

Link



Pastoral Notes / Prayer Points

- ◆ Prayers for all the ministries, outreach and mission being undertaken within our congregations & faith communities
- ◆ Prayers for all our ministry agents, members & those in leadership roles in our congregations and faith communities
- ◆ Prayers for our Presbytery Ministers as they lead the Presbytery in its mission & vision as well as provide support and pastoral care to the ministry agents within Carpentaria & resource congregations / faith communities

Date Claimers & Reminders

Northern Zone Meeting

* The next Northern Zone meeting will be held on 26 August

Calvary Zone Meeting

* The next Calvary Zone meeting will be held on 2 November in Cairns

November Presbytery Meeting – Change of Venue

* The next Presbytery meeting will be held on **3-5 November 2023** in Townsville at Mount Louisa Community Church. Accommodation options will be advised closer to the meeting

Presbytery Office NEW

Postal Address

PO Box 6071
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(07) 4068 8131

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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presminrural@ucacarpentaria.com.au

Presbytery Minister Pastoral & Coastal

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Presbytery Administrator

Robyn Cooley
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admin@ucacarpentaria.com.au

Hospital Chaplains:

Cairns:

Rev Shane Kammermann
0409 287 109

Townsville:

Rev Barry Cox
0408 415 816

Carpentaria News...

Synod Bookkeeping Service and Xero Subscriptions Invoicing - Attention Congregation Treasurers

July's invoices are on their way, and payment is due by early August. We'll process payments through Direct Debit on the first Wednesday of the following month. In 3 months, we'll review invoicing and payment schedules.

- If you prefer a different payment method, reach out to us at accounts@ucaqld.com.au

Thank you for your congregation's support. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions at accounts@ucaqld.com.au.

Safe Church - Synod Wide Blue Card Policy

Congregations and organisations already complying with the Safe Ministry with Children Policy are meeting the new Synod Wide Blue Card Policy requirements.

- [Check the Synod webpage for child, youth, and vulnerable person safety information](#)

Do you have a suggestion on how we can work together better to ensure everyone can connect, contribute, and belong? Contact Lynde Davy at safechurch@ucaqld.com.au or call [07 3377 9983](tel:0733779983).

Reminder - 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.

Reminders - 37th Synod and Blue Care 70th Anniversary

37th Synod

- The 37th Synod will be held on **20-24 October 2023** at Alexandra Headlands and each delegate must be fully registered by 25 August. **Air travel bookings must be made through the Synod Office** by phoning (07) 3377 9727 or emailing reception@ucaqld.com.au. If phoning, please state early in the conversation that you wish to make a booking for the 37th Synod in Session.

Blue Care 70th Anniversary

- Congregations are encouraged to promote this event and look at how they join in the celebrations. For more information about local champions, please get in touch with Sheri Holland at Sheri.Holland@ucareqld.com.au

UnitingCare Prayer Points for July

➔ Financial Support and Gambling Support Services

These two separate, small services provide invaluable help and support for those facing financial difficulty or who recognize a gambling problem.

➔ Pray for the staff-

That they have patience and wisdom in how to walk alongside those they look after.

That where necessary practical ways can be found to support their clients to help themselves.

➔ Pray for clients-

That the often complex personal situations can be addressed by referral to other available programmes. Pray that funding and places would be available without long waitlists.

That they can continue with the programmes despite setbacks in their progress to address the identified issues.

➔ Pray for clients' families and friends-

For those impacted by others' situations may find forgiveness and be able to help in the process of healing and overcoming situations caused by the clients.

Christine Herman, Cairns Region Community Chaplain

Synod / Assembly / UnitingCare News...

Act2: Join the Collective Discernment Phase

Greetings from the Act2 Project!

We are pleased to release the "Act2: In Response to God's Call" report, summarising our engagement in the Uniting Church from November 2022 to June 2023.

- [Click here to read the report](#)

We're grateful to everyone who reflected on the Uniting Church's identity during this time. The report captures these insights, frustrations, hopes, dreams, and challenges. Jesus remains at our core, walking with us and guiding us into true life. The report outlines four directions for our faith communities' future and four options for governance and resources.

We're now entering the Collective Discernment phase, inviting every part of the Uniting Church to engage with the report, directions, and options over the next five months. Your input will shape proposals presented at the 17th Assembly in July 2024. Join us in shaping the future by participating in the opportunities below.

Let's discern and imagine together, led by the Holy Spirit, for our future. [Click here to learn more about Act2.](#)

Celebrate QLD's frontline heroes!

The 2023 Queensland Community Impact Awards recognise the outstanding contributions of individuals and organisations in keeping communities connected and safe - nominations close July 31st. **Find out more about the [Queensland Council of Social Service \(QCOSS\)](#)**

- [Nominate now!](#)

Strengthening Connections with Uniting Church Congregations in QLD!

