

Ready for full time ministry



John Huynh has been appointed to Surrey Hills

My family arrived in Australia as refugees from Vietnam in 1980 when I was one year old, and Melbourne has been our home ever since.

I studied Aerospace engineering at RMIT and worked for the Department of Defence (DSTO) for six years as an

engineer before heading off to Moore Theological College for theological training in Sydney for four years in 2008. Upon our return to Melbourne, I studied at the PTC to complete all the Presbyterian distinctives.

I became a Christian in my later teenage years, but it wasn't until joining the Christian Union at RMIT that I was convicted to consider how I might best spend my life in the service of Christ. The realisation of the price Christ paid

at the cross for my sake compelled me to consider full-time Gospel ministry for the sake of the lost in the world. It is this same conviction that drives us today.

The most helpful things I have got from my theological training and ministry experience so far have been a deeper understanding of the mercy and grace of God, a greater dependence on

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PWMU launches new cookbook

On Thursday 5 December 2013, Mrs Elizabeth Chernov, the wife of the Governor of Victoria, launched the fifth edition of the *PWMU Cookbook* at a gathering in the Robert White Hall.

Over one hundred people attended this special event at which the Rev John Wilson, convener of the Cook-

book Committee, welcomed everyone, particularly Mrs Chernov, Rev David Palmer, Moderator PCV, and Mr Dan Wootton, Moderator UCA.

John Wilson said that he saw the *PWMU Cookbook* as a 'practical arm of Christian Mission', being a witness in homes all over the country. Mrs Chernov saw the Cookbook as trans-

generational, as it is well used by all family members. She said that cooking is such a vital part of our culture and needed to be encouraged, now that so many people opt to eat out rather than prepare food at home. The recipes are tried, tested, easy to understand and include helpful tips.

The efforts of the hard-working

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*Australian Presbyterian World Mission and Presbyterian Inland Mission

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Submission
deadline for
next edition:
1 May

Family Fun Day and Carols at Woori Yallock



Sunday school production at the Carols.



Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you, He is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2:11.

Woori Yallock Presbyterian Church members were strongly motivated to bring the message of Luke to those around us this Christmas time.

Many worked together to host a Free Family Fun day at the church on Saturday 30 November. The Family Fun day was a way to bring those in the community the true story of Christmas and present the gospel to all who came. Around 200 came and enjoyed the nativity scene, sausage sizzle, devonshire tea, jumping castle, petting zoo, puppet show and face painting. There was a 'Christianity Explained' booth where people could ask questions of the 'Wise Men'.

Men, women and children from

the church wore costumes of different characters from the nativity story and the children were encouraged to partake in a quest asking questions and receiving answers – when they received all of the answers they were awarded an exciting show bag. This was a fun activity enjoyed by all participants – those asking the questions and those giving the answers.

As a follow up to the Family Fun day, a fortnight later we enjoyed Carols by Candlelight including a nativity play by the Sunday school. Everyone who came to the Fun Day was given an invitation to attend this event, and there was an extensive letterbox drop also. We had quite a number of people who came from the community to the carols due to these efforts. Our church singing group, 'The Woori Warblers', led the singing beautifully



Above: Mary is visited by the angel Gabriel.
Below: Wise men at the carols.



Puppet show at the family fun day.



FELLOW WORKERS

Appointment of Rev Miles Fagan to the Presbyterian Churches of Northern Lakes

On Friday, 31 January, the Kerang Presbyterian Church was filled with activity. Rev Miles Fagan was appointed to the Parish of Northern Lakes. Miles, together with his wife Robyn and two teenage children, Rebecca and Joel, recently moved from Noorat, just north of Terang in South West Victoria.

The Northern Lakes Parish was formed in October 2013 by the Presbytery of North Western Victoria to combine the three congregations from Pyramid Hill, Kerang and Swan Hill, which had experienced extended vacancies and which were seen to be more viable if combined.

The Moderator of the Presbytery, Rev Philip Burns, conducted the service and preached a rousing sermon from 2 Kings 2. Also in attendance were several ministerial colleagues from around Victoria and interstate: the Presbyterian Church of Victoria State Moderator, Rev David Palmer and his wife, Chris; members of the Fagan's previous parish of Noorat; and local Kerang clergy. Following the service, supper was served in the hall with much discussion and glad welcomes.

