



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

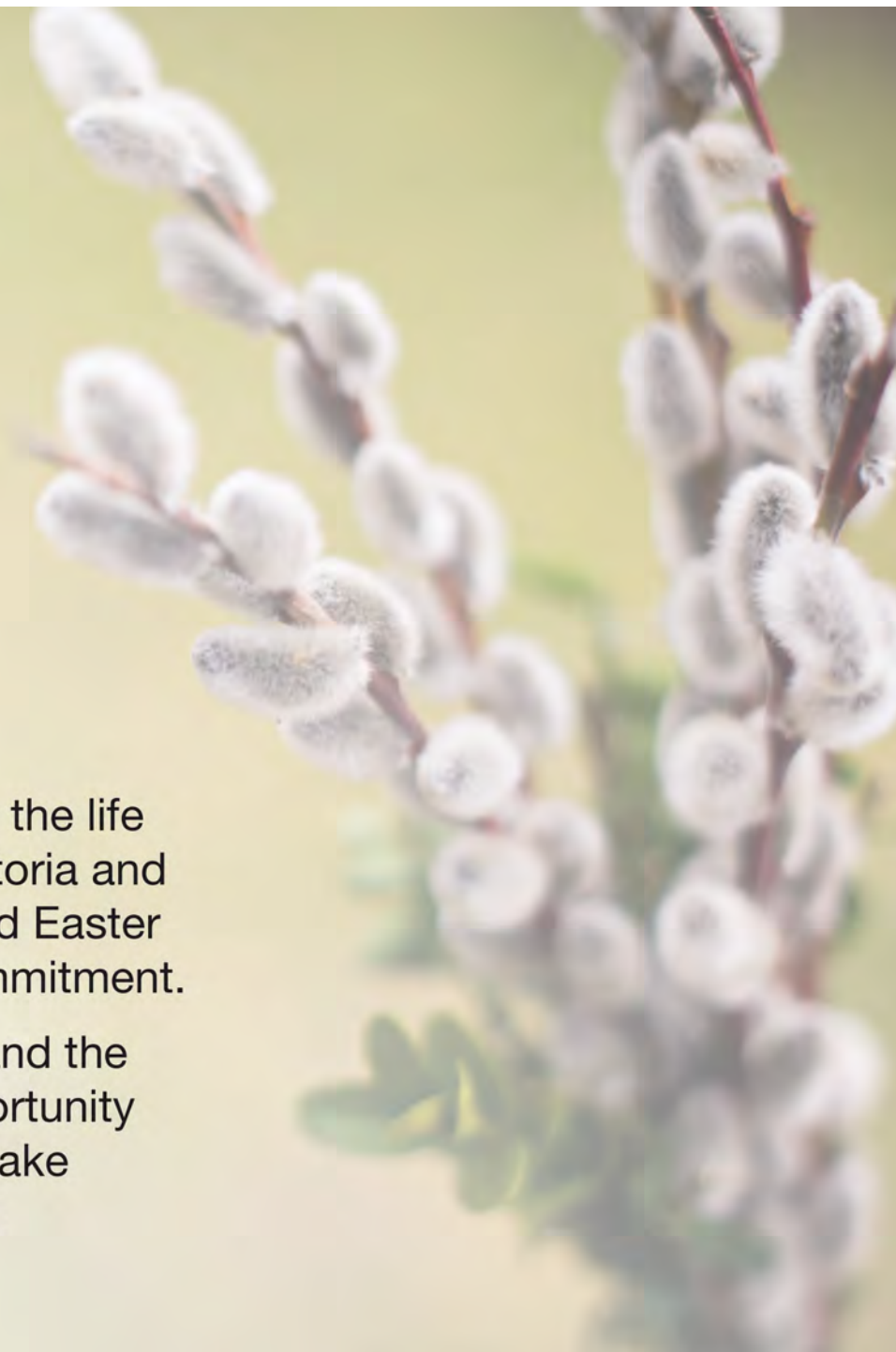
Lenten Offering 2018



Lenten Offering 2018

The Lenten Offering is an annual event in the life of congregations within the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania. It is conducted during Lent and Easter at a time of reflection, renewal and recommitment.

