



WORSHIP BEYOND THE FRINGE

Creating Sacred Spaces in Public and Hidden Places

An inspiration session for chaplains and pastoral ministers
with Cheryl Lawrie, UCA Victoria
Adelaide West UC, Brooklyn Park

**Wed 10 March
10am - 12noon**



cheryl lawrie

Cheryl Lawrie is Director of the Spirituality, Culture and Context Unit with the Uniting Church, Synod of Victoria. Cheryl has worked within and beyond the church in exploring ways to craft ritual experiences that engage with everyday themes of life.

Her work has taken her to prisons, car parks and the aftermath of bushfires, creating sacred spaces to help people honestly uncover and express their hopes and fears.

Cheryl regularly writes about faith for the Melbourne Age. A book of her worship words, 'Hold This Space', has been published by Proost in the UK. Cheryl is a former youth and children's worker with the Uniting Church in both Victoria and South Australia. She blogs at holdthisspace.org.au

Cheryl is visiting Adelaide 9-12 March as a speaker and curator for "A Spirit of Wonder" - a week of art, conversation and lectures about creativity, culture and mission. For more details contact Uniting College.

Session cost: \$30
To register call 84168420
or email
info@unitingcollege.org.au
by Monday 1 March

worship beyond the fringe

Over the last few years we've been exploring what forms of encounter with spirituality and the 'stuff' of faith will make sense to people who don't find their home in Christianity... Our worship spaces and installations are an attempt to give expression to that.

Offering an encounter with faith that has integrity in prison is a pretty tall order – faith has its hardest task amongst the most broken in our community. Cheryl and her friends offer sacred spaces and times using well-crafted words, images, and music, along with everyday junk. If you are in ministry with people beyond the bounds of the established church or 'traditional' worship, this session will provoke you to think about what kind of spaces might invite students, elderly people, prisoners, the bereaved and grieving, to uncover the deep places of the soul and grasp unlikely faith.

christmas day in the prison, 2009

*The story tells us
that it's those who wait in the world's shadows
who are the first to know of the Christ-child,
born into darkness
bringing great light.*

*So we gather as those who carry the rumour of peace
and the truth of love
into a world longing for light.
We gather as those who pray for the justice
another is waiting for,
who speak the hope another needs to breathe.*

Psalm Of Boredom – by Phil How long must I wait, God?

Every day is the same I wake up
and I see the same things every day
The news is never good
Each week it's the same thing
I dream at night that I'm home,
I wake up and I'm here.
How long must I wait, God?
The only things that happen
are the same things, day by day.
The officers stare at me,
all the time every move is watched
I get sent to bed like a kid at 7.30
even if the sun is still shining.
How long must I wait God?
We do nothing new it's the same shit every day
organising food giving orders to billets.
We get counted we look at the walls will it be forever?
How long must I wait, God?
Every day I ask for my kids and family
to be safe I hope my health stays good
so I can be healthy with them when I'm out.
How long must I wait, God?
Every day I get up and wait
for that miracle
for it to be time for me to leave
that the parole board will change its mind
and today will be the day.
How long must I wait, God?

A psalm from Port Phillip Prison
from 'Hold This Space', Proost, 2008.
www.proost.co.uk



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