



# Carpentaria Presbytery

- of the Uniting Church in Australia -



Link



#10 | 2026

## NOTES & UPDATES

- **Northern Zone meeting on Zoom on Sat, 23 May from 9.00-11.30am**
- **Craig on Leave** from 25 May to 5 July
- **Safe Church Audits** – audit questions have been sent to congregations and are **due for completion by 31 May**
- **National Church Life Survey 2026** info now available
- **New PO Box for Carpentaria Presbytery Office from 1 June 2026 is PO Box 7070, Garbutt QLD 4814**

## PRAYER POINTS

- **Presbytery Capacity / Resourcing – Synod wide conversations and discernment**
- **Aurukun ministry**
- **Patrol Ministry throughout QLD**
- **Townsville Consultation follow up work**
- **Townsville West End ministry**
- **Napranum UCA ministry**

## PRESBYTERY OFFICE



Monday – Friday | 8:30am – 5:00pm



0459 544 507



PO Box 7070, Garbutt QLD 4814  
New PO Box from 1 June 2026

### Presbytery Minister Pastoral & Coastal

**REV CHRISTY ALLEN (Chairperson)**

0418 184 834 | [presmincoastal@ucacarpentaria.com.au](mailto:presmincoastal@ucacarpentaria.com.au)

*Residing in Southern Zone*

### Presbytery Minister Rural (Supply)

**REV CRAIG MISCHEWSKI (Deputy Chairperson)**

0400 036 630 | [cjmisch@gmail.com](mailto:cjmisch@gmail.com)

*Residing in Northern Zone*

### Executive Assistant

**ANA MILA (Secretary)**

0459 544 507 | [office@ucacarpentaria.com.au](mailto:office@ucacarpentaria.com.au)

Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.00pm

### Presbytery Administrator

**ROBYN COOLEY (Treasurer)**

0429 195 506 | [admin@ucacarpentaria.com.au](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://hub.ucaqld.com.au)

Connect100+ Newsletter – email [connect100@ucareqld.com.au](mailto:connect100@ucareqld.com.au)

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

# May 20



Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.  
James 5:16 KJV



## CARPENTARIA NEWS

### SAFE CHURCH AUDIT – DUE 31 MAY 2026

The annual questions are now available to complete through Protecht, and are **due 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2026**. This is visible to only one Protecht user at your church, so check with others to find out who received it.

To complete (full steps here: [C2.1.13.8-Complete-the-Safe-Church-Audit-in-Protecht.pdf](#))

- Log in to [Protecht](#)
- Click on **Compliance Attestations** and **My Compliance Entry**
- Click into a question, select **yes, in progress** or **no**. Add a comment as needed and click **save**
- Repeat with the rest of the questions.

You no longer need to upload documents, however please continue to keep these up-to-date.

If you have any questions or need help with completing the audit, please reach out to:

- **Presbytery Support Unit** via [psu@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:psu@ucaqld.com.au) or **3377 9984** or Natalie directly on **3377 9934**
- **Protecht Support** via [protechtsupport@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:protechtsupport@ucaqld.com.au)

Thank you for maintaining a Safe Church culture as you do mission and ministry in your local contexts.

## NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY (NCLS) 2026

This year, thousands of churches across 20 denominations will take part in the National Church Life Survey (NCLS). Since 1991, the NCLS has provided trusted insights into church life and trends, making it the longest-running survey of its kind in the world. Post-COVID, this year's snapshot is a vital check.

**All Uniting Church congregations are encouraged to participate.  
We want to hear from all voices!**

**Cost involved:**

Qld Synod pays the \$400 fee, per local church.

Congregations pay \$2 per survey (no cost if congregation < 30)

**To Sign-Up:**

Please email our regional co-ordinator, Naomi Bell, to confirm participation and order the number of surveys required for your congregation. Email Naomi: [naomi.bell@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:naomi.bell@ucaqld.com.au)

To learn more about the NCLS you can watch the Norman and Mary Millar Lecture from the 36th Synod featuring Dr Ruth Powell, Executive Director of NCLS Research: [Norman and Mary Millar Lecture - Dr Ruth Powell NCLS](#).

General information about the NCLS survey can be found on the [NCLS website](#)



Australia's Largest Church Life Survey Returns in 2026

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**Every local Christian church in Australia is invited to take part in the eighth nationwide survey of churchgoers- the 2026 National Church Life Survey.**

## 2026 BURDEKIN GOSPEL MUSIC FESTIVAL

All are welcome to attend!



The poster for the 2026 Burdekin Gospel Music Festival features a vibrant, starry night sky background. At the top, the text reads "2026 Burdekin Gospel Music Festival" in large, bold, yellow and white letters. Below this, it says "Sunday 26<sup>TH</sup> July at Stardust Drive-in Ayr 2 - 6pm". The central theme is "AFTERNOON of MUSIC ART & FAMILY FUN". The poster features three main artists: Lynton Allan (a painter), Brendon Walmsley (a country musician playing a guitar), and Victor Claye (a hip-hop artist with a microphone). A red button in the bottom right corner says "FREE ENTRY". A list of activities includes "Live Music • Food Stalls • Kids Activities". A red banner at the bottom of the poster says "Bring your friends & family! Spread out your picnic rug and enjoy the show!".

**2026 Burdekin Gospel Music Festival**  
Sunday 26<sup>TH</sup> July at Stardