods, carefully pondering what might be done next.

The necessity for patient discernment now was evident when National Church leaders met with Edward Santow on 24 September. [Read more >>](#)



## Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace

### White Haze – Racism in Modern Australia

Rev Glenn Loughrey, of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne participated in the Asia regional webinar, *Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination in the Asian Context*. The webinar was facilitated by the World Council of Churches (WCC). Rev Loughrey shares his presentation, **White Haze - Racism in Australia** with us.

[Read More >>](#)



## NCCA President's Media Release

### 4 October 2019 - Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi

One human family on planet earth and the PM's "negative globalism"

A defining insight of those who went to the moon 50 years ago was that there are no lines on our earth, dividing one nation from another. They saw one human family on this beautiful blue and white ball, spinning in the vastness of a universe, the end of which is still to be found.

[Read More >>](#)

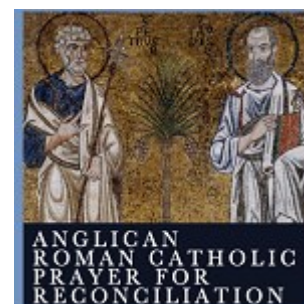


## Anglican and Roman Catholic Prayer for reconciliation - Melbourne

The Anglican Parish of St John's Camberwell, in cooperation with the the Parish of Our Lady of Victories, extends an invitation to members of the Catholic and Anglican Churches in Melbourne (and all others of goodwill) to join them for a service of Prayer for Reconciliation between the two communions.

**When:** Sunday 3 November, 7:00 pm

**Where:** St John's Anglican Church, 522 Burke Road, Camberwell, VIC.



## NCCA Safe Church Program



On the 22nd of October the nation marked the first anniversary of the National Apology to Victims and Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse.

At our recent Safer Churches conference we were lucky to hear from keynote speakers Julie Blyth, former clinical advisor on the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse and Craig Hughes Cashmore, CEO of SAMSN and survivor himself.

Both Craig and Julie reminded us about the journey of healing for survivors and how vitally important it is that we “**listen deeply into someone’s story**”. It is the Church’s role to ensure people are truly and deeply heard. “We need the kind of rituals that help bring healing.”

We are interested to hear from any survivors and those in our church and faith communities across Australia engaged in projects or initiatives such as Clare Valley's Sacred Space garden that enable this journey of healing and walking alongside survivors. Read more [here](#) about the Clare Valley's Sacred Space garden.

Please feel free to contact me directly at [lcregan@ncca.org.au](mailto:lcregan@ncca.org.au) so we can share these stories in our Newsletter.

*Laura Cregan*

*National Coordinator*

## Latest News

This newsletter comes out once per month. Follow us on Twitter [@NCCA\\_SafeChurch](#) to keep up with the latest news, links and resources from the Safe Church team.

## NCCA Safe Church Newsletter

Do you enjoy reading this newsletter? Do you know others who might enjoy reading it? Please pass on the newsletter and ask them to subscribe. Click [here](#) and enter your details to subscribe.

---

## Council of Christians and Jews Vic

We have our Tackling Hate Speech Program first workshop is on Sunday 10 November 2019, 2 pm to 4pm at St Dominic’s Primary School, 145 Highfield Road, Camberwell 3124. Please pass on details to anyone you know who may be interested. **Parking** will be available at the Baptist Church on the corner of Highfield and Hunter Roads.

You can book on line or through the CCJ Office.

*Final day for registration is this Friday 1 November.*

To book online follow this link: <https://events.humanitix.com.au/THS-community-representative-training>

# Palestine Israel Ecumenical Network



In recent weeks there have been three significant announcements by church denominations within Africa and the USA to support the international non-violent Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement, to end Israel's military occupation of Palestine.

The Southern African Anglican Church Provincial Synod, the Methodist Church of Southern Africa and most recently, the Episcopal Church in the USA, all took steps toward actively engaging with the illegal occupation by showing solidarity to Palestinian civil society and Palestinian Christians, to support their call to BDS. Go to the Palestine Israel Ecumenical Network website to find out more about BDS and click this link <https://pien.org.au/category/stories/> to read about these three resolutions.

It is noteworthy that South African churches have taken this step, given their firsthand experience of what apartheid looks like and what was needed to end it, in their circumstance. The Synod noted in their resolution that "There are possible similarities between Apartheid in South Africa and what is happening in Israel and Palestine and that in some respects the situation there can be described as worse than apartheid".

