

CARPENTARIA PRESBYTERY

Link



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Rev Shane Kammermann

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Rev Barry Cox - 0408 415 816

UCA Queensland Synod Corona-virus Update

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

Presbytery Office

Please remember that MONDAYS are Garry & Christy's day off.

Robyn will be on leave 7th July- 25th July

Pastoral Notes Celebrations & Prayer Points

Please Pray For:

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

Prayer:

Loving God, through your son we are called to be one people united together in love, just as you are one. Help us during NAIDOC week to truly stand together with the first peoples of Australia, to work together for healing and wholeness, to live out the true reconciliation that you offer all people through the sacrifice Christ. Make us true ambassadors of your healing grace as we share your love for all people throughout this land.

In Christ's reconciling love we pray.

Moderator Andrew Gunton

COVID-19 update

The Check-In QLD App is mandatory for all Places of Worship from this Friday, 9 July 2021. If you have not [registered](#) yet do not delay. Refer to this [fact sheet](#) for more information.

Attention Ministry agents

Professional Pastoral Supervision

Terence Corkin



I am a Minister of the Uniting Church in Australia. I have served in two rural Parishes, as a Presbytery Minister and as the General Secretary for the Assembly.

For over 5 years I have developed an extensive ministry in providing Professional Pastoral Supervision to Ministers and lay leaders across the country. Sessions are delivered by Zoom. When travelling, I try and have face to face Supervision sessions.

I have found that my experience across many ministry settings equips me to understand and support people in ministry whatever their context.

I am a Supervisor Member of the Australasian Association of Supervision and Chaplaincy Australia. In addition, I am a nationally accredited mediator and a published author and teacher on consensus-based discernment.

Website www.professionalpastoralsupervision.com

Contact Information terence@professionalpastoralsupervision.com

Presbytery Youth Camp Northern Madness 24-27th September 2021

*Time to get Fired Up about - Northern Madness 2021
24th - 27th September 2021 - Burdekin - Ayr Showgrounds*

Express Interest - Get Updates - Ask A Question - Get Involved
madness@ucacarpentaria.com.au

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cane_fire_in_the_Burdekin.jpg Attribution 2.0 Generic (CC BY 2.0)



Northern Madness

Presbytery Youth Camp
24 - 27 Sept. 2021
Burdekin - Ayr Showgrounds



Prayer!

Cover the campers, the leaders, travel, the camp site, food, fun and anything else God leads to pray for.

Camp Costs?

Consider a fundraiser to help cover the cost of getting to and from Camp. Join in the "**Gold 4 Madness**" fundraiser.



Transport?

Do you know a church, school, group, business, or club that might lend you a bus? Are you a driver or know someone.

Campers?

Who can you encourage to come to camp? How can you support young people High School to 21 years, in your congregation or others?



Express Interest - Get Updates - Ask A Question
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GOLD 4 MADNESS

**Your small change
can help change
the life of a young person**



Every little bit helps

During the **OLYMPICS**

Friday 23rd July - Sunday 8th August

Put some **GOLD** coin or **SMALL CHANGE** aside

**BRING IT EACH SUNDAY TO ADD TO
THE PRESBYTERY YOUTH FUND**

Garry's Thoughts

Its NAIDOC week!



For indigenous people this week is filled with celebration as well as deep reflection. Its a week of celebrating indigenous culture and the values that bind indigenous people right across this nation together. But, it is also often a time to reflect on how a culture that stood for 60,000 years has been placed under immense pressure over the past 230 years. Having said this, the theme of NAIDOC 2021, "Heal Country" speaks to hope, not dismay.

Heal Country reminds indigenous people that country is central to identity. Country is not a thing, it is spoken of like a person. And not just any person, but the person that binds family, lore, ceremony, tradition and language together. To heal country is to heal all aspects of aboriginality and to find ways in which country becomes part of, not only aboriginal culture, but Australia's national heritage. Heal Country means finally resolving many of the outstanding injustices which impact on the lives of all people, including the very land on which we stand. Its about the tangible things like bushfires, drought and coral bleaching. And its about the cultural things like language, family and story.

To heal country is to understand that all things are linked and that neither can heal without the the other.

But how does the majority of Australians, those who are not of aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, find meaning in NAIDOC week? Especially, how does non-aboriginal Australia become involved without cultural appropriation or shameless tokenism?

On Monday this week I spoke to one of the elders of the Alpururulam people in the Northern Territory to ask this very question. His response was both interesting and encouraging. He started by asking me a theological question; "How do Christians understand country as people who grew out of the Jewish nation?" My first response was to speak of Christianity as arising from the Jewish religion and that Judaism also has country central to its self-understanding which underpins their relationship to God and the Jewish nation."

