



## Welcome to Seeds

Welcome to SEEDS and the July edition, the season of Makuru here in Nyungar country: the season of fertility.

**School of Ministry** is themed “Salt” and we have Sally Douglas, author of “The Church as Salt” 2021 as our guest speaker (27- 30<sup>th</sup> June). If you are not attending this think again! Come along to Mount Pleasant Uniting! People rave about Sally and her presentations, and she is highly regarded in Vic/Tas synod.

I am excited to announce that the **Pilgrimage to Israel** is now scheduled for 1-14<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 and are seeking those who would like to be included in this venture. As there are now spaces available for this tour, we invite anyone interested in coming along to the Pilgrimage to be in contact with [Anne.wright@wa.uca.org.au](mailto:Anne.wright@wa.uca.org.au) and Steven Green [steven@olivetretravel.com.au](mailto:steven@olivetretravel.com.au).

### Coming up in lay education:

Looking ahead I draw to your attention the **Basis of Union Day 2** is on (5<sup>th</sup> August). Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to attend.

In the lay education space, there will be further **lay sacraments training** later in the year **and another round of Basis of Union Day 1**, for those who missed out earlier in the year and need to complete this for their commissioning as Pastors.

### Church council training days

Church council training is a chance for your council to think about the very basics of what the regulations require of councils – that is, Spiritual oversight and pastoral care; building up the congregation in faith and love, sustaining its members in hope, and leading them into a fuller participation in Christ’s mission in the world.

The course runs over Friday night and Saturday and helps each group of leaders think through core elements of oversight, such as having language to talk about spirituality, to think about relationships and talking about difficult topics, having a theological viewpoint, and what might be involved in being missional in the congregation.

It is best to have a minimum of three council members from each council to gain the most from this programme.

The course will run in Busselton on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of August; other southwest region councils are welcome to join.

If you would like to host or join a course contact CEDAL or Christine Sorensen:  
[Christine.Sorensen@wa.uca.org.au](mailto:Christine.Sorensen@wa.uca.org.au).

**Ministers and Pastors**, especially those transitioning to be part of the Uniting Church:

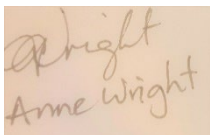
**Australian Colonial History and Culture** ( 27-29<sup>th</sup> July) will be a course suited to those particularly from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse background or seeking AOM and introduces not only some history of our colonial history but also seeks to introduce topics such as feminism in Australia, and contemporary youth culture, and some anthropological understanding of indigenous history. Geof Lilburne and I have now run this program twice previously and attendees have found it very helpful as an introduction to our cultural identities.

**Conflict management in congregations:**

Terrence Corkin will be joining us (preferably in person but at least via Zoom) for training in **congregational dynamics and church polity** towards the end of the year on 14-16<sup>th</sup> November.

We look to the future of our church with hope. We aspire to bring the church into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with creativity and a contemporary mission focus. We pray for God to raise up leaders for the future of our church.

We aim to encourage, engage and empower as we work together.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in brown ink. The signature reads "A Wright" on the top line and "Anne Wright" on the bottom line.

Your Servant in Christ's service,  
Rev Dr Anne Wright  
Director of Education and Formation,  
Presbytery of WA.

---

## Calendar

July 2022						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
29	30	1	2	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		Australian History and Culture				
		<i>Notes</i> Contributions to SEEDS are due on the 19th of the month. Seeds is emailed on the last Tuesday of each month.				

August 2022						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Ethical Ministry Workshop Safe Church	Basis of Union Day 2		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
				Church Council Leadership Busselton		
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
		<i>Notes</i> Contributions to SEEDS are due on the 19th of the month. Seeds is emailed on the last Tuesday of each month.				

## Contents

Welcome to Seeds

Calendar

Contents

Resources

The Church as Salt

Upcoming Events

Australian Colonial History and Culture: Our Stories

Ethical Ministry Workshop

Safe Church Refresher Day

Basis of Union – Day 2

Ongoing Training

ACD Certificate IV & Diploma

Theology Bites

Uniting Learning

Unsubscribe

---

## Resources

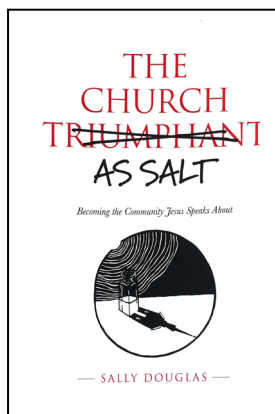
### The Church as Salt

We often hear the cry that the church is “dying” but in this book, Sally Douglas reframes this as says the church is being “purified.” The empty chairs are no longer a sign of decline, but rather the removal of those for whom the church was a social club and Christianity a means to social acceptance.

In her book *Church as Salt* Sally Douglas explores this reframing in her context as a Uniting Church Minister and theologian. She uses different aspects of saltiness to explore the call to be church in our contemporary era and draws on stories of small congregations throughout Victoria to encourage readers in being the church in new ways.

*Church as Salt* is a light book to read and written in such a way that it can be used to promote small group discussion as a way of encouraging congregations to think about how they are the church in their context.

---





## Upcoming Events

### Australian Colonial History and Culture: Our Stories

**Dates:** 27-29th July, 9am to 4pm each day.

**Location:** TBA

**Cost:** \$100 for 3 days (grant applications may be made).

*What is our story? What is Australian culture? Australian colonial history is a story about waves of migration from around the world...*

Australian Colonial History and Culture: Our Stories is a three-day intensive program designed to introduce themes in contemporary Australian society and their origins in our colonial past. Topics explored include early colonization and occupation, dispossession of indigenous people together with some anthropological discoveries, the roles of women and rise of feminism, contemporary youth culture and cultural arts in various media: art, films, poetry, stories and music. We discuss social mores, manners, communal values and why ANZAC day is important to us. We even have a session on questions which we are afraid to ask!

