# CARPENTARIA PRESBYTERY



#### 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

## Presbytery Minister Rural & Chairperson

Rev Garry Hardingham 0409 276 940 presminrural@ucacarpentaria.com.au

#### Presbytery Minister Pastoral & Coastal Rev Christy Allen

0418 184 834 presmincoastal@ucacarpentaria.com.au

#### Presbytery Admin. Officer

#### **Robyn Cooley**

0429 195 506 admin@ucacarpentaria.com.au

#### **Hospital Chaplains:**

Cairns: Rev Shane Kammermann 0409 287 109

#### Townsville:

Rev Barry Cox 0408 415 816

#### 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.

4. Up coming 36<sup>th</sup>Synod in Session on the Sunshine Coast 13th-17th May





# Will you be the wind beneath their wings?

While we recently bid farewell to former Flying Bush Chaplain from Carpentaria-McKay Remote Area, David Ellis and his wife Janette, we also welcomed Pastor Michael Chapman and his wife Di to continue the long-standing legacy of this vital role in the region.

We are hoping to raise \$80,000 for the much needed maintenance and AVGAS, the aviation fuel required to fly the plane. Please consider donating now to give the encouragement and connection of a Flying Bush Chaplain to people facing hardship and isolation in this harsh region.

#### DONATE TODAY

1300 787 247 frontierservices.org/avgas/

Michelle McLeod - National Fundraising Manager T 1300 787 247 D 02 8270 1347 P PO BOX 3424 Parramatta NSW 2124 A 53 / 2 O'Connell St, Parramatta, NSW 2150

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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



#### Synod in Session - Celebration of Ministry

I would like to confirm to you how the Celebration of Ministry will proceed at the 36<sup>th</sup> Synod in Session in May this year – the Celebration will be broadcast (via the 36<sup>th</sup> Synod in Session webpage) on Sunday 15 May at 7pm - however there will be no live gathering for this event.

We will not be having the Celebration of Ministry service and presentation, retirement ministers' dinner and deceased ministers families' afternoon tea events at this Synod. This is due to making sure our most vulnerable people are safe from COVID 19. The Synod Standing Committee has determined that we should restrict the number of people on site to manage the health and safety risks for all . By doing this with can allow greater movement and gathering on site to conduct the business of the meeting.

After the Synod in Session, all retiring/retired ministers will receive (via post) a small pack containing a few things, including a retirement certificate and copy of the Celebration of Ministry booklet (which contains all the minutes of appreciation and memorial minutes).

After the Synod in Session, deceased ministers' family will also receive (via post) a small pack containing a few things, including a copy of the Celebration of Ministry booklet.

If you could also communicate the above to your retiring ministers and deceased ministers family, as soon as you can, that would be appreciated.

Kind regards Jillian Bow (Senior Administration Officer)

> The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace.

Psalm 29:11



#### Prayer NT Wright

At the very heart of Jesus' vision of the kingdom — of heaven's kingdom coming on earth — we have a picture of one person, secretly in their own room, praying.

Prayer is a mystery. I've often heard people saying, with a sneer, 'It doesn't go beyond the ceiling, you know.' But the point of prayer, at least the way Jesus saw it, is that it doesn't have to. Your father, he says, is there in the secret place with you. He sees and knows your deepest thoughts and hopes and fears. He hears the words you say. He hears, too, the things you can't put into words but want to lay before him anyway. Prayer, in fact, isn't a mystery in the sense of 'a puzzle we can't understand'. Prayer is a symptom, a sign, of the mystery: the fact that heaven and earth actually mingle together. There are times when they interlock; there are places where they overlap. To pray, in this sense, is to claim a time and place — it can be anywhere, any time — as one of those times, one of those places.

If prayer is about heaven and earth overlapping in time and space, it's also about them coming together in matter, in the stuff of this world, the clay from which we are made. To pray, in this sense, is to claim — think about it and realize just how daring this is! — that the living God, enthroned in heaven, can make his home with you, within you. To make this point vividly, go into your room in secret and pray there. Take God seriously.

But, when you do so, realize one more thing. If prayer is about heaven and earth coming together at one time, in one place, within the lump of clay we call 'me', then it's going to change this person called 'me'. In particular, it's going to make me a forgiver. Jesus was quite clear about this. All of us have been hurt, wounded, slighted, annoyed by other people. How much more have we ourselves done that to God! Yet we want him to be with us, to hear us, and — yes! — to forgive us. How can we not be forgivers too?

So the great prayer comes together. Utterly simple, utterly profound. A child can learn it; an old, wise saint will still be going deeper into it. Heaven is not far away, and it's where we meet the God who, with breathtaking confidence, we can call 'Father'. Familiarity must not imply contempt. His very name is holy, and we must honour it as such. And what we most want — the strange phenomenon of which prayer itself is a supreme example! — is that his kingdom should come and his will be done on earth as in heaven. When we pray, we pray for that goal but we also pray within that promise.

