



GOSPEL YARNING 2019

NOVEMBER Sunday 17, 5pm – Wednesday 20, 5pm , at the
Centre For Ministry, North Parramatta

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

HOW CAN WE BE THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST IN A SECULAR WORLD?

Gospel Yarning will again inspire, empower and connect us. This event will significantly raise your understanding of how the context of secularism affects the church, and introduce tools for strengthening your ministry in that context. This affects the whole church.

Gospel Yarning 2019 is for ministers, chaplains, deacons, presbytery-workers and leaders of ministries in the Uniting Church in Australia and in Uniting NSW/ACT.



GY2019 follows to very successful 2017 *Gospel Yarning* on the way the Uniting Church shares the gospel cross-culturally. We knew at the end of GY2017 that we had started something life-giving for the whole church. This is the next step – see the 2017 video www.vimeo.com/218120986 & our really useful library guide 2017 is at <http://nsw-uca.beta.libguides.com/resources/gospelyarning>.

THE CORE QUESTION: HOW CAN WE BE THE CHURCH OF JESUS IN A SECULAR WORLD?

Our answers to this core question in the recent past have simply not worked. We are not confident. Gospel Yarning will help the church to speak to the wider world and not diminish with age.

If we re-connect to the core purpose of the church, Jesus and his Kingdom, we will gain direction, grow stronger, and find our distinctive voice. What will we say when society forms its impression of the church and Christians from the images and comments in the media? What is the Gospel that we can speak as the good news?

We must admit that our credibility is low. Our bad deeds have brought us shame and our many good deeds are not well connected with our good news. How can we find our voice to say, with integrity and respect, so why do we do so much for the common good – what is it about this love of God in Christ?

Our secular society with its economic rationalism has turned each person and each place into resources for profit. It is wounding our young people, crushing local cultures and trashing the planet. Where is the voice of the church? What is our Gospel?

If you resonate with this, register for GOSPEL YARNING 2019 and join others.

COMMENCING Sunday 17 Nov 5pm **WORSHIP** – Preacher: Rev Simon Hansford, NSW/ACT Synod, Moderator. Then, Monday 18 Nov – Wednesday 20 Nov @ 9-5.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Rev Dr Peter Hobson, Wesley Mission Queensland

Formerly a local minister, university chaplain and lecturer. Peter is a good communicator, a story-teller who is a good thinker about the world we seek to reach.



THEOLOGICAL RESPONDENT AND COMEDIAN: Pastor Paul Montague

One-half of Pirate Church, he knows how to tell us the truth about ourselves, make us uncomfortable like the Holy Spirit does, and help us to see the road ahead.

WE WILL MEET TO TALK/TALANOA/YARN in OIKOS Groups, Open Space sessions, Elective discussions and share our stories.

COST: \$200 each. Lunches included. No evening meals included. Those on the leadership team will be half price.

REGISTER: *on the UME website*. Anyone can register. We have reserved two places for each presbytery, for each CALD Conference and for Congress. No limit to registrations, they close Nov 10.

MORE INFORMATION: Chair of the working group Rev Dr Ian Robinson, is the Alan Walker Lecturer in Mission, Evangelism and Leadership at United Theological College.

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