We discuss our awkward relationship with religion and spirituality as a shy hope in the heart, and survey colonial church history leading to the formation of the Uniting church. We look to the future implications for ministry in this context.

*Who can come?*

This course is part of the program for all candidates for ministry and those seeking admission as a minister of the Uniting Church.

Lay leaders and those seeking to increase their understanding of Australian culture are welcome to register as well. Please [email us](#) to register or for further information.

---

### Ethical Ministry Workshop

**Dates: 4<sup>th</sup> August**

**Location: TBA**

**Cost: \$10**

The Ethical Ministry workshop days are an important opportunity for Ministry Agents to reflect with their colleagues and grow in their ministry. They are also a requirement as part of our risk management in relation to some of the recent Royal Commissions.

This refresher day will be taking place in the morning with a Safe Church refresher day occurring in the afternoon. To register or for further information, please [email us](#).

---

### Safe Church Refresher Day

**Dates: 4<sup>th</sup> August**

**Location: TBA**

**Cost: \$10**

Like the Ethical Ministry workshop, regular refreshers about Safe Church is important for everyone engaged in leadership in a congregation. It is also part of our response to recent Royal Commissions and reflects our commitment to making our churches a safe space for all people.

If it has been more than three years since you completed the original Safe Church training, you need to participate in the refresher day to maintain your compliance. Those who are coming up to the three years are also welcome to participate. For further information or to register, please [email us](#).

---

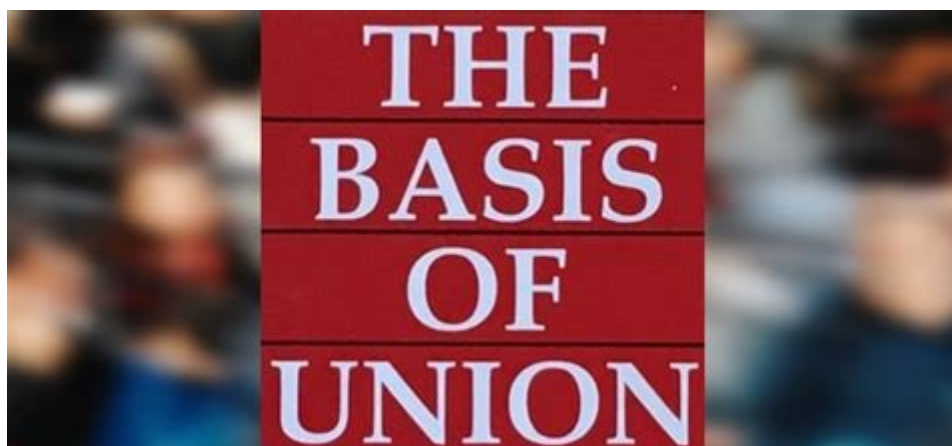
### Basis of Union – Day 2

**Dates: 5<sup>th</sup> August**

**Location: TBA**

**Cost: \$20**

The second Basis of Union Day explores the practical outcomes of the BoU for how we are the Uniting Church. From reconciliation to scholarly interpreters, governance to creeds, this training day will explore the breadth of how this church with its many different perspectives works together as a **uniting** church (rather than as a dividing church).



You do not need to have completed the first Basis of Union day to participate in this one. All Ministers seeking reception, candidates for Lay Preachers and Pastors in their initial training need to complete this day's training.

Please [email us](#) for further information or to register.

---

## Ongoing Training

### ACD Certificate IV & Diploma

The Adelaide College of Divinity has announced they will be ceasing as a Registered Training Organisation as of the end of this year. This means they are accepting no new enrolments into the Certificate IV or Diploma of Christian Theology & Ministry.

You are still able to access the course and units via the CEDAL workshops each term and supplemented with learning via Uniting Learning.

Please [contact CEDAL](#) if you wish to know more about these changes.

---

## Theology Bites

Theology Bites is designed as a brief introduction to theological studies. In units that take approximately 9 hours to complete, you will have a supported taster course into theology. It is designed for those who are simply curious, want to explore theology without ongoing commitment, or for local preachers who would like to develop their skills. You are welcome to complete individual units if you prefer.

Please note, the materials for this course are still being developed and not all units are currently available online.

Currently available units include:

- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Christology
- Theme in Theology
- Church History (currently being written)

There are no assessments for Theology Bites.

For further information or to be enrolled online, please [contact CEDAL](#).

---

## Uniting Learning

An as yet unnamed course in theology is available on Uniting Learning and is the equivalent to the ACD Diploma. This course is designed for Lay Preachers and Pastors but is available for anyone who wishes to take their theological learning further than the introduction offered in Theology Bites. Assessments are option if the course is NOT being used for accreditation as a Lay Preacher.

All learning materials are supported by the workshops each term and can be accessed independently if preferred.

Materials currently available online are:

- Biblical studies
- Christology & Trinity
- Ethics
- Leadership

Units that can easily be made available online include:

- Themes in theology
- Preaching & worship
- Pastoral Care
- Group work

If you would like further information or to access the learning materials, please [contact CEDAL](#).

---

## Unsubscribe

With the change to how we are sending Seeds, there is no longer an unsubscribe button. There was previously a problem where the newsletter would be sent onwards and an individual receiving a forwarded email would accidentally unsubscribe their whole congregation.

We send this publication to every congregation and every ministry agent in placement. Other people can choose to unsubscribe by sending us an [email](#).

For those who receive this email second-hand and would like to be added to our mailing list, you are also welcome to [drop us a line](#).