In response to God's love for all people and the giving of God's son to the world, an opportunity is provided for people of the church to make a sacrificial offering to support important mission projects.



Projects supported by the Lenten Offering 2018

You have the opportunity to support these important projects with your special Lenten Offering this year.

Prevention of Blindness

Vanuatu



To provide staff in Vanuatu, cover emergency patient transport, cover fares for international participation, team accommodation and freight for essential equipment.

Community of Reconciliation

Covenanting



To provide a part-time Indigenous staff member and a stipend to release Ministry time to pilot a project to build a covenantal community of reconciliation.

Youth Engagement

Victoria



To provide a part time youth worker to support the coordination of adventure-based learning programs for at-risk young people in the community.

Regional Youth Ministry

Tasmania



To bolster inclusion and participation through financial help with transport and assistance to attend activities and courses to support leadership development.

Prevention of Blindness

Vanuatu

The Vanuatu Prevention of Blindness Project has been running for 18 years and has recently suffered the loss of funds from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and Uniting World (UW).

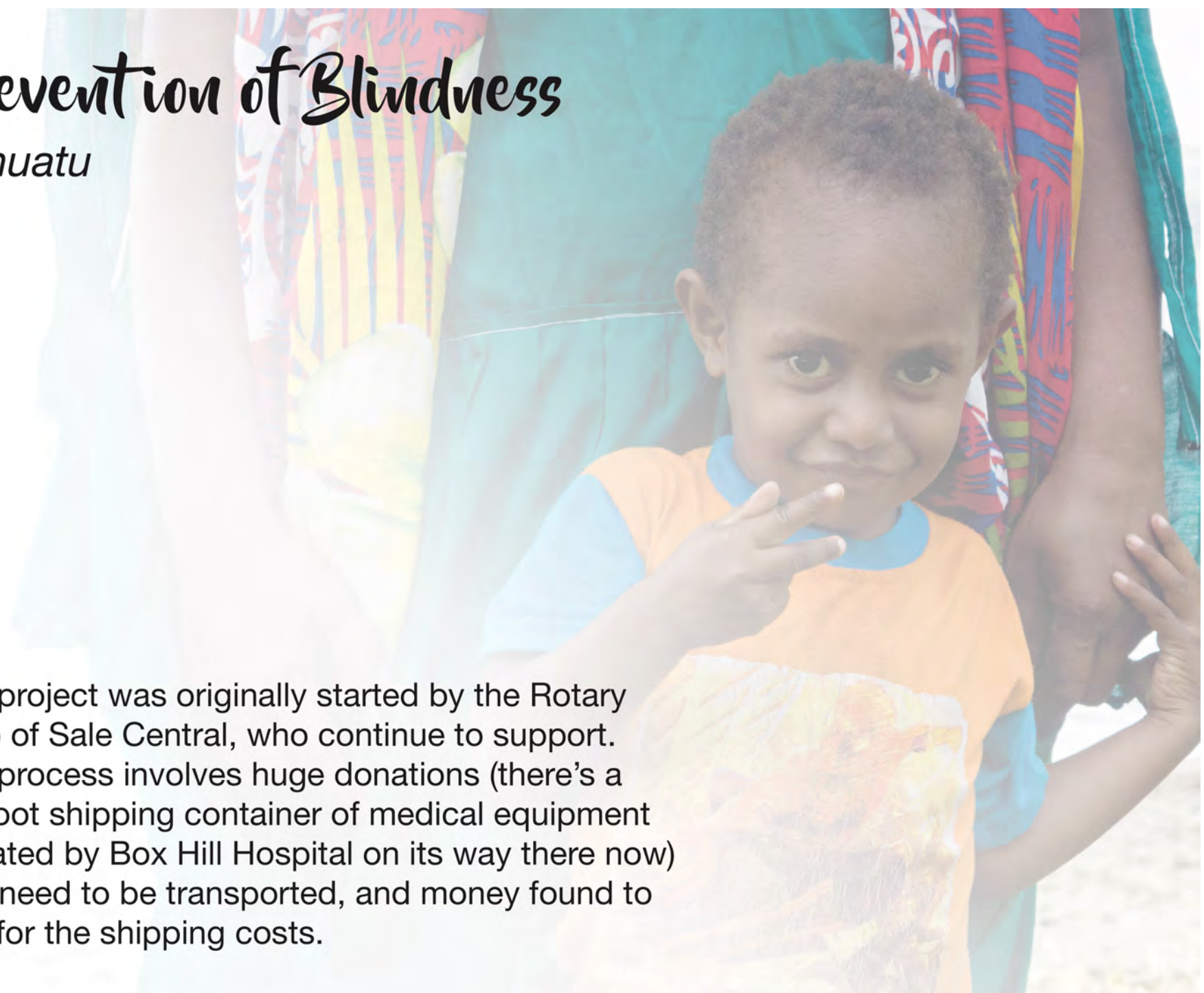
Donations help support the team on the ground who have spent years being trained, and have reached a stage where they can provide basic dental hygienist and medical assistance independently, making the clinic a five day a week operation. Funds also support the regular, visiting teams of volunteer specialists, who in turn provide them with further training.



