

CARPENTARIA PRESBYTERY

Link



Presbytery Office NEW



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Office Hours

Mon Tues Wed & Frid
8.30am-1.30pm

Executive Assistant

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Presbytery Minister Rural & Chairperson

Rev Garry Hardingham

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Presbytery Minister Pastoral & Coastal

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Hospital Chaplains:

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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 Presbytery.

Carpentaria Link Weekly Reflection

Sign Up and Share Your Reflection

Here is your opportunity to contribute to Carpentaria Link by offering a reflection. You can choose the date from the calendar found at https://www.ucacarpentaria.com.au/link_roster/link_roster_calendar.php

We would love to hear how God is working in and through you all.

Date Claimers

Carpentaria Presbytery Meeting – 4-6 Nov 2022

Registration is now open for the November Presbytery meeting at Mission Beach Resort, Mission Beach from **Fri, 4 Nov to Sun, 6 Nov beginning at 1.00pm on Fri** with training. Register here:

<https://www.ucacarpentaria.com.au/events/event1414.php>

Registration closes on 25 October 2022.

Final Reminder: Carpentaria Presbytery Meeting - 4th to 6th November 2022

Our next Presbytery meeting to be held 4th to 6th November 2022, is fast approaching. It will be great to be together again! A reminder that this meeting is for both Ministry Agents and lay reps from each congregation along with Ministry Agents who are in placements in other roles e.g.: chaplaincy (**2 per congregation, including Ministry Agent**). It would be wonderful to have more lay people join our meetings.

The Presbytery meeting will be held at the Mission Beach Resort and will begin at **1pm on Friday afternoon** (for all Ministry Agents, wanting to access Fringe Benefits or to find out more and get assistance with this). The next session begins at **3pm** and is for all Ministry Agents who are required to attend the compulsory Code of Ethics Training. For all other delegates, please arrive by no later than **5:30pm** as a BBQ buffet dinner will be served at **6pm Friday night** for all Presbytery attendees, with the evening program to begin at approx. 7pm.

Register here: <https://www.ucacarpentaria.com.au/events/event1414.php>

More information will be sent out before the Presbytery meeting, so keep a look out for it but **remember to register as registration closes on 25 October**. **You must let us know if you are not attending the whole time so we can finalise our numbers for accommodation & catering.**

As in recent times each congregation & agency will be invoiced \$120 for Travel equalisation per entity. If you have any queries, please contact Ana at the Presbytery Office.

Blessings

Robyn & Ana

Reminder: Musicians and Lead Singer Needed for Presbytery Meeting Worship

We will have worship services during our Presbytery meeting in November so if you are interested in helping out our worship as a musician or lead singer then your services are much appreciated. Please contact Ana on office@ucacarpentaria.com.au

Date Claimers

Northern Zone Gathering - 29th October 2022

Northern Zone gathering will be held on **29th October 2022 at 11.30am at Sugarworld Parklands**, Hambledon Drive, Edmonton (not the swimming area). Please bring a plate of food and drinks to share or meat to BBQ as well as outdoor/camping chairs. This gathering is open to all the Northern Zone Congregations and their members. All enquiries can be made to Dinah John, Northern Zone Secretary on email: dinahtourangi@live.com.au

Dinah John

Reminder: Messages / Notes for Marie Dewar

As you are all aware, Marie Dewar faithfully served the Carpentaria Presbytery for over 10yrs as Executive Assistant. We get a chance at our November Presbytery meeting to farewell Marie and thank her for her ministry. If you have any messages, notes or pictures you would like to share with Marie please send through to Ana at office@ucacarpentaria.com.au All messages will be collated into a farewell card to present at Presbytery.

Russell's Thoughts...

Meditation

"Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long" Psalm 119:97

Has the Christian Church become too secularized?

The impact of the early church is well documented. Their radical gospel took the world by storm. In a world where life was cheap, slavery was rife, babies were left on rubbish dumps and self-preservation was the order of the day, the gospel message that life was of value, and we need to genuinely care for each other, was radical and enlivening.

Over the following centuries, the Christian movement was at the forefront of reforms; education, healthcare, unions, making slavery illegal; Christians were on the frontline of social reform. The commands to love God and our neighbour were the drivers of these changes.

Today we take these things for granted and few in the secular world would be aware of their Christian foundations. Today the western world is very social justice oriented, but for different reasons. Without acknowledging God as the driving motivation to love our neighbour, the secular world exercises its social justice agenda from a different perspective.

The early church changed the world. Now the world is trying to change the church. So, we get heavily involved in certain social justice issues without considering if that's where God is taking us.

