



Intentionally Churches of Christ!

There's an old saying that says "place a frog in a bowl of water and it will sit there contently. If you slowly bring the water to the boil, the frog fails to recognise the changing temperature and will sit in the bowl and die."

It is in the context of a content frog being slowly brought to the boil that I would like our movement to collectively consider the intention of our Conference of affiliated churches.

Our collective ability to respond to the changing needs in our society is hampered by our desire for independence. The changes that have been slowly happening around us, means that we have failed to recognise the perils of our situation as a movement and may have even exacerbated the situation. And, given the slowness of these changes, we haven't been intentional in our collective approach to name or address them. However, thanks to Scripture it may not be too late.

In this context of slow change, the words of Romans 13: 11, Ephesians 5: 4 and Revelations 3: 2 come to us, I pray, in time to shock and jolt us out of congregational complacency and into action.

Romans 13: 11 says:

*[The Day Is Near] And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to **wake up** from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.*

Ephesians 5: 4 says:

*This is why it is said: "**Wake up,***

sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

and Revelations 3: 2 says:

***Wake up!** Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God.*

All these verses share the need for God to give Christians a **Wake Up** call from time to time.

Romans speaks of the need for adherence to Governments and Leadership.

Ephesians speaks of the need to be pure in thought and deed within ourselves.

Revelations speaks to the Angel of the Church in Sardis about its reputation that is not consistent with its actions.

Upon receiving this call to "**Wake Up**", surely we need to be intentional about that which we have been woken to do?

In matters of adherence to Government and Leadership; can we afford to be dismissive and non-compliant?

In matters of pure lives that testify as to the nature, person and presence of God as Jesus did; do we dare present God in any other light than Christ?

In matters of being caught by God's deadlines without having finished our commitments; can we afford to be complacent or busy with other matters?

Being reminded, warned even, to "**Wake Up**" provides us the opportunity to act while there is still time.

The intent of our awaking *Continued on next page*

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is to be at work across 3 areas of Ministry and Mission!

1, Love God with all your heart, mind and Soul, loving your neighbour as yourself!

2, Proclaim the Good News and

3, Make Disciples.

Let us, together, **wake up** as Churches of Christ and be reminded that our service to our Lord has no retirement plan or plan B.

Remember you are his expression of Love on earth. You are who people in Faith know and are in relationship with Christ Jesus. Worship is where we as Christians go to be fed, to be healed and to be encouraged in Hope to get back out in God's world, eager to share Christ Jesus through the entirety of our lives.

Let us awaken and '*intentionally*' put Christ first in all we do!

Let us awaken and '*intentionally*' consider embracing and embodying the ministry of love, proclamation and teaching.

Let us awaken and '*intentionally*' work together for the advancement of the Kingdom of God though our expression of church life, Churches of Christ!

I share this motto for your consideration:

Unity in our churches and our churches unified!

Scott Combridge



Convention 2018

Moving on in... Faith Hope Love

November 14: CareWorks AGM

Western Communities—Flinders Park

November 15: GR Stirling Lecture

Tabor College

November 16: Celebration Night

Elizabeth Church of Christ

November 17: A day of reflection, prayer, discussion, connecting, reviewing, and the AGM.

Aldgate Church of Christ



"Christian Ministry in Secular Places"

Facilitator: **Michael Edgecombe from 'Doing Life Together Innovation and Consulting'**

How do we embody and communicate the love of Jesus in secular and sometimes hostile environments? Join us as we explore the gospel for secular places.

19 September—12.30pm

Venue: **The CareWorks Studio**

114 Henley Beach Road,
Torrensville

Catering: **BYO lunch**—tea/ coffee provided

Enquiries: **8234 5802**

"Lunchtime @ the Studio" is an ongoing series of gatherings for Ministers and Key Church Leaders to discuss important social issues and how our church communities might respond.

INVITATION TO

'PASSING THE BATON' MENTORING SEMINAR
MENTORING CHRISTIAN LEADERS FOR 'WHO THEY ARE'

“Christian leadership in Australia has too often been hampered by emotional exhaustion and burnout. This frequently leads to malaise, poor performance and dropout. But it doesn’t need to be this way.”

Dr Keith Farmer has spearheaded an emphasis on mentoring for Christian leaders.

He has identified this ministry as a critical need for the support of God’s workers in this country. Keith has first-hand experience and knowledge of the state of Christian leadership across a wide range of denominations in Australia. He has personally mentored hundreds of leaders and spoken with thousands more.