Prevention of Blindness

Vanuatu

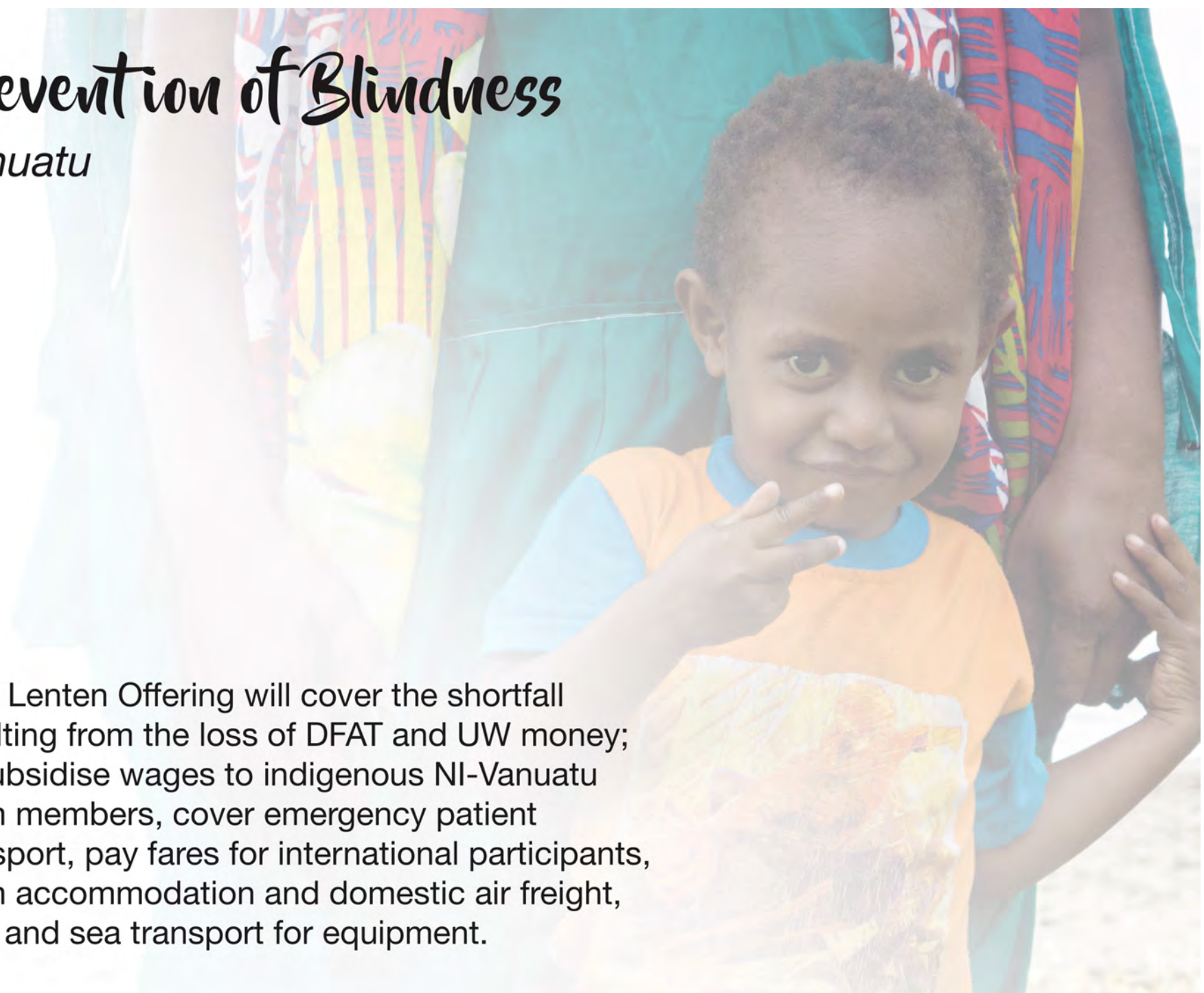
The project was originally started by the Rotary Club of Sale Central, who continue to support. The process involves huge donations (there's a 20-foot shipping container of medical equipment donated by Box Hill Hospital on its way there now) that need to be transported, and money found to pay for the shipping costs.