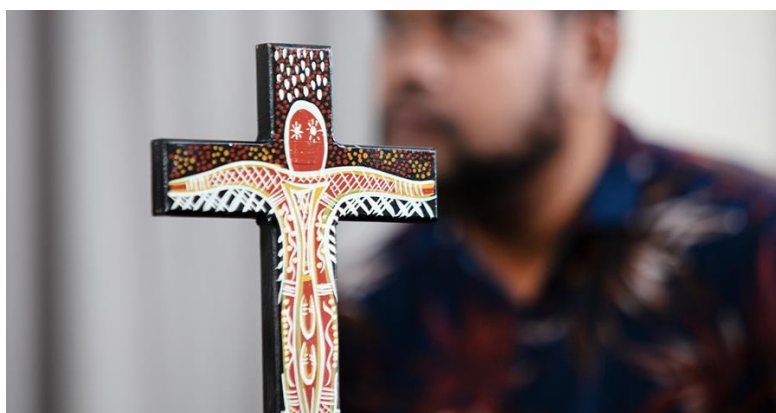
Uncle Dave said, "No...you don't get it." Mmmm. I was sure my first theological volley must have had some relevance.

He then paraphrased Leviticus 19:34, which says "The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt; I am the Lord your God." He then went on. "Aboriginal people came here thousands of years ago and now belong to this land as the Jews belonged to their land. And those who have come from other nations are also welcome to our land. Our hope is to welcome all people as God has commanded. But for those we welcome we ask for respect and honouring of our land and the people who God had entrusted to this land"

Heal Country is more than just a cry for justice from aboriginal people during this NAIDOC week. It is a call for ALL Australians to seek reconciliation, mutual trust and love and to accept that we all have a part to play in healing the land and its people. Not just in token gestures, but in the hard work of finding a shared pathway together. Its about conservation and ecology and respectful conversations. Its about celebrating aboriginal culture without disingenuous cultural adoption and giving respect to those who had no choice but to welcome the stranger and now hold out hands of reconciliation.

May "Heal Country" be our prayer this week and into the future as we, as a Presbytery, continue to seek truth, justice and mutual respect for those whom there is no other country but this country and those who now call this country home.

Blessings
Garry



Synod News & info

Covenant - Longing for more than a contract

These days we seem to have contracts for everything. We have a contract if we want to build a house, we have an employment contract at work, and we have contracts with the gym, the school, the bank and even Netflix. God is calling us to move beyond contracts. This month's Uniting News theme is "Covenant" as we consider the powerful agreements that bind us together with each other and with God.

Heal Country!



This NAIDOC week we hear the words of Reverend Roberta Stanley. She speaks to us about what Healing Country means to her.

<https://vimeo.com/571123635>

Covenant

The idea of covenanting within the Christian context is an act of hope and faith. It is much more than just a contract. It is certainly not static - it is an ongoing discovery.

The covenanting process happening in our Church is about being earnest, reflective and deliberate in our explorations of a Christ - centred approach towards walking together as First and Second Peoples. Covenanting sits beside the discipleship process - my relationship with God, my relationship with country and people, and my relationship with who I am as an emerging indigenous leader.

It is holding the knowledge that you walk on country that has been occupied for thousands of years and discovering what that walk means to you. You are never alone, because flora and fauna are there, history is there. God is always walking with you. We can be in covenant in all these things. We can be in covenant with each other.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have lived with God as part of our dreaming, spirituality and church life for generations. We understand the responsibility we have to the land (our country) as a life sustaining God creation. God created us all in his image and created lands for our care, and I believe if we are not in relationship with each other and the land, we are not in whole of heart relationship with God.

This NAIDOC week we contemplate what it means to "Heal Country", and we acknowledge that we must also heal relationships, heal people, and heal ourselves. They are one and the same-place and people. I took this week off work, to be with my family and to reflect on this week and what it means to me.

Covenanting can remind us what it really means that we are all walking with each other—if we want to learn more about cultural heritage or make change in our country, we do this best in relationship with other people. We can seek out those we really wish to yarn with and we can really listen to what they say and really say what is true for us. Together we can learn more about what the church can look like, what church can be in Country, wherever two or more are gathered.

Kym Korbe

Goa, Gunggari, Wakka Wakka woman
Co-Lead Covenanting Priority Action Group

Presbytery and congregation news

Order of Australia medal recipient Rev Colin Baxter

Rev Colin Baxter of Bribie Island recently received an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his service to the Uniting Church and the community, including as a Naval Chaplain to returned veterans.

After 47 years of service as a Methodist and then Uniting Church Minister in both New South Wales, Queensland and the ACT, Colin retired in 1995. Colin's ministry to chaplaincy includes ex-service organisations based in Bribie Island, including the RSL and Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia.

Read more about Rev Colin Baxter story in *Journey* [online](#)

Get involved in the 2021 National Church Life Survey

Run every five years, the National Church Life Survey presents an opportunity for the Queensland Synod and congregations to offer and receive insightful data around what members of the church are thinking. In the above video, Steve Drinkall, Manager Mission Engagement at the Queensland Synod and Phil Smith, Pastor at BELLS Faith Community introduce the 2021 National Church Life Survey. The Queensland Synod will cover the base fee of \$250 for the survey which includes the first 30 surveys for your parishioners. Each additional survey costs \$2. The survey takes place on a weekend of your choosing in October/November 2021 with results published in the first quarter of 2022.

To register your congregation's interest in participating in the 2021 National Church Life Survey, please email ncls2021@ucaqld.com.au before Friday 23 July 2021.

<https://vimeo.com/571440840/a85fa06513>

National Church Life Survey 2021

helping us focus on the future