But there is only one of him. To quote Keith, he’s not getting any younger! It’s time to pass the baton; time for Keith to convey to others an overview of his approach to Christian mentoring. It’s time to multiply

*his ministry. He will share his insights about mentoring for emotional health, and equip **you** to make a significant difference in the lives of Christian leaders.”*

A FREE two-day seminar is being offered through partnership with Compassion Australia and the Australian Christian Mentoring Network (ACMN)
www.mentoringnetwork.org.au

SEPTEMBER 25-26, 2018

9.30 am – 4.00 pm

**Seeds Uniting Church, 42 Sunnymeade Drive,
Aberfoyle Park**

This seminar is free. However participants will be asked to contribute to the hospitality expenses (morning and afternoon teas and lunches).

Please confirm your attendance by emailing

Rev Dr Graham Humphris

ghumphris@sa.uca.org.au

Are you an avid Op-Shopper?

CareWorks has recently opened its newest shop in partnership with Magill church, and there are lots of Churches of Christ shops across the state:

Big A Boutique & Op Shop	539 Goodwood Rd, Colonel Light Gardens
Blair Athol Church	379 Prospect Rd, Blair Athol
Boomerang Op Shop Elizabeth Church of Christ	Cnr Short and Ashfield Rds, Elizabeth
Brighton Church of Christ Community Care	65 Sturt Rd, Brighton
CareWorks Cottage	209 Henley Beach Rd, Torrensville
CareWorks Community Shop—Op Shop	165 Woodford Rd, Elizabeth North
Connect @ Magill	61 St Bernards Rd, Magill
Good Gear Shop Marion	Cnr Alawoona Ave & Marion Rd, Mitchell Pk
Kadina Christian Bookshop	12 Graves St, Kadina
Modbury Thrift Shop	955 – 957 North East Rd, Modbury
Noarlunga Church of Christ Oasis	165 Beach Rd, Noarlunga
Welly Road Op Shop Mt Barker	54 Wellington Rd, Mt Barker
West Lakes Bargains by the Bridge	Bartley Tce, West Lakes
Salisbury East Church of Christ Thrift Shop	Cnr Smith Rd and Yale St, Salisbury East
S.W.A.P. Balaklava Church of Christ	29 Wallace St, Balaklava

Every Person Deserves Safe Water –

Check out www.safewaterseptember.org.au

Why Safe Water?

When a community receives access to safe water, it literally changes lives and transforms the community. Globally more than 650 million people don't have access to safe water. As you can imagine, this has huge negative impacts: millions of school days are missed; a lot of illness in the developing world is caused by unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene issues. People, mainly women and children, are forced to walk 10-15km to collect water that is sometimes still unsafe.

The Impact of Safe Water

These stats are changing and we can be part of it. For every \$20 you fundraise, one person receives access to safe water. There are huge positive impacts when communities can access safe water. Time and time again it has proven to be one of the most cost efficient and effective ways of ending poverty and improving public health. Some of the positive impacts include:

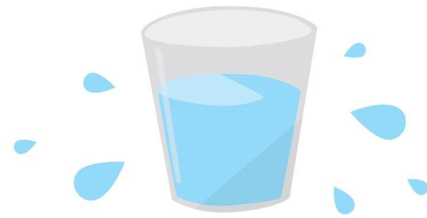
- Schools re-opening and young people being healthy enough to go
 - Women having time to grow veggies and start small businesses
 - Disease and illness rates dropping dramatically
- Sanitation and hygiene practices improving meaning those living with HIV can be healthier and maternal deaths are dropping

The community thrives and can support nearby communities to be healthier too. We have a Safe Water Fact Sheet over on our Resources page with a bunch of stats and stories that gives you all the details, so you can talk about the impacts of safe water globally and in Zimbabwe!

Supported Projects

All money raised from Safe Water September will be distributed through Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (the aid and development arm of Global Mission Partners) to COCOA's partner organisation in Zimbabwe, Showers of Blessing.

COCOA is accredited by the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), the peak



SAFE WATER SEPTEMBER

ONE MONTH. JUST WATER. RAISE FUNDS. CHANGE LIVES.

WWW.SAFEWATERSEPTEMBER.ORG.AU

Council for Australian not-for-profit aid and development organisations working to eradicate extreme poverty (i.e. we're legit!).

Showers of Blessing is an incredible Zimbabwean organisation initiated by and managed by Zimbabweans drilling boreholes in rural areas around Bulawayo. Showers of Blessing gets local communities involved right from the beginning to ensure the project is sustainable long after they leave.

Learn more about Showers of Blessing [here](#), and read about the step-by-step process of building a borehole [here](#).

If you have any questions about where your money goes and how it is used, please do not hesitate to ask us. All funds raised go directly to supporting the development of wells and boreholes, for any vulnerable community in the project area, regardless of faith, gender or political affiliation.

Why not take the Safe Water September challenge, or support someone who does and make a difference for communities across the globe.



Anti-Poverty Week: 14-20 October 2018

"The United Nations has designated 17 October as International Anti-Poverty Day... The week is concerned with poverty around the world, especially in the poorest countries but also in wealthier countries such as Australia." More information www.antipovertyweek.org.au