Prevention of Blindness

Vanuatu

Your Lenten Offering will cover the shortfall resulting from the loss of DFAT and UW money; to subsidise wages to indigenous NI-Vanuatu team members, cover emergency patient transport, pay fares for international participants, team accommodation and domestic air freight, land and sea transport for equipment.



Community of Reconciliation

Covenanting

Healesville Uniting Church in the Yarra Ranges has a history connected with first people community Coranderrk. The church is part of a community where 3.2% of the population are Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander people, which is higher than the state and national average.

Coranderrk was a successful agricultural enterprise until most of its residents were ejected under the Aborigines Protection Act (1886). Many of the families stayed in the area. Worawa Aboriginal College is also within the Parish boundaries.



Community of Reconciliation

Covenanting

The church community wants to see what it might mean to be a vibrant, covenantal community of reconciliation.

This project between the Uniting Church of Australia and the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress aims to be a pilot for other UCA communities around the country. The journey will be documented, and the project will develop mapping, modelling and frameworks for future use in other congregations, schools and agencies.

Community of Reconciliation

Covenanting

Your Lenten Offering will support an Indigenous staff member from Narana Aboriginal Culture Centre, as well as supporting a stipend to release Ministry time to work on this important project.

Youth Engagement

Victoria

Uniting Church at Mt Eliza runs a 10-week program, day out programs, and an annual SMASH camp designed to foster team work, develop identity and new skills. Their ENGAGE program inspires and supports young people to engage with issues including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander reconciliation, refugees, climate change and homelessness.

