

**1. Purpose + Planning Team:**

The invitation to participate to selected people from around Australia was to gather together to discern and shape a way forward with regard to the propagation of intergenerational ministry as a ministry paradigm. Whilst it was recognised that many were already involved in this task in their own spheres of influence, the sense was that the time had come for a more concerted, and collaborative, response in order to generate real change. The planning team for the gathering consisted of Chris Barnett, Jenny Cowley, Tammy Tolman and Terry Williams, the note-taking (see Appendices) – for which all were extremely grateful - was attended to by Stacey Wilson.

**2. Participants + Program:**

15 people participated in the inaugural Australian Intergenerational Roundtable (AIR), hosted at the Centre for Theology and Ministry (Parkville, Melbourne). Participants came from around Australia and were from a variety of denominations/organisations (see Appendix 1). The program, which was non-residential, began at 1pm on Tuesday July 3 and concluded at 1pm on Wednesday July 4 (see Appendix 2).

**3. What did we hope to achieve?**

Prior to the gathering, the planning team had identified the following as aspirations...

- Shared understanding, unity in what we can walk away with, at least one thing we can do together
- Clarified understanding, one collaborative thing (or process for thing) we can do together
- Something to move process forward, arising from discussion
- Being energised, excited about way forward
- Practical outcomes for homes, communities, churches

As part of the opening session, participants were invited to identify what they hoped to achieve (see Appendix 3).

**4. Moving toward a shared understanding of “intergenerational”**

As part of the process of moving toward a shared understanding of “intergenerational”, Beth Barnett facilitated a process that included the group identifying...

- a “vocabulary” associated with “intergenerational”
- biblical affirmations of intergenerationality
- “biblical” objections to intergenerational practice
- multiple other reasons for an intergenerational approach
- a beginning for defining our topic

(see Appendix 4)

**5. Moving toward a shared vision**

The next step was to envision an intergenerational future for...

- Gathered church
- Community
- Academia
- Families

(see Appendix 5)

**6. What gets in the way?**

Having brainstormed a possible future, time was spent exploring...

- mistakes we have made in trying to advocate or implement an intergenerational approach
- roadblocks (who? what? why? where?)

(see Appendix 6)

## 7. The Lay of the Land

As a way of collecting information on what is already happening/not happening, participants were given time to add their responses under the following headings...

- Working models
- What is currently happening?
- Who are you influencing?
- Who is not in the room?
- Communication channels
- Conferences/Events
- Resources

(see Appendix 7)

## 8. Drawing some pieces together

Time was spent in small groups doing further work in relation to definitions, blockages and solutions...

### *Definitions*

Noting the questions...

- How do we grow/develop intergenerationality in a way that embodies the values/ethos of intergenerationality?
- Ought we (in our roles) provide principles, foundations, frameworks rather than definitions?
- Ought we be more descriptive, rather than prescriptive?

... it was identified that further work needed to be done re the initial definitions (see Appendix 4) and that simple phrases needed to be developed to accompany the key words around intergenerational (see Appendix 11).

### *Blockage*

“Professionalism” & Culture  
Consumerism  
Lack of knowledge/experience

### *Possible solutions*

Heart change, training, resources  
Heart change, knowledge, experience  
Education, stories, modelling

(see Appendix 8)

## 9. What is important from here?

*The following were identified as important to attend to...*

- Communicating
- Empowering
- Inclusion
- Spheres of influence
- Growing influence
- Connecting with all ages
- Importance of language

*Specifically, we need to...*

- Engage with key influencers
- Gather, and listen to, those trying to do it already
- Facilitate and resource the Why/What/How discussion
- Break the ground through stories/ models/honouring and support/celebrating with
- Seek feedback from the experience of this gathering\*
- Identify specific actions
- Be accountable
- Meet again!

