

spirit imagination culture

Lunchtime conversations in the city

Pilgrim Uniting Church Hall

12 Flinders St., City

Cost: \$10. BYO Lunch. For info call 8212 3295



spirituality & the imagination

Tuesday 9 March, 12.00 - 1.30 pm

Imagination and intuition have often been overlooked as genuine sources of understanding in our relationships and the world, yet great moments of transformation are most often a result of acts of imagination, instinct and courage - not irrational, but difficult to explain or justify.

What might it mean to respect and value imagination and intuition as providing a window into new ways of being human, not as an escape from the everyday, but as a deep grounding in the beauty and fragility of daily existence?

Cheryl Lawrie is a Melbourne writer, educator and creator of ritual experiences in prisons, car parks and bushfire zones. She is the Director of the Culture and Context Unit for the Uniting Church, Victoria.



spirituality & popular culture

Thursday 11 March, 12.00 - 1.30 pm

Graffiti. DJs. Dub music. Skater boys. Popular culture is often seen as crass, arrogant, shallow and consumerist, with young people its victims. Opera. Art galleries. Mahler. Ballet. Is truth and beauty in the hands of an elite who champion 'high culture' above the minds of the masses?

Can we find wisdom, insight, hope and a sense of wonder in popular culture? Do contemporary artists speak in a different way to people about matters of the soul? What might it mean to look at today's cultural artists as prophets and priests, speaking to the things that matter most deeply in our lives?

Jonny Baker is a London mission worker. He is a blogger, writer, photographer, musician, and cultural commentator. Jonny works with the Anglican Church Mission Society.