*The church is fitted with a hearing loop which covers the body of the church. To receive most benefit, hearing aid wearers are advised to switch their hearing aid to T-setting.*

**Pilgrim Uniting Church**

**12 Flinders Street, Adelaide**

***9.30 COMMUNITY WORSHIP***

**Pentecost 18 12 October 2014**

**Lighting the Candles**

**Song**  For Everyone Born

**Welcome**

**Acknowledgement of Country**

**Reading from the Tradition** Matthew 22: 1-10

**Introduction: Poverty Week**

**BREAD**

**Current Reality**

*thought for reflection*

There are people in the world so hungry,

that God cannot appear to them

except in the form of bread.

*Mahatma Gandhi*

*facts for reflection*

New research estimates 45,000 households using Anglicare Emergency Relief services don’t have enough money to adequately feed their families. Of this group, adults in 22,000 households go without food for a whole day, most weeks.

Findings compiled from surveys of people accessing emergency relief services across the Anglicare Australia network (from the report, “State of the Family: When There’s Not Enough to Eat” 2012)

*Who is food insecure?*

61% of respondents were female.

32% of respondents represented lone parent households; another 28% represented single person households.

Indigenous people were over-represented, accounting for 17% of food insecure respondents compared to 2% of the national population.

67% of households had incomes of less than $1000 per fortnight.

77% of households have no one in paid employment.

Four out of five households (78%. 47% of which were in public housing) were renting and 12% were living in

insecure housing. 10% were paying off a mortgage or owned their own home.

94% of private renters were experiencing rental stress.

**Hopeful Vision**

*video for reflection*

Foodbank South Australia

**Closing the Gap**

*opportunity for action*

Helen McIntosh reports on special meals initiative in the Lounge.

**BELONGING**

**Current Reality**

*video for reflection*

Homeless people give windows onto their stories

soundtrack: *Royals* by Lorde

a song about the pressures of consumer culture

chorus:

*And we’ll never be royals (royals)*

*It don’t run in our blood*

*That kind of lux just ain’t for us, we crave a*

*different kind of buzz*

*Let me be your ruler (ruler)*

*You can call me queen bee*

*And baby I’ll rule, I’ll rule, I’ll rule, I’ll rule*

*Let me live that fantasy*

**Hopeful vision**

*reading for reflection*

Isaiah 25: 4-9

**Closing the Gap**

*opportunity for action*

David Davis reports on our Angels opportunity at Hutt Street Centre.

**Song for Reflection**Songs for Pilgrims 6Child at our door

**BEING**

**Current reality**

*thought for reflection*

We think sometimes that poverty is only being hungry, naked, homeless.

The poverty of being unwanted, unloved and uncared for

is the greatest poverty.

We must start in our own homes

to remedy this kind of poverty.

*Mother Teresa*

**Hopeful vision**

*receiving the offering, with music for reflection*

*Prayer of Dedication*

By these gifts,

may we become and be

a nurturing, sheltering tree:

shade in which to rest

bearing fruit of dignity.

**Amen.**

**Closing the gap**

*prayerful reflection*

Let us ask God for the coming of the kin-dom:

God of the poor, we hear your voice calling us to serve this city and its people, especially the forgotten ones and those on the margins.

**(Sung response: God Weeps, v. 1 #16 in Songs for Pilgrims)**

God of the hungry, we remember today and pray for city agencies,

gifted leaders and all those who work in this city to bind up the broken

and challenge others to act with justice.

**(Sung response: God Weeps, v. 3 #16 in Songs for Pilgrims)**

God of the desolate, we think of those in this city who can find no work

and who are at risk,

those who suffer discrimination and are isolated.

We pray for those who provide a welcome place and a healing space,

who speak out for those with no voice

and who work to sustain services for those in need who make this city their home.

**(Sung response: God Weeps, v. 4 #16 in Songs for Pilgrims)**

**The Lord’s Prayer** (from the New Zealand Prayer Book)

**Eternal Spirit**

**Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,**

**source of all that is and that shall be,**

**Father and Mother of us all.**

**Loving God, in whom is heaven.**

**The hallowing of your name echoes through**

**the universe!**

**The way of your justice be followed by the peoples**

**of the earth!**

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!**

**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom**

**sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.**

**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.**

**In times of temptation and test, spare us.**

**From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

**Song** Songs for Pilgrims 39 Spirit of Peace

**Blessing**

**Passing the Peace**

**A postlude of sorts** Food, Glorious Food from *Oliver Twist*

*Something fun to help us remember the serious issues encompassed in Anti-Poverty Week.*

Today’s service observing the beginning of Anti-Poverty Week was compiled by Joy Germein, Barry Horwood and Jana Norman. Special thanks to readers Helen McIntosh and David Davis, musicians Judy Homburg, Jeff Telfer, Ruth Farrent, Marelle Harisun, Don Bell, Graham Brice, Margaret Chittleborough and Peter Russell & Allan Forbes (technicians) who helped bring the service to life.

Everyone is invited to refresh with conversation and a cuppa in Pilgrim Hall directly after the service. Follow the crowds across the parking lot to the building at the back of the church.

For more information about Anti-Poverty Week,

visit www.antipovertyweek.org.au

**Who lives in poverty in Australia?**

The proportion of Australians living in poverty has continued to increase in recent years.

Some groups of people in Australian society are at high risk of income poverty, particularly unemployed people and single people over the age of 65. The scale of child poverty is also of particular concern. Indigenous Australian households are especially vulnerable to poverty, with a median income substantially lower than the median income of non-Indigenous households. Low income levels contribute to the low life expectancy of Indigenous Australians.

Compared to other countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Australia has a greater than average proportion of people of workforce age living in jobless households. Nonetheless, Australia spends a smaller than average proportion of its GDP on income support.

An increasing number of Australian households live in income poverty while at least one member of that household is in paid employment. People in this predicament are known as ‘working poor’. To some extent, low paid workers are protected by minimum wage policies (agreements about the lowest wage that employers may legally pay employees) and by family tax benefits (which the government provides to help with the cost of raising children). However, while these measures play a vital role in protecting low paid workers from poverty, they are insufficient to maintain households at an acceptable standard of living.

(from the publication: The Australian Collaboration from the Australian Council of Social Services at www.australiancollaboration.com.au

**Food, Glorious Food!**

Is it worth the waiting for?  
If we live 'til eighty four  
All we ever get is gru...el!  
Ev'ry day we say our prayer --  
Will they change the bill of fare?  
Still we get the same old gru...el!  
There's not a crust, not a crumb can we find,  
Can we beg, can we borrow, or cadge,  
But there's nothing to stop us from getting a thrill  
When we all close our eyes and imag...ine

Food, glorious food!  
Hot sausage and mustard!  
While we're in the mood --  
Cold jelly and custard!  
Peas pudding and saveloys!  
What next is the question?  
Rich gentlemen have it, boys --  
indigestion!

Food, glorious food!  
We're anxious to try it.  
Three banquets a day --  
Our favourite diet!

Just picture a great big steak --  
Fried, roasted or stewed.  
Oh, food,  
Wonderful food,  
Marvellous food

Glorious food!