(see Appendix 9, \*= see Appendix 10)

## Appendix 1 Participants

<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>e-mail</i>	<i>State &amp; Denom/Org</i>	
Barnett	Chris	<a href="mailto:chris.barnett@ctm.uca.edu.au">chris.barnett@ctm.uca.edu.au</a>	VIC	UCA
Barnett	Beth	<a href="mailto:columbabarnetts@gmail.com">columbabarnetts@gmail.com</a>	VIC	Intergen
Bartlett	Louise	<a href="mailto:lbartlett@nswactbaptists.org.au">lbartlett@nswactbaptists.org.au</a>	NSW	BAP
Brook	Jodi	<a href="mailto:Jodi.Brook@lca.org.au">Jodi.Brook@lca.org.au</a>	NAT	LCA
Catton	Julie	<a href="mailto:juliecatton@adventist.org.au">juliecatton@adventist.org.au</a>	VIC	SDA
Cloke	Jennifer	<a href="mailto:jennifer.cloke@aus.salvationarmy.org">jennifer.cloke@aus.salvationarmy.org</a>	NAT	SA
Cowley	Jenny	<a href="mailto:jenny.cowley@sutas.org.au">jenny.cowley@sutas.org.au</a>	TAS	CMN
Dallas	Tristan	<a href="mailto:tristanjamesdallas@yahoo.com">tristanjamesdallas@yahoo.com</a>	TAS	ANG
Hoy	Beth	<a href="mailto:BHoy@sabaptist.asn.au">BHoy@sabaptist.asn.au</a>	SA	BAP
Kemp	Jonathan	<a href="mailto:JKemp@ministryeducation.org.au">JKemp@ministryeducation.org.au</a>	QLD	ANG
Tolman	Tammy	<a href="mailto:tammy@intergenfaithresources.com">tammy@intergenfaithresources.com</a>	NSW	CoC
Viles	John	<a href="mailto:john.viles@aue.salvationarmy.org">john.viles@aue.salvationarmy.org</a>	NSW	SA
Williams	Terry	<a href="mailto:terryw@su.org.au">terryw@su.org.au</a>	QLD	SU
Neumann	Melissa*	<a href="mailto:mneumann@sa.uca.org.au">mneumann@sa.uca.org.au</a>	SA	UCA
Wilson	Stacey**	<a href="mailto:stacey.wilson@vcce.org.au">stacey.wilson@vcce.org.au</a>	VIC	Intergen

\*= Skype participant

\*\*=Note-taker

## Appendix 2 Program

### • **Tuesday**

\*Please feel encouraged to arrive in the morning, knowing the café will be open for lunch!

1pm Who we are, how we've been shaped

Addressing perceptions, sharing understanding

What do we, individually, mean by "intergenerational"? Biblical understanding?

3.30pm Break

4pm Clarifying a shared understanding of what we mean by "intergenerational"

Coming together as "we." Moving to a shared understanding?

Clarifying a shared understanding. Getting on the same page.

Discerning Vision/Future/Ideal

6pm Dinner (on-site to maximise our working time together)

7pm Shared reflection on day so far

What's the best use of our time together here tonight?

*May possibly include* Identifying potential blockages

*May possibly include* Naming who and how we currently, and in the future will need to, influence

9pm Finish (no later than 9pm, to be negotiated by group)

*Possible* walk to Brunetti's for supper

### • **Wednesday**

9am *Possibly include* Identifying potential blockages

*Possibly include* Naming who and how we currently, and in the future will need to, influence  
(depending on the previous evening)

What are we actually going to do?

10.30 Break

11.00 Open Space

Documentation of what we have agreed on (Distinctives? Essentials? Commonalities? Next steps?)

12.30 Finish

\*Please feel encouraged to stay for lunch together in the Café.