Connect 100 strengthens connections with Uniting Church congregations across Queensland. Embracing UnitingCare's dedication to sharing in mission as part of the Uniting Church family.

- [Click here to read the latest Connect100 newsletter](#)

For more information on Connect 100, including potential partnerships in your community, contact connect100@ucareqld.com.au.

Parenting for a Life of Faith – Brisbane: Join Rachel for five essential tools to cultivate faith at home

Meet Rachel Turner, the visionary behind “It Takes a Church to Raise a parent”! Inspired by God in 2005, in addition to her acclaimed writing, she is a sought-after speaker with a great sense of humour. Her passion will resonate with parents, pastors and children’s ministry leaders. Don’t miss this incredible opportunity!

Q&A included. Open to all! Don’t miss her in person:

- Parenting for a life of Faith – Townsville: Wed 13th Sept, 7.00-9.00pm @Northreach Baptist Church, Kirwan (Register on <https://events.humanitix.com/rachelturnertownsville>)
- Ministry Leaders’ Breakfast – Townsville: Thur 14th Sept, time and venue TBC

Register on the website next week: <https://rachelturndownunder.com/>

Free Bystander Action Training

Training will be held at UnitingCare Community Townsville on Wednesday, 6 September 2023 from 8.30am – 12.30pm. Bystander Action Training is about building communities that do not allow violence against women to continue. Each of us has a part to play in preventing domestic violence and family violence.

The Bystander Approach offers a framework in which everyone has a positive role to play in violence prevention and intervention. [Click Here](#)

If you are interested or have any questions please contact Sam McDonnell on 0488 488 833 or email: sam.mcdonell@ucareqld.com.au

Small Grants: Strengthening Rural Communities

The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) offers Small Grants for remote, rural, and regional communities across Australia. These grants support a wide range of initiatives that directly benefit local communities. Objectives include enhancing community recovery from COVID, reducing social isolation, and sustaining local organisations.

- [Apply now and make a positive impact in your community!](#)

FRRR Small and Vital Grant Stream is Now Open!

Don't miss out on the opportunity to apply for the Community Strengthening Rural Communities: Small and Vital grants. This program is specifically designed to support small rural, regional, and remote communities across Australia. With grants available for a wide range of grassroots, community-led initiatives, this is your chance to secure funding for projects that directly benefit your local community.

- [Take action today and create a positive change in your community! Apply now to make a meaningful impact!](#)

Social Justice Priorities Survey

The Moderator's Advocacy Social Justice Team (MAST) and Plenty Transforming Communities Refer Group want your feedback. Share the issues you think are important, and tell us about the work you are doing to support your community. You can make your voice heard in less time than it takes to make a cup of tea.

[Click here to take the survey](#)

If you have any questions or comments, email communications@ucaqld.com.au



37th Synod in Session

*The theme for the 37th Synod is **'Renewal – faith for a new season'**. We are very aware that we have inherited so much from those who have gone before us in this country, in the faith and in the Uniting church. We will be exploring what it means to be renewed in our commitment to God and the church and asking God to 'start again with us' as we enter a new season.*

From The Word for Today...

Showing love and respect

'Love one another ... giving precedence and showing honour to one another.' Romans 12:10 AMPC

One of the first signs of trouble in a marriage is taking each other for granted. And it happens subtly, like a weed growing up and choking a rose. Dr James Dobson writes: 'One of the best ways to keep a marriage healthy is to maintain a system of mutual accountability within the context of love. This is done by protecting what I call the 'line of respect'.

Let me illustrate. Suppose I work in my office two hours longer than usual knowing that my wife, Shirley, is at home preparing a special candlelight dinner. If I don't call to let her know I'll be late, you can bet that I'm going to hear about it when I get home. Shirley would see my behaviour as insulting – and she'd be right.

So she'd say, in effect, 'Jim, what you did was selfish, and I can't let it pass.' In those few words, and probably a few more, she would have spoken her mind in love and held me accountable for my disrespect. Then we would move on together.

In a healthy marriage, some things are worth defending, and mutual respect is at the top of the list. This doesn't mean you should nag, insult, publicly embarrass your mate, or point out insignificant indiscretions that should be overlooked.

But a workable system of checks and balances can keep your marriage on course when issues of respect are at stake. This kind of mutual accountability is the best way I know to avoid an unexpected explosion when stored resentment and anger reach a critical mass. So: **'Love one another ... giving precedence and showing honour to one another'** (Romans 12:10 AMPC).

(Reflection from vision.org.au website – The Word for Today reading, 26 July 2023) The Word for Today is authored by Bob and Debby Gass)

