

# CARPENTARIA PRESBYTERY



## Presbytery Office **NEW**



### Postal Address

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### Office Hours

Mon Tues Wed & Frid  
8.30am-1.30pm

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### Presbytery Minister Rural & Chairperson

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### 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. Ana Mila & Marie during this time of transition (that all will happen smoothly)

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## Carpentaria Presbytery Southern Zone Meeting

Friendly reminder that the Carpentaria Presbytery Southern Zone meeting will be held at Kirwan Uniting Church this coming Saturday, 16 July at 9:00am for 9:30am start. Anyone is welcome to come along for opening/closing worship.

## Townsville Central City Mission – Family Camp



## Date Claimers – Commissioning Services

George Otumuli will be commissioned as Pastor at Mt Isa Uniting Church on 7 August 2022 at 9.00am.

Joe Eka will be commissioned as Pastor at Atherton Uniting Church on 29 July 2022 at 7.00pm.

## Commissioning Service for Pastor Gewa Au

Pastor Gewa Au was commissioned as the new Pastor at Edmonton Uniting Church on 10 July.



## Garry's Thoughts

It can be really painful to watch your kids going through the same trials and tribulations that you yourself went through almost at the same age.

The difference is that maybe my generation were better prepared?

Maybe we were already preconditioned?

Maybe we were less shocked or could handle the new reality we faced?

In recent months, for the first time in a generation, we are seeing an economic downturn; rising interest rates, falling stock prices, a rising cost of living. It seems that the 30 year old dream ride is coming to a brutal and sudden end. When this last occurred in the late 1980's and early 1990's we saw interest rates at 17.5%. Inflation was running at about 8% and the unemployment rate hit a whopping 10%. The joy-ride of the 1980's was well and truly over. I remember myself struggling with a wife and two infant children to provide even the basics as we scrimped and saved to feed the hungry furnace of a mortgage. While we made it through, a number of our friends ended up bankrupt or moving back with their parents to live.

It was awful. But, because many of us had been raised in a less affluent Australia in the 60's and 70s, we seemed to shrug our shoulders, hunker down and rode it out.

But now I watch my own kids, struggling to get into the housing market, or mortgaged to the hilt, transfixed on the cost of an iceberg lettuce or crazy fuel prices, having to come to terms that, for a while, the good times are over. For many of this generation, it is the first time they have had to make real hard choices about where to spend their dollar.

And all this is playing out in the context of a global rise in nationalism, a bullish China, a defiant Russia and an accelerating militarisation with all the hallmarks of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. And to make it even worse, every smallest detail is scrutinised and criticised on TikTok or Instagram or Facebook. The social media generation having to deal with a worrying global downturn and security uncertainty while swimming in the vacuous stew of influences and the dreaded FOMO (fear of missing out).

What to do? Its hard to be optimistic in such times.

But, maybe optimism is not what we need?

What we do need is hope.

You can *feel* optimistic, but you can *experience* hope. And there is a subtle difference.

Psalm 46 so eloquently states "an ever-sturdy shelter in times of distress."

Hope is not always a feeling, it is a choice. And when we intentionally make that choice from moment to moment and begin to act on it, even when the feelings aren't there, hope begins to seep into our spirits and we begin to see life from a very different perspective. Hope for a better future goes beyond the materialism of this world, the stuff that never truly satisfies.

Because hope builds resilience.

Hope builds optimism.

Hope creates freedom.

St. Teresa of Avila had a bookmark in which was written the following words that may be our “go-to” to tame our worrying minds and spirits:

*Let nothing disturb you,  
Let nothing frighten you,  
All things are passing;  
God only is changeless.  
Patience gains all things.  
Who has God wants nothing.  
God alone suffices.*

So there is something I can do for my kids.

I can guide them to hope.

I can pray for them.

I can lead them back to the one true thing that is impervious to inflation, interest rates and the cost of living.

And He will never fail them.