Miles grew up in Aspendale, a beachside suburb of Melbourne. He started work as a fitter and turner at Williamstown Naval Dockyard – later to be known as Tenix. He worked in various fields finishing in 2004 in a

project controls role. His desire to serve the Lord led him to commit to full time study at Presbyterian Theological College at Box Hill, Victoria. His first parish was the small rural township called Noorat. He has a strong background in chaplaincy and related roles, principally with Sports Chaplaincy and the CFA, and heads the denomination's chaplaincy committee. He is a Naval Reserve Chaplain and will be away from time to time serving in the Navy.

Miles and Robyn felt strongly called by the Lord to serve Him in this northern part of Victoria and plan to make contact with as many people as possible.

Honouring a faithful elder



The Rev John Brennan grips the hand of Elder Rex McCarron as people at Rye-Sorrento gathered to honour him for his fifty years of eldership and years as an assessor elder and Session Clerk at Rye-Sorrento. A special morning tea was the occasion on 14 January, 2014. Mr McCarron continues as Session Clerk in his own parish, Dromana-Mornington.

Rev Dr Dallas Clamette

Family fun day and carols at Woori Yallock continued...

and this event was enjoyed by all.

These events showed a great unity within the church as members worked alongside one another for a common purpose: to show the love of Christ to those around us.

Christmas is a wonderful time to remember the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. It is also a great opportunity to bring the Good news to those around us – some of whom have never heard of the birth and life of Jesus and do not know that he is the most important gift of all.

*Brialey Brightwell
Woori Yallock Presbyterian Church*



The Woori Warblers leading the Carols.

Ready for full time ministry

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John Huynh arrived in Australia as a refugee at one year old.

him and the tools necessary to carefully handle and teach his word.

My wife Yvonne arrived in Australia in 1991, also from Vietnam. She studied Commerce/Engineering at Melbourne Uni, and worked at ANZ till motherhood. We have been married for ten years, and God has blessed us with three beautiful children, Esther (4 Jan 07), Caleb (9 Oct 08) and Ethan (4 Oct 10), who now take up all her time.

As a family we enjoy family holidays, spending time together, and a good movie (except the crying type).

We are grateful to God and the exit committee for appointing us to Surrey Hills Presbyterian, where I work as the second minister, with Rev Chris Siriweera. We have been serving at this church for about two years, and we have been thoroughly encouraged by the saints at Surrey Hills. We're excited to see and to be a part of the work of God in this church.

Matt Tegart has been appointed to Gisborne

I was born at the Gisborne Bush Nursing Hospital in 1969 and grew up in various locations around the Macdon Ranges. I attended the Bolinda Primary school and did my HSC at Salesian College, Sunbury. After finishing school I spent twelve months with the ANZ bank and then found a job in the Shipping and Transport Industry (which I worked in for the next 18 years).

It was in between jobs that I returned from a short stay overseas and I met up with two friends (Tim and Sharon Chew) whom I had worked with at my first company. These friends not only helped me practically at a difficult time but also shared their wonderful testimony of how Jesus Christ had paid for their sins upon the

cross and of how they knew that they were right with God.

I came to know, understand and believe in Christ as my Lord and Saviour on Christmas Eve 1991.

Within a few months of becoming a Christian, Tim and Sharon introduced me to a lovely young lady

named Rachel who would become my mixed doubles tennis-playing partner. Within a year Rachel became my wife and we have since been blessed with three wonderful children. Lachlan (born 9/8/1994), Elizabeth (born 14/1/1997) and Alexandra (born 25/9/1999). For the first few years we lived in Oak Park but for the last thirteen years we have lived in Melton.

For all of our married life, we have been wonderfully blessed to have been members of two supportive, thoroughly evangelical and reformed churches. When we were first married, we attended Essendon Presbyterian and then went to Melton Presbyterian Church after we moved to Melton. It was at Melton that I was given the opportunity to serve as an elder and I greatly appreciated the chance to serve God in this way. A few years later, another opportunity opened up. I could have been transferred interstate to a senior role with my shipping company, but at the same time, our

Minister (Peter Owen) spoke to me about doing a two year Metro traineeship with him at our church. This was a wonderful chance to clarify God's call on my life. I undertook the traineeship and was greatly blessed to work alongside Pete and to see the realities of ministry with its great blessings and huge challenges. This meant for some huge changes for us as a family, with Rachel having to return to work, but this was a time of strengthening for us as well.

