

# Appreciative Conversation Notes:

## Round 1

**Remembering your entire experience of this congregation, when were you most alive, most motivated and excited about your involvement?**

- Maundy Thursday Service when all parish and people from other churches gathered
- Visiting Amata Community in South Australia and the way it all came together
- Open House Bible Studies led by Allan
- Mission Activities of the church run by the Parish Council - how great that was - planning and evaluating annually by ourselves -
- small things like Bus trip with Ian Breward visiting historical church sites of our parish- who has worshipped there.
- trivia nights - different generations being involved and other people from outside the church.
- driving bus - talking, singing and sharing stories in the bus, forming community of its own.
- music at Paul the Apostle at various times and the singing and listening.
- getting married at Paul the Apostle

## Round 2

**What do you value most about this congregation? What are the best features of this congregation?**

- Pastoral Care in congregation
- Connecting with local community eg. Simply living project, primary school and community carnival
- Acceptance of wide range of people
- stewardship over the years and using that for the local mission rather than being a rich congregation.

## Round 3

**What has been most important when it comes to serving the wider community? How did the activities beyond the life of the congregation express God's love?**

- Connecting with wider community with community event, eg. half-day seminar like "Terrors of Ice"
- Port Melb: blessed relationship with the kindergarten
- Opp Shop: over the years a blessing to the community
- Current use of the Dorcas St property by 2 schools
- Port Melb and South Melb connecting to different communities and people

## Round 4

**What are the most valuable ways this congregation contributes to the worship, witness and service of the Uniting Church?**

- Social justice - mission background, sustainability, concern for refugees, overseas projects
- suggestion for low-cost housing at Dorcas st.

## Round 5

**When the Uniting Church is at its best, what do you think is the most important life-giving, life affirming, life-enriching characteristic of the church?**

- getting on so well - often see more of each other than our own families - source of wisdom from other people
- vibrant singing at Synod or Assembly gathering
- in its congregations - at its best to form grassroots
- Basis of Union
- life-seepingg - UCA has a bureaucracy that needs to follow regulations etc. but doesn't appreciate the nature of the congregation