Blessings

Garry

# Synod News & Info.

## Plenty

### Transforming Communities

Transforming our communities flows naturally out of our commitment to discipleship. Christ calls us to “stand up for what is fair, just and right for the sake of the whole of creation, both now and into the future”. It is core to our Uniting identity and story in our Statement to the Nation...this is who we said we would be and wanted to be held accountable for.

As we end NAIDOC Week, it is essential to keep thinking about how we have spent many years in the Uniting Church working on making our covenant with First Peoples' life-giving. In this working group, we asked ourselves how we could truly offer support that was empowering to people and focused more on 'solidarity with, rather than charity for'.

## Stand Up Speak Out

### Nominations are now open for the 2023 Senior Australian of the Year

Do you know an older Australian who is making a difference? Nominations are now open for the 2023 Senior Australian of the Year. This award recognises Australians aged 65 and over who continue to achieve and make a difference in the Australian community and the nation.

Nominating is simple and can be done [online](#) by July 31, 2022.

### The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission wants to learn from consumers

The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission is establishing a panel of people who use Australian government-funded aged care services, their carers and family members. The Commission wants to know what is essential to consumers, so they can improve how they regulate aged care and ensure the information they produce for consumers is valuable and easy to understand. Panel members can provide input in different ways, depending on their preferences.

Consumers and their family members interested in joining the panel can fill in an expression of interest by visiting [here](#) or calling the Commission on [1800 951 822](tel:1800951822) by August 12, 2022.

### Calling for nominations to represent the Uniting Church on the World Day of Prayer State Committee

The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women inspiring people to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. The Uniting Church is entitled to three representatives on the State committee, which is responsible for organising and distributing the World Day of Prayer service on the first Friday in March each year, and then distributing the offerings from this service. To give you an idea of what's involved, the World Day of Prayer holds four committee meetings annually in Brisbane City or, when required, by Zoom.

They feel it is essential to have input from the Uniting Church, and we are calling on nominations for two or three women to represent our Church. Sound like you or someone you know? If so, please send an email to [communications@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:communications@ucaqld.com.au).

For more information, click [here](#).

## Grants Webinars

The more money offered, the more work the grant application will require! Government grants are often very attractive in the funds they offer but require extensive preparation and evidence gathering. Do you feel these grants are beyond your reach because you lack time and expertise in grant writing? That is where grant writers come in. We can supply you with a list of grant writers who can help you put together your application. There is a cost involved, but it is well worth it if the grant is successful. 'Grants made easy webinars' will explore the ideas of what makes a successful application and give you the tools to find a good grant writer that is right for you?

Please email [vanessa.griffiths@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:vanessa.griffiths@ucaqld.com.au) if you would like to register for these webinars.

## Lectures / Courses / Education

### Albert Street Lecture on Thursday 28 July, 7pm, Presented by Rev Esteban Lievano

Click here to register for this free event: <https://thecooperativehub.com/events/asls-esteban-lievano/>

Or watch the livestream here: <https://youtu.be/KwGyl7tydFI>

At *the cooperative's* next Albert Street Lecture, Rev Esteban Liévano, Chair of the IberoLatino National Conference, will present on his topic: "Uno, Dos, Three, Four, Five..." Exploring 2nd Generation Perspectives.

In an increasingly multicultural society, 2nd Gens continue to find voice in questions of identity, representation and depiction – all while unravelling their own identity. As someone who migrated to Australia as a child, Rev. Esteban Liévano had many experiences common to both migrants and the children of migrants such as English and then relearning his mother-tongue, and now raising an Australian-Latino family of his own. This lecture will look particularly at the religious context and how 'church' identity has become intermixed with tribe and culture.

## Health and Wellbeing

### National Diabetes Week July 10 - 16, 2022 - Breaking the stigma of diabetes

In its third year, the 'Heads Up on Diabetes' campaign focuses on challenging diabetes-related stigma.

Diabetes is a serious condition that can affect the entire body. Diabetes requires daily self-care, and if complications develop, diabetes can have a significant impact on quality of life and reduce life expectancy. While there is currently no cure for diabetes, you can live an enjoyable life by learning about the condition and effectively managing it. An estimated 1.8 million Australians have

diabetes. Studies have found that four out of five people with type 1 or 2 diabetes have experienced stigma at some point.

