

# CARPENTARIA PRESBYTERY

# Link



## Presbytery Office

### Postal Address

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

### Office Hours

**Mon Tues Wed & Frid**  
**8.30am-1.30pm**

### 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)

### Presbytery Admin. Officer

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

### Hospital Chaplains:

#### Cairns:

Rev Shane Kammermann  
0409 287 109

#### Townsville:

Rev Barry Cox  
0408 415 816

### 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 & protection as he travels around our Presbytery.
2. Peter & Christy Allen for wisdom, discernment, Godly solutions to difficult issues & protection as she travels around our Presbytery.

## Date Claimers 2021

### Carpentaria Presbytery Meeting

25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> March – Mission Beach Resort

**Synod** 13<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> May- Alexandra Park

### Ministry Agents & Spouse retreat

2<sup>nd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> August - Cardwell

### Carpentaria Presbytery Meeting

4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> Nov

## Vale

Reverend Robert Walker passed away yesterday, the day after his 95th birthday. Ministry in the Uniting Church for Bob was exercised in Mossman, Cooktown and Lower Cape York. Then to Blackwater, McKenzie and Dawson River, with his last appointment being a 7 year term in the Lowood/Rosewood Parish. Please keep Bob's family in your thoughts and prayers.



## Church Council Essentials

**Over two Thursday evenings: 24 Feb and 3 March 7-9pm**

**Online learning. Cost: \$40 per person or capped at \$100 per church**

Be part of a church council that is flourishing and working well. This course will help you understand the roles, responsibilities and dynamics that operate within an effective church council. It's ideal for both new and existing church council members.

[Learn More](#)

Please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions on 07 3377 9950 or email us at [ask@trinity.qld.edu.au](mailto:ask@trinity.qld.edu.au)

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**40 days of Hope and Renewal  
will begin on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> of February.**

Carpentaria Presbytery lets journey together and who knows?  
Maybe we will find hope and renewal is closer than we think!!



To sign up, simply go to <https://www.ucacarpentaria.com.au/40daysofhope/> and register.

## The North Queensland Tongan Tsunami Relief Project



The North Queensland Tongan Tsunami Relief Project is to support the families of the Tongan seasonal workers who were badly affected back in Tonga. There are currently about 1000 Tongan seasonal workers who are currently working from Bowen to Mareeba in our Northern region. They are traumatized, not able to speak to their families and also have very little access or support for their loved ones back in Tonga. The funds will also assist in purchasing much needed equipment and resources that will significantly help rebuild the lives of the Tongan villages and outer islands.

Go to <https://www.ucacarpentaria.com.au/>

Donations can be made to our gofundme page: <https://gofund.me/011a1521>

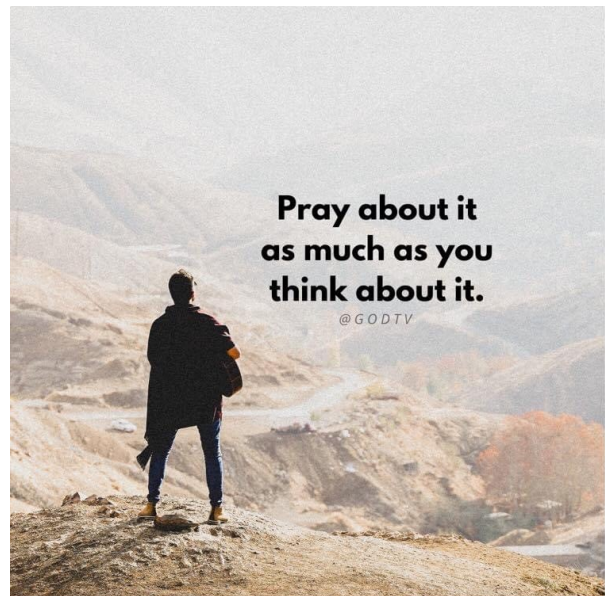
Friendly reminder that  
"doing your best" does not  
mean working yourself  
to the point of a  
mental breakdown.

@PeacefulMindPeacefulLife



**Pray about it  
as much as you  
think about it.**

@GODTV



# Christy's Thoughts

Over the last few days, I have been thinking about the word "home". This was triggered by the sense that I have begun to think of Townsville as home and I confess, I found that a bit surprising. Not because of any of the previous thoughts I have expressed about Townsville but simply that we as a family have begun the process of calling Townsville home much quicker than I thought we would.

I wonder what home means to you. Is it about where you live and if so, is there a specific time period that elapses before this feeling begins? And if it doesn't ever feel like home what is missing? I think for me it is as the house begins to feel like home as our "stuff" finds places in the cupboards and on the shelves. But even more than that, home for me is when I shut the doors and find peace within, where I am able to retreat from the world and be with the ones I love.

Relationships are the same. At a certain point the people we are getting to know either find residency in our hearts in some way or we realise that they will only ever be an acquaintance. For the significant people in our lives, there is a point where we realise, we can't imagine life without them. This is also true for those who have pets. Whatever type of creature they are we connect to them, and we claim them as ours even if they are the wildlife that lives in our yard.

Which leads to me to the question.... Is God your home?  
Is God the centre of your life, the one you find comfort and peace?  
Is it God who you trust to shelter you through the storms of life?

As 2022 unfolds there will be challenges for each one of us. Whatever they are there comes a time when we need to determine how we will live our lives. Will we live with God as our home, the one to whom we turn to for all that is needed for each day, or will we look to short term fixes and what google tells us.