### Appendix 3 What did we hope to achieve?

What we hope to achieve here

- Expand understanding Interegn all age groups not just c&f to include older people, all generations doing life together
- Examples where this is working well, tell stories
  - Resources out there
- Ongoing network (?CMN) ask questions, training
- Strategies for having this conversation with senior leaders
  - Move outside the Sunday morning sermon and the validation that brings
- Not reinvent wheel but move forward
- What implications for Youth and children min? if we move to Intergen min
- Practical outcomes, best practice, spreading the word
- How do we make the most of the shifts in attitudes/policy that is happening Leveraging momentum?
- Selling this to empty nesters, buy in to intergenerational ministry- relationships not programs
- Is it either/or? How do you help congregation to understand what you mean by intergen min both/and a way of being rather than what you do
- Resources to help make this shift
- Resources AND how do you create a different paradigm
- Maintain/create momentum to catalyse significant change
  - The Sunday thing
  - Eg Salvos moved away from Sunday- but do we just move the silo?
  - Intentionality of intergen
- Add to curriculum of ministry formation
- Affecting culture change grass roots, denominational, national
- How do we identify and mobilise key leaders?
- Intergenerational thinking hasn't just randomly dropped out of nowhere, symptom of illness in faith and wider communities
  - Clarify what are the issues that we are trying to address with Intergen min
  - What are the consequences of this shift
  - What other disorders might it create
  - What are we trying to do? What else might happen when we do it?
- Counter the narrative that aging make you superfluous
  - The role of the older generations in intergenerational ministry, focus on their spiritual life and growth
- Who are the experts? Where are the good stories, celebrate these

## **Appendix 4 A Vocabulary and “Why” for being intergenerational**

### *4a. A vocabulary” associated with “intergenerational”*

Culture, Worship and prayer, Learning, Journeys, Walking “withing”, Ministry, Practice how Service, Missional, Holistic (not correct verb or noun), both internal/external focus Relationships, Connection, Discipleship, Formation, Community, Families, All ages, Fellowship, Life together, Humanity words  
Fun, Celebration, Transformation, Intentions, Life long, Together

### *4b. Biblical affirmations of intergenerationality*

Deut 6, 11

Act 2:42-47

Judges 2: 10

Practice of separating the generations is not in the bible

Household- responsibilities

1 cor 12

Ps 145, 78, 89

Flattening of categories as status indicators/significance

All children

National structure- God’s pattern for his people, generational location as belonging

Jesus kingdom inclusive, incarnation

Intergenerational actions were answers to adult problem

Dislocation- exiled but used

### *4c. “Biblical” objections to intergenerational practice*

Order- household codes, worship

Reinscribe roman family patriarchy

Maturity language- milk and meat

Teaching and training- Proverbs

Bring our best and excellence

### *4d. Multiple other reasons for an intergenerational approach*

God’s idea- theological rationale

It worked for me

Retaining faith for long haul

So much to learn from others

More interesting engaging and fun

Breaks down barriers- societal problem

Impact on community

Expression of respect for all generations

Encourages leadership at all ages, helps transitions

Deep longing for connections

Old people OT

All part of body of Christ- something to add, can't be the body with people missing

Humility make room for each other

Story telling

Listening

Discovering wisdom

Responsible use of human resources- more sources of help

Mentoring build in adjacent,

Backed by research- secular leading

Significant for retaining young people in the church

#### *4e. Beginning to define intergenerational discipleship*

“The deep practice of hosting, facilitating and celebrating the shared life of all and any generations together for the purpose of more wholly embodying the call to live as God’s reconciled people in the kingdom of God” Beth Barnett  
“Communities valuing all humans in intentional holistic relationships forming lifelong faith through taking the journey of life together”

*Shared* defining words included...

All generations, all humans Together Intentional Faith forming Lifelong Holistic Valued Interactive Relationships - building, deepening Everyday life- experiences, journey, rhythm

*Other* words included...

Authentic, Respect, Exploring, Outworking, Equipping, Celebrating, Reproducing, Inclusive, Vibrant, Creative, Meaningful, Alongside, Discovering

### **Appendix 5 Moving toward a shared vision**

#### *5a. Gathered church*

Relationships marked by mutuality, equality and reciprocity  
All Generations would be present  
All Embracing, All Accepting  
Reflecting the community - be a model and help address the needs  
No silos - All feel like they belong  
Faith forming worship/serving/growing every day of the week  
Inclusive  
Environments where stories are being told  
Holistic reflective of the body of Christ  
All ages serving based on gifting  
The gathering would be celebrational and relational  
All ages empowered and equipped (imbalanced addressed)

