

Link



Carpentaria Presbytery

- of the Uniting Church in Australia -

Pastoral Notes / Prayer Points

- ◆ *Blue Care 70th Celebration*
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
- ◆ *PLT meeting was held on Tuesday*
- ◆ *Craig Mischewski, Acting Presbytery Minister is on leave*
- ◆ *Pray for Christy Allen as she continues as Presbytery Minister solo while Garry & Craig on leave*

Presbytery Office NEW

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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.

37th Synod – Renewal: faith for a new season

* The 37th Synod will be held on **20-24 October 2023** at Alexandra Headlands and each delegate must be fully registered by **25 August**

Carpentaria News...

Wik Dance Team from Aurukun performed at the 2023 Laura Quinkan Aboriginal Dance Festival

On Thursday, 6th July, after much preparation, practice and anticipation, the Wik Dance team from Aurukun headed off in a 25 seater big bus, a 12 seater mini bus and a private car, two trailers in tow, to the 2023 Laura Quinkan Aboriginal Dance Festival. The festival would run for the next three days, finishing on Sunday 9th of July.

Performing 3 times at the festival, adorned in traditional hand made hand dyed (using local roots for the dye) grass skirts, two types of ochre from Wik Country and specially printed-for-the-occasion tee shirts which proudly proclaimed "We Are Wik - Language, Culture and Country", the Aurukun Kang Kang (Sea Eagle) Dancers celebrated their Cultural Heritage in front of a large crowd and were warmly received by everyone, including the judges. Whilst we don't go to Laura to compete or entertain, but rather to celebrate our Culture and Identity, we were allocated a spot in the Sunday "finals" as everyone had admired the strong Spirit which our Dancers had performed in.

Great fun and enjoyment was shared by all the team, from a 3 year old to an 86 year old, with a special Sunday morning prayer fellowship led by Community Pastor and lead Songman Perry Yunkaporta, which saw a visiting group from NSW join us in prayer and song, including choruses sung in Wik Mungkan. It was a very beautiful morning service in a picturesque setting and the Blessings were shared by all.

The Aurukun Kang Kang Dancers would like to thank the Carpentaria Presbytery and especially Robyn Cooley, for their auspices and support of the event. The Dancers themselves gain so much in the way of self respect, dignity and pride for the Cultural Heritage but this also has a knock-on effect to the wider Aurukun Community when they hear the stories and see the pictures and videos of their family members who represented them at Laura. There was also a lot of catching up done at Laura amongst extended family members and friends who had not seen each other for long periods of time, for which everyone was also very grateful.

Noel Waterman, Laura Dance Festival



UnitingCare Prayer Points for August

BlueCare

- ➔ Give thanks for 70 years of caring.
- ➔ For clients both in their own homes or in care facilities. That they would feel loved, valued and cared for by the staff and volunteers. Pray that they may experience God's presence.
- ➔ For staff working in facilities that they may find fulfillment in their work and show compassion and joy in their workplaces.
- ➔ Pray for the staff who work in community settings. There are major restructures taking place in the Cairns region this month and for Townsville and other areas in due course. Pray for those leading this change, for all staff and their families who are impacted. That they would experience peace and patience, support one another and their clients during this time.

Christine Herman, Cairns Region Community Chaplain

Important Update: Crawford TPA to Manage Insurance Property Claims from 21 July 2023

Group Insurance is pleased to be able to announce the appointment that Crawford TPA will begin management of our existing insurance property claims from Friday, July 21, 2023. New and other insurance claims classes will progressively be transitioned to Crawford TPA in the coming weeks.

Crawford TPA is a team of specialist claims professionals who will manage claims from end-to-end on behalf of the Church across all lines of insurance. They have intimate knowledge of the claims process and are adept at assisting in navigating the challenges that arise during the life of a claim.

For more information, don't hesitate to contact Group Insurance at UCInsurance@ucaqld.com.au.

Redress Invoices

The Uniting Church in Queensland is committed to doing all that we can to provide fair, consistent and compassionate redress for people who were sexually abused as children in our care.

The Queensland Synod will soon dispatch the yearly invoices for the Synod Redress Abuse Recovery program to all church bodies. We are currently in the final stages of determining the invoiced amounts, and these invoices should arrive by early August.

If you have any questions about the invoice you receive, please get in touch with finance at accounts@ucaqld.com.au.

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).**

2023 World Prayer Assembly in Perth, Western Australia

The purpose of the World Prayer Assembly (WPA) is to bring the Body of Christ together as a corporate gathering to pray—all nations united in one place with one purpose, to cry out to the Lord in one accord to the creator of the universe to hear our prayers and heal our lands. We desire to see every tribe, family and generation come together for this event.

With the increasing effects of disunity and division we have experienced over the last few years, the world needs the Body of Christ joining together united as one humanity, building bridges of hope and unity between denominations, Jews and Gentiles, young and old, fathers and sons, mothers and daughters and every nationality.

A cry needs to be heard across the nations of the earth to see His Kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven to usher in a wave of glory.

I would like to ask if you would consider being a part of this event yourself, or sending someone from your church to be a part of the World Prayer Assembly 2023 in Perth, Western Australia. Please don't miss being a part of what God is doing through the WPA as we welcome you to Perth to join us from the **3rd–6th of October** this year before passing the baton to Israel, where WPA plans to gather in 2024.

To find out more about World Prayer Assembly 2023, visit <https://world.prayerassembly.org/> for all the details you need, including accommodation options, dates, times, pricing and sign-up information. Or contact us direct at admin@wpa2023au.org

Chairman, World Prayer Assembly 2023

Synod / Assembly / UnitingCare News...

Nominate an Outstanding Volunteer for the Moderator's Community Service Medal

Know an incredible volunteer making a difference in the Uniting Church community? It's time to recognise their hard work! Nominations for the Moderator's Community Service Medal are now open. If they've shown outstanding service, nominate them!

- **[Find out more and submit a nomination here](#)**

Email mission@ucareqld.com.au for a printable form.

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.](#)

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://rachelturnerdownunder.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 McDonell on 0488 488 833 or email: sam.mcdonell@ucareqld.com.au

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

From The Word for Today...

Growing older with grace

'For length of days and long life And peace they will add to you.' Proverbs 3:2 NKJV

By the year 2030, one in five of us will be seventy years of age or older. That's about 20 per cent of the world's population. Millions of us will live to be a hundred or more. When asked at his birthday party how he felt about turning eighty, American President Dwight D. Eisenhower replied, 'It sure does beat the alternative!'

African American Anita Bogan died in 2007 at the ripe old age of 106. Her obituary in the *Los Angeles Times* read: 'Blessed with good health and a sound mind, Bogan spent most of her old age doing what she wanted to do, with a feisty, what's-age-got-to-do-with-it attitude. In the decades following her 80th year, she created a non-profit foundation to build senior housing, opened a floral shop, played golf daily, took cruises to celebrate her birthdays and inspired people. On Bogan's 100th birthday, the Kern County Board of Supervisors declared an "Anita Bogan Day".' By her attitude towards life, Anita changed the way people around her viewed ageing.

And the Bible doesn't just promise long life, it promises *quality* life. '*My son, do not forget my law, But let your heart keep my commands; For length of days and long life And peace they will add to you.*' (Proverbs 3:1-2 NKJV). '*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. For by me your days will be multiplied, And years of life will be added to you.*' (Proverbs 9:10-11 NKJV).

The secret of enjoying the ageing process is to build a close relationship with God and live according to His principles.

(Reflection from vision.org.au website – The Word for Today reading, 2 August 2023) The Word for Today is authored by Bob and Debby Gass)

