

CARPENTARIA PRESBYTERY

Link



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UCA Queensland Synod Corona-virus 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 of new birth we give thanks for this New Year
& the Hope that it brings with it. Amen

Moderator Rev Andrew Gunton

Happy New Year!

Now may God, the inspiration & fountain of hope, fill you to overflowing with uncontainable joy & perfect peace as you trust in him. And may the power of the Holy Spirit continually surround your life with his superabundance until you radiate with hope!

Romans 15:13
(The passion translation)

Commissioning Service

Pastor Lorne Anderson

14th January 2021

7pm Thursday

At Townsville Central City Mission

Register: 4771 2584

Date Claimers 2021

May 14-16th

Presbytery Meeting -Location TBA

November 5th-7th

Presbytery Meeting- Location TBA

Closing Service

Rev Michelle Cullen

24th January 2021

8:45 am Mossman UC



LIP BALM FUNDRAISER

COST \$2/tube

SUPPORTING YOUTH, CHAPLAINS AND TRAVEL ACROSS THE PRESBYTERY

GREAT FOR EVERYDAY SUN PROTECTION

GREAT FOR STOCKING FILLERS AND SMALL GIFTS



HANDMADE IN MACKAY

CONTAINS: Candelilla Wax, Bees Wax, Fractionated Coconut Oil, Castor Oil, Cocoa Butter

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

It's a new year, and many people will be wanted to turn over a new leaf. That's what New Year's resolutions are for — to make improvements to our lives in some way.

But they are really hard to stick to. In fact, according to one statistic, 80% of us will fail by the second week of February. A valiant effort.

A study from 2016 published in the journal *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, investigated New Year's resolutions, and found that 55% of resolutions were health related, such as exercising more, or eating healthier. About 20% were to do with getting out of debt.

Since 2020 was such a right-off, I know many of us are looking forward to 2021 as a new start, something new. And yet, here we are, barely one week into 21 and we have the "Greater Brisbane Lockdown", still got border closures and even more regulations around mask wearing. Its as if the new year never happened.

We've even now got an app for people to scan codes when attending church....Have fun Covid Wardens!!

But should we despair and just relegate 2021 to the same dumpster as 2020? Of course not. Because there is much to celebrate this year!!

The difficult work of 2020 has placed our nation in a good place to start 2021, at least compared to the rest of the world.

The other day, Teresa and I were talking to a relation in England who in told us that in their small village of 300 people, around 80 have Covid and that the health system is so overworked that when a neighbour had a serious fall down their stairs there was no ambulance available and the locals have had to take it upon themselves to administer medical aid and care for this bloke. And on top it off its cold, dark and wet in England...which is just adding to the misery.

Here in North Queensland, it appears that the wet has set in. And compared to the last few years of experiencing a pretty dry wet season, things feel a bit more like normal; at least from my perspective. Roads are cut, Ingham is flooded (as per usual) and people are hunkering down in the air-conditioning. Life is as it should be!!

So lets take some time to contemplate on what blessings we have in the country and even more the blessings we have in living in the North.

Spend some time this month renewing your relationship with Jesus.

- Remind yourself of God's faithfulness
- Draw closer to Jesus and receive God's grace through His faithfulness
- Renew your lives and recommit yourself to those things that bring stability to your life – marriage, family and church.
- And finally, rest in the Lord. Remember that despite all that is going on and despite your own personal failures, Jesus still loves you.

Remember, God knows us better than we even know ourselves. He knows we are dust (Ps 103:14), but has compassion and love for everyone of us.

And on last thought. Before 1752, New Years Day was held on March 25th. So maybe we still a have a few months yet?

Keep dry, cool and Covid-free.

Blessings,
Garry

Synod News & Info.

Warm greetings, and welcome to our first Uniting News for 2021!

I hope Christmas offered you time for rest, reflection and some connection and celebration.

Uniting News has a new look this year.

My hope is it enhances the news and information provided to support the work you do together on behalf of our church and communities.

I welcome your feedback, especially about information you would like to see included. Please email communications@ucaqld.com.au or call 1300 822 753.

As we start 2021, I would especially like to acknowledge our ministers, lay preachers, volunteers, presbytery and agency teams for their work in navigating the challenges of COVID-19 and keeping our churches and services available to those we serve. Thank you for all you do.

Rev Heather den Houting
General Secretary



Moderator's January service

A service has been produced for use this month, as a way of supporting ministers and lay leaders taking a break.

[Moderator's online worship service and sermon](#)

New Plenty video

Director of Mission Strategy Scott Guyatt invites the whole church to work together on the first of the *Shared life. Flourishing communities* commitments—discipleship.



“The call we heard most loudly and clearly when we conducted consultation last year, was to work on a restored discipleship, reminding us of the core business of the church,” says Scott.

Plenty workshop

21 January sees the first *Shared life. Flourishing communities* workshop kicking off! Workshop participants are attending as representatives of each entity identified in the *Shared life. Flourishing communities* report. They will discuss options for Plenty's next stage, which will include commitment working groups, as well as how best to reach out to our whole church. Watch out for a workshop update in coming weeks.



Agency and service provider news

Study theology in 2021

Applications are currently open to study at Trinity College Queensland in 2021. Trinity is now offering two modes of study: face-to-face on-campus or a hybrid mode that involves live streaming lectures to all corners of Australia. View the available [courses](#)

Other news

#ChangeTheHeart this 25 January 2021

Every year Aunty Jean Phillips calls the nation to prayer in the lead up to 26 January—a day of mourning for our Indigenous brothers and sisters. Since 2017 prayer services have been held in every state and territory with the support of Brooke Prentis, Indigenous Christian Leader and CEO of Common Grace, and the Common Grace movement (a growing movement of over 50,000 people pursuing Jesus and justice). Last January 2020, 23 services were held across Australia and over 3000 people attended including many denominational and church leaders. For more information on how church leaders can be involved, visit the Common Grace website.

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