#### *5b. Families*

Having people of all ages in your home  
Serving is natural as a family  
Valuing extended family  
Adopting extended family  
Whole family worshipping  
Sharing highs and lows for each other  
Kids praying for parents  
Parents finding mentors for their kids  
Serving others as a family

#### *5c. Community*

Older generations involved more in the education process  
Students more involved outside of schools - service and long life learning  
“It takes a village” - closer relationships with neighbours  
Structures in place for people to get to know each other  
Churches are community centres - demonstrating relationships in practice  
Mentoring and helping different generations  
Communal mindset instead of focus on the individual

#### *5d. Academia*

Specific intergenerational ministry subjects  
Mandatory engagement for ministry candidates with intergenerational ministry  
Every subject/issue engages consequences and perspectives for different generations  
Candidates for ordination require recognition that ministry is to all not just called to adults  
Participatory learning communities in an intergenerational context e.g. chapel  
Diversity in age /gender/ability studying  
Greater variety of ‘course’ levels or purposes available

## Appendix 6 Mistakes, Roadblocks and Barriers

### 6a. Mistakes we have made

Big paradigm leap  
Underestimating nice sheep behaviour  
Trying to do it alone  
    Mentoring  
    Missing peoples gifts  
Inaccessible vs I can do it  
Fantastic as the enemy of sustainability  
All or nothing  
Don't advertise- parents don't come because kids go out  
Thinking Intergen = kids, do something for the kids in the presence of others  
Define ourselves by our generation, connect face to face  
CSS 7 infringement  
Making the sermon and/or the preacher the enemy  
    Burden and bashing  
Worship service centric – making it all about the main service  
Impose without buy in- moving too fast

### 6b. Roadblocks and Barriers

- Who

Senior leaders  
Parents  
Denominations  
Gate keepers/power brokers (church)  
Immoveable ministry workers  
Absent generations  
Parents who want me time  
People who don't want to do it  
People who speak on behalf of other people  
Kids and families min- low power , kid centric  
Us- talk about it but don't actually do it, job titles defining us, holding onto particular models, lack of openness to different ways of doing things

- What

Structures/format  
Architecture/space  
Church traditions  
Lack of Understanding, Training, Accountability, Time, Zeal, Enthusiasm  
Not our problem (bring in the experts)  
Consumerism  
What is the successful formula  
Child safety  
Seems like more work  
Misperceptions think they know what it is  
Leaders feeling threatened  
Selfishness  
Task priority over relationship  
Excellence  
Keep the machine going



- Why?

Leaders don't get trained lack understanding of what's needed, you don't know what you don't know

Little accountability

Fear change

Risk of losing families

Lost generation creates a void- experience skills people

Real church- this isn't it

Insecurity, loose sense of grace- divinely ordained way of doing church

Just another trend

Existing culture

Poor theology

Lack of models

Lack of vision

- Where?

Everywhere!

## **Appendix 7 The Lay of the Land**

### *7.1 Working models*

NSW Icentral316, Narara Valley Bapt

SA Unley Lutheran, Holdfast Bay Bapt

QLD Nth Bris SA, Buderim Lutheran, Sunnybank Ang, Sherwood Ang

Tas Evandale faith Community, Nth Hobart Uniting, St Aidans Messy Church

Vic Armadale Bapt (Jude Waldron), Sanctuary, Warnambool (Alison Sampson)

Canterbury Bapt (Joy Marshall), People @ Nth Ringwood (Barnetts),

Ember NW suburbs (Stacey Wilson), East Doncaster Messy Church (Julie Hunt)

Ashburton (Keren McCelland), Common Ground Heidelberg (Sandy Brodine), Alison Sharma

### *7.2 What is currently happening?*

Churches being intentionally intergenerational in specific areas...

