

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

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. The delegates travelling to & from 36th Synod in Session on the Sunshine Coast 13th-17th May. Pray also for the work of our church; may the delegates & the councils of our church to have soft hearts & listen to the Holy Spirit's leading.

36th Synod in Session

<https://ucaqld.com.au/about-us/synod-meetings/>

The theme for the 36th Synod for the 36th Synod in Session is "a daring HOPE".

After the challenges of the last two years, it is easy to feel burdened or overwhelmed, and yet the writer of Hebrews calls us to 'hold unswervingly to the HOPE we profess, for he who promised is faithful'.

a daring HOPE is based on our trust in an infinite God, who draws us to what is possible more than what is probable.

a daring HOPE is a deliberate act of our will more than an expectant emotion.

a daring HOPE is choosing to offer our finite efforts alongside the infinite resources of God, so that all things might truly be reconciled in Christ.



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

michellem@frontierservices.org | www.frontierservices.org

TCCM Men's Group invites the men folk to...

**A Black-Tie Fund-Raising Dinner
May 25, 5.30pm at A Touch of Salt**

Donations will go to Krystal Cochran who along with YWAM Berlin are helping the Ukrainian refugees. Krystal was with YWAM Townsville and worshipped at Townsville Central City Mission for many years.

Cost: \$120.00 includes Dinner and Donation

We meet at Townsville Central City Mission on Wills St for an individual photo at 5pm. A guest speaker is planned.

Please invite your friends.

Places are limited, so please book early.

For more info or to RSVP by 22 May please:

Bob Beasley bogonau@yahoo.com.au 0498 001 546

LIP BALM FUNDRAISER

COST \$2 / tube

SUPPORTING YOUTH, CHAPLAINS AND TRAVEL ACROSS THE
PRESBYTERY



GREAT FOR EVERYDAY SUN PROTECTION
HANDMADE IN MACKAY by Robyn

GREAT FOR STOCKING FILLERS AND SMALL GIFTS

CONTAINS: *Candelilla Wax, Bees Wax, Fractionated Coconut Oil, Castor Oil, Cocoa Butter*

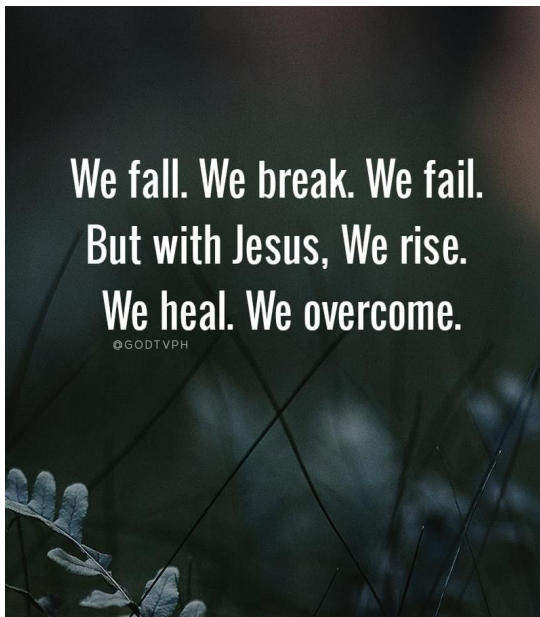
Flavours: **Chocolate* * *Coconut Natural* **Pineapple* **Strawberry* **Hubba Bubba* * *Watermelon*

Triples – 1-#LOL Hubba Bubba, chocolate, musk
2-Tropical (Pineapple, coconut, strawberry)
3-Tutti Frutti (Strawberry, Apple, Orange)

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



We fall. We break. We fail.
But with Jesus, We rise.
We heal. We overcome.

©GODTVPH

**ACTIVELY REJECT
FEELINGS OF GUILT,
SHAME OR
UNWORTHINESS.**

**IT IS A PROACTIVE,
PRACTICAL, DAILY
CHOICE TO TAKE
POSSESSION OF THE
FORGIVENESS THAT
JESUS HAS MADE
POSSIBLE FOR YOU.**

Garry's Thoughts

Which is easiest?

Cynicism or acceptance?

Fortitude or resilience?

Engagement or resignation?

Attack or defence?

Determination or envy?

Participation or criticism?

Love of the other or love for yourself?

Life is so often full of choices. Some are easy. I will always choose Salt and Vinegar over plain chips. Or red wine over white – even with fish!!

But some decisions are harder?

Take our Synod meeting being held this weekend. It seems that more and more it is easier to criticise the councils of the Uniting Church than it is to get people to be involved. Even in our congregations, the number of people who put their hands for church councils or eldership or lay leadership is shrinking day by day.

