



## Morning Workshops



### **Parenting and Pre-schoolers: Perspectives and practicalities Kay Margetts (Associate Professor, University of Melbourne, Early Childhood Education) & Ruth Wallbridge (St. Augustine's Kindergarten)**

Kay is an Associate Professor and Honorary Principal Fellow specialising in early childhood education and development at the University of Melbourne. Kay has regularly provided professional development and short-term and extended consultancy to early childhood services, schools and governments locally and internationally. Ruth has many years of experience as a kindergarten teacher in community kindergartens, long day care and out of home crisis accommodation. She is passionate about the rights of children and seeing all children reach their potential. Ruth is currently the Education Leader at the St. Augustine's Kindergarten in Mont Albert North.

### **Kids, Families and Church: Thinking it through as a staff team - Adam & Bettrys Lowe, (St Bart's Kids)**

Adam is the Senior Minister and Bettrys is the Director – Children, Youth and Families at St. Bart's Toowoomba (Queensland). St. Bart's is a remarkable church with a growing, thriving ministry with children and their families. Not just reaching and serving families in Toowoomba, St. Bart's through its to the flourishing of ministry with children and families across Australia and beyond.



### **Re-activating Ministry: Useful tips and practical wisdom - Ruth Newmarch (Vicar, St. Philip's Mt. Waverley)**

Ruth loves poring over the Bible to understand God, people and the world more. She loves trying to be a gardener, has a creative bent, and one of her 'ways of being' is living out compassion. Ruth counts it a real joy to be part of the community of God as St Philip's, where each person plays their part in serving God, each other, and the wider world.



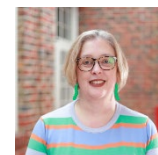
### **Missional Pathways for Children and their Families - Mat Harry (New & Renewing Communities Catalyst, UCA eLM Unit)**

You would be hard pressed to find a stronger advocate for the value of fully inclusive Christian community than Mat. How to be a faithful and community engaged congregation in our times is the question many are asking...and Mat claims to have some answers. Mat is also passionate about his family, the Geelong Cats and running.



### **Music that Engages: Children, families and worship Brendan Petty (SU Australia Equip Team/Snack Music)**

Brendan is part of SU Australia's Equip team, providing training in the children and families ministry context. He's also a member of the Snack Music kids band, a worship minister, computer programmer and (pragmatic) bike riding enthusiast. He loves helping people understand what's going on and introducing various frameworks for mission and ministry.



### **Mobilising Teens to Minister with Children - Amanda Lincke (Associate Minister, Children & Families Director, St. Hilary's Kew)**

Amanda has worked at St Hilary's for nine years as the Children and Families Director. In February this year she was ordained a deacon. Amanda has worked in this area of ministry for 20 years and is passionate about children knowing Jesus and having a long life faith. Amanda is an ardent Melbourne Football Club supporter and she loves to immerse herself in art galleries.

*\*Workshops are subject to change, depending on numbers*



**Faith-inspired Conversations: Kids, Parents and Sexuality - Lauren Foster & Georgia Nicholas (Big Kids' Table)**

With backgrounds in Youth Ministry and Christian Education, Georgia and Lauren are passionate about equipping Australian Christians in how to do the long journey of sexual discipleship amongst the generations. As founders of Big Kids' Table, they are passionate about fostering faith-inspired conversations around identity and sexuality for young people of faith.



**Connect, Belong, Grow: Engaging families with pre-schoolers - Ruth Kernick (Christian Playgroup Network)**

Ruth has been part of the Christian Playgroup Network for 20+ years and currently serves as President. Ruth's many other roles include part-time work as Playgroup Coordinator at Kilsyth South Baptist, part of the kids ministry team on Sunday mornings, mum and cheerleader for three boys, advocate for her youngest with Down Syndrome.

## Afternoon Workshops



**Creative ways to connect and reach families**

**Betrys Lowe, (St Bart's Kids)**

Betrys is the Director – Children, Youth and Families at St. Bart's Toowoomba (Queensland). St. Bart's is a remarkable church with a growing, thriving ministry with children and their families. Not just reaching and serving families in Toowoomba, St. Bart's through its to the flourishing of ministry with children and families across Australia and beyond.



**Re-building Ministry: Team, culture & practical essentials - Merryn Mann (Lead Children & Families Pastor, Crossway Baptist Church)**

Merryn leads the children and families ministry at Crossway Baptist Church and is passionate about discipleship, leadership development, and empowering parents to embrace their role as their kids primary disciple maker. She's a Mum of two preschoolers and loves nothing more than making memories with her kids!



**Intergenerational Worship & Discipleship: Making meaning together - Sandy Brodine (Younger Generations Team, UCA eLM Unit)**

Sandy Brodine is a Uniting Church Minister with a passion for finding creative new ways to help people follow Jesus and engage with their faith. Prior to ministry, Sandy was a teacher of Chinese, English and RE in Secondary School. Sandy is married to Brendan, and they have a daughter Sophia. In her free time, Sandy enjoys fibre arts, painting icons, cooking and travel.



**Discipleship at Home: Resourcing and equipping families - Kimberly Smith Generations and Emerging Leaders Pastor, BUJ)**

Kimberly is passionate about seeing churches function as true expressions of God's family; where people of all generations find their place of belonging and purpose, and are equipped and empowered to join God's mission. Prior to joining the BUJ team in 2018, Kimberly was on staff at Werribee Baptist Church as an Associate Pastor for over 14 years.



**Neurodiversity and Kids: What's really going on here? Deborah Sweeney (Educational and Developmental Psychologist)**

Deborah is an educational and developmental psychologist. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her husband, dog and adult children (not necessarily in that order!) and helping lead the preschool Sunday School group at St Hilary's Anglican Church in Melbourne.



**My Story Research: Implications for Children & Families ministry - Graham Stanton (Ridley Centre for Youth and Children's Ministry)**

Graham heads the children's and youth ministry programs at Ridley college. He is one of the lead researchers for the Your Story project, exploring the faith journey narratives of young Australians. His workshop will present findings from this research that help shape more effective ministry among children and their families.

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