

# Link



## Pastoral Notes / Prayer Points

- ◆ Christy will be preaching at Aitkenvale on Sunday
- ◆ Pray for Garry' upcoming knee surgery on 23 March and his recovery
- ◆ Pray for congregations and faith communities within Carpentaria
- ◆ Pray for Ian Ness' recovery after his operation on Tuesday
- ◆ International Women's Day today

## 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](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.

## Presbytery Office NEW

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#### Cairns:

Rev Shane Kammermann

0409 287 109

#### Townsville:

Rev Barry Cox

0408 415 816

# Carpentaria News...

## Prayer Requests for March

### Lifeline

- ➔ This month we give thanks for 60 years of faithful service by staff and volunteers.
- ➔ Phone counsellors - for wisdom, listening ear and self care about what they hear.
- ➔ Callers - they may know the peace of God and that others care about them and their circumstances.
- ➔ Retail outlets - pray for wisdom and patience to interact with customers in this time of growing economic hardship.

*Christine Herman, Cairns Region Community Chaplain*

## Date Claimers

### March 2023

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>** – Northern Zone pulpit swap

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>** – Glenn Louttit induction service at 9am at the Townsville District Office

### May 2023

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>** – Calvary Zone meeting in Cairns

**Fri-Sun 5<sup>th</sup>-7** – Presbytery meeting at Mission Beach

**Sun-Wed 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>** – Ministry Agent and spouse retreat at Cardwell

## Vale Bob Beasley – Memorial Service Info

Bob worshipped and served at Townsville Central City Mission for many decades. He passed away peacefully surrounded by family on 28th Feb. If you wish to join us in a memorial service in church as detailed below, please come. The address of the church for those who don't know is Wills corner Stokes Sts, Townsville.

On **Sunday, March 12 at 5:30 pm**, we will host a small memorial service to honour the life and legacy of Bob Beasley. This will be an opportunity to come together and share our sadness about his passing, but also celebrate the impact of his life and his entrance into his eternal home.

All who would like to share in this occasion are welcome to come.

*Townsville Central City Mission*

## Pics from Commissioning Service of Andrew Hicks as Pastor at Wulguru



## More Pics from Induction Service of Rev Malia Ma'u at Burdekin



## Using Church Property for Social and Affordable Housing

Over recent months the Office of the Synod has received several inquiries about using a congregational property for social and affordable housing. This is an exciting example of our mission evolving to adjust to the world of today and tomorrow. Especially as the traditional pathways to resourcing and sustaining the Church's mission are becoming more challenging, along with these inquiries, the Synod is collaborating with the government and other church entities to establish a 'whole of church' approach.

Remember to share this information with your church council and Presbytery. If you are considering building, think about how to fund the pre-work, such as the site survey, town planning, and architecture. These services are required before moving on to a builder, project manager, operations manager, and the service and maintenance of the built property.

Whilst our direction is being finalised, please send all inquiries on this topic to [property@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:property@ucaqld.com.au)

## Assembly Info

### Act2 Congregation Resources

The Act2 Team are sharing with you today [a collection of resources](#) to help your congregation get involved in the Project. These include:

- [A video](#) - You can share the video with your community via email, social media or in worship when you meet
- A poster - You can put it up in your community space. For a hi-res file [see the website](#). If you would like a poster mailed to you, reply to this email with a postal address.

**Some pre-written notices introducing the Act2 Project and opportunities to contribute - You can put these in your worship PowerPoints, newsletter, websites and your social media.**

### Church Council Conversations

We are also asking your Church Council or local leaders to have a conversation about the Act2 Project and the role it can play in helping local communities of faith flourish into the future.

Below you can download a Church Council Pack with six questions for you to discuss and share back. We invite your Church Council to discuss the questions and share your feedback in one of the following ways:

- Using the online form [on the webpage](#)
- Email the provided [Response Form](#) to the team [uca.act2@nat.uca.org.au](mailto:uca.act2@nat.uca.org.au)
- Mail the provided [Response Form](#) to: Act2 Project Unit, c/o Uniting Church Assembly, PO Box A2266, Sydney South, NSW 1235

**Responses to the Church Council questions are due 30 April 2023.**

**If you have any questions, please ring out Act2 Hotline on (02) 8026 9728.**

## From The Word for Today...

### It's time to pray

**'In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord.'** Psalm 77:2 KJV

Here are two important prayer principles:

1) *Talk to God when troubles surround you.*

If you're like most people, good times can make you trust in yourself instead of God. It's the troubled times that drive you to your knees. A bad medical report, a child hooked on drugs, a lost job, or a troubled marriage. That's God's intention in allowing troubled times! He allows trouble to afflict us not to make us miserable but to bring us to Himself.

Hosea, the prophet, said, *'I will depart and return to my place until they recognise their guilt and seek my face; they will search for me in their distress.'* (Hosea 5:15 CSB). God's fatherly heart wants above all that we abide and confide in Him. And if it takes trouble to do it, He loves us enough to permit it. But when we turn to Him in our troubles, we discover that He is *'our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble'* (Psalm 46:1 NLT).

