

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 & 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.
3. Robyn & Gavin Cooley, as she deals with the property & financial matters across our Presb.

Date Claimers 2022

Carpentaria Presbytery Meeting

25th -27th March – Mission Beach Resort

Synod 13th -17th May- Alexandra Park

Ministry Agents & Spouse retreat

2nd -5th August - Cardwell

Carpentaria Presbytery Meeting

4th -6th Nov

**Carpentaria Presbytery Meeting
25th -27th March @ Mission Beach**

Register here:
<https://www.ucacarpentaria.com.au/events/event1010.php>

**Conclusion Service
for
Pastor Jan Bryde**

Friday 18th March @ Blue Care Centre: 9:30-10:30am
489 Bayswater Road Mount Louisa Townsville
&

**Saturday 19th March Worship service @
Mt Louisa Community Church** 10:30am
485 Bayswater Rd, Mount Louisa
As we celebrate with Jan on her retirement.

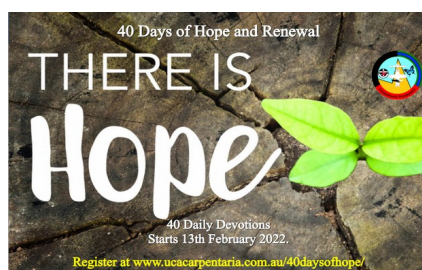
As say goodbye to Jan & Colin who are leaving the Presbytery.



Nicky Gumbel ✓
@nickygumbel

Be STRONG, but not rude;
Be KIND, but not weak;
Be BOLD, but don't bully;
Be HUMBLE, but not timid;
Be CONFIDENT, but not arrogant.

40 days of Hope and Renewal



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.

If you have registered & are having trouble with receiving the daily devotions please let me know by sending an email to office@ucacarpentaria.com.au Marie

Great opportunity to print a weeks worth, make a few copies & share it with those who don't have emails, we did that last week & had 7 more takers. Marie

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>

40 Days of Hope & Renewal

If you have missed any days, you can get them at www.ucacarpentaria.com.au/40da.

40 Days of Hope and Renewal A daily devotional by Rev Garry Hardingham

Day 18 – Ecclesiastes 2:18-23 – Work, work, work!!

“I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me —and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labours under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.” Eccl 2:18-23

“In the name of God, stop a moment, cease your work, look around you.” — Leo Tolstoy

We are going through a work transition in the world. Before the industrial revolution most people worked from their homes. They went out in to the fields or they made garments in their living rooms or lived behind their blacksmith shop. While there are still a few businesses today, like fish and chip shops, where often the owners live upstairs, for the majority of people work involves a daily commute of some kind or another.

But the pandemic is increasing the drive to decentralisation of the workforce. More people are electing to either work full-time from home or work from home for part of the week. I heard a commentator say that working from home gives more opportunity to foster family relationships.

But, there is a dark side. Before the industrial revolution, before cars and trains and aeroplanes, the average person travelled little and village life was an interconnected community of support and communal nourishment. Two hundreds years of industrialisation has turned many communities into mere dormitories where artificial spaces vainly attempt to replicate the old village life. But, as we all know, many people don't even know their neighbours, let alone the wider community around them.

It is into this new context that we are moving to remove the social aspect, the 'village of workplace', and replace it with isolated workplaces in the suburbs without really understanding the psychological or spiritual nature of isolated work. Most employers love it because they know that many people work longer hours and productivity goes up. But at what social cost?

I can't imagine what might be the result of a young worker who works their whole life from home, with only scant social interaction during what is the majority their day. After forty or fifty years of this, what will be the nature of our society? While we know that some workplaces can be toxic, its not the work that matters, but the water-cooler and lunchroom conversations, the passing smile or small practical joke that enlivens us to what it means to be social beings who must labour for our keep.

I believe it is incumbent on the church to speak into this new social phenomenon. To speak up for the physicality of the workplace. My greatest fear is that by not separating your workplace from your home, alongside the lack of the traditional village, we may actually live out verse 23, "For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest." And this indeed would be vanity.

Prayer:

Loving God,

Remind me that all that I am, including my work, belongs to you.

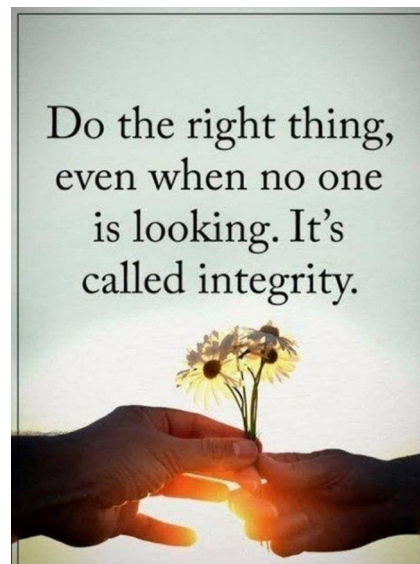
May I labour as much in my relationships as I do in meeting deadlines.

Let everything I do bring glory to you as we, as a community work for the greater good of our society.

Let not my hands be idle, nor worked to contortion.

And allow me to rest in You, that I might always find space to glorify You.

In Christ's name. Amen.



Synod News & Info.



8 - 11 April | Alex Park Conference Center
 (Sunshine Coast) | \$250 per participant
www.eastermadness.com.au

"Easter Madness is an annual high school camp to encourage young people to grow in faith, confidence and community. Each year our theme is different and this year our theme is **"Breaking Chains: Living in freedom."** There are many varied chains of heaviness that hang over us, which can hold us back from seeing the full picture of God's love for us. These disabling chains can be broken when we courageously step into the full picture of God's love, through the Easter story. Living in freedom and figuring out faith can be distorted by the chains we carry. It is a process where we eventually see a clearer picture as we walk towards Jesus individually and in community. The chain of *influence, circumstances & expectations* are three chains that Easter Madness will explore."