Australian churches and Christians from most denominations spoke out about the injustices faced by black South Africans during the apartheid era and lent their support to the non-violent anti-apartheid sanctions. So the question is, why isn't the same being done for Palestine?!

*With Christmas just around the corner, now is the time to think about where products were made and who they support.*

## APAN Study Tour to Palestine

**26 January – 2 February 2020**

"APAN's unique study tours witness, share and learn about Palestine and the Palestinian people through interactions with Palestinian and Israeli communities and experts, Australian Ambassadors, United Nations officials, human rights organisations, visits to Australian-funded aid projects and much more. If you want to learn about the myriad contemporary – and historical – issues of the modern Middle East, this Study Tour is for you". [More](#)

## Palestinian Film Festival

**24 October - 10 November - throughout Australia**

"The very best of Palestinian cinema from around the globe, the Festival presents a unique opportunity to connect with and get to know Palestine and Palestinians through film". [More](#)

## The Jerusalem (Al Quds) Peace Prize and formal dinner

**22 November - Melbourne**

"The Jerusalem (Al Quds) Peace Prize recognises the inspirational and extraordinary contributions and devoted efforts of Australian humanitarians seeking to aid Palestinians in their call for justice". This year's recipient of the prize is journalist, author, and film-maker Antony Loewenstein. [More](#)



# The Council of Christians and Jews (Vic) Inc



Recipient of The Victorian Multicultural Commission Award for Excellence 2017



Invites you to

## The Launch of <sup>גשר Bridge</sup> **GESHER** 2019 *'Women and Religion'*

Speaker

### Sister Patricia Fox NDS

Sister Pat Fox joined the Sisters of Sion congregation in 1969. After some years in the church, she studied law and worked at the Footscray Community Legal Centre, Legal Aid and Broadmeadows Community Legal Centre.



She came to national prominence in November 2018, when she was deported from the Philippines for her role in documenting human rights violations, after having come to the attention of President Duterte,

Sister Fox first went to the Philippines in 1990. During her time in the country, she was active in the Diocesan Justice and Peace Group, as well as serving as both the Central Luzon co-ordinator and National co-ordinator of the Rural Missionaries of the Philippines. As a volunteer with the National Agricultural Workers Union, she helped document human rights violations as a result of the imposition of martial law in the Mindanao region in the south of the Philippines.

**Sunday 1 December 2019**

**Madeleine Centre, Genazzano College  
301 Cotham Road, Kew**

**3:00pm – 5:00pm**

\$10 entry fee, includes Kosher afternoon tea and a copy of Gesher 2019

Buy tickets online at:

<https://events.humanitix.com.au/gesher-launch-2019>

Or contact the CCJ office, ph: 9429 5212; email: [ccjvic@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ccjvic@bigpond.net.au)

Tickets available from: <https://events.humanitix.com.au/gesher-launch-2019>

# Jewish Christian Muslim Association

## Donations

JCMA is a not-for-profit organisation and donations go directly towards delivery of our many events, forums and conferences and to support our workshop programs in primary and secondary schools. As a listed harm prevention charity we have DGR (Deductible Gift Receipt) status. Your donations are tax-deductible (donations over \$2 are tax-deductible). If you would like to make a donation to help support the work of JCMA please go to our website <http://jcma.org.au/donation>.

## JCMA Membership

JCMA is a membership based organisation for Jewish, Christian and Muslim people of faith. If you would like to find out about joining JCMA as a member you can go to our website at <http://jcma.org.au/jcma-membership> or call Ginette Everest on (03) 9287 5590 or email to: [memberships@jcma.org.au](mailto:memberships@jcma.org.au).

## Up-coming Events

### *i. Friendship walks -*

JCMA are planning two friendship walks this year :

- i. Melbourne walking between Mosque in Nth Carlton, a Church in Carlton and a Synagogue - this will be held on 24 November

For more information and details on any events see website: [www.jcma.org.au](http://www.jcma.org.au)



## Act for Peace

### 2019 - 70th anniversary of the Christmas Bowl

It was 1949. Millions of refugees were starving in war ravaged Europe. Rev. Frank Byatt believed we have a responsibility to share what we have with others who need it. He saw it as a fundamental part of living out Jesus' call to love our neighbours as ourselves (Mark 12:31). And as Frank looked at his heavily laden Christmas dinner table, the contrast between our abundance in Australia and the needs of others around the world could not have been more stark. This is still true in 2019.