## 2) Talk to God at all times.

In his widely-read classic, *The Practice of the Presence of God*, Brother Lawrence speaks of prayer as a continual conversation with God – a practice for all times, places, and circumstances. While cooking and washing dishes, he found conversing with God as satisfying as in his allotted prayer times. He counsels us: ‘That we may accustom ourselves to a continual conversation with Him... in simplicity. That we need only to recognise God intimately present with us and to address ourselves to Him every moment.’

That sounds like Paul’s instructions on the subject: ‘*With every prayer and request, pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be alert with all perseverance and every request for all the saints,*’ (Ephesians 6:18 NASB).

(Reflection from [vision.org.au](http://vision.org.au) website – The Word for Today reading, 8 March 2023) The Word for Today is authored by Bob and Debby Gass

# Synod News & Info.

## Vacancies

### UnitingCare Queensland is seeking a Director of Mission (DOM)

The Director of Mission (DOM) will ensure UCQ, as an agency of the Uniting Church, reflects on how it lives out its mission, support the induction, formation and development of leaders across the organisation and foster a culture that builds strong and healthy collaborative relationships between UCQ services, its leaders and the wider Church.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

All applicants should include a cover letter, references and a resume. Send applications or questions to [placements@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:placements@ucaqld.com.au). Applications close March 13, 2023.

## Safe Church and Safe Ministry with Children

### Reminder: Safe Church information request - Due March 15

As you know, we are all working together to fulfil our commitment to the safety and well-being of our community and to ensure we conduct all appropriate child-safe activities. Presbyteries have been requested by the General Secretary to work with congregations to supply information for a Safe ministry with children assessment. Congregations will be contacted by their presbytery. The information must be collated and forwarded to the Synod office by March 15, 2023.

**If you have any concerns or questions, please contact your Presbytery office or email the Safe Church Assurance and Support Officer, Lynde Davy, at [safechurch@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:safechurch@ucaqld.com.au).**

### Annual Safe Church Audit

The annual audit includes all volunteers, not only those volunteers in child-related roles. All volunteers must complete a [Statement of Personal Commitment](#) each year and complete training relevant to their role. New resources have been developed to assist congregations, presbyteries and [regulated businesses](#) in gathering this [information](#). Resources are available on the synod [website](#).

**If you have any concerns or questions, please get in touch with your Presbytery office or the Safe Church Assurance and Support Officer, Lynde Davy, at [safechurch@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:safechurch@ucaqld.com.au) or [07 3377 9833](tel:0733779833).**

## Resources / Training / Workshops / Camps / Celebrations

### Lent 2023 materials and resources are now available

Each week there is a reflection, discussion questions, and challenges to help you and your community consider practices that form people who become lifelong followers of Jesus' way. Following this year's Lectionary readings, this material will explore parts of Jesus' recorded ministry and discover some of the templates he set for his disciples when he invited them to "follow me".

Sign up for updates [here](#) and [click here](#) to 'Journey with Jesus' during Lent.

### Possible electricity savings

The Synod Office is exploring options for saving money on your electricity expenditure. To register your interest in this initiative, please email [bdu@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:bdu@ucaqld.com.au) with the following;

- Contact details
- Congregation or UEL location
- Four most recent electricity bills

Please contact [bdu@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:bdu@ucaqld.com.au) if you have any questions.

### Easter Madness 2023

Easter Madness, the annual four-day High School camp, is happening 1-4 April at QCCC, Mt Tamborine. Easter Madness is for young people to evolve and dive deeper into their faith and discipleship, build community and develop leadership, communication, team and social skills. Partner with Easter Madness and give the gift of discipleship to a young person or a leader today.

We want to encourage you to share Easter Madness with your congregational / community families. This is such a great opportunity for you to be involved with youth ministry and discipleship. Please check out our church kit - [www.eastermadness.com.au](http://www.eastermadness.com.au) where you can download ppt slides, flyers etc.

Use the QR code or head to [www.eastermadness.com.au](http://www.eastermadness.com.au) to donate today.

## Life of the Church

### Save the Date! Uniting in Prayer 2023

You are invited to **Uniting in Prayer**, a national Uniting Church prayer event between Pentecost and the 46th Uniting Church Anniversary this year (28 May – 22 June). As whole-of-Church discernment about the future of the Uniting Church continues through the Act2 Project, *Uniting in Prayer* is an opportunity to come together in thanksgiving and hope as we seek the leading of the Spirit. For 26 days, we'll be sharing prayers from across our Church; we'll gather for prayer and invite Uniting Church communities to pray for each other.

*"Through Uniting in Prayer, we want every part of our Church to be joined together in prayer for one another and our life together,"* says Uniting Church President Rev Sharon Hollis in a video message.

Save the date in your personal and Church calendars now and look for resources landing in mid-April to help you and your community participate.

In the meantime, you can [register](#) yourself or your community for updates!