

Media Release - 19 December 2022

Illuminated Angels fly into Sydney from flood-ravaged Lismore

Echoing the Christmas tradition, three giant, illuminated angels were installed in Pitt Street Uniting Church today. Created by renowned community artist Jyllie Jackson OAM, and her team at LightnUp in Lismore, the three angels represent Courage, Compassion and Joy. They are an opening contribution by LGBTIQ+ people of faith to World Pride as it comes to Sydney and the southern hemisphere for the first time next February.

At 5.30pm today, Sydney LGBTIQ+ people of faith and their allies will gather in Pitt Street Uniting Church to greet the angels and share plans for their celebration of World Pride.

Revd. Dr. Josephine Inkpin, Minister at [Pitt Street Uniting Church](#) and co-chair of [Equal Voices](#), says: “angels offer peace, joy, and goodwill to our world. After another difficult year of floods, the COVID-pandemic and war in our world, we badly need to receive all messengers of hope and love.”

“The LGBTIQ+ community has frequently been harmed in religious settings. In contrast, angels bridge the gap between different realms and offer vision and protection to those on the margins of society.”

Funds to create the angels were raised by the congregation at Pitt Street Uniting Church, which is a place that welcomes LGBTIQ+ people. In February, they will fund five free workshops run by Jyllie Jackson, where participants will create their own angel-lanterns to take to the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras or back to their communities.

Pitt Street Uniting Church deliberately chose [LightnUp](#) to create the angels and facilitate the workshops because they wanted to create employment in Lismore and acknowledge LightnUp’s long contribution to LGBTIQ+ affirmation in the Northern Rivers region of NSW. Lead artist and CEO Jyllie Jackson says, “This will be a very meaningful project touching many lives through the workshops, installation and the events the congregation is planning, bringing many people into the installation space, and into conversations around questions of sexuality, gender identity and faith.”

Details of the angel-making workshops will be advertised in the new year, along with other events planned for World Pride at Pitt Street Uniting Church. These events are being organised by a round table of LGBTIQ+ Christians of many different traditions.

Media

Members of the media who support LGBTIQ+ people are welcome to come to Pitt Street Uniting Church (264 Pitt Street) at 5.30pm on Monday 19th December to photograph the angels and speak with key organisers and artists. For other times the church will be open, email: minister@pittstreetuniting.org.au

Further information:

The Revd Penny Jones – 0477 444 095

The Revd. Dr. Josephine Inkpin 0488 333 169

<https://equalvoices.org.au/world-pride/> <https://pittstreetuniting.org.au/7990-2/>