At the end of the traineeship, I knew that it was God's call for me to enter into full time ministry. I sought the blessing of my church, session, and presbytery to become a candidate for ministry. Admittedly, it has been a longer than normal journey whilst going through my theological training. I did struggle with the adjustment from work to study, but I have seen how God is able to use these trials for his glory and for my equipping. At the end of my time at the PTC, I can see how vital it is to focus upon and proclaim the sure and certain Word of God in an unsure and uncertain world. I have been exiled to Gisborne (where in many ways I first began – my birth place) and I can see wonderful opportunities to reach out to a community who need to hear the Word of God. It is also a wonderful blessing to already have contact with Gisborne as I worked alongside them as a Home Missionary and was also placed with them in my final year of study. The church family at Gisborne Presby have been an amazing encouragement to our family and we are excited about working together with them to make Christ known to the community of Gisborne and beyond.



Matt Tegart had to choose between a promotion or a step towards full time ministry.



FELLOW WORKERS

PWMU launches new cookbook

Continued from front page

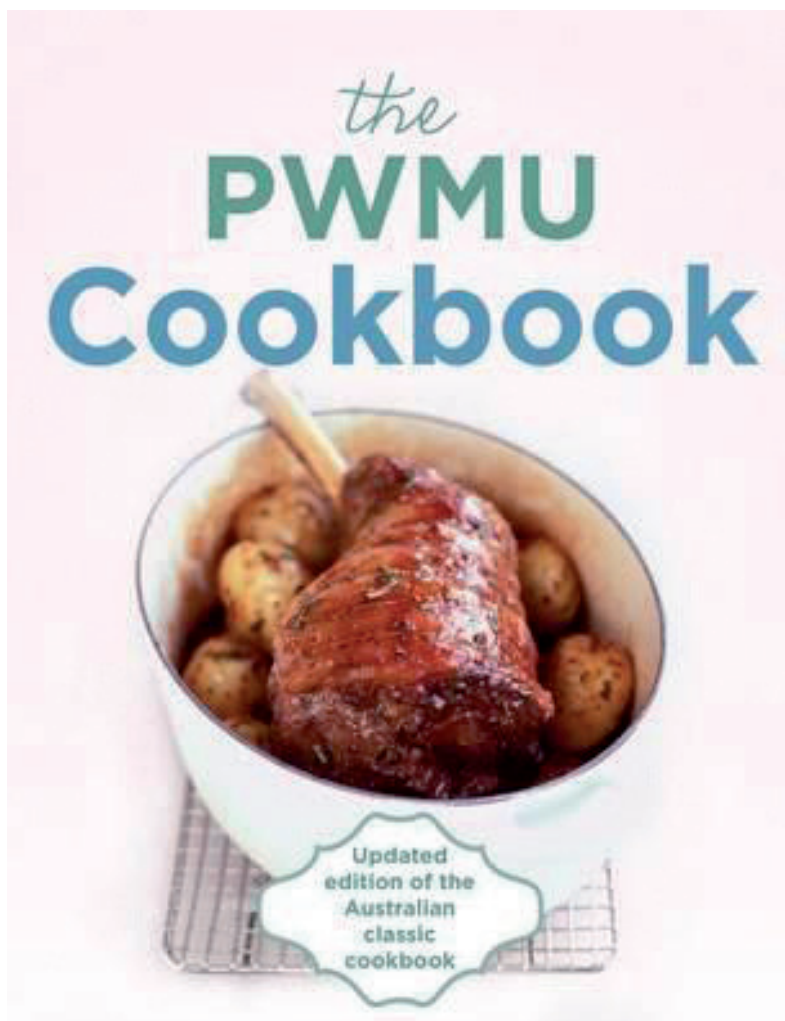
Cookbook Committee were recognized at the launch, in particular those of the editor, Dr Mairi Harman, who acknowledged the help she had received from her fellow Committee members and also her husband, Rev Prof Alan Harman.

At the conclusion of the very enjoyable morning, Mrs Chernov and Dr Harman were presented with flowers. The morning tea that was enjoyed included some items cooked from recipes in the book. Most attendees took the opportunity to purchase copies of the *PWMU Cookbook* and also *From Suet to Saffron* by Fiona Bligh, which is a history of the Cookbook.

