

Report for ANSD VICTORIA 2017-1018.

This has been my first year as regional representative for Victoria and my learning curve has been greatly supported by members who readily “step in” to ensure smooth running of our gatherings.

I would like to especially thank Cath Connelly, John Stewart and Adrian Jones for encouragement and “ANSD Knowledge” along with Josie Gregory for her regular monthly reminders ,including summaries of presenters and their presentations, by both email and snail mail, inviting members to our gatherings .

We have had a most enjoyable and fruitful year, so far. Topics explored at our monthly gathering are:

2017

June:John Stewart led us in a reflection of the gentle action of God throughout our journey from Ash Wednesday to Pentecost .

July: Margaret Burt shared her reflections on the Trinity and invited us to reflect on our own.

August: Joan Sibberas took us through the Mercy Life Line, a way of documenting significant events in our lives

October: Malcolm Adams shared his thoughts on Diarmaid MacCulloch’s book “Silence in Christianity”

November: Planning and programming for 2018 .Robust and fruitful discussions on how and what we focus on choosing as a main theme“The spiritual journey of reconciliation.

2018

February : Nancy Cole lead an engaging and enriching day with her life story.

March : Gerry Deverell spoke on The Journey into Reconciliation.

April : Marjorie Houston led us further into understanding the Journey into Reconciliation.

May : Jack Stewart presented on the Mittagong Symposium, What's rising ?

June : Josie Gregory led the day on the theme of pilgrimage , including her experience of the Mystics Pilgrimage 2018.

July : Adrian Jones led us on Graced Journeys – A long winding road and the Times of our life.

August : Jen Pretty led a day of reflection – Stop, look and listen – warning or invitation ?

September : Pamela Richardson will expand our knowledge of her tradition – Lutheranism.

October : Brian Vale, Columban will share his interest in the Spirituality of Dialogue.

We altered our meeting day format after discussions at the Planning Day last year.

We meet from 10.00 am – until around 3pm.

We stay and share lunch together, brought or bought, as the cafe over the road became overpriced.

Another worthwhile initiative has been the sending of a monthly e-mail alert a week before the meeting, with a snail mail postcard for those not on the internet.

This means that we have an attendance of around 10-15 people a month, a healthy increase on previous years.