

# Connexion Newsletter

Uniting Church Adult Fellowship  
NSW/ACT Synod  
March 2018



## GREETINGS FROM CHAIRPERSON REV NOREEN TOWERS

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

May the year ahead be rich with blessings as you seek to serve our Lord and Master in your corner of God's vineyard. We are proud of the work and witness of the Uniting Church Adult Fellowships across NSW / ACT Synod.

It is indeed a privilege and honour to be elected as Chairperson for the next 2 years and I look forward to days of fellowship together as I move across the State. I have chosen the theme of **SHARING STORIES SOWING SEEDS** for our focus together. (See separate article in this edition)

Our theme is based on the words of Jesus when he said to the man who had been healed "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you and how he has had mercy on you." (Mark 5: 19)

Each one of us have our own unique personal experience in our relationship with God. We have our own story to tell and no one can tell your story better than you, so just share it. Share it with family and friends, share it at church and with other people who have touched your life. God will bless your efforts if you genuinely seek to give Him the honour and the glory for what he has done for you! Not only that we who have the privilege of hearing your story are built up in our faith as we discover how God has been at work in the lives of others!

So, may we find new excitement and hope and a future filled with tremendous possibilities as we all give God the glory for the great things he had done!

Rev Noreen Towers



## DEDICATION SERVICE

Our 2018 Dedication Service was held on Wednesday 14th February, at 222 Pitt Street Sydney.

Members and guests joined together for lunch, followed by the Service. Guests included the newly installed Moderator, Rev Simon Hansford, Rev Danielle Hemsworth-Smith, a previous recipient of the Joan Stott Bursary, representatives of other denominations, supporters of Adult Fellowships and friends of Committee members. During the Dedication Service, Rev. Noreen Towers OAM was commissioned as Chairperson for 2018/19. Rev Simon Hansford inspired and challenged us with his Reflection - "Marked with God's Promise".



Rev Danielle Hemsworth-Smith and Allan Secomb, past Chairperson



Moderator Rev Simon Hansford and Chairperson Rev Noreen Towers

The Dedication prayer was led by Rev Hemsworth-Smith. All present accepted the invitation to partake of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Rev Hansford commented that it was the first time he had attended a Worship Service in the "Meeting Rooms" and we all felt we had experienced a "sacred space & time" together including the profound reflection and prayer

## MODERATOR'S LUNCH

The Moderator's Luncheon, for retired ministers and their spouses, will again be held at Turramurra Uniting Church, on Thursday 22 March 2018. Guests will receive morning tea on arrival and a two-course meal for lunch. Refreshments and the meal will be prepared by members of the Synod Committee, with assistance from members of the Turramurra congregation.

2016 Catering Team with Moderator  
(2015-17) Rev Myung Hwa Park



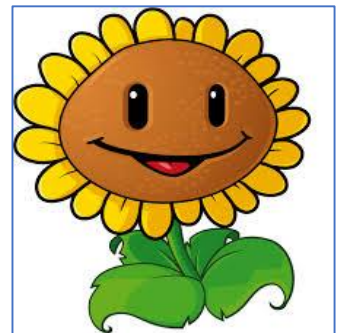
## 'SHARING STORIES SOWING SEEDS

Rev Noreen Towers

You are invited to Share Your Story



Have you a story of how an experience of God's Presence made a powerful impact on your life? It may be that the Holy Spirit led you down a different pathway or God opened a new door for you. It may be a breakthrough in relationships, a story of healing, an answer to prayer, or new beginnings in your life. It may be a calling to minister to others in your church or in the community.



We invite you to write down your story.

The story should be short so that people will read it.

Therefore, it should be no more than 500 typewritten words and should fit easily on to one A4 page.

Your story should include what the situation was like, how God led you through it and the outcome of the situation for which you give praise to God.

To illustrate your story, it is desirable to have a photo of yourself preferably a face shot, and another photo that is relevant to the story.

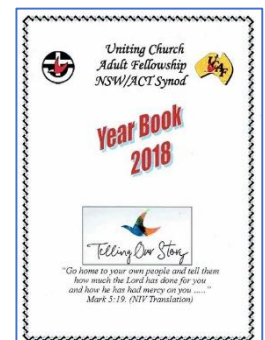
If you prefer not to write your story, arrange to do an interview with a member of the local Editing Committee who will then write up your story for you to approve. Remember that no one can tell your story better than you, so just share it

*THIS IS MY STORY*

Further details are available in the SELF HELP Guide, included with the Year Book.

## 2018 YEAR BOOK

The 2018 Year Book has been prepared and printed, and is available for distribution. Secretary Laraine Jones and Janice Willis are thanked for their assistance in the preparation of this important means of communication and information. If you have not received your copy, or would like a copy of the Year Book, please contact Secretary Laraine at [ucafnswact@gmail.com](mailto:ucafnswact@gmail.com)



## STAMP COMMITTEE REPORT



Stamp Committee Grants for 2017 have been allocated, funded from sales totalling \$19 518 (November 2017). Rev Alistair Christie has reported that sales to date for 2018 amount to \$2 619. This is a reduction on previous years, partly due to the decision of Australia Post to put slits in all 'peel and stick' stamps, which has significantly reduced the resale value of those stamps.

