

A few personal stories...

We started using Project Reconnect about two years ago. I have learned more about the other members of the congregation in these two years than I have in the last 20!

Member of Bogan Gate UCA Congregation

My husband, who doesn't come to church, said, "You used to go to church at 11am and get home around 12:30pm. Now you start church at 9.30am and get home at 1pm! What's going on at your church!"

Member of Gunningbland Congregation

We didn't think Project Reconnect would work. There was a lot of resistance to it when we first started but now none of us want to go back to the old way. **Member of Cookamidgera Congregation**

Since being a part of Project Reconnect and always have something to do in our church service, and being part of the discussion, I've grown in my confidence. Once I would never say anything. Now even at other community meetings I have started saying what I think. **Member of Gunningbland Congregation**

Further Information and contact details

Further information can be obtained from

- Kingsley Murphy
Project Reconnect Consultant
Ph. 02 68855778
kingsley.murphy@bigpond.com
- www.projectreconnect.com.au
- A resource pack (Toolbox) is available which contains a sample DVD, printed material and a DVD which has interviews, sample clips of what is on the DVD and further information.

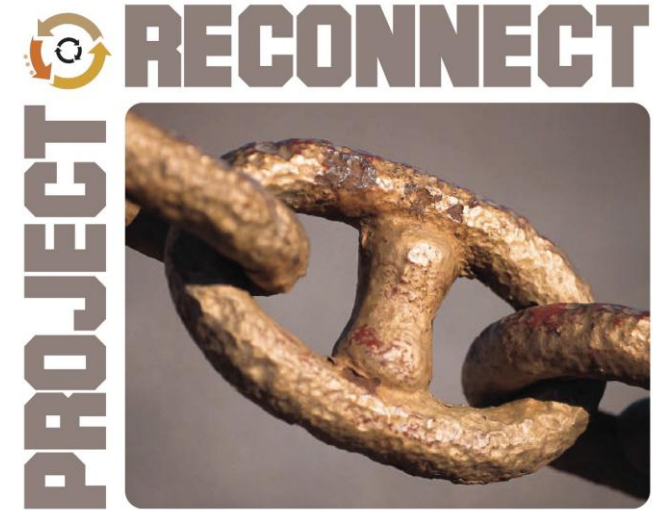
Administration and ordering

- Helen Westcott
Project.Reconnect@uniting.com.au



Cost

Each DVD costs \$16.50 inc GST
This covers the DVD, postage and the information sheet.



RECONNECTING PEOPLE

...WITH GOD

...WITH EACH OTHER

*...WITH THE WIDER
COMMUNITY*



What is it?

An alternative concept for worship, which includes the use of a DVD resource, envisioned by Rev Tom Stuart in Parkes and produced by the Mid Lachlan Mission Area.

It is designed to resource small congregations to create their own worship and to take up the challenge of being the people of God in their community.

It is relational and empowering; builds discipleship and faith sharing; offers a life giving alternative to traditional worship.

How does it Work?

Each week a DVD is produced to help you devise your own worship service.

It contains a Message, 4 discussion starters, a Youth Message and music resources.

A cover sheet that explains the content for that week is also included. The whole resource is based on the church lectionary and Words for Worship can be included for a small fee (to



cover copyright) to assist with worship preparation.

Contents of DVD

There are 4 key components of the DVD:-

Message

Typically 8-10 minutes presented by a variety of people both ordained and lay. Variety helps to bring freshness as well as a balance to theological perspectives.

Discussion starters

Four questions designed to stimulate participants thinking about their relationships with God, each other and the community. Also encourages congregations to be the church in their community.

Youth message

Again presented by a range of different people (or puppets, or dolls...) to not only include the young ones but to give them some direction in life.

Music resources

A selection of hymns, presented by choirs, is included on each DVD which enables congregations to sing along, even though they may be low in numbers. Some choruses have also been included. We are currently working on expanding the variety available on each weekly DVD.



How can this resource help?

This resource was primarily designed to assist small congregations to remain as the faith centre of their local communities. It has not only avoided the closure of small country churches, it has revitalised the members to grow their faith and mission, and to be the people of God amongst their friends and neighbours.

As time has gone on, more and more uses of Project Reconnect have developed. It can be used in study groups, home churches, for nursing homes, for people who miss a Sunday for some reason and for sick and/or elderly people who are unable to attend church. No doubt there are many more uses yet to be identified.

What equipment is required?

All that is needed is a TV and a DVD player. This can be set up normally for under \$500. Laptop, projector and suitable speakers can also be used if preferred.