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Office Hours

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UCA Queensland Synod Corona-virus Update

For the latest COVID-19 updates and resources, visit the <u>Synod website</u>.

Presbytery Office

Garry is on Leave till 9th May all his emails are going to Rev Christy Allen.

Please call Christy, or the Presbytery office or your Zone Chair. Except for the Cape gulf Zone as Rev David Ellis is on leave.

Please remember that MONDAYS is Christy's day off

Pastoral Notes Celebrations & Prayer Points

Please Pray For:

- 1. Garry & Teresa Hardingham for refreshing during this break, till 9th May.
- 2. Christy & Peter Allen & family, for wisdom, discernment, creative solutions to difficult issues & safety as she travels around our Presbytery.
- 3. Ps Gewa & Cynthia Au (Mornington Is), she is struggling with some health issues.
- 4. Ps Leonard Paul (Aurukun) who is dealing with some health issues.

Monday Prayer:

Go of redemption, for all who this day are walking in fear- bring your peace.

*For all who this day are facing an uncertain futurebring your hope.

*For all who this day are grieving losses & heartbreaks- bring your comfort.

*For all who this day are angry or hurt or broken or lost- bring your very presence to surround & bear them up.

Moderator Andrew Gunton

Carpentaria Presbytery & Retreat

If you have not received either your invoice or receipt please send me an email so I can rectify this. Thanks,

Marie

See below in Synod News, the Statement from UnitingCare Queensland on recent cyber incident

Townsville

Thursday 24th June & 1st July



Lend a handBecome a pastoral care volunteer

Do you want to become equipped with the skills to provide pastoral care & support to people in your church & local community?

The **Volunteers CARE Essentials Course** is a basic introduction to Christian pastoral care where you will learn the foundational skills needed to get started on your pastoral care journey.

Venue: Mt Louisa Community Church (485 Bayswater Rd, Mt Louisa)

Date: Thursday 24th June & 1st July **Time: 9am- 5pm**

"This course is well suited as a basic skills training and refresher course for Elders/Church Council/Leaders or others involved in Pastoral Care. It is also designed to be part of the basic requirements for those wanting to participate in Pastoral Care in other contexts such as Hospitals. Training is not restricted to Uniting Church people.

More info contact Jan: topspot88@gmail.com

Register Now: ucagld.com.au/volunteerscare

Information about *Care Essentials* and the *Care Matters* follow on course can be found at: https://ucagld.com.au/about-us/chaplaincy/pastoral-care-volunteers/

Location: Cairns (Final Venue TBC)

Possible Dates: Mid June/ Possibly Thursday and Friday June 10th-11th

Contact Rev. Shane Kammermann (Hospitals Chaplain)

skamme@internode.on.net

Note: if you are interested please contact me even if the proposed dates

don't suit you.

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Can be ordered via contacting Robyn Cooley (Presbytery Admin) 0429 195 506

Pay via Direct deposit:

Bank: ANZ; Account Name: UCA Carpentaria Presbytery; BSB: 014-676; Account #: 4749 06 525

When you replace "why is this happening to me" with "What is God trying to show me", everything changes.



Christy's thoughts

Over the last few weeks, we have all had to wear our masks with more frequency. There is no denying that this makes life a bit tricky particularly for those who have lung issues. However, something far more disturbing happened to me during this recent time, one that was both embarrassing and painful. A new medical condition has emerged..... chin burn! You heard me correctly, "CHIN BURN".

You see, during worship the other week when masks were mandatory, I wore my mask. Without thinking too much of it, I sang and participated fully in worship. Later that day my chin was a worrying shade of red and tender to touch. I realized then that a terrible affliction had befallen me..... chin burn.

What made it worse was that a couple of days later I had to fly to Brisbane for monthly presbytery minister meetings and had to don my mask again. It was painful to have the mask on even though I admit to looking rather fetching in my Winnie the Pooh mask!

So, whilst I have been parading a red chin for a few days, I got to thinking about this season we are in. I am not going to suggest for one minute that my discomfort any way compares to those who wear protective face mask, shields and other equipment to protect themselves on the frontline in our hospitals. If anything, my red chin has reminded yet again to give thanks to God for those who serve the community during this time.

I think all of us were hoping this season would end before now, but it continues to shape our day to day lives in ways that are unpredictable and often difficult. For those who have had Covid, the recovery is varied and for some long lasting or life changing. Others of course are grieving the loss of loved ones. Many have been unable to connect in person with loved ones and have missed important family milestones. Many have lost their jobs or have had to completely change the way they work with less paid hours to support their families.

So, what are we to do in a time such as this? How are we to keep moving forward? There is so much that could be said on this, so many Scriptures to quote and many a sermon one could write. I will spare you that and leave you with some words from Paul's letter to the Romans. May these words fill you with hope and assure you of God's faithfulness in all seasons.

Paul writes in Romans 8...

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Blessings, Christy

Synod News & info

Church partner news

Statement from UnitingCare Queensland on recent cyber incident

On Sunday 25 April, UnitingCare Queensland (UCQ) was impacted by a cyber incident. As a result of this incident, some of the organisation's Digital and Technology systems are currently inaccessible.

UnitingCare Queensland are committed to keeping our people, patients, clients and residents informed and safe as we work to resolve this incident and will provide further relevant updates as new information comes to hand.

Updates on this matter will be posted to the UnitingCare Queensland website.

Dear Friends.

The cooperative is delighted to announce the commencement of Albert Street Lecture Series: quarterly lectures for Uniting Church public theology. Our Moderator, the Rev

Andrew Gunton, will deliver our first lecture on May 27th and we would love if you could share this exciting news with your network. A recording will be made available for all those outside the south east corner.

More info to come, contact: Janice McRandal Director - The Cooperative M 0478 033 214 | E imcrandal1@wmg.org.au |

www.wmq.org.au

cooperative cooperati Thursday May 27 2021 7pm guarterly lectures held and recorded from the Queensland community of the Uniting Church in Australia and allow space for public theological reflection as we think together the past and future of the UCA and critical issues of our time. Albert Street Uniting The Cooperative invites you to join us on Thursday May 27 at 7pm for the first lecture ecture Moderator Rev Andrew Gunton as our opening speaker for this evening. RSVP: May 20, 2021 by booking your seat on www.thecoo Albert Street Uniting Church corner of Albert and Ann Streets, Brisbane

Wesley House: 140 Ann Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

This will be live streamed on their facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/TheCooperativeBrisbane

A new approach required to alter the youth justice trajectory

The Uniting Church in Queensland has released a <u>statement</u> calling for effective, compassionate and evidence-based solutions in response to the Youth Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 passed by the Queensland Government last week.

The Uniting Church in Queensland with agencies like UnitingCare Queensland and Wesley Mission Queensland provides services and support to Queensland families and young people coming into contact with police and the courts.

Other news

Celebrating Wesley Day (New date)

Wesley Day will be celebrated on **Sunday 16 May** at 2.30pm with a service at Pilgrim People, 52 Merthyr Road, New Farm.

The service will include the singing of seven hymns by Charles Wesley, choral music by SS Wesley sung by the Pilgrim Singers conducted by Adele Nisbet and organ music by Samuel Wesley played by Dr Steven Nisbet. The service is followed by refreshments.

If you let us know you will be there we look forward to welcoming you.

Email pilgrimpeoplebne@outlook.com.