



Carpentaria Presbytery

- of the Uniting Church in Australia -



#8 | 2026




NOTES & UPDATES

- **Christy in Brisbane** for PresMins/PSI and Placement meetings
- **Christy and Ana at SSP Training** in Brisbane on 18 April
- **39th Synod – Carpentaria Roll** – congregational reps **due to Ana by 17 April**
- **Registrations for Presbytery Meeting on 1-3 May 2026 in Cairns** now open – **deadline is 24 April**
- **Registration for Presbytery Retreat on 3-6 May in Cardwell** now open – **deadline is 24 April**
- **Kirwan Uniting Church Market Day** on 9 May

PRAYER POINTS

- **Presbytery Capacity / Resourcing** – Synod wide conversations and discernment
- **Areas and communities affected by storms and flooding**
- **Preparations for upcoming Presbytery Meeting and Retreat in May**
- **Napranum UCA and Ministry**

PRESBYTERY OFFICE

 Monday – Friday | 8:30am – 5:00pm  0459 544 507  PO Box 6071, Mackay MC QLD 4741

Presbytery Minister Pastoral & Coastal

REV CHRISTY ALLEN (Chairperson)

0418 184 834 | presmincoastal@ucacarpentaria.com.au

Residing in Southern Zone

Presbytery Minister Rural (Supply)

REV CRAIG MISCHEWSKI (Deputy Chairperson)

0400 036 630 | cjmisch@gmail.com

Residing in Northern Zone

Executive Assistant

ANA MILA (Secretary)

0459 544 507 | office@ucacarpentaria.com.au

Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.00pm

Presbytery Administrator

ROBYN COOLEY (Treasurer)

0429 195 506 | admin@ucacarpentaria.com.au

Mon & Tues 9am to 3:30pm | Wed 9am to 1:00pm |
Thur 12:30pm to 4:30pm

Administration Support (1 day/wk)

NATALIE LUND

0491 278 198 | natalie.lund@ucaqld.com.au

Mon 10am-12:30pm | Wed 2-4:30pm | Thurs 3-4:30pm

Uniting News – Stay connected with UCA QLD by subscribing to weekly updates and stories [here](#).

QLD Synod Hub – hub.ucaqld.com.au

Connect100+ Newsletter – email connect100@ucareqld.com.au

UCA Assembly Newsletter – subscribe [Sign up here](#)

PRESBYTERY CAPACITY AND RESOURCING

Presbytery Capacity & Presbytery Resourcing

We want to hear from you! As an individual, or Church Council we would like to know your feedback on the draft proposals:

- **Presbytery Capacity** | [Video](#) | [Draft proposal](#) (see page 5 for issue 1 & 2)
- **Presbytery Resourcing** | [Video](#) | [Draft proposal](#) (see page 6 & 7 for issues 1, 2 and 3)

You can simply send through a few dot points or if you would like a guiding document which includes the issues, please email Ana. Your feedback helps the Presbytery to form our response to the proposals.

It would be great to hear:

- **Positives** – what do you value from these proposals?
- **Challenges / questions** – what you are unsure about, or would like further information on?
- **Suggestions** – what are your ideas?

Please email to Ana at office@ucacarpentaria.com.au by **17th April**.

39TH SYNOD – CARPENTARIA PRESBYTERY ROLL

The 39th Synod in Session will be held from **Friday, 23 October to Monday, 26 October 2026**. The plenary sessions of the Synod will be held in the Auditorium, Alexandra Park Conference Centre, Mari Street, Alexandra Headlands, on the Sunshine Coast. **The Celebration of Ministries will be held in Brisbane on Thursday, 22 October at Albert Street Uniting Church.**

The theme for the 39th Synod in Session continues to focus on “RENEWAL”.

Congregations need to start making decisions as to who the Reps (**Ministry agent and Lay**) will be that attends the Synod meeting. All ministry agents are required to attend.

For the Synod Roll I will need:

- **Title:**
- **Name:**
- **Address:**
- **Email:**
- **Mobile:**
- **Congregation:**

No person should be elected to the Synod who cannot guarantee attendance at more than 80% of the Synod.

I would appreciate your assistance in getting the information to Ana ASAP by email:

office@ucacarpentaria.com.au, as I need to collate our Carpentaria roll before our Presbytery meeting in May 2026 so if everyone can aim to get their rep info to me by **17 April 2026** that would be great.

SAVE THE DATE FOR HELD TOGETHER – 20-24 JANUARY 2027

Young adults from every culture, community and story across the Uniting Church are invited to gather for [Held Together](#) in January 2027, marking the beginning of our 50th anniversary and our shared journey with the UAICC.

Hosted by President Rev Charissa Suli and the UAICC, this event will create space in the lead up to the Day of Mourning to listen, learn and honour First Nations voices, and walk forward together as one Church.

Held Together is an invitation to bring your whole self, encountering Jesus in the midst of real life, finding your voice, and sharing in healing, wellbeing and hope.

More than an event, this is about who we are becoming – together. Put it in your diary now: 20–24 January 2027. Further information coming soon.