The cookbook was first published in 1904 and was a runaway success, bringing in a steady income that PWMU used for mission work. Since union in 1977, the cookbook has been overseen by a joint committee, which consists of members of the Presbyterian and Uniting Churches. The royalties generated by the sales of the cookbook are divided equally between PWMU and Uniting Church Adult Fellowship.

Since that time PWMU's profits from the cookbook have been deposited in a Bursary Fund that is used to enable students from developing countries to study at the PTC in Melbourne. This is a joint venture between PWMU, TEC and APWM Vic, with the PWMU Bursary providing the student with accommodation, health care, transport and a living allowance while they are in Melbourne. Many men have benefitted from having had this opportunity, returning to their homes to continue gospel work better equipped for the task. Thanks be to God for having used the cookbook to such good purpose and we pray that this will continue.

Copies of the *PWMU Cookbook* are available from the PWMU Office for \$25 plus postage. Please contact the Office on Tuesdays and Fridays 9.30am-2.00pm on 98771678 or at pwmu@ozemail.com.au



PWMU State Meeting

Thursday 20th March
10.30am Start

Morning tea available beforehand
All Welcome

Speakers Rhondda and Rhys Hall

Robert White Hall
First Floor 156 Collins St, Melbourne
BYO lunch
Enquiries: PWMU office
pwmu@ozemail.com.au

Getting to know the Holy Spirit at Summer Camp



I had the opportunity to talk with the parents of some of the youth who came on camp from my Church and it was such an encouragement to hear that even two weeks later, they're still on a PYV Summer Camp high! It was held once again in the beautiful bushland of Kyne-ton, with young people from all over Victoria coming together for six days full of adventure, learning and encouragement. Each day gave us time together to read from the Bible, hear a talk, study in groups, do activities and attend workshops about different issues and topics that relate to us as young people.

Nello Barbieri prepared six incredibly challenging and encouraging talks from Romans 8 about the Holy Spirit and the role that he plays in our lives. We looked at how to walk in the Spirit and to set our minds on things of the Spirit that are pleasing and bring glory to God. To be able to do that, we learnt that we need to say no to sin in God's strength, and accept the hope and spiritual adoption that he offers us through Christ. Looking at all of these aspects of God's word in our study groups gave us a good chance to look at how we can apply them in our own lives through prayer and getting to

know God more through his word. It was also a wonderful encouragement to hear from many people that one of their favourite parts of camp was Nello's talks, and was a wonderful testimony to the way that God can teach and grow us through his people. Many thanks to Nello for all of his hard work in preparing the talks for us, and for his passion to see young people come to know Christ, which spurred us leaders on to prepare well for our groups.

The two nights of workshops were also the highlight of camp for many people, as it gave us the chance to learn about different issues and topics that are important to us as Christians. Each one was prepared well and led to some really great conversations among the groups. Thank you to all of the people who organised workshops for us and the way that they boldly spoke about these different areas according to God's word.

The activities team planned an impressive collection of challenges around the theme of Secret Agents. Each time we gathered in our groups for activities, we completed a number of different training exercises and challenges as Agents of MI6. Our goal was to stop Ash von Kutchenkoff and Lord Gretchen Clawface of V.I.L.E from carrying out their evil schemes! These activities involved a lot of

running around, messy games and brain power in order to build up our skills ready for the final challenge. This was held as part of our New Year's Eve celebrations: we had to work out who the double agent was and foil their evil plan once and for all. Thank you to Jesse Cutler, Ashley Willis and Gresham Worth for all of the work that you put into making sure the activities ran well and gave us a chance to bond with other campers.

It was an incredible week for all of those who were in attendance, giving us a good chance to grow close to one another, but more importantly to grow closer to God.

Thank you to camp convener Sherif Mehanni and the executive team for all of their hard work to make sure that the camp ran smoothly. Thanks also to Brian and Anne Harvey, Andrew and Suzy Vines and Kirsti Le Page for being a wonderful support for all of the leaders so that we could serve well, and to Clinton Le Page for taking care of the YouthMetro trainees so that Nello could share with us over camp.

In the coming year, I hope that we will all continue to grow closer to God and more like Jesus through the enabling of the Holy Spirit. I also hope that we will take what we have learnt and use it to encourage those around us who don't know God and the amazing things that he has done, and will do, for us.