[Read More >>](#)

- More resource material available Online [www.actforpeace.org.au](http://www.actforpeace.org.au)
- This coming Christmas season marks the 70th anniversary of the beginnings of Christmas Bowl, details of special events are on the web at [www.actforpeace.org.au](http://www.actforpeace.org.au)



# conference 2019

*Hosted by the Interfaith Network of the City of Greater Dandenong and The City of Greater Dandenong  
in association with Faith Communities Council of Victoria*

## 2019 Victorian Interfaith Networks Conference

Sunday, November 17th, 2019 @ Springvale City Hall

The Faith Communities Council of Victoria, in association with the Interfaith Network of the City of Greater Dandenong and The City of Greater Dandenong, would like to invite you to the 2019 Victorian Interfaith Networks' Conference on Sunday, November 17th 2019 @ [Springvale City Hall](#).

The conference is also an opportunity for the Interfaith Network of the City of Greater Dandenong to celebrate and mark 30 years of interfaith engagement within the local community and beyond.

### About the Conference:

The Victorian Interfaith Networks Conference (VINC) is a grass-roots conference which aims to help build the capacity and sustainability of existing multifaith/interfaith networks, bring people up-to-date with current multifaith/interfaith matters and provide networking opportunities.

**Date:** Sunday, November 17th 2019 **Time:** 12:00pm - 4:30pm

**Location:** [Springvale City Hall](#) 397-405 Springvale Road, Springvale (Mel Ref 80 A11) ([see Google Maps location](#)) )

### Flyer:

[Click here to view flyer](#)

### Registration:

To register for the event go to [vinc.eventbrite.com.au](http://vinc.eventbrite.com.au) and click on the green Register button. Registration is free but please register asap as this conference tends to sell out.

## Book Recommendation

### Walking Towards Thunder:

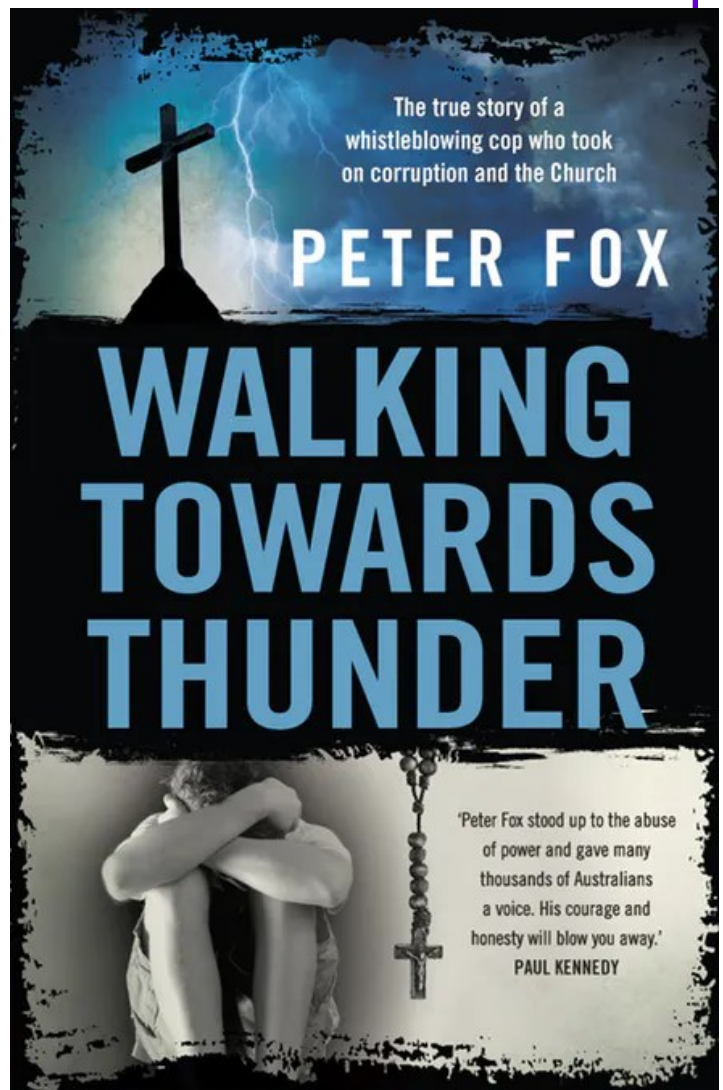
The true story of a whistleblowing cop who took on corruption and the Church

All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.'