I hear pastors today talking about the wonderful things that are going on in their church. "Our numbers have grown; we have a massive youth group; we are following a new program." I have yet to hear a pastor telling me that their congregation has become deeper, hearing God more clearly, and loving toward each other more. We measure our 'successes' on the things we can quantify like numbers and youth. On those criteria Jesus would have been a failure.

I believe the Church needs to get back to the source of why it exists. The psalmist talks about meditation. Are we too busy to really meditate on God's world. What about prayer and fasting? We are the best-fed Christians in history and the ones least likely to fast.

I want to encourage you all, to spend more time with God; to allow the Holy Spirit to flow through your veins and to seriously obey the words of Jesus. Personally, God has convicted me over the last few weeks about my own walk. I pass this on to you.

*Rev Russell Clark
Retired, Uniting Church Minister*



Synod News & Info.

Resources / Training / Workshops

Worship & Preaching Workshop - UCA sacraments and Presiding at Holy Communion

As part of our Lay Preachers Training course (Learning for Living), the Moreton Rivers Presbytery are hosting a Worship & Preaching Workshop focusing on "UCA sacraments and Presiding at Holy Communion" on Thursday, 20 October 7pm - 9.15pm via [ZOOM](#). We encourage all Lay Preachers who would like preside at Holy Communion to attend, as this training is part of the requirements. Lay Preachers who have already completed the course but would like a refresher are also welcome.

Please register your interest [HERE](#)

Zoom information if the link does not work.

Moreton Rivers Presbytery Office is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84100556270?pwd=Mmc3ZUVLc2kvQUovZVNOUG1CMIVzZz09>

Meeting ID: 841 0055 6270

Passcode: 376087

Moreton Rivers Presbytery

Intergenerational Advent Resource

The Discipleship working group is producing an intergenerational Advent resource which will be available from mid November. The theme that the resource will be exploring is the “**The Journey to Joy**”. There are two parts to the resource – worship materials and 15 personal & group reflections.

Each week will have its own exploration of this through reflections, discussion questions, activities and challenges for use by families, small groups and congregations. Below are the topics and readings for each week.

The Journey to Joy

Week 1 – 27 November - Preparing for the Journey John 1:1-5, Isaiah 9:2-3

1. *God - John 1:1-5*
2. *Prophet Isaiah - Isaiah 7:14*
3. *Prophet Micah - Micah 5:2*

Week 2 – 4 December - Getting Focused: What is distracting you? Matthew 1:18-24, Isaiah 7:14

1. *Zechariah - Luke 1:11-13 & 18-20*
2. *Joseph - Matthew 1:20-24*
3. *Caesar Augustus - Luke 2:1-5*

Week 3 – 11 December - Who is on the Journey with you? Luke 1:39-45, Philippians 1:3-5

1. Mary - Luke 1:26-38
2. Elizabeth - Luke 1: 39-45
3. John the Baptist - Luke 1:13-17 & John 1:29-30

Week 4 – 18 December - How do you handle the unexpected? Luke 2:8-20, Philippians 4:4-7

1. Jesus - Luke 2:6-7, John 3:16-17
2. Shepherds - Luke 2:8-12
3. Angels - Luke 2:13-15

Week 5 – 25 December - How do you unwrap and embrace the Joy? Luke 2:1-7, Matthew 2:1–12, 2 Corinthians 9:15

1. Wise Men - Matthew 2:1-2 & 10-11
2. Anna - Luke 2:36-38
3. Simeon - Luke 2:25-26

We have also created an online form for people to complete who would like access to the material to ensure that they receive the material when it is finalized:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MPS7TGX>

Finally, we are still looking for people to contribute to the reflections and if you would be interested in writing one for us, we'd love you to be involved. The characters highlighted are those that have already been allocated. If you have any questions about any of this, please don't hesitate to contact Paul Wetzig, Project Officer – Discipleship on 0424 103 676 or Jess Pinkerton at Jessica.Pinkerton@ucaqld.com.au

Paul Wetzig

Safe Ministry with Children

22 October Anniversary of the Apology to victims and survivors of institutional child sexual abuse

A day to acknowledge the importance of the apology, the impact on victims and survivors and the need to continue to take action to prevent and respond to child sexual abuse.

Resources are available for use in worship services and other settings. Please let us know how we can work together better to ensure everyone can connect, contribute and belong. Contact Lynde Davy at safechurch@ucaqld.com.au or 07 3377 9983.

National Children's Week 22-30 October

All Children have the right to a standard of living that supports their well-being and healthy development. Strong family, community and cultural connections create protective factors that can impact a child's vulnerability to abuse. The Uniting Church includes families in our ways of working and makes space for all people to voice concerns concerning the safety of children.