We then place our needs, whether simple or complex, within that framework. Bread for the day ahead. Forgiveness of debt — the debts we owe to God, the debts too (this may surprise some) we owe one another. And then, importantly, rescue: rescue from the time of testing, of trial, whether that be personal temptation, frequently repeated, or the 'tribulation' which Jesus, like many others of his day, believed would come upon the world before God's deliverance finally dawned.

And rescue, too, from the evil one. Much of Jesus' public career was a battle with the powers of darkness. That isn't surprising, since he was announcing that God was taking back control of the world from those powers. When we pray this prayer, we are caught up in that battle, too. But we don't face the danger alone. We claim his victory, his rescue, rather than face danger alone, his deliverance. The mystery of prayer. This prayer lies at the very centre of the 'sermon on the mount'. It should be at the centre of our life, our own kingdom-obedience.

from 'Lent for everyone' YouVersion plan

### Synod News & Info.

#### **Reflection - My daring hope**



My daring hope is that the Church is not dying but being transformed in the great unravelling. Institutional unravelling and decline may be the work of God leading to transformation and renewal. Renewal of our institutions included.

Could God be freeing the church to participate more joyfully in the work of Christ in the world? Could weakness and uncertainty be the greatest gift rather than the enemy?

I am discovering Jesus at work in the most unexpected places. In the fringes, not the centre. Not in the 'Jerusalems'. Outside Church controlled territory, in places where privilege and security are absent. Called and sent. It seems to be consistent with the biblical narrative. The church is not dead. Jesus is not watching from a distance but going ahead of us, calling us to join in with all that God is doing. At work in the ordinary and the broken.

Read more of the Reflection from Rev. Shane Kammermann, Cairns Hospital Chaplain, <u>here</u>.

#### What is your 'daring hope'?

As the 36th Synod in Session draws near, we'd love to hear from you. What is your daring hope? What miracle of God's creation can you think of that will sustain us, guard us and bring flourishing? Let us know at <u>communications@ucaqld.com.au</u>

#### Stand Up Speak Out

#### **Register Now for EveryAGE Counts Webinar**



Join **EveryAGE Counts** for a discussion on how the community can galvanise and mobilise Australian Government leadership domestically and on the global stage in the creation of a UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons.

When: May 17, 2022 at 10:30am - 11:30am. Register Here.



The Department of Health wants to hear from senior Australians and their family and carers to better understand the services they think should be included on a future in-home care service list. Your input is important. The Department has developed a short survey about a proposed service list to

get your view. The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete. Take the survey on the department's <u>website</u>. If you are unable to access a survey online, call 1800 318 209, and a representative can send you a printed copy of the survey to complete with a reply-paid envelope. The survey closes on **May 24, 2022**.

#### Abuse in the Church Part 1: The World Intervenes

This episode of *the cooperative's* Big Little Issues podcast is the first episode in a three-part series on Abuse in the Church. Dr Janice McRandal speaks to Sarah Lim, who is the National Director of the Uniting Church in Australia Redress Ltd. Sarah is deeply committed to the needs of survivors of institutional abuse and restoration of relationships for survivors, the Church and the broader community. We hear from Sarah about how the recommendations from the Royal Commission have been implemented in the Uniting Church. Listen now on the <u>website</u> or search "Big Little Issues" on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, and Amazon Music.

#### Fundamentals of Transitional Ministry - The work of the Leader

**FTML Fundamentals of Transitional Ministry: The Work of the Leader (FTML)**, is a three-day course designed to upskill and equip ministers and those in lay ministry with the skills to support congregations in times of transition or change as a community. Dates: Wednesday, June 8 till Friday, June 10. While it is a stand-alone program, it is also the first phase of training that leads to being qualified as an Intentional Interim Minister. A registration form is <u>here</u>.

Further questions contact Brian Hoole on 0435 242 000 or email brian@emmanueluca.org.au

#### National Peace Conference 2022 - Ethics of Compassion

An event will be held on Saturday May 28 from 9am - 4pm at St Patricks Cathedral Centre, 123 Neil Street, Toowoomba. Featuring UNAA Qld President: Claire Moore; ABC News Reporter: Mahnaz Angry; and Toowoomba Mayor: Paul Antonio and many more. Registration is Free, lunch is provided, and numbers are limited. Worth a drive to the Garden City to be blessed by the discussion. This event is jointly organised by the Toowoomba Interfaith Working Group and Pure Lands Learning College. Register at Eventbrite on this <u>link</u> or for more information contact <u>events.mfmcc@gmail.com</u>