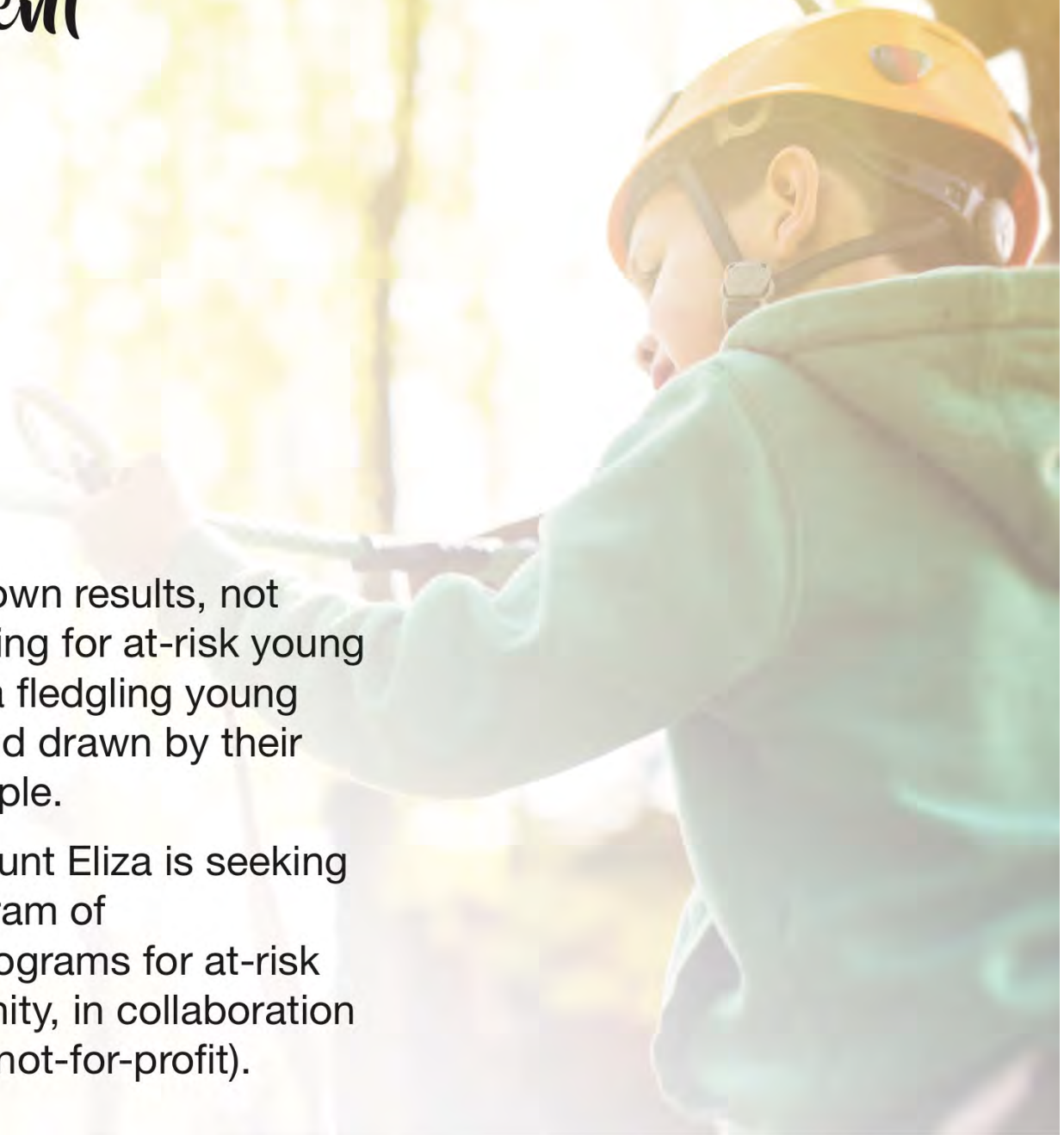


Youth Engagement

Victoria

The program has already shown results, not only in the changes it is making for at-risk young people, but also in creating a fledgling young adult community, inspired and drawn by their engagement with young people.

Village Uniting Church at Mount Eliza is seeking support for its ongoing program of adventure-based learning programs for at-risk young people in the community, in collaboration with Fusion (Christian youth not-for-profit).





Youth Engagement

Victoria

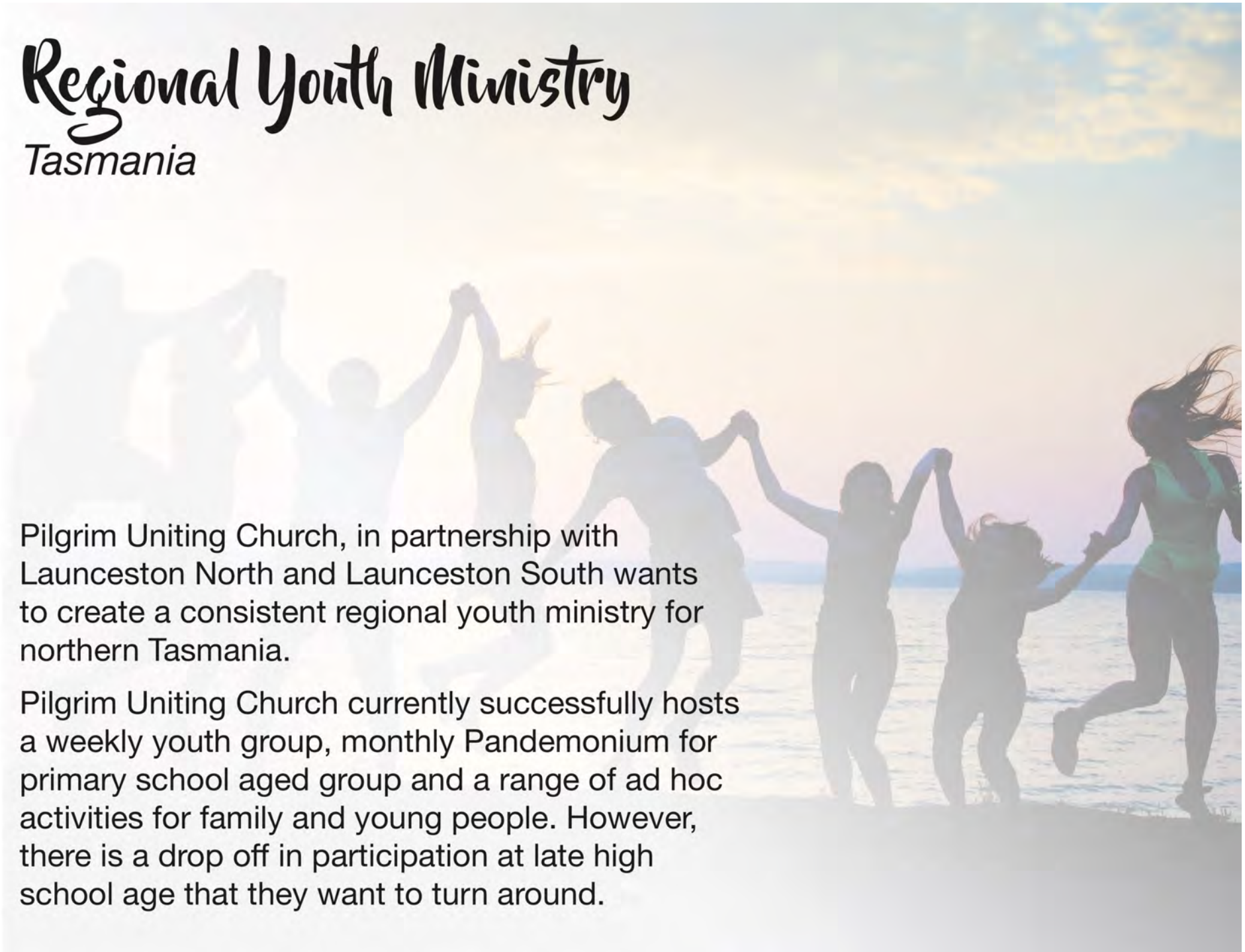
Your Lenten Offering will support a part-time youth worker who plans and coordinates the program, and supports young adult volunteers, as well as covering some costs of the program.

Regional Youth Ministry

Tasmania

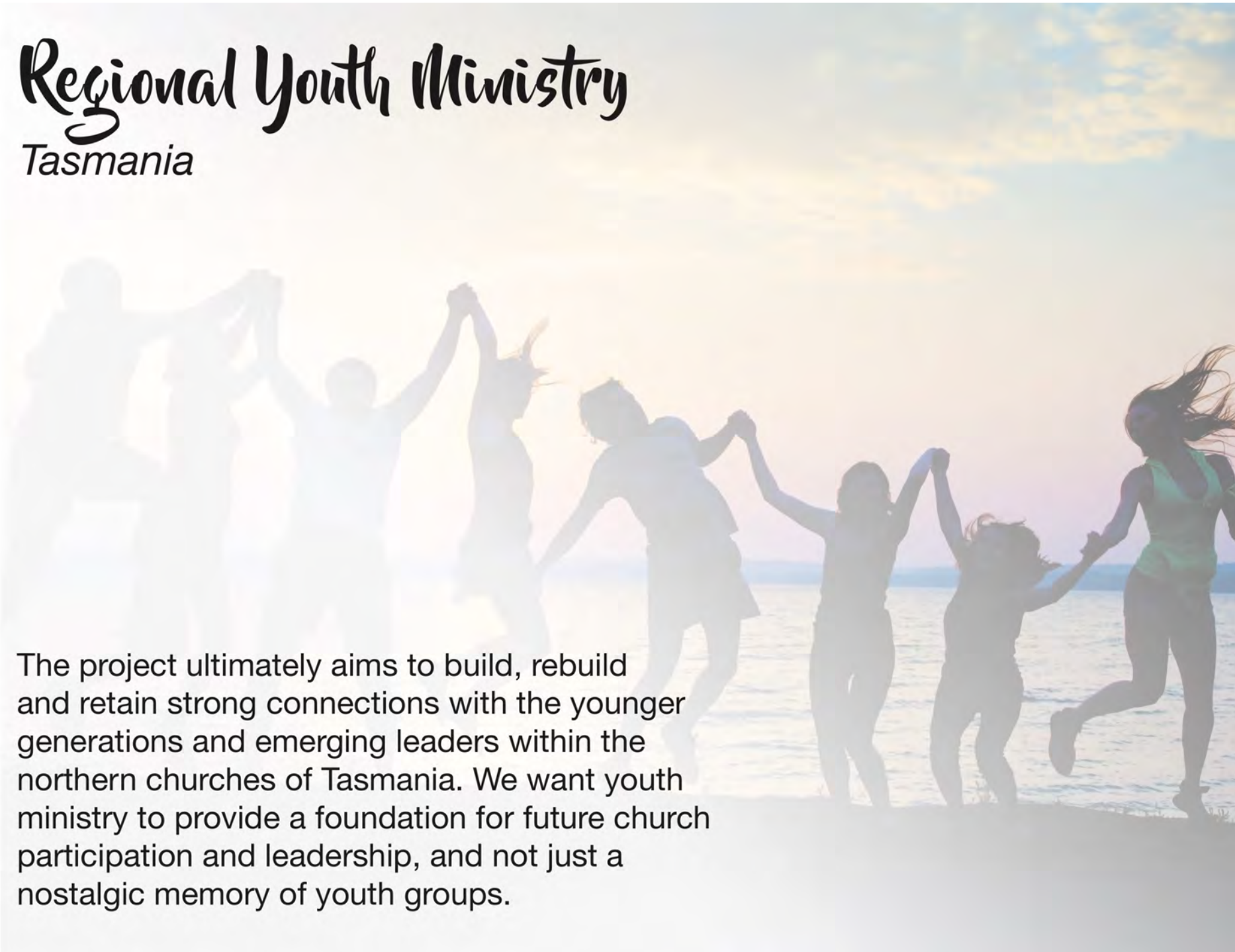
Pilgrim Uniting Church, in partnership with Launceston North and Launceston South wants to create a consistent regional youth ministry for northern Tasmania.

Pilgrim Uniting Church currently successfully hosts a weekly youth group, monthly Pandemonium for primary school aged group and a range of ad hoc activities for family and young people. However, there is a drop off in participation at late high school age that they want to turn around.



