



*“Being
inwardly
nurtured to be
outwardly
focused”*

MU Newsletter September Update 2025

Dear MU Members,

Daylight Savings starts Oct 5th, heralding in our Summer months! As it vamps up to Christmas and the end of another year, it has been a very full and busy time! I attended MU Beaumaris earlier in the month, not only for their annual fundraiser, but to also admit a new member! The Guest Speaker was Kerry Lewis from Melbourne Diocese Prevention of Violence Against Women Program (PVAW). Kerry spoke of the inception of the program in the Diocese, the organisations they work with, and how they are working to shift cultural attitudes and present information through training sessions in an appropriate and sensitive language amongst our multi-cultural city.

On the 21st of September I joined GWAC (Glen Waverley Anglican Church) for their Sunday Service where I also admitted 3 new members! I always enjoy attending Services from different Churches, experiencing the different service styles, and joining in with the fellowship and sharing after the service.

The AGM booklet is being compiled and when it's available, I will send it out to all MU email recipients, and there will be a number of hard copies available at the AGM. The Treasurer, and Branch Office Bearer's forms will be emailed out to the Branch Presidents/Contact people for subscriptions, and branch updates to be returned by 28th February 2026.

I will confirm with the Cathedral how they wish members to access the Barbara Darling Room, when you arrive, and we will have a “door person” on hand to direct you. I will be sending the agenda around in due course but for your information, and as per last year, approximate timing will see the AGM commencing at 11am, with Guest Speaker Kerry Lewis talking to us approx. 12/12.30pm with BYO lunch to follow. The day will finish at 1.30pm. The meeting will also be available on zoom, but I would encourage you all to attend, in person if you could.

There will be a fuller explanation of how our long held bequest will be used to fund Prevention of Violence Against Women (PVAW) training to be translated into the Karen Language. Kerry Lewis will be explaining to us, “walking us through the steps”, what will need to be undertaken, as the translation process of the PVAW training progresses. This will also be your opportunity to discuss and ask questions you may have.

We have received correspondence from Susan Skowronski that I would like to share:

MY GARDEN IN SPRING *As I stroll around my little orchard in the backyard in spring, I am delighted to see flowers on the cherry tree and fresh shoots on the fig and the grape vine. The peach tree and mulberry are already laden with small fruit and bees are buzzing in the nectarine. Blue fairy wrens flit about in a passionfruit vine growing on the fence.*

The veggie patch is also coming to life. Tomatoes which were protected during winter are now flourishing in the sunshine, and corn and beetroots are popping up. I pick a few peas from the trellis and remind myself to start planting beans.

Soon I will have something to take to the blessing stall run at our local hall by local Christians who also care for a community garden. The sign says 'Take what you need, pay if you can, and share what you can spare.' This

highlights the World Food Day pledge: By sharing excess food and making mindful choices, we can fight hunger and protect our planet. Small actions today will nourish a better tomorrow.

World Food Day is celebrated every year on 16 October to commemorate the date of the founding of the United Nations Organization in 1945. The day is celebrated widely by many other organizations concerned with hunger and food security, including the World Food Programme. WFP received the Nobel Prize in Peace for 2020 for their efforts to combat hunger, contribute to peace in conflict areas, and for playing a leading role in stopping the use of hunger in the form of a weapon for war and conflict. May this work continue in current conflicts.

We all have a role to play to work towards a world without hunger and malnutrition. On this World Food Day, and always, let's try to reduce food waste, take only what we need, store food wisely and get creative with leftovers. Every bit can make a difference.

Susan Skowronski
Social Issues and Action Coordinator

Dates of MU Happenings around Melbourne:

October 1st Diocesan Members Branch Meeting held in Canons Vestry St Pauls Cathedral Melbourne. If you are unable to attend your usual Branch Meeting, come join in with us for prayer and sharing.

October 18th AGM/Council Meeting 11am – 1.30PM Barbara Darling Room St Paul's Cathedral.

December 3rd Holding the Light Service will again be held at Wesley Uniting Church at 130 Lonsdale St Melbourne. A flyer will be available when the speaker and details have been confirmed.

Should you need more information, have any questions, please contact the Leader/President or the Secretary/Contact Person in your Branch or call me directly.

Peace and Blessings to everyone.

Kären Melbourne Diocese MU President



Beaumaris Fundraiser



GWAC MU and New Members