Former Detective Chief Inspector Peter Fox is a hero in many people's eyes. A police officer with 36 years' service in the Hunter region, he rose to national prominence in 12 for his major role in speaking out for the victims of abuse within the church. He had been at the coalface fighting these heinous crimes for decades. He had worked with the victims and supported their families. He knew an enquiry was long overdue. His decision to become a whistle blower helped trigger Prime Minister Julia Gillard's historic decision to establish a far-reaching Royal Commission into the sexual abuse of children in institutions.

He had no idea what speaking up would unleash. Peter's dedication and focus cost him his career, his health and also affected his wife's health. He and his family were threatened. Former friends shunned him. But the victims and the families that he supported consider him their champion. To them he is a hero.

WALKING TOWARDS THUNDER details the cumulative horrors our police face every day, it reveals the cover ups and the way sexual predators were moved around. It shows the backlash he faced and the lengths those in power will go to avoid facing the truth. Confronting and inspiring, this is an unforgettable story.





# Pax Christi Victoria Inc.

*International Christian Peace Movement*

*You are invited to the November Agape  
and 2019 Annual Meeting*

**Sunday 17 November 2019**

**Shared meal 1 p.m.**

**MEETING AT 1.45 P.M.SHARP**

**AGM 3.30 PM**

**Finish 4 P.M**

**at Kildara, rear 39 Stanhope Street Malvern**

## THE AMAZON



- ★ The political, ecological, indigenous and local community issues.
- ★ The Indigenous Peoples.
- ★ What form the church takes among them
- ★ What it might become.
- ★ The background and outcome of the Amazon Synod.

**Fr. Peter Woodruff**

Fr. Peter is a Columban Priest who has worked for many years in Peru



Amazônia: novos caminhos para a Igreja  
e para uma ecologia integral.



## From the JIM Unit

### Family Violence Prevention Action Group

The Justice and International Mission cluster is facilitating a working group of church members to decide what actions the Synod should be taking on the issue of family violence in our community. The group will probably meet every one to two months initially. If you would like to be part of this group, please contact [mark.zirnsak@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:mark.zirnsak@victas.uca.org.au) or phone (03) 9340 8807.

\*\*\*\*\*

### This is Rubbish Campaign

This campaign focuses on one of the most pressing problems of today - averting the plastic pollution crisis. Right now, our world has a rubbish problem – and it's hitting people living in poverty the hardest. Join with us to care for God's amazing creation and show love for our global neighbours. Click [HERE](#) to learn more from TEAR Australia

\*\*\*\*\*

### Campaign: It's time to #RaiseTheRate

Raising the rate of Newstart will mean people can focus on their futures rather than being totally consumed with the financial crisis they're facing. Raising the Newstart rate will make the system stronger and give people looking for paid work the best chance to get through tough times and find suitable employment. Help us send a message to our leaders that it's time to Raise The Rate and get Newstart working. [Add your name here](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

### PNG Government Pressures the Australian Government to remove Refugees from Manus Island

The Uniting Church and its members and supporters, such as yourselves, have advocated for an end to offshore processing of people seeking asylum in Australia. In late July, the new government in Papua New Guinea called for the "full closure" of the asylum seeker process on Manus Island. Manus province Governor, Charlie Benjamin, said all the refugees should be resettled elsewhere as soon as possible. He pointed out they had been at the facilities for seven years.

> [Find the Full Story Here](#) <

## UCA CHILDREN & FAMILIES MINISTRY – October Update

### Highlighted Opportunities

*Highlighted Victorian Events for your diary*

#### New and Updated Resources

[Story Matters – latest videos and guides](#)

[2019 Children's Week resources](#)

[Intergenerate website](#)

[BRF Ideas Hub \(updated\)](#)

[40 Children's Ministry blogs \(updated\)](#)

#### Christmas/Advent Resources

[A 95 Christmas - SU](#)

[Advent Party Pack - Godventure](#)

[FREE Christmas resource – Bible Society](#)

[Advent & Christmas Pinterest – Mary Hawes](#)

[Advent & Christmas Multi-age services – UCA SA](#)

#### via Scoop It (Craig Mitchell)

See [Scoop It](#) for these and more...