Is God your home?

Blessings,

Christy

# Synod News & Info.

## Reflection- We turn our eyes to you



There's a strange story in the life of Moses, where the people of Israel find themselves in a difficult situation. They are wandering in the desert on their way to a future home and yet they are tired, lost, impatient and hungry.

"They spoke against God and against Moses, and said, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this

miserable food!'"

### **Numbers 21:5 NIV**

To add to their misery, the bible says that God caused venomous snakes to slither through the camp and several people were bitten and died. At this, they quickly realised their error and begged Moses to ask God to take away the snakes and to save them from their woes.

[Read more](#) of the reflection from Steve Drinkall, Manager, Mission Engagement, Queensland Synod Office.

## Announcement of new senior staff

Over the Christmas break, we have been busy recruiting several new senior staff.

### **Executive Director: People, Culture and Learning - Mr Grant Weaver**

At the last staff meeting, I announced that as part of the organisational review we had created a new group to be known as People, Culture and Learning. This group will continue to provide human resource, industrial, payroll and learning and development services, but will have an expanded focus across the church in the next few years, particularly regarding leadership, learning and development.

The Executive Director position for the group was subject to an extensive recruitment process through our recruitment partner Windsor and involved a review of internal and external candidates. I can announce with delight that our Previous Manager of People and Culture, Mr Grant Weaver was successful and started his new appointment on January 24, 2022.

### **Executive Director: Shared Services - Mr Kevin Griffiths**

We are excited to announce the appointment of Mr Kevin Griffiths into this senior role in the Office of the Synod. Kevin is a Uniting Church member, worshipping with New Life and has extensive experience as a C-Suite Executive both locally and internationally. Kevin's call to integrate his faith and professional life meant that he was keenly interested in the role when it became vacant.

With Kevin's reputation of steady hands, broad shoulders, and a big heart we are so grateful to God for providing us with this opportunity to continue our transformational journey of service.

We welcomed Kevin into the office on February 7, 2022.

## Manager: Information and Technology - Mr Terry Henkels

Terry will be joining the team on February 14, 2022 and brings a wealth of experience to the table. Having worked in banks, community services and listed companies, Terry has tremendous technical skills. But the greatest draw for him was his sense of personal alignment with a values-based organisation. He wanted to work with a team that makes a positive difference to people's lives.

We are delighted that Terry has accepted our offer and he will be working with John for a two-week handover period.



**Rev Heather den Houting,**  
General Secretary

## Rev Keren Seto's conclusion of placement service

A live stream is available on the video link below of Keren's Seto's conclusion of placement service Wed 16th Feb 2022 - The Chapel. Tune in [here](#).

## News from the life of the church

### CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

### Help us celebrate women of the Uniting Church on International Women's Day 2022!



To mark IWD 2022 on 8 March this year, we're looking to tell stories that celebrate and acknowledge the positive impact and immense contribution of Uniting Church women who are leading, empowering and inspiring in our church communities and beyond.

The best part? We want to hear about them from you!

We're inviting anyone across our national church to submit the names of inspiring UCA women they know who are making an impact through leadership, witness and service.

We'll tell their stories as part of our IWD celebration, giving thanks to God for the lives of women in the UCA and their many gifts.

Head to our website for more information and click through to our quick 5-minute submission form: <https://uniting.church/iwd2022/>

## Update from the Tonga Disaster Response

Our friends in Tonga are incredibly grateful for the support so many of you have shown since Hunga Tonga-Hung Ha'api erupted on Jan 15, causing a tsunami and massive destruction on remote islands.

If you would like to add your support for Tonga you can still give [here](#).

Project Manager Aletia Dundas, who is helping support the efforts of the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga (FWCT) from the UnitingWorld office in Sydney, provides an update <https://vimeo.com/670922302>

## World Interfaith Harmony Week

It's World Interfaith Harmony Week. Being in relationship with others is instrumental to how the Uniting Church seeks to witness for Christ in the world.

The Assembly's Seeking Common Ground Circle invites people to learn about and participate in the ways the Uniting Church is in relationship with other denominations and faiths, as we seek to witness to the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, with churches across Australia and overseas partner churches.

To join the circle, visit: <https://uniting.church/seekingcommonground/>

## Directing Change scholarship 2022

The Australian Network on Disability, in partnership with the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD), is pleased to launch the Directing Change Scholarships. Aimed to increase the representation of people with disability on Australian boards, the scholarship will support emerging and experienced leaders with disability.

**15** full-fee scholarships are being offered to undertake either the [Foundations of Directorship](#) program or the [Company Directors Course](#) at AICD in 2022. Plus, 8 months of mentoring with an Australian business leader to help winners maximise their board career opportunities. Options to attend courses either face-to-face or online are available.

To apply, please visit: <https://scholarships.org.au/scholarship/directing-change-scholarship-2022/>

## Advertised role spotlight: Regional Development Officer Positions - RI in State Schools

The Christian Religious Instruction Alliance in Qld is seeking nine part time Regional Development Officers based throughout Queensland who can work relationally throughout the Religious Instruction networks and with key stakeholders, to grow RI and to ensure good practise is outworked in each respective region. For more info and a copy of the Position Outcome Statement, contact [info@chrstianri.org.au](mailto:info@chrstianri.org.au).

For more information about Christian RI, visit <https://christianri.org.au/>

The UCA Qld Synod is a founding member of the Christian RI Alliance.