Even in those congregations where the numbers are growing, it is getting harder and harder for people to make the choice of being part of the leadership of our church than it is for them to take pot shots from the back pew.

My dad used to spend a lot of time shouting at the television, questioning why would Greg Chappell put a man at Silly mid on when it was obvious that Lenny Pascoe was clearly bowling outside the off stump??!! Some of my mates spend endless wasted hours complaining about the government and then inform me that they always donkey vote. And I know a number of my colleagues who complain about the Synod and say “that’s why I’m not going!!”

Imagine if our hands worked as hard as our mouths?

If our hearts beat as strong as our words?

If our actions were as strong as our convictions?

Imagine that?

As human beings, nothing has changed. As those who followed me through the book of Ecclesiastes leading up to our last Presbytery discovered, there is nothing new under the sun. But, maybe there should be. Maybe we can all learn to look at the world in a different light and seek to find the best in everyone and everything instead of the worst.

The American statesman from the early 1900s, Elihu Root said, “Men do not fail; they give up trying.”

For those going to Synod this weekend, I know it is easy to furrow your brow and cross your arms and grumble under your breath. Its harder to speak love and hope when you are already convinced that its all too hard. But, we all have choices to make.

For those not attending Synod, please pray for the work of our church. Leadership is not easy. For every Greg Chappell there are a million dads yelling at the T.V. screen.

Its time to choose how you will choose.

Blessings

Garry

Synod News & Info.

Synod in Session - Celebration of Ministry

I would like to confirm to you how the Celebration of Ministry will proceed at the 36th Synod in Session in May this year – the Celebration will be broadcast (via the 36th 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)

Prayer

Gracious God, you call us daily into a daring hope. You give us what we need to sustain that hope. Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, through the presence of the Spirit, through your faithfulness to us as we gather.

Nurturing God, you call us daily to participate in the wonder of your creation. Our very presence reminds of us your continuous gift of life. Through the creative witness of your people, through the sustaining environment in which we live, through the hearts of those who long for justice.

Loving God, you call us daily into the act of thankful response. We bring the gifts of our love for you, for ourselves and for others. We do this in the knowledge that working together is your wish for us. We lovingly give of ourselves, our time and our wealth.

Inspiring God, let our hearts be on fire for you. Let all that we say and do call others to your abundant grace. Let us embrace that which you have in store for us.

For we are your children, filled with a daring hope for your creation. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Rev Heather den Houting, General Secretary.



Stand Up Speak Out

Roundtable with the Shadow Minister for Charities

Andrew Leigh MP, the Member for Fraser in the ACT is the ALP's Shadow Minister for Charities. Last week he met with representatives of various church bodies including Catholics, Anglican Church, Baptists, Salvation Army, Church of Christ and WMQ and our own Natalie Clements who looks after the Synod's work in Disability Royal Commission Project Officer and Social Justice & Advocacy.

After the meeting, Natalie told us "Andrew Leigh has a particular interest in how congregation members interact with their Church's human service agencies to strengthen the community. He wanted to hear practical examples, so I told him about Project Plenty, UnitingCare Queensland's Connect 100 project, and he work of the Queensland Synod in building the capacity of congregations to engage in social justice issues. He is keen to take on the Charities portfolio if Labor wins, and he said he will form a Ministerial Advisory Group for Charities to give charities more of a voice in decision-making."



Self-guided Coaching for Carers

The online Carer Gateway Self-guided Coaching Service provides you with the opportunity to explore how your caring role affects different areas of your life. Designed in partnership with carers, each coaching session will get you thinking about how you are going, how you'd like things to be and how you might be able to take steps towards making that happen. Each session includes information, practical tips, resources, reflection activities and stories from Australian carers.

Click [here](#) to find out more.

The 16th Assembly

The 16th Assembly officially reconvened at Alex Park and commenced with a historic renewal of the Covenant between the Uniting Church in Australia and the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress.

In a gesture of profound humility, those Second Peoples who participated in the worship and all who were watching online were invited to kneel for an Act of Confession and read the words, "We pray that our commitment to this Covenant will be renewed and revitalized. Kindle in us a flame for justice and equity in these lands known as Australia, and remind us to work in solidarity, shoulder to shoulder, with our First Nations siblings."

Click [here](#) to read more about the 16th Assembly, and watch the video for VoxPops from Assembly members on day 2 of the event.

Frontier News - May 2022 Edition



Frontier News
May 2022

The May edition is filled with incredible stories of courage, optimism and resilience as Frontier News talks to farmers, Outback Links volunteers and Frontier Services Bush Chaplains on weathering drought, floods, a pandemic and the challenges that come with living and working in the bush.

Read the latest edition [here](#).