We also pray that you might consider sponsoring your youth or help us sponsor other youth to attend this amazing event. **Here is a [LINK](#) to the promos.**

Kind Regards,

Mia Blake Administration Officer (Mission)

Ph: (07) 3366 0236

Prayer from the General Secretary

Dear God we call out in prayer for the people of Ukraine. We pray for peace and safety, We pray for courage and hope. We pray for those who are fearful and those who mourn. God we ask you to bring courage and wisdom to all those who stand against this violence and who work to change the direction of events, those who seek a diplomatic solution, those who protest and pray for peace, those who offer aid and support in the very midst of the violence. We pray for protection for each one.

Bring us close to you God ... let us be makers of peace with our words, with our actions and with all our hearts. Our eyes are on You.

God of all creation, we pray today for all the people in our congregations and communities throughout the whole of Queensland who have been affected by these storms and floods. Be with them and protect them, let the family of support that is the church, surround and help them, let them stay safe and let them feel safe.

Let us all as the waters recede come together to clean up, offer solace, help our neighbours and find hope.

In Jesus' name Amen. **Rev Heather den Houting**

Prayer from the Moderator

Father God, thank you that you are our shepherd in these difficult times. Look after those in our communities affected by the floods and rain. Help them feel the love and support of their communities. Help them know your protection, your power and your presence, always with them. Keep them safe.

God of peace, look after all those in Ukraine touched by violence and aggression. Guide them and protect them, and bring hope to their hearts. Teach us all the miraculous path from war to peace. Keep them safe.

Guide us through the storms, knowing you are with us. Guide us each day through the dark valleys to rest in green pastures.

Blessings, **Rev Andrew Gunton**

Message from the General Secretary

Hi all

I'm thinking of you all and offering prayers for you all and your communities and hoping that you are safe and well.

Just reminding you that for any damage to Church property, we do have insurance and you should not hesitate to contact us as you become aware of any damage. We also have a Synod disaster assistance fund, which can help flood affected communities in restoration work which does not fall under insurance. You can contact me directly about this.

Finally, UCQ/Lifeline can stand up their community disaster recovery teams and chaplains across the state when necessary. So just let us know if needed.

Again, my thoughts are with you all. Heather.

For those seeking to make a donation to our disaster relief fund, you can donate [here](#).

Reflection - Our eyes are on You as the road leads toward Easter

"I don't know. It's like "the universe" or Jesus or God, but there's stuff happening that's beyond me and that's not *all-about-me*," said my friend. "Life has to be more than just all about me; what I want, how much sex, how much money... you know?"

He's looking up. His eyes are on Jesus. He just doesn't see yet. We surf and drink coffee, do a little community work and talk about Jesus.

Another friend tells me discipleship is about relationship, an open invitation and the ongoing challenge to change.

On the way to Jerusalem and the cross, Jesus is surrounded by a crew we describe as disciples. Near Jericho the son of Timaeus lifts his blind eyes toward someone he senses is the "Son of David" (whatever he meant by that).

The 'disciples' tell him Jesus has no time for him. They're busy, on their way to Jerusalem. Are we too busy, on our way to our own religious festivals of Lent and Easter.

Read more of the reflection from Ps. Phil Smith, [BELLS Faith Community](#), Bellvista, Sunshine Coast.

Plenty Update

Lenten Materials

You are invited to play a new game with Jesus through week 1 of Lent. Scripture, reflections, questions, challenges and other resources are available on the [Synod website](#).

Stand Up Speak Out

Free Family Agreements Webinar

A webinar to help the elderly and their families will be packed with helpful expert information:

- Discover what makes a good Family Agreement
- Learn the steps to arrange a Family Agreement
- Learn what to do when things go wrong
- Learn more about gifting money or property or moving house and the impact on the age pension

[Register now](#) for the Compass Family Agreements Webinar on **17 March at 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm AEDT**

Call for participants Child wellbeing and COVID: National survey

Australia's National Children's Commissioner wants to hear from children and their families about how living through the past two years of COVID-19 has affected their mental health and wellbeing. The surveys will help inform the support services that children and their families need as we continue to deal with the pandemic and emerge from it. Each survey should take about 10 minutes to complete. The surveys close on **20 March 2022** and can be accessed [here](#).

News from the life of the church

Raymont Residential College Open Day

Sunday 3 April 2022 Personal tours 9am-3pm by Student Ambassadors

Complementary lunch in the Raymont dining hall 12-1pm

Starting uni can be daunting enough but living in a new place with new friends in a city that you might not know that well, can be tougher. The good news is that students are not alone because everyone else is feeling the same mix of emotions. Raymont is a home away from home, community, family and support network. One of our Film and Media students, Belle, produced a video about Dakota's journey to find a home at Raymont.

Register your interest for the Open Day [here](#)

or contact admin@raymont.com.au for more details.

Free Training: Safe Online Ministry with children and young people

Are you an adult youth leader or do you work/volunteer with children and young people?
Free online safety webinar

- Technology trends and issues for young people,
- Safe online interactions with children and young people,
- Managing risks and supporting young people in a youth group environment,
- eSafety resources for youth leaders and information points within UCA.

For anyone over 18 years of age. Hosted by the National Safe Church Unit and presented by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner.

Friday 11 March, 12noon - 1pm AEST

Click [here](#) to register for this free online safety webinar