Regional Youth Ministry

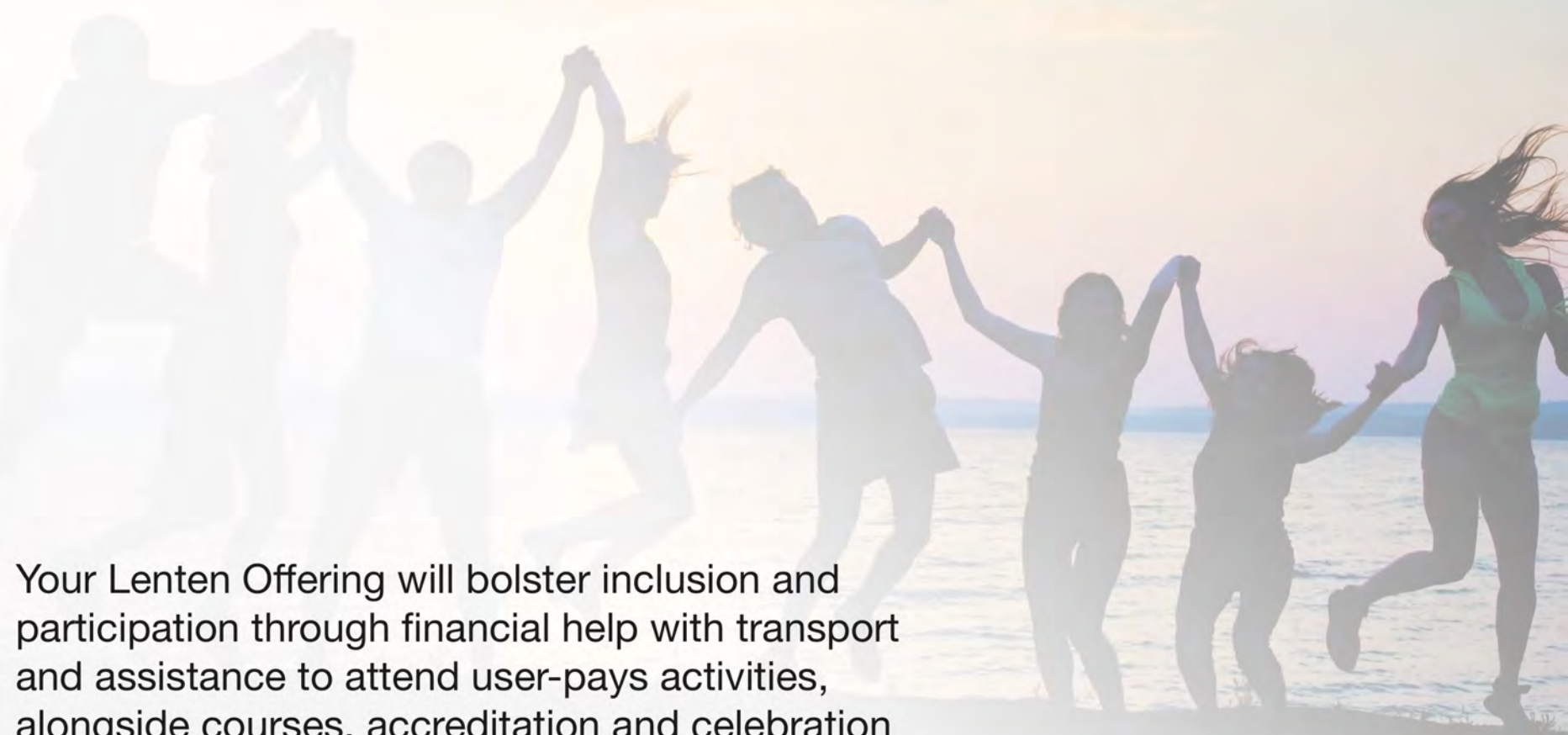
Tasmania

A group of young people are silhouetted against a bright sunset sky over a body of water. They are holding hands and jumping joyfully, with their hair blowing in the wind. The scene is captured in a soft, hazy light, emphasizing the movement and energy of the group.

The project ultimately aims to build, rebuild and retain strong connections with the younger generations and emerging leaders within the northern churches of Tasmania. We want youth ministry to provide a foundation for future church participation and leadership, and not just a nostalgic memory of youth groups.

Regional Youth Ministry

Tasmania



Your Lenten Offering will bolster inclusion and participation through financial help with transport and assistance to attend user-pays activities, alongside courses, accreditation and celebration to support leadership development of the existing older group of teens in the group.



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

Please pick-up a Lenten Offering
brochure and donate today

For more information
1800 668 426 (free call)