

# CARPENTARIA PRESBYTERY

# Link



## Presbytery Office Postal Address

PO Box 201,  
Mission Beach 4852  
(07) 4068 8131

## Office Hours

Mon Tues Wed & Friday  
8.30am-4.30pm

## Executive Assistant

**Marie Dewar**  
(07) 4068 8131

[office@ucacarpentaria.com.au](mailto:office@ucacarpentaria.com.au)

## Presbytery Minister Rural & Chairperson

**Rev Garry Hardingham**

0409 276 940  
[presminrural@ucacarpentaria.com.au](mailto:presminrural@ucacarpentaria.com.au)

## Presbytery Minister Pastoral & Coastal

**Rev Christy Allen**

0418 184 834  
[presmincoastal@ucacarpentaria.com.au](mailto:presmincoastal@ucacarpentaria.com.au)

## Collaborative Administration Officer

**Robyn Cooley**

0429 195 506  
[admin@ucacarpentaria.com.au](mailto:admin@ucacarpentaria.com.au)



## UCA Queensland Synod

### Coronavirus Update

For the latest COVID-19 updates and resources, visit the [Synod website](#).

## Pastoral Notes Celebrations & Prayer Points

### Please Pray For:

1. Garry & Teresa Hardingham for wisdom, discernment, easy solutions to difficult issues & safety as he travels around our Presbytery.
2. Christy & Peter Allen & family, for wisdom, discernment, easy solutions to difficult issues & safety as she travels around our Presbytery.
3. Robyn & Gavin Cooley

### Monday Prayer:

God as we wait for the coming of the Christ child, let us be prepared to be challenged by the New thing that You are doing in our midst.

Moderator Rev Andrew Gunton

## Service of Conclusion for Ministry of Rev. Bruce Cornish

5 pm, Sunday, 20th December

Limited places in line with Covid restrictions

**Booking Essential: 4771 2584**  
[office@centralcitymission.org](mailto:office@centralcitymission.org)



**Carpentaria Presbytery office**

**Christmas Closure**

**December 19th 2020**

**Until**

**January 10th 2021**

**Date Claimers 2021**

**May 14-16<sup>th</sup>**

Presbytery Meeting -Location TBA

**November 5th-7th**

Presbytery Meeting- Location TBA

**Mareeba Community of Faith  
Glory to God!!!!**



One of the young adults being baptized at Lake Tinaroo at the end of the Alpha Course Camp.

**Stable on the Strand**



Stable on the Strand has purchased 10,000 Christmas party glasses to give as a free gift to kids in Townsville this Christmas. They are unique, different and fun. They are to be worn at night and when you look at a light – angels or stars will explode in front of you. Kids

will love them.

We are happy to distribute them beyond Townsville.

If you have an event or a way of distributing them to a group of children in your town we would be happy to send you some glasses at no cost. Just let me know the numbers you would require.

**Contact:** Anne Harley [anneh@stableonthestrand.com.au](mailto:anneh@stableonthestrand.com.au) or 0413527651



Phone: 0411 756 273

Find us on





The Uniting Church Assembly is undertaking a survey of all of its members leading up to the 16th Assembly mid 2021. You are invited to undertake a survey as part of this process.

Let me encourage you to undertake this survey, which can be taken as an individual or as a representative of your congregation etc. Also, we, as the Presbytery are interested in your feedback about the questionnaire itself and what your experience was in filling it out.

Individual surveys can be taken anonymously with only postcode (optional) data recorded as part of the process.

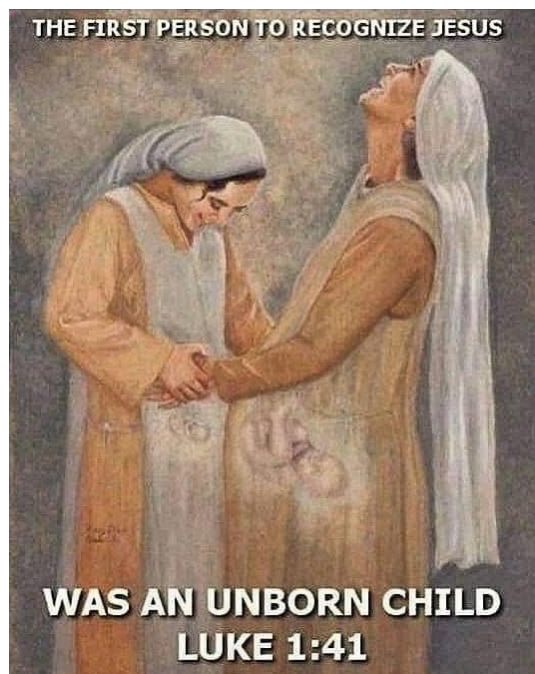
We would be very interested in your feedback of your survey experience as soon as possible.