-Prayer partnerships

-Breakfasts/meals

-Worship services

-Small groups

-Buddy system

Intergen Communities of Practice Vic

ACOM Intergenerational Ministry NSW

### *7.3 Who are you influencing?*

Area officers

Y&C leaders

Inter-denom working groups

Accreditation candidates Bapt NSW/ACT

Denom leaders Bapt NSW/ACT

Kids and YYA workers Bapt Churches SA

Future pastors in training

BCSA board members

Children ministry networks

Congregational leaders and pastors (one by one)

Children youth families min workers LCA

Denom gatherings

Intergenerational ACOM Min subject (Churches of Christ)

Post gen Y (gen X) burnouts who love Jesus

Surrender

#### 7.4 *Who is not in the room?*

Ps Matt Theile, Lutheran Budrim QLD  
TSA Mission Director  
TSA Territorial Y and C Sec

Catholics  
Senior/Lead pastors  
Youth (other generations)  
Seminary leaders  
National council churches aust  
Pentecostal community  
VCC  
Sydney Anglicans

#### 7.5 *Communication channels*

Intergen facebook page  
Here2stay.org.au  
Editorial pieces circulated across organisations  
Senior leaders development courses- speaking to culture and behaviour  
Grad cert in Children and families ministry and mission @ Stirling college vic  
CMN  
Denom publications (eg 10crosslight)  
Monthly update Chris Barnett  
Intergenerational resources distribution list  
Grow ministries- facebook page, eNews,  
Refocus ministry blog  
Multivocality blog Beth Barnett

#### 7.6 *Conferences/Events*

Intergenerate (NSW)  
"Just Kids?" (Vic) 1/9/2018  
Bapt NSW- kids and families leaders retreat  
Generations (VIC)  
Ignite (QLD)  
Passing the baton (WA)  
Elevation (QLD)  
Invigor8 (SA)

John Roberto bris 4/8/18  
Holly C Allen Adel 24-25/7/18, Melb 27-28/7/18, Syd 31/7/18-1/8/18 + NZ  
Churches sharing stories of IG worship and min @ SFC, Milton Bris 24/7/18  
Bris Anglican Year of the "generations together"  
TSA U-night Y and C leader Professional development, Livestream quarterly  
"Just Kids?" Intergen Gisborne Vic 1/9/18

## 7.7 Resources

- Beth Barnett Books

Face to face  
Welcoming families  
Party on together  
Twists and turns  
Rewind

- Messy church books/resources

Theology  
Hospitality  
Being messy, being church

- Key books

Collide (Tammy Tolman)  
Intergenerate (Holly Allen)  
Generations together (John Roberto)  
Belonging and becoming (Mark and Lisa Scandrette)  
Intergenerational Christian formation (Holly Allen & Christine Ross)

- Other resources

GIFT (Generations In Faith Together) Resources

[www.intergenfaithresources.com](http://www.intergenfaithresources.com)

[www.strandz.org.nz](http://www.strandz.org.nz)

[www.lifelongfaith.com](http://www.lifelongfaith.com)

[www.intergen.org.au](http://www.intergen.org.au)

[www.generationstogether.org.au](http://www.generationstogether.org.au)

[www.intergen.org.au](http://www.intergen.org.au)

[www.here2stay.org](http://www.here2stay.org)

[www.growministries.org.au](http://www.growministries.org.au)

[www.scxc.org.au](http://www.scxc.org.au)

## Appendix 8 Drawing some pieces together

### 8a. Working on the key words and definitions

Lifelong, Intentional, Relational, Holistic, Environment  
Intentionality, Mutuality, Respect  
Mutuality, Equality, Reciprocity  
Creating and deepening intergenerational relationships

“Communities valuing all humans in intentional holistic relationships forming lifelong faith through taking the journey of life together”

Affirming and championing intergenerational discipleship, which we understand as being expressed through...

- Reordering of power
- Shift in focus from educational to relational focus

...and noting that

- Pastors and congregations perpetuate what is, often in an unreflected way
- Power of expectations
- Challenge to find/get to know the people who will be open to new
- Role in helping communities understand/name their current paradigm
- To make a shift requires understanding/naming how we are before we can move to how we can be
- Sometimes words run out and pictures are better!

