



*“Encouraging
Families
through Faith
In Action”*

MU News August 2026

Dear Members,

Thank you to all who attended our 150th Afternoon Tea and Service at St Peter's Eastern Hill on Sunday 9th August. What a wonderful Afternoon Tea it was! Held on Mary Sumner Day, Celebrating 150 Years of MU!

Speaking at Synod! This year, I have moved a motion to speak to my MU report asking ***"That this Synod recognises Anglican Mothers Union Australia as integral to the mission and outreach of the Anglican Church in the Diocese of Melbourne"*** at the coming Synod. I have included my report I submitted for the Synod Business Papers.

St Dunstan's 90th Birthday lunch is advertised below in 'Dates of MU happening's. An afternoon of music and singing from soloists, and sing-along songs for all of us to join in. Afternoon tea will follow.



Plans are progressing for the annual "Holding the Light" Service. St Paul's Cathedral Precentor, Tim Watson is enthusiastically involved this year which is fantastic. It will be held in the Cathedral this year and ***all are invited*** to attend this special, moving remembrance/acknowledgement of Women who have been murdered through Family/Domestic/Gender violence. Updates will be detailed below in 'MU Happenings' as they are advised.

As discussed in previous Executive meetings, funds in the Disaster Relief Fund have now been distributed. The Harcourt area was identified to receive the funds, specifically the Harcourt Community House, as they would have the widest community connection. This was facilitated by Jennifer Devlin, MU Diocesan President Bendigo on our behalf.

Managers, Amy and Kir send their sincere thanks for the very welcome gift of \$1,300.00 to the Harcourt Valley Community House. Their Standing Committee will decide on the distribution of the funds to the different programs they coordinate, which will be communicated back to us. I will pass on the information accordingly. (picture left to right Amy, Jennifer, Kir)



If you would like me to mention something in the Newsletters, please let me know. Feel free to contact me should you have any questions, need further information.

Wishing you Joy-filled Blessings,

Karen

Social Action and Issues (SA&I) position.

Carole, a long-time Executive member, who has held many different positions, has needed to stand down from this position immediately. The vacancy will be an Agenda item at the Council meeting to be held on 22nd October. On a Diocesan level, this role mirrors, to a lesser degree, the Australian Executive role as described in the MU Handbook (ask me if you require a copy).

The SA&I coordinator (NB: it may be that a couple of people would like to work together) will be working with, and supported by, the MU Melb Dioceses Executive Committee.
If you are interested in finding out more about this role, please contact me.

The Domestic Violence Newsletter from our MU Australia Vice President (Domestic Violence) Wendy Mabey has arrived. Contact your branch for a copy.

Christmas Cards are now available, and Diaries will be available in September. You can place an order through your branch, or your Cluster leader, or contact me.

Elizabeth Parker, our Australian Vice President (Special Responsibility Parenting) has released a new 'Parenting Page' newsletter. A double-sided 'Page Of Parenting' (and grandparenting) snippets, an interview, and links to resources. It appears in the latest issue of Mia Mia. Elizabeth has also forwarded it to me as a separate document so that we can use it as a resource in our Parishes, at MU events. It can also be handed to interested Clergy. Contact your branch leader, or me for a copy.

We have received a letter from our Worldwide President, Kathleen Snow to advise us of the appointment of a ***new CEO for Mother's Union, Alison Marshall***. Please remember Alison in your MU prayers.

Dates of MU Happenings around Melbourne:

Tuesday 1st September 2pm. Beaumaris fundraiser in the Church Hall. 30 Dalgetty Road Beaumaris. \$15.00 – Cash Please.

Sunday 13th September 2pm at St Dunstan's Camberwell 90th Birthday Celebrations. RSVP to office@mumelbourne.org.au.

Karen leaves for the Worldwide Gathering trip to Durban South Africa Sunday 27th September to Tuesday 6th October.

Melbourne Synod starts Wednesday 7th October through to Saturday 10th October.

Thursday 22nd October 11am start - Council Meeting including AGM in the Barbara Darling Room St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne. Guest speaker Mr Anthony Benjamin, Barbabas Aid Victorian Coordinator. Papers available in due course. ***ALL ARE WELCOME. PLEASE CONSIDER ATTENDING, IT'S A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO MEET OTHER MEMBERS.***

Thursday 3rd December - Holding the Light Service - Details to be advised. St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne.