

mission shaped ministry - Queensland 2015

Course Schedule

For 2015, the Uniting Church Presbyteries of South Moreton and Moreton Rivers with the support of the Queensland Synod will deliver a Mission Shaped Ministry Course.

The planned modules and course structure are as follows (deleted/additional modules included at bottom for reference):

Session #	Date	Code	Name	Description	Venue
1	Wed 22 April	A01	Introduction to the Course	Introducing course, forming the group, shaping the time ahead. Vitaly important first unit	Chermside-Kedron Community Church (CKCC) – Main Auditorium
2	Wed 29 April	A02	Mission context and the mixed economy	An examination of our context for mission in contemporary [Australia] and explores the reason why new mission ventures and fresh expressions of church are so vital: changes in society mean that much of the population can no longer connect with traditional congregations and therefore with the message of the gospel.	CKCC – Main Auditorium
3	Wed 6 May	A03	The mission of God	In this unit we go deeper and explore reasons the church is called to engage with and share in God’s mission in every generation and what this means for Christian service in [Australia] today. This is a key session for the <i>msm</i> course as a whole as it aims to lay a sure theological foundation in mission for the whole of what follows.	CKCC – Main Auditorium
4	Wed 27 May 6-8pm (Special time due to State of Origin football)	A04 & A07	Vision and call	We now turn to the importance of developing vision for fresh expressions of church as a key component in the process before turning to the practicalities. The session assumes that the group on the course will be at a mixture of stages of developing a fresh expression of church from the very vague and undeveloped to the very specific. Also look at discerning the vision and call for our fresh expressions of church. It is a practical session that should inspire and inform everyone to seriously engage in contextual listening and relate their findings to the Gospel and the church.	CKCC – Main Auditorium

5	Wed 3 June	A05	Missional Values	We move onto laying a foundation in our values. This will be applied either to an existing church becoming more mission-shaped or to those developing a fresh expression of church. Aim to make this session as practical as you can, earthed with lots of examples	CKCC – Main Auditorium
6 With Ian Robinson	Wed 10 June	B10	Personal evangelism	This session builds on B07-B09 – evangelism strategies , focusing on equipping those who lead fresh expressions of church to share their faith effectively and to equip others to do so. The session does not repeat material from the earlier units. It is therefore important that this session comes after the evangelism strategies session(s) in the programme and that there is close liaison between the teachers of both so that they do not stray onto each other's territory and so that issues and questions from the earlier session(s) can be developed in this one.	CKCC – Main Auditorium
7	Field Day 1 Sat 20 June (AM 1)	C09	Healthy relationships – quality community	Relationships are the foundation of any community and as such of all fresh expressions of church. There is far too much material on this vast topic to cover in 90 minutes so in this session we have tried to focus on areas specific to developing healthy fresh expressions of church. Broadly, this gives us a unit in two halves: Building Community, and Handling conflict.	Logan/Carbrook (TBC)
8	Field Day 1 Sat 20 June (AM 2)	C06	Engaging with your community	This unit is focused on the importance of seeking God for and in the communities we are personally called to engage with, as well as some of the ways we respond to that calling.	Logan/Carbrook (TBC)
9	Field Day 1 Sat 20 June	C05	Global-local	The aim is to see how an understanding of local culture and context is vital for Christian ministry. Our culture and context affect what aspects of the gospel we will focus on and how we will communicate it. It is also important for students to grasp why we need a bigger picture – an understanding of the global and how that can enhance and challenge our understanding of God and our discipleship	Logan/Carbrook (TBC)
10	Field Day 1 Sat 20 June PM 1	B01	Team roles and behaviour	Team is a vital ingredient in a mission-shaped church. It is not only the most effective unit for mission engagement but also forms and builds community. Team talk is quite common in churches these days, but what is practiced is often much less than the ideal of team. So we take time in this session to explore the essence of team with its joys and pains. Includes extended consideration of Belbin team roles typology.	Logan/Carbrook (TBC)
11	Wed 15 July	A08	What is church?	As churches are renewed in mission and fresh expressions of church are planted, it is vital to explore the essence of church. As new ways of being church emerge, what are the non-negotiables? How can a new community be brought to maturity in a creative dialogue between the mission context	Broadwater Rd UC

				on the one hand, and the Gospel and the enduring marks of the church on the other?	
12	Wed 22 July	C08	Strategic finance for mission	This unit seeks to provide a practical understanding of the strategic role that finance plays in enabling mission. Classically, early stage 'capital' or 'start-up' funding needs to give way to ongoing 'revenue' income if a mission project or fresh expression is to be sustained beyond its initial period.	Broadwater Rd UC
13	Wed 29 July 6pm incl Dinner Guest presenter: Mark Berry (UK)	B04	Discipleship	To be a lasting and natural part of the life of a mixed economy church, fresh expressions need to take discipleship seriously and be communities of good soil in which the seeds of the Gospel can grow to maturity. Without good discipleship there is a risk that fresh expressions can be communities of shallow soil in which seeds spring up quickly and enthusiastically but then wither equally rapidly when the novelty of the new fades.	Broadwater Rd UC
14	Wed 5 August	B05	Children and all-age	This unit is not intended to be a 'how to' of children's work. Instead, the focus is on building fresh expressions communities that are either specifically geared towards children or geared for all ages, in church children are fully included. Therefore, the main elements of the session are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a brief overview of understanding children, especially children's spirituality; • identifying some basic foundations for children's and all-age fresh expressions; • a forum for auditing your own situation and learning from others' experience. 	Broadwater Rd UC
15	Field Day 1 Sat 15 Aug AM 1	B02	Leadership matters	This unit is rich in content. There is extensive biblical material and the opportunity to use some quite lengthy reflections on leadership in fresh expressions. Many participants on <i>msm</i> courses have extensive experience of Christian leadership. It is particularly important in this unit to honour what people bring but also be ready to graciously challenge models or mindsets that may hinder rather than help the development of fresh expressions and new leaders within them.	Caloundra (Bell Vista) (TBC)
16 With C07	Field Day 2 Sat 15 Aug AM2	C02 &	Lessons from weaknesses	There are very few resources dealing exclusively with the issues of weak and failed church plants and even less on weaknesses in fresh expressions. Authors prefer to focus on the positives of good practice and intersperse	Caloundra (Bell Vista) (TBC)

		C07	& Handling opposition setbacks and failure	<p>this with warnings of potential causes of weakness. The causes of mission weakness are often the failure to implement sound principles and good practice. So this session in many senses unpacks the flipside of the others.</p> <p>Also help participants realise the importance of what they can put in place to help maintain their ministry over the long haul. This session may well have the effect of recalling past or present difficulties which may or may not have been handled well, issues from which may remain unresolved and which may still colour participant's responses to situations - not necessarily in the most helpful way. Because of this it is useful for participants to have the opportunity not only for reflection but of prayer and ministry by others after the session.</p>	
17	Field Day 2 Sat 15 Aug PM 1	C01	Worship and the sacraments	<p>For the people of God, worship is a way of life, a key part of the life of the whole church and will be the focus of our life in heaven. Developing worship in appropriate and life-giving ways is therefore a key responsibility for Christian ministers in existing expressions of church and in fresh expressions. In the majority of Christian traditions particular attention has been given to the place of Baptism and Holy Communion. This unit considers their place in fresh expressions.</p>	Caloundra (Bell Vista) (TBC)
18	Field Day 2 Sat 15 Aug AM 2	B03	Spirituality for mission	<p>This session focuses on the need to have a healthy spirituality that will sustain people in mission. Three alternative ways of presenting this material are offered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a mixed mode route; 2. a testimony route; <p>a stations route.</p>	Caloundra (Bell Vista) (TBC)
19	Wed 19 August	B06	Fresh expressions for youth	<p>This unit has been written to challenge and encourage reflection on our understanding about young people and youth culture and how to engage with them and their needs – specifically in terms of exploring a method for starting fresh expressions of church for youth. Broadly speaking, this will be done in the following three parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making the case for youth engagement; • some key principles for youth engagement; • starting fresh expressions of church for youth 	Broadwater Rd UC
20	Wed 26 August	A09	Gospel and culture	<p>Unless people have studied culture in specific disciplines such as sociology, anthropology or psychology, it may be a subject about which people have</p>	Broadwater Rd UC

				just picked up bits of information along the way. However it is of central importance to the principles of mission and so this session seeks to do some 'ground clearance' and establish foundational principles and understanding of culture. In the past half century a whole movement has developed, with excellent literature, called the 'gospel and culture' movement. Lesslie Newbigin is one of its better-known authorities and authors.	
21	Wed 2 Sept	C04	Small group church	This double session aims to introduce participants to small group principles for their ministry in fresh expressions of church. It should be taught in a way which encourages participation, community and the growth of healthy groups among those who take part. Modelling is therefore as important as direct input.	Broadwater Rd UC
22	Field Day 3 Sat 12 Sept	B09 (B07 + B08)	Evangelism strategies (combo)	In A03 - the mission of God we briefly explained the relationship and difference between evangelism and mission. Now we focus on gaining as full an understanding as possible of evangelism with an emphasis on developing appropriate strategies. Implicit for a mission-shaped church or healthy fresh expression will be appropriate and fruitful evangelism and the effective development and deployment of the gifts and ministry of evangelists.	Highfields (TBC)
23	Field Day 3 Sat 12 Sept	A06	Starting something new	It is recommended that this session is taught towards the end of the course year as it brings together much of the material covered earlier. This session provides a synthesis of the different aspects already covered as they are brought together in the stories told and explored. It is best taught by someone with experience of starting a fresh expression of church and who is aware of a variety of ways in which fresh expressions of church could start. If the teacher's own story relating to the beginning of their fresh expression of church is presented as part of the session then this has potential to considerably enhance the learning experience of participants.	Highfields (TBC)
24	Field Day 3 Sat 12 Sept	C10	Growing a fresh expression to maturity	Books and resources on how to start a fresh expression of church are increasingly available, but few offer practical wisdom on growing a fresh expression of church to maturity. Yet issues of maturity will grow in importance as good starts alone do not guarantee stability or permanence. This session deliberately draws not only on present experience but on the classical debates from the world mission movement about creating genuinely mature communities.	Highfields (TBC)
Reunion	Friday 30 th October		Where to from here?	An evening with Michael Moynagh, Consultant on Theology and Practice to the UK Fresh Expressions Team, reflecting on the course and on the next	CKCC (TBC)

			steps for course participants	
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