What characterises intergenerational ministry/discipleship?

How do we grow/develop intergenerationality in a way that embodies the values/ethos of intergenerationality?

Need to speak into the current churches with the “Why”, as well as embodying/modelling the “How” and “What” (noting that new communities often reflect a degree of intergenerationality, at least in the beginning).

Noting the questions...

- How do we grow/develop intergenerationality in a way that embodies the values/ethos of intergenerationality?
- Ought we (in our roles) provide principles, foundations, frameworks rather than definitions?
- Ought we be more descriptive, rather than prescriptive?

... it was identified that further work needed to be done re the initial definitions (see Appendix 4) and that simple phrases needed to be developed to accompany the key words around intergenerational.

### 8b. Working on blockages and solutions

1. Professionalism (excellence factor)
  - a. Perceived roles
    - i. Theo institutes
    - ii. Lead pastor
    - iii. Denom leaders
    - iv. C&F leaders
    - v. All in leadership
  - b. Culture

Solutions: heart change, training, resources

2. Consumerism
  - a. Culture attitudes
    - i. I want church to be done my way
    - ii. I want to be comfortable
    - iii. Entertain me/feed me
    - iv. Take care of my kids/family
    - v. Fear

Solutions: heart change, knowledge, experience

3. Lack of knowledge/experience
  - a. Never heard of it
  - b. We're doing it .... But not
  - c. Poor theology

Solutions: education, stories, modelling

4. Economics of change/the cost of shift
  - a. Gender
  - b. Money
  - c. Power
  - d. Race
  - e. Inclusion of the excluded

## **Appendix 9 What is important from here?**

Communicating intergenerational DNA- framework, principles, values, theology, credibility

Empowering: raising awareness, no guilt

Inclusion

Spheres of influence

- Academic
- Practitioners
- Congregation

Connect with all ages

Influence

- Breaking ground- stories/models, honouring/support, celebrate people
- New spaces- our own space – Intergen
- Language – words are key – do we need to change the word “intergenerational”

What is your big calling ? Are you all in?

Gather people trying it

Why/what/how .... Discussion

How do we widen the circle?

What could AIR.2 look like- who else do we need to invite

How do we manage the changes in our lives? Transitions in our lifes.

Breaking Ground – stories / models/ honouring and support / celebrating people

Who to gather what the purpose is?

State, national

Engage with key Influencers

Hearing the voices of Practitioners

## Appendix 10 Australian Intergenerational Roundtable Feedback

*1. What are up to three things you might be considering doing, as an individual in your role/organisation, in relation to intergenerational ministry/discipleship as a consequence of our time together?*

Take opportunities to speak to leadership  
Take opportunity to speak into the design of our organization  
Already in discussion with our Training College

I have a space on the agenda in our next state ministry team meeting to report on the AIR gathering. This will include our State Executive Minister and leadership development facilitator. I am hoping to brainstorm with our state team around what we could be doing together to advocate for intergenerational ministry.

I want to begin some equipping and training with our 'generational' leaders (Children's, youth and YA ministries) around how we can legitimise the cause beyond kids and families ministry. Not sure what this looks like yet, but I intend on bringing the discussion to my state vision teams to talk about what this could look like.

Continuing to promote and resource intergen ministries, including how we broaden the message beyond just including children/youth.

Sharing AIR info at next CMN meeting

Looking at whether info from AIR will be distributed/used/turned into something we could use at conferences next year, eg Invigor8 in SA. Fiona Weckert and I met last week and discussed what this might look like. In 2019 Invigor8 will not be held in Feb but either May/June or Aug/Sept so this does allow some time to see what develops. We're also wondering if Leaders to Go are possibly going to pick any of this up next year?

I felt affirmed in having 2018 given the theme of "Generations Together" from the top down in my diocese and intend to keep the website [www.generationstogether.org.au](http://www.generationstogether.org.au) rolling along.

We are hosting a simple evening event on 24 July where people from two churches can present what they have done in their respective churches in relation to introducing intergen worship... I want to host similar events where laypeople and clergy together can tell their stories and encourage others.

