

CARPENTARIA PRESBYTERY

Link



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UCA Queensland Synod

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

[Queensland Government website](#)

Pastoral Notes Celebrations & Prayer Points

Please Pray For

1. Garry & Teresa Hardingham for wisdom, discernment, Godly solutions to difficult issues & safety as he travels around our Presbytery.
2. Peter & Christy Allen as they prepare to move to Townsville.

Date Claimers 2021

Carpentaria Presbytery Meeting

25th -27th March

Synod 13th -17th May

Ministry Agents & Spouse retreat

2nd -5th August

Carpentaria Presbytery Meeting

4th -6th Nov

36th Synod 13-17th May 2022

@

Alexandra Headlands Sunshine Coast

Ministry Agents & Rep

The 36th Synod in Session to be held from 7pm Friday, 13 May to 12noon Tuesday, 17 May 2022. Will be held in the Auditorium, Alexandra Park Conference Centre, Mari Street, Alexandra Headlands, on the Sunshine Coast .

The theme for the 36th Synod in Session is “a daring HOPE”

Information was sent to ministry agents & secretaries on the 23.11.2021 Members will need to be fully vaccinated to be on the roll of synod.

I need the info no later than the 4th February 2022 earlier is better. Please contact the Presbytery Office for more information.

[No person should be elected to the Synod who cannot guarantee attendance at more than 80% of the Synod.](#)

Marie

Just a reminder please send me some God stories that will encourage us – how God is moving in your community, for some in unexpected ways!

Marie



Nicky Gumbel 

@nickygumbel

Look back and thank God.

Look forward and trust God.

Look around and serve God.

Look up and seek God.

[#Goodbye2021](#)

[#HappyNewYear](#)

Garry's Thoughts

I don't have many requests before I die.

Just three really.

1. That all socks be exactly the same so that no-one needs to point out when I am wearing odd socks.
2. That all plastic packaging come with a pull tab so I don't waste hours looking for a knife or pair of scissors to retrieve a usb stick from its packaging. (This usually happens when you get back into the car from the shop and you bend your car key trying to stab.....)

And finally

3. That someone, somewhere, will actually make a faithful movie adaptation of H.G. Wells' "War of the Worlds". Surely it can't be that difficult to do? I am forever being let down. One day...maybe?

So, here we are in 2022....or as I like to think, 2020 (version 2).

The last 2 years has been very much like a version of War of the Worlds, even with the scientist saying that the chances of anything coming from a infected bat or Pangolin is a million to one. And still.... it comes. And can I point out that Ogilvy the astronomer knew as much about Martian physiology and intent as many current facebook scientists know about virology and global immunisation policy. But, they did their own research...apparently.

Anyway, so far we've seen the typical action movie plot play out.

Part One – the slow realisation that something dreadful is afoot.

Part Two – the lockdowns where humans hide away at home as the virus patrols the streets picking off stragglers one by one. "Let's build a Brave New World right under the noses of the Martians. We'll take our holidays on ZOOM!!"

Part Three – the race to find a way to save humanity. Funny how you can get things done when scientists are given top priority and billions of dollars, freedom to share research and all the lab and computer equipment they need rather than having to resort to chook raffles for funding.

Part Four – the loss of patience resulting in the breakouts of riots and conspiracy theories about everything from vaccines to mask wearing, big-pharma to governments conspiring to take away all our freedoms FOREVER!! (they can't even get my car rego right, so good luck controlling the world). I actually think Blofeld and Spectre is behind it all. Anyway, who needs a virus when we can kill each other over social media?

Part Five – The fight back against the enemy with vaccines and masks. This includes the touching scene where the vaccine-sceptic sees a young fit bloke in a neighbouring bed being ventilated and flown out to an ICU, realises that this stuff is real, and begs for the vaccine. (It would be even better if the nurse was his ex-wife...just a plot thought)

And now, here we are at Part Six. I hope it is the last battle as the virus attacks everyone and everywhere in a mighty effort to destroy us all, but finding itself weakened by watching too much daytime TV or becoming overly woke and has underestimated the tenacity of humankind who has built its defences too well. The Final Countdown!!

And remember, we do have the ultimate super-hero...God, who promises to be here with us to the very end.

It's not been without plenty of missteps and stuffups, but I reckon it would make a terrific movie.....if you really want to live it again?!?

So, I , for one, am looking forward to 2022 and believe that we will navigate a pathway through the current phase of this pandemic and that by the end of this year life will be back as close to normal as we can ever expect. Just wonder what the conspiracy theorists will do next? Back to global communism maybe? Or climate change denial? Oh, the good old days!!