[Re-think Church](#)

[Free Christian videos](#)

[Free stock photos - Pexels](#)

[Advent and Christmas resources](#)

[Worshiping, believing, living as Christians](#)

#### Via Ministry Matters

[Doing the voices](#)

[What is a divergent church?](#)

[Which gospel are you selling?](#)

[Don't apply scripture, embody it](#)

[Scripture, scepticism, suspicion and trust](#)

## Grad. Cert. in Children & Families Ministry – Enrol NOW!

Offered through the University of Divinity, this [Graduate Certificate](#) presents an opportunity to enhance your ministry gifts, to increase your capacity for engaging ministry and to learn in a caring, interactive and stimulating environment – as well as providing formal recognition of your skills in ministry. For ministers/pastors engaged in general ministry, those employed in specific Children & Families ministry roles and anyone with a passion for ministry with children and their families, the course requires completion of two compulsory subjects (see below) and one subject of your choice.

[DA/DS2/3/9010S The Nurture and Spiritual Guidance of Children](#) next offered as intensive **Nov 27-29, Dec 2-4**

[DA8015S Children and Families Ministry: Core Issues in Diverse Contexts](#) next offered as intensive in Feb 2020 (dates TBC)

For more information about these great opportunities see [this clip](#) and/or e-mail [chris.barnett@ctm.uca.edu.au](mailto:chris.barnett@ctm.uca.edu.au).

\*\*\*\*\*

### Intensive Units

A FLEXIBLE OPTION FOR YOUR STUDIES

If you can't commit to attending weekly classes, the following units might suit you:

**Spiritual Formation: Shaping the teachers and leaders of tomorrow**

Intensive 18 – 16 November.

[Find out more →](#)

# Campaign for International Co-operation and Disarmament (CICD)

Box 66 Trades Hall, 54 Victoria Street, Carlton South, 3053 Australia.

Tel: 0414 352 542 Email: [peacecentre@cicd.org.au](mailto:peacecentre@cicd.org.au) [www.cicd.org.au](http://www.cicd.org.au)



ABN 61 393 643 980

Executive Chairperson:  
John Speight

Executive Vice Chairperson:  
Len Cooper

Vice Chairpersons:  
Paul Conway  
Luke Hilakari  
Andrew Irving

14 October 2019

## INVITATION

*Dear CICD members/affiliates and friends*

On 10 November 2019 CICD will celebrate 60 years of active campaigning on peace and nuclear disarmament, social justice and much more.....

We'd like to invite you to celebrate this with us at our anniversary function.

So, please join us as we continue to fight for peace and to **Ban the Bomb!**

There will be number of speakers who will be sharing their memories and activities with CICD including:

**Joan Coxsedg**: anti war activist jailed for her anti conscription activities, Artist and writer. Member of the Melbourne Unitarian Peace Memorial Church, Member of CICD and one of the first two women to be elected to the Legislative Council and first Labor woman MLC.

**Professor Joseph Camileri**: From Pax Christi, is managing director of Alexandria Agenda, Emeritus Professor at La Trobe University in Melbourne, and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Social Sciences.

**Bruce McCphie**: is a multi-talented activist and was a hardworking and valuable asset to CICD when he was working there. His political understanding of the world was and is outstanding and advanced the anti-imperialist peace aims of CICD.

Bruce continues to be an asset to CICD via his creative blog writing on the state of the world

**John Lloyd**: Ex Secretary of the CICD during the moratorium period. John is involved with the Vietnam Moratorium 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee preparing for its commemoration on 8 May 2020.

**Marion Harper**: Ex- Hon. Secretary of the Unitarian Peace Memorial Church, campaigner and activist for peace and social justice.

