

Connect

Creating communities of hope and compassion through intentional conversations that make a difference

The greatest social problem in Australia today is loneliness. One third of Australians now live alone. Some people go for days, even weeks, without having a significant conversation with another human being. Christine Pohl (*Living into Community*) suggests that 'Our cultural emphasis on personal freedom and self-fulfilment has left many people lonely and emotionally fragile.' Listening effectively to others doesn't always come easily or naturally. We need equipping and skilling to listen to others well.

Churches of Christ Vic/Tas, in partnership with Stirling Theological College, is offering a course at Hobart City Church of Christ to equip people to better connect with those around them. Presenters Alan Niven and Graham Mann will help participants develop these skills over four sessions held on **Friday August 21** (7.30-9.30pm) and **Saturday August 22** (9.30am-4.30pm).

Alan Niven is the Vice-Principal and Senior Lecturer in Pastoral Studies at Stirling Theological College in Melbourne. Graham Mann is the Senior Minister at Howrah Church of Christ. Both presenters have years of experience in pastoral care and counselling.

Session 1

Biblical/Theological Models & Patterns of Connection (Identity and Awareness)

What do you mean? That person in the food court, the gym, or at the next desk is my NEIGHBOUR?

Session 2

What does connection look like? Presence, availability and resources

What do you mean? I'm a resource just because I'm connected to God? I bring MORE than just turning up because of my story?

Session 3

Foundational Listening Skills

Really?! Confront the challenges of isolation, alienation, and loneliness with intentional listening? But do I really have to learn how to do it—I listen all the time, don't I...?

Session 4

Extended Listening Skills

See beyond the words into the heart of a person's story. Let those 'dry bones' of the story take shape, find a voice and live again. Maybe I'll find the person behind the story.

Method:

Input, small group discussion, scenarios and role plays, plenary discussion.

Presenters:

Alan Niven and Graham Mann

Venue:

Hobart City Church of Christ
8 Goulburn Street
Hobart TAS

Cost:

\$60, includes a copy of 'God's Love In Action' plus lunch & snacks



"'God's Love in Action' is a real treasure. It is a very practical and timely book that would be a valuable addition for any Christian minister, carer or church group—and for hospital, school and criminal justice chaplains, and grief counsellors."
Bishop Barbara Darling,
Anglican Diocesan Ministries,
Melbourne

Register by attached form and return by **Friday August 14** to office@hobartcitychurch.org.au or 8 Goulburn Street, Hobart TAS 7000

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Friday August 21 & Saturday August 22

Hobart City Church of Christ, 8 Goulburn St, Hobart TAS

\$60 (includes a copy of God's Love in Action by Jill McGilvray plus lunch and snacks)

Please register by Friday August 14 by completing this form and returning it to office@hobartcitychurch.org.au or 8 Goulburn St Hobart TAS 7000

Name _____

Church _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Dietary Requirements _____

Payment Included \$_____

Cheque/money order *Made payable to Hobart City Church of Christ*

Direct debit *See details to the left*

*Direct Debit details:
Hobart City Church
of Christ
BSB 087 007
AC 036796960*

*Use the reference:
Connect[YourSurname]*

Cash *Pay on the day*

Receipt Required
(In an effort to minimise paperwork & administration costs please tick only if you need a tax invoice/receipt)