More information can be found at [https://uniting.church/act2\\_introduction/](https://uniting.church/act2_introduction/) and the survey itself can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6CNLFG2>

Please send your responses via Marie at the Presbytery office [office@ucacarpentaria.com.au](mailto:office@ucacarpentaria.com.au).

Blessings

Garry





# LIP BALM FUNDRAISER

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**Flavours:** \***Chocolate** \* *Coconut Natural* \***Pineapple** \***Strawberry**  
\***Hubba Bubba** \* **Watermelon**

**Triples -** 1-#LOL Hubba Bubba, chocolate, musk  
2-Tropical (Pineapple, coconut, strawberry)  
3-Tutti Frutti (Strawberry, Apple, Orange)

Can be ordered via contacting Robyn Cooley (Presbytery Admin) 0429 195 506

**Pay via Direct deposit:**

**Bank:** ANZ;

**Account Name:** UCA Carpentaria Presbytery;

**BSB:** 014-676;

**Account #:** 4749 06 525



## Garry's Thoughts

*When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb. May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. Psalm 126*

Its been difficult watching the start of the new cricket season. Not just because at this point all the matches can only be found on a non-free-to-air streaming service like Kayo, or that the Indians make the the Aussies really work for their runs and wickets. No, its because I see the crowds of excited and jubilant cricket fans waving banners and spilling their beers as they shout and clap and sing in a glorious cacophony of sound while I know that across the world the cacophony of sound most heard is the repetitive whooshing sounds of wall to wall ventilators desperately keeping someone's loved one alive.

The story of Israel is not a story of isolation, but a people in an often unhappy relationship with all the nations around them. And as nations rise and fall there are always winners and losers. The Jewish nation had endured seventy long years of captivity and now they had returned to their land. Meanwhile their place of exile, Babylonia, was going through the machinations of becoming a new nation under the the kingship of Cyrus the Great who had invaded them just a few years earlier. While Israel was free, it came at a cost for their Babylonian captors.

This Christmas we need to give thanks for how Australia, as a nation, has tackled the virus. For this we can indeed rejoice. But we need to keep right before us the painful truth that for many nations and for many many families across the world this Christmas will be a dark and sorrowful time.

The numbers who have died from this virus across the globe is awful. If you want to know how awful, go to <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/> and refresh the page every minute or so. And remember that every number you read is a person just like you and another family who will grieve this Christmas. And even with the roll-out of vaccines we are told that the numbers will keep on rising for quite a while yet.

Let us remember why Christmas happened. Yes, it is always wonderful to celebrate a new life that has come into the world. After all, who doesn't love a baby?

But the joy of this celebration is brought into grim relief when we remember that God sent His Son into the world because darkness and sin was prevailing and hope was needed.

And so we turn to the hope in Christ. For there is no other true vaccine to the sin of the world.

But while many of us can rejoice this Christmas for we know the truth of God's love found in Christ, for many they are just as lost as nations battling the virus.

May 2021 be a bright new year for our world. For hope brings new life. Be thankful as you gather with friends and family this Christmas and spend some time praying for the millions across the world whose Christmas will be marred with grief and loss.

For his anger lasts only a moment,  
but his favour lasts a lifetime;  
weeping may stay for the night,  
but rejoicing comes in the morning. Psalm 30:5

Blessings

Garry



# Synod News & Info.

## **Synod news**

### **35th Synod minutes now available**

The minutes from the 35th Synod are now available to download from the [website](#).

## **Christmas resources**

The Queensland Synod's Christmas resources on the theme "A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices" are now available on the [website](#). The resources include:

- PowerPoint template
- Editable poster (A3 and A2)
- Editable postcard
- Website banner
- Email banners
- Facebook banner
- Social media campaign images
- Moderator's video message (coming soon)

To download the Christmas resources, visit [ucaqld.com.au/christmas2020](http://ucaqld.com.au/christmas2020).



## **Agency and service provider news**

### **Are you interested in studying theology in 2021?**

In [this video](#) you can listen to what students have to say about Trinity College Queensland—why they recommend Trinity, what their favourite units have been, and their plans for 2021.

For information about studying at Trinity in 2021, email [ask@trinity.qld.edu.au](mailto:ask@trinity.qld.edu.au) or visit the [website](#).