POD (PERIOD OF DISCERNMENT) RENEWAL

The Christian Formation Meeting (BCF) approved the update to the POD documents.

All the documents are now available for download on the HUB
- <https://hub.ucaqld.com.au/resources/ministries/#period-of-discernment>

The plan/hope is to prepare packs for each congregation that include information about the new documents, posters and sample copies. These will be delivered to the next Presbytery meeting for POD coordinators to promote and hand out to congregations.

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY - KAIROS

When someone goes to prison, their family often serves the sentence too. **Kairos Outside North Queensland (KONQ)** brings hope to women in north Queensland impacted by the incarceration of a family member or friend. We invite churches across Townsville to be a part of bringing hope by encouraging Christian women with a heart to serve and walk alongside others in this life-changing ministry. **Changing Hearts. Transforming Lives. Impacting the World.**

For more information: Jill Sutcliffe - 0499195 095 Maria Curro – 0

417 004 925 konorthqldrecruit@kairos.org.au Website: www.kairos.org.au

KIRWAN UCA MARKET DAY ON 9 MAY 2026

They are looking for stall holders and people to attend. Check out the brochure below for more info.



**MARKET
DAY**



**KIRWAN UNITING
CHURCH**
Hinchinbrook Dr, Kirwan

**SATURDAY
9 MAY**



8:00am - 1:00pm
\$20 per site

Bookings & Information:

Phone : Michael : 0447 311 416
or
mmaclaren53@bigpond.com

BUILDING RESILIENCE SKILLS WORKSHOP ON 18 APRIL 2026

City Women NQ have organised Dr Amanda Nickson to run a **Building Resilience Skills workshop - Saturday 18 April 2.30pm - 4.30pm** (doors open at 2pm) at **Riverside Gardens Community Centre**, 55 Riverside Blvd, Douglas - **see attached flyer**. This workshop is designed to provide tools, support, and community for anyone looking to develop resilience skills for long-term health and well-being. Dr Amanda Nickson is an author, speaker, social worker, professional trainer, motivational speaker and pastor.

Cost \$10, and includes afternoon tea. **Register here:** [Resilience & Self Care Workshop](#)



DATE CLAIMERS

2026

23 March to 7 April – Robyn Cooley on Leave
13-14 April – Presbytery Office Bearers Collaboration in Brisbane
30 April – Muth Arrak Zone Meeting in Cairns
1-3 May – #1 Presbytery Meeting in Cairns at Cairns Emmanuel
4-6 May – Ministerial and Spouse Retreat at Cardwell
26 May to 5 July – Craig Mischewski on Leave
23-26 October – 39th Synod at Alex Park
19 November – Muth Arrak Zone Meeting in Cairns

Synod Selection Panel (SSP) Key Dates 2026
Panel Training Day – 18th April

Selection Day 1
Applications Close – 27th February
Psychological Testing – 7th March
Synod Selection Day 1 – 23rd May

Selection Day 2
Applications Close – 31st July

20-22 November – #2 Presbytery Meeting in Townsville
at Mount Louisa Community Church
23-25 November – PLT F2F Strategic Meeting

Psychological Testing – 8th August
Synod Selection Day 2 – 7th November

ZONE MEETINGS

Muth Arrak	Northern	Southern	Gulf
30 April - Cairns 19 November - Cairns	16 May 18 July 12 September	13 June 1 August	(Zoom meetings at 5.30pm) 23 April 18 June 20 August 17-19 November - Retreat to be confirmed



THE WORD FOR TODAY

MEDITATE AND ASSIMILATE

“I will meditate on Your precepts, and contemplate Your ways.” Psalm 119:15 NKJV

Meditation is the most effective way to assimilate God’s Word. David describes the “blessed” man this way: *“His delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night”* (Psalm 1:2 NKJV). And whatever you meditate on and memorise, the Holy Spirit will help you recall when you need it. *“He will...bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you”* (John 14:26 NKJV).

As one of the highest-ranking American captives in Vietnam, Jeremiah Denton was subjected to gruelling torture. But he survived, and returned home to become one of Alabama’s United States senators. How did he do it? He says that one of his basic survival skills was quoting passages of Scripture he had memorised. Internalised Scriptures were his unseen sword to fend off the cruellest weapons of the enemy. By inwardly focusing on the power of God to sustain and strengthen him, he was able to rise above his circumstances. Scriptures he had memorised and meditated on years ago became his prayers of deliverance.

When you meditate upon God and His Word, recalling His many promises and acts of faithfulness, your faith grows and your fears dissolve (see Romans 10:17). David understood this well. Many times, in his attempts to escape the wrath of King Saul, he recalled the greatness of God and found himself strengthened. *“I will meditate on Your precepts, and contemplate Your ways.” “I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel; my heart also instructs me in the night seasons”* (Psalm 16:7 NKJV). Do yourself a big favour: Begin to meditate on God’s Word and memorise it.

(Reflection from vision.org.au website – The Word for Today reading, 15 April 2026) The Word for Today is authored by Bob and Debby Gass and published under licence from UCB International Copyright 2026)