There will be more speakers plenty of food and drinks and music

The celebration will be held on:

**Sunday 10 November**  
**2.00 to 5pm - Unitarian Peace Memorial Church**  
**110 Grey St, East Melbourne**

John Speight

Romina Beitseen

*Afternoon tea will be offered at the event*

RSVP by 06-11-2019: Romina Beitseen: [peacecentre@cicd.org.au](mailto:peacecentre@cicd.org.au) or phone Romina on 0414 352 542

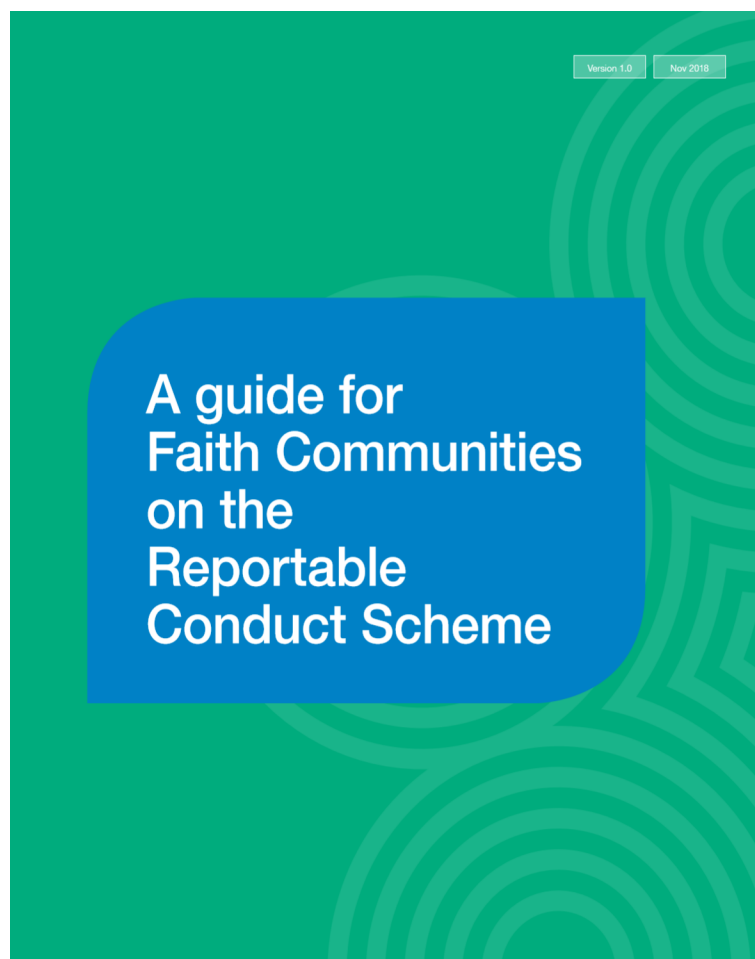
# The Commission for Children and Young People

*Please click on the image below for a downloadable pdf document of the Reportable Conduct Scheme*

***The Victorian Council of Churches through its Executive Officer, Rev Ian Smith, played a major role in the development, writing and delivery of this document. The VCC recommends all churches and church agencies familiarise themselves with their obligations under the Legislation.***

Training portal at [www.childsafestandards.org.au](http://www.childsafestandards.org.au)

Downloadable resource kit available on website



Victorian Council of Churches

President:

Rev Fr Shenouda Boutros

Executive Officer:

Rev Ian Smith

18/60 City Road

Southbank VIC 3006

ABN 51 350 238 724

The Victorian Council of Churches is a fellowship of churches which confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures and seek to fulfil together their common calling to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

\*\*\* If you have an event that you want others to know about then contact at [vcc@vcc.org.au](mailto:vcc@vcc.org.au) excluding January we plan to publish a Council News each month \*\*\*

Council News is the official newsletter of the Victorian Council of Churches

Editor Rev. Ian Smith Executive Officer

Email (as well as to unsubscribe): [vcc@vcc.org.au](mailto:vcc@vcc.org.au)

Tel: 9650 4511

Website: <http://www.vcc.org.au/>

We're on the web!

[www.vcc.org.au](http://www.vcc.org.au)



**Victorian**  
Council of Churches

Contact us: web. [www.vcc.org.au](http://www.vcc.org.au)

Email. [vcc@vcc.org.au](mailto:vcc@vcc.org.au)

Facebook [www.facebook.com/viccouncilchurches/](http://www.facebook.com/viccouncilchurches/)

### The new Office

The temporary office of the VCC is housed in the IBM building in Southbank. We are on the 18th floor sharing with Plan International.

Access to the building is via the Plaza which joins the IBM building to the Southgate shopping facilities.

If you wish to visit please ring 9412 8487 and arrange with Nicholas Tsigos