I'll be happy to support our Facebook group and see where it leads.

Admin for the facebook group

Victorian CoP

Focus on bringing a theological perspective into advocacy discussions

*2. Having had further time for reflection, what are up to three things you think we ought to prioritise collectively (and consider committing to collaborating on) between now and the end of the year?*

One stop shop for resources, notifications of conferences, events etc...

Sharing editorial pieces appropriate to all levels of engagement (theological, sociological, leadership, education, practical, conversation pieces suitable for congregants) that we can 'fine tune' to fit our denomination (One message, One language)

I would like to see more discussion and equipping happening on a national level. Is there a place to run a conference or workshops aimed at senior leaders and academics, as well as generations leaders?

I would like to see another AIR meeting happen on a national level.

Clarifying our language/definitions and message/framework/principles/theology (as named by the group). I think this is essential so we're all saying the same thing and we're developing resources based on the same principles. Do we want to be intentional about how this is shared around Australia – across denominations and colleges or let happen 'organically'?

Working out how to share resources and stories of what is already happening and particularly naming the principles/values behind these stories (ie not just what we do but why we do it and why these principles/values could apply in a different context)

Broadening 'who is in the room' eg as we develop resources etc., who in 'seniors' ministry etc should be involved in these projects and if we regather who should be included.

Making more of our Facebook Group.

Sharing / disseminating the resources and info we compiled.

Suggesting a rhythm for the group, going forward. I thought a biennial rhythm of national meeting one year, state meeting the next was a good one.

Collecting stories of intergenerational faith formation in practice

Ongoing communication

Cross promotion of events

### *3. Other*

Thanks again for all you and the team did in organising this meeting

Thank you for all the work you and the team did in preparing and hosting the AIR gathering. I really appreciated being able to participate via skype from Adelaide and certainly found it a worthwhile time. Thank you to those who led sessions – really well done 😊

I was surprised that we didn't finish with figuring out how we'd go about doing the work on the priorities we named at the end eg have some working parties type thing

A few times a couple of people used the space to share more personal stories/experiences that didn't necessarily add to the conversation. I didn't quite catch the opening spiel so not sure if you did this but perhaps if we gather again and particularly if we broaden who is attending, we need to clarify at the start some principles about helpful sharing and what the space/conversations are for.

Overall, I thought it was an excellent conversation/roundtable experience.

I found this event encouraging, I was challenged to think about how I speak about intergenerational ministry from a theological perspective and to check my own life for opportunities to engage with people of all ages (looking for my own bias/preferences).

### **Why intergenerational?**

An intentionally intergenerational environment is more likely to encourage and sustain lifelong discipleship for all ages

Intergenerational ministry is built upon a solid biblical and theological foundation, takes into account key formational and sociological principles and is supported by developmental, social learning, ecological systems, socio-cultural, situative-sociocultural and gerontological theory

### **What do we mean by intergenerational?**

Being intergenerational can be thought of as...

- a core value (something fundamental to who we are and who we are aspiring to be)
- an attitude or disposition (the way we approach “other”, in this case those who are different to us in age)
- as part of a philosophy of ministry/ethos (the way we do the things we do)

...that encompasses all aspects of our life together.

Being genuinely Intergenerational can be characterised as people from at least two different generations intentionally engaging together in respectful relationships marked by...

- mutuality (all benefit)
- equality (all are valued equally)
- reciprocity (all give and receive)

### **What about intergenerational *ministry*?**

Intergenerational ministry...

- Involves the intentional creating and deepening of relationships across generational boundaries
- Occurs when generations are combined together in mutual serving, sharing, learning or celebrating as part of their living out of being the body of Christ
- Requires specific intentional action from those in leadership, including modelling and deliberate cultivation of the values, attitudes and behaviours that enhance intergenerational engagement
- Seeks the flourishing of communities in which people of all ages share in the journey of life together in intentional holistic relationships that form and sustain lifelong discipleship, embodying the call to live as God’s reconciled and reconciling people