Anyway this gives me tremendous hope; a return to what makes being human worth living for... The Bowflex Max Trainer 8!! or even the Transformer Ladder!!

So, my prayer is that 2022 gives you hope as well.

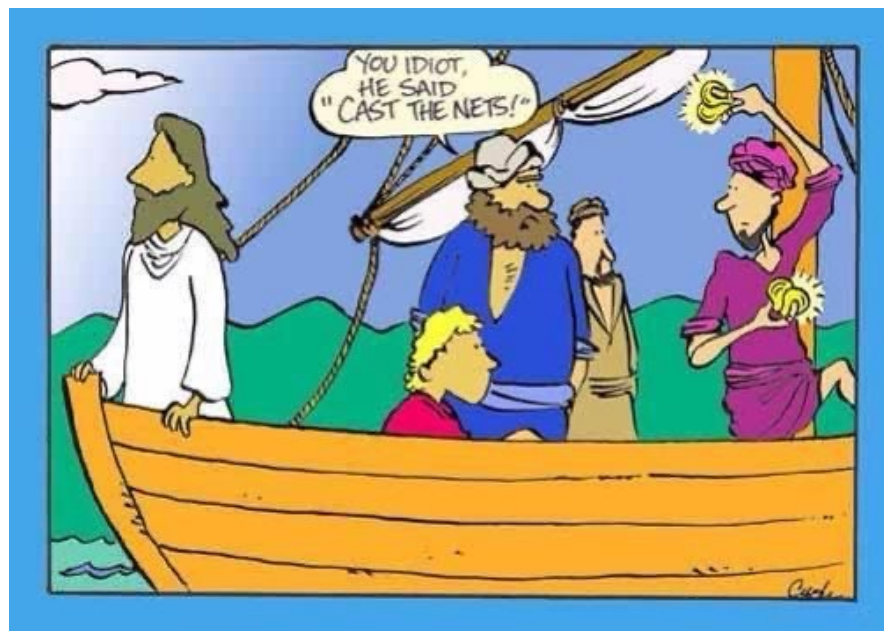
Get vaccinated. Stay safe, be strong, find hope. Keep your sense of humour intact. For soon the night will pass and a new day will dawn.

For God is with us!!

C'mon 2022!! Bring it on!!

Amen

Blessings
Garry



Synod News & Info.

Nominations for the Moderator's Community Service Medal

Do you know a volunteer who goes above and beyond for their community? We are searching for outstanding volunteers from across UnitingCare and the Uniting Church community service groups for the 2022 Moderator's Community Service Medal.

The Medal is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge our dedicated volunteers who do great work in the community and exhibit outstanding or innovative service that truly makes a difference.

This year, judges are again looking for nominations that reflect the UnitingCare mission: bringing life in all its fullness through improving the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities as we: reach out to people in need; speak out for fairness and justice; care with compassion, innovation and wisdom.

Nominees must:

- be a volunteer supporting community services through the Uniting Church or its agencies (past or present),
- have exhibited outstanding service over a number of years; and contributed in an exceptional or innovative way,
- not be a current employee of the Uniting Church or one of its agencies (e.g. UnitingCare or Wesley Mission Queensland).

Nominations close Thursday 31 March 2022. For more information, please contact [Sarah Martelli](#).

News from the life of the church

Youth perspectives on the church from those that don't attend

An informal discussion around the BBQ between Rev Craig Mischewski and six young people (with little connection to the church) provided a wealth of insight into the church, its messaging and how it might engage younger people who are warm to the concepts and actions of the Christian faith. [Read more.](#)



Church Council Essentials short course

Committees. Councils. Working Groups. A lot of church life is team-based. When it's done well, working together can be energising, exciting and effective!

Join Trinity College Queensland on Monday 7 February from 9am–4pm for the [short course: Church Council Essentials](#).

Facilitator Nigel Rogers will provide participants with a clear understanding of the role and responsibilities of a Church Council. The team dynamics of a church council will also be explored. This course is ideal for new and existing church council members and is specifically geared to ensure that church councils can flourish and work as effectively as possible.

Spotify playlist of worship songs

Last week on Facebook, we received an overwhelming response to our question: What's your favourite worship songs. From the suggestions we have put together a [Spotify playlist](#) for your enjoyment.

As suggested by our community, the top songs of January 2022 are:

1. How great thou art
2. Great is thy faithfulness
3. How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Do you agree or do you think another song should be in the top three? Let us know on the [Facebook post](#).