

## **CIRCULAR No 4 - October, 2009.**

Dear Members,

How the year has flown by! We are coming to the end of this year's activities; the Christmas season is approaching and we are beginning to turn our thoughts to next year and what we hope to achieve.

2009 began with fire and flood disasters and those affected are now experiencing the long term impact on their families. The families, who live on the Gulf of Carpentaria flood plain, have no fodder for stock as the grasses died after 14 weeks under water. This small group of people in an isolated area need our prayers.

This week is Carers Week. I think of all of you who care for family members, long term. It is important that you also care for yourselves and accept "time out" when given the opportunity. Perhaps it is possible for us with our limited resources, to run programs that provide fellowship or "time out" for carers in our community. Some States require police checks for individual carers who are not family members, but I am sure there is something that we can do.

### **Australia Council 2010.**

I have invited Bp Bill Ray, Bishop of North Queensland to be our chaplain at AC 2010, and his wife, Dr Robin Ray, to be a guest presenter.

The theme for AC 2010 will be "***Journeying Together***", a continuation of the Relationship theme many have been using in line with MU Worldwide. The theme for the Provincial Presidents' Meeting in Canterbury in 2010 was "Journeying Together". For AC 2010, I ask you that you, your Executive and Diocesan Council do some preparation by looking at your own situations.

Please consider the following areas and discuss with your Executive and Diocesan Council.

- 1. Vision.** MU Australia - Vision Statement, Aim and Purpose.
- 2. Foundations.** Prayer and Bible Study; Commitment; MU Objectives.
- 3. The Journey.** Where have we come from?  
Where are we going?  
What tools do we need?
- 4. Family.** Our own; Parish and Diocese; Worldwide.
- 5. Who travels with us? Who would you like on board?**

*Point 5 will be the subject of your 3 minute presentation at AC.*

AC 2010 may seem very far in the distance, but it is only 12 months away. Timely preparation will ensure full participation and give everyone a better understanding of the Australian situation. Some of you may have "road blocks" which you will need to work around.

## **AGM 2009.**

December 10 is fast approaching and I encourage you all to pray for this teleconference. Please be on line at your appointed time. We are on daylight saving time and time zones differ. If you have any queries after you get the final details for connecting, please check with Lois.

## **ELECTIONS.**

AC 2010 is an Election Year for Australia Council Executive. I ask you to pray that suitable members will be called to fill positions. All positions will be vacant.

The following list details Executive members who have completed 6 years in their current positions by the end of 2010.

Provincial President:	Deane Bray.
Treasurer:	Denis Hagan
Vice President:	Christine Hurford
Social Responsibility	Rev'd Libbie Crossman
Education	Carolynn Ford

Marjorie Voss, Promotion and Development and Caritas, has served one 3 year term and has indicated that she may not seek re-election in this position.

The Secretary is chosen by the elected Provincial President.

It would be exciting to see members who have not served on AC, being nominated for positions. *Remember ALL positions become vacant.*

## **Families Worldwide.**

The current Issue of Families Worldwide, which some of you will have received with your direct order of Families First, is with the printer.

We plan to distribute **one free copy** to every member with the next Mia Mia.

You will receive an order form for further issues along with costs. I would ask you to encourage your members to order this publication. As well as Worldwide News, it contains the Wave of Prayer and a Prayer Diary.

## **Visits by Executive.**

If you wish to invite a member of Executive to visit you next year, please contact them early. Some Executive members already have commitments. Arranging dates well in advance is needed to take advantage of air fare specials. Late requests often mean more expensive air fares.

## **New Diocesan President.**

Welcome to Penny Douglas, the new DP for North Queensland. Penny was an observer at the last AC. She will serve a 4 year term, so bringing North Queensland elections in line with AC.

May God bless you and give you rest as you wind down this year, and encourage you as you plan for next year.

*Deane*

21 October, 2009