

Ministry update for Synod 2019
Intergenerational Ministry - Children & Families

Whilst there has been significant change in the structures of the Synod, the foundation for supporting Children & Families Ministry across the Synod has continued to be the provision of consulting, advocacy, resourcing and training for individual leaders (including ministers, pastors and lay preachers), church councils, clusters of congregations, presbyteries, synod staff and those directly involved in ministry with children and their families. Some particular aspects to highlight include ...

- **Dissemination and production of resources**

In addition to the regular Monthly Children & Families Update (for which the distribution list continues to grow), an Intergenerational Resource Update is now available to an expanding distribution list. Resources produced, in collaboration with others, have included ...

- Engage Together
- Advent and Lenten material
- More than Worship, More than Sunday
- Visions & Voices, Present & Powerful, Holiness & Humanness
- Building Emotional Health and Wellbeing: a pastoral handbook for ministry with children & families

- **Engagement with Presbyteries**

As well as engagement with individual Presbytery leaders and presence at Presbytery-in-Council gatherings, there were two significant series of events that took place over multiple venues across various Presbyteries...

- Re:Generations* (second series) at 12 venues across 5 Presbyteries
- Thriving Ministry Leadership at 8 venues across 6 Presbyteries

- **Graduate Certificate in Children & Families Ministry**

The last 18 months have seen a growing number of ministers, pastors and children & families ministry leaders participating in the units that comprise this Award – 13 people in 2018-2019. Pleasingly, for the first time, both the *Children & Families: Core Issues* and *The Nurture and Spiritual Guidance of Children* units are being offered at [Pilgrim College](#) in 2019.

- **Messy Church, Playgroups and Intergenerational Ministry Support**

Beyond the support for individual leaders and churches engaged in these expressions of ministry, significant support has also been provided through the provision of CTM-based training events (such as the annual Make it Messy!, [Stories of Childhood](#) and Generate conferences) and the broader ecumenical networks that underpin these endeavours (such as the Australian Messy Church Roundtable, the Christian Playgroup Network and the Australian Intergenerational Roundtable). Upcoming events can be found [here](#).

- **Transition from CTM to eLM**

The transition to the new eLM structure has meant some significant modifications to the way in which Children and Families work is done. The new team has worked hard to make the new structure work.

While there are some further changes that will be evidenced over the coming months, hopefully that will enhance our ministry in the future.

For more information on the above, or any aspect of ministry with Children and their Families, or to join the monthly information distribution list – please contact Chris Barnett at

e. chris.barnett@victas.uca.org.au

p. 03 9340 8806

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