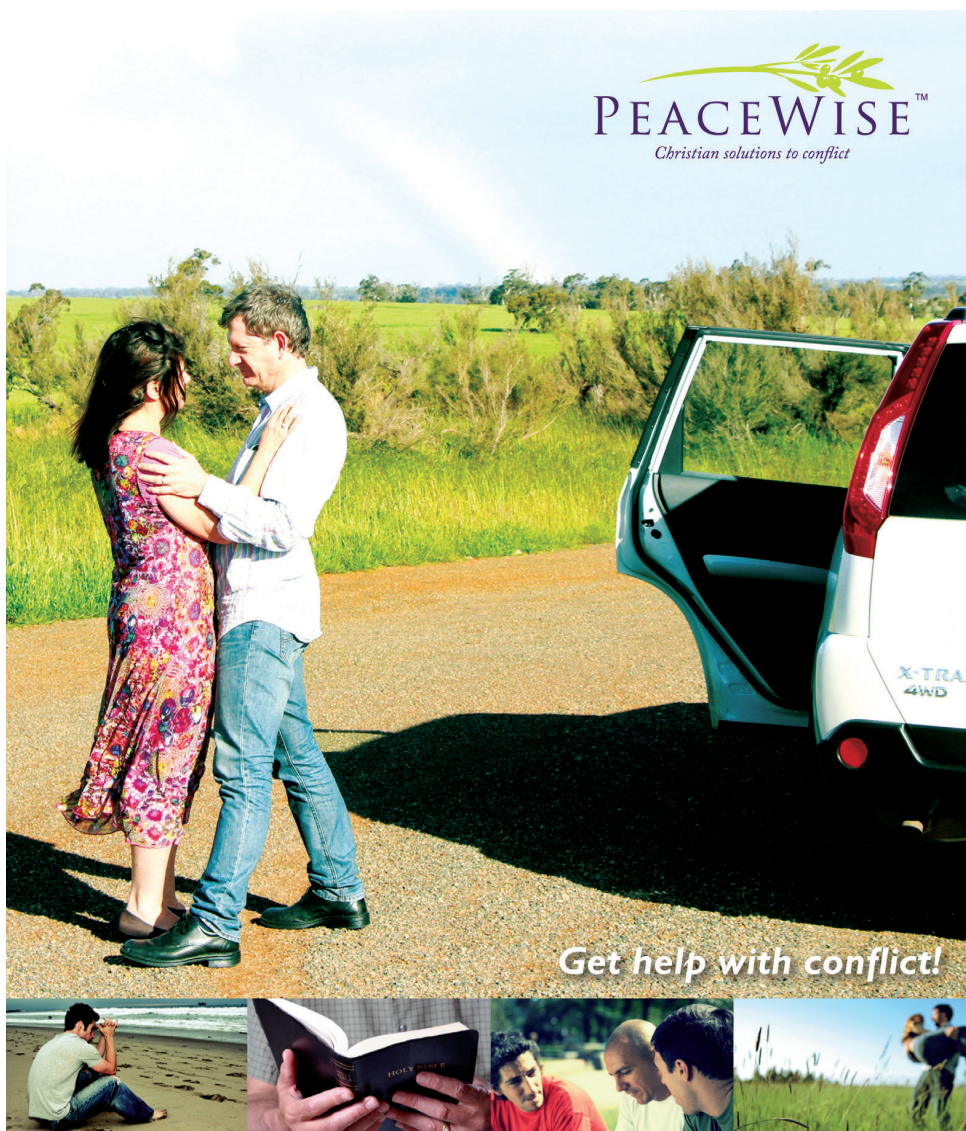


Get help with conflict!

The PeaceWise training sponsored by the PCV's Ministry Development Committee has been rescheduled for June 10-14 this year at the Assembly Hall at 156 Collins Street in Melbourne.

PeaceWise is about facilitating reconciliation between fellow Christians looking at the model and instructions of Jesus who has brought us the greatest reconciliation of all: peace with God.

Ministers, Elders and others actively involved in a ministry role in our congregations may attend at a significantly subsidised rate; others from our churches may attend at the full rate. For more details, please email Ministry Development Director Rev Dr Robert Carner at ministry@pcvic.org.au or call 9655 1406. For more information on the training units check out www.peacewise.org.au.



Get help with conflict!

TRAINING IN BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONDING TO CONFLICT

SYDNEY • MELBOURNE • ADELAIDE • DARWIN • PERTH • BRISBANE

JUNE TO OCTOBER 2014

Ballarat Presbytery Social

On 29 November 2013, Ballarat Presbytery organised a coffee and dessert evening to welcome Rev Steven North and family, and Rev Hugh Price and family, into our Presbytery.