There are many reasons someone might feel stigma. It can be because they feel misunderstood, judged, blamed or even made to feel guilty about their diabetes. This can be a lot to deal with and impact how someone manages their diabetes. This can have a flow-on effect on their physical and emotional health

### **The National Diabetes Week campaign**

Check out the 2022 [campaign](#) for great resources on how you can help raise awareness of diabetes-related stigma, working to change the conversation and challenge common beliefs people may hold about diabetes.

If this campaign has raised any issues for you or you feel like you need extra support, call Diabetes Australia on [1800 177 055](tel:1800177055).

### **Working alone or remote?**

Volunteers play a critical role in the ministry and mission of the Church in Queensland. In April this year, a volunteer working alone at one of our churches fell, injuring themselves and requiring hospitalization. They were able to call for assistance at the time of their accident; however, it highlighted the risk volunteers face working alone.

Could this happen to you? Do you have members of the congregation or volunteers that may be at the church working alone?

It is essential to consider the safety of all workers, including those working alone. Some controls that may assist include:

- Have a roster of duties or tasks and require someone to assist (buddy system).
- Let someone know your plans and advise when you arrive and depart.
- Have a communication device on your person, e.g. mobile phone.
- Know the location of First Aid equipment and replenish any used or expired items as required.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding people working alone or remote, don't hesitate to contact the [Work Health and Safety team](#), who would be happy to discuss.

### **Making Connections for Your Mental Health and Wellbeing Consultation Program 2022**

You're invited to share your experience of the mental health and suicide prevention system through a series of community conversations. This August, the National Mental Health Commission will be in Queensland for its *Making Connections for Your Mental Health and Wellbeing* consultation program. Consultations will be held in Cape York, Palm Island, Hervey Bay, Mt Isa, Logan and Roma. Click [here](#) to register.

## Safe Ministry with Children

### Updates from the National Safe Church Unit

Spotlight on principle 4 of the 10 Principles for a Child safe UCA: Diversity is respected, and equity is promoted

The Uniting Church wants to be an organisation where we embrace and value diversity and provide safety for all people to realise their full potential, noting this is different for everyone. We commit to equitable treatment of all people regardless of age, abilities, gender or social, economic or cultural background, where everyone vulnerable can feel safe. We want to be a child-safe organisation but also a child-friendly organisation.

If you are aware of any barriers to improving the use of the training, policy and resources, we will welcome your input or feedback. For more information, contact Lynde Davy at [Lynde.Davy@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:Lynde.Davy@ucaqld.com.au). Download a copy of the 2022 edition of the [Framework](#). Please bookmark the Synod's Safe Ministry with Children [webpage](#) and the NSCU [website](#), which contains helpful resources and guidance for congregations, presbyteries and synods.

### Celebrating diversity

The National Safe Church Unit has translated the UCA Child Safe Principles into several languages (Chinese, Korean, Indonesian, Spanish, Portuguese, Niuean, Fijian, Tongan and Samoan). They are available [here](#) for downloading and printing, and there is also a plain English version that incorporates artwork from a First Nation artist.

### New resource for Church Councils not offering children's activities

Some congregations do not have young families, children, or young people attending and may not offer child-related activities or programs. A new resource has been developed for congregations to outline their obligations. A copy of this resource is located [here](#). For more information, contact Lynde Davy at [safeministrywithchildren@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:safeministrywithchildren@ucaqld.com.au) or 07 3377 9833.

## Vacancies

### Blue Care Chaplain in Caloundra and Maleny

A Blue Care Chaplain vacancy is still vacant and closing date is this Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July.

The vacancy is in Caloundra and Maleny; full-time role in both residential aged care and community in-home aged care. Details can be found here: <https://ucaqld.com.au/synod-services/people-culture-learning/vacancies/employee-vacancies/blue-care-chaplain-caloundra-maleny/>

Andrew Hogg, Chaplaincy Coordinator