It was also to bid farewell to Pastor Ron and Mrs Jean Williamson, and Pastor Ian and Mrs Jan Smith, due to their retirements. It was a wonderful evening full of laughter, chatting and good fellowship.

A total of thirty adults and children mingled freely at the home of Steven and Lisa North, and we thanked them for their warm hospitality. Even their

two gorgeous Labradors helped with entertaining the children by fetching balls throughout the evening!

It was also good catching up with Chris and Judith Duke (final year candidate for the ministry), and we wished them all the very best for their ministry opportunity in 2014.

After the prayer and benediction by our moderator, Rev Dr John Woodward, people continued to linger to chat and enjoy fellowship. We give thanks to God for bringing new families into our Presbytery, and wish God's richest blessings upon Ron and Jean Williamson, and Ian and Jan Smith, during their retirements. May

God continue to raise up new servant-leaders to serve his people in Ballarat Presbytery, and in the wider church.

Hui Lim
Social Convenor/ Promotion Officer
Ballarat Presbytery

Women's Ministry Victoria

I wonder if you can name those women who have had a positive influence in your life. Perhaps these are women who loved and cared for you, who showed you what it meant to live sacrificially and serve God willingly.

Maybe they listened to you when you needed to be heard, forgave you when you needed to know forgiveness, or spoke the truth to you when it needed to be spoken—even if you may not have appreciated it at the time. As I write, I can think of some women in my life who fit that bill. All of these women loved God, applied the word of God to their lives, and showed me grace when I least deserved it.

When I think about what Women's Ministries can be, these women physically illustrate the definition. Why? Because as women they lived out and taught the grace, truth and love of God in the ways God, by his grace, had given them to do. They were not perfect or consumed with lofty thoughts of themselves, and they did not live fairytale lives. They took God and his word seriously, and have left a lasting impression on my life.

And where did I find them? In my local church. These women were important in my local church because as women they lived out the practical implications of what we heard being faithfully preached by our minister (a godly male seeking to glorify God) Sunday after Sunday. They were women who did not just hear the word, but did what it said. I know the difference it made to me. I saw how it impacted them and all those around them.

So is Women's Ministry important? Yes! But why? The book *Women's Ministry in the Local Church* (pgs 36-38) by J Ligon Duncan and Susan Hunt gives us some important reasons.

- We need to teach what the Bible teaches about womanhood, ie: How are we related to God? How does Scripture define womanhood? How are we related to others?

- We need to disciple godly, feminine Christian women.

- We need to promote healthy, godly Christian marriages.

- We need to cultivate among our

Christian women a joyous embrace of godly, healthy, Christian male spiritual leadership in the church.

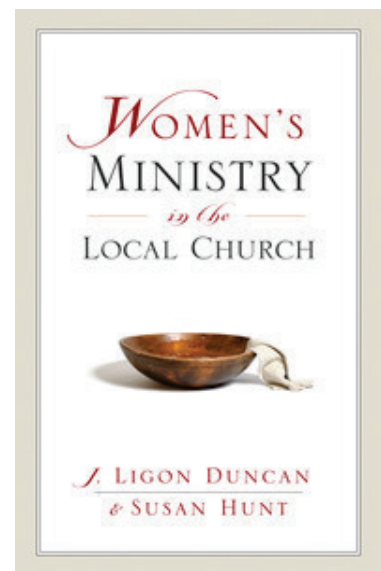
- We need to help Christian women appreciate the manifold areas of service that are open to them in the church and to equip them distinctively as women to fulfil their ministry.

If you want to know more, Women's Ministries Victoria are holding one day events around Victoria this year. The first of these was at Drouin Presbyterian Church on Saturday 22 Feb 2014. Others will be in May at Hamilton, August at Rochester and October at Reservoir. For more information, and to keep informed, please see our website - www.wmv.org.au - or 'like' our Facebook page - www.facebook.com/womensministriesvictoria

As you consider those women whose ministry has impacted you, why not take some time to thank them?

Anne Harvey

***Women's Ministry in the Local Church* is available from Reformers Bookshop: reformers.org.au/Women-s-Ministry-in-the-local-Church.html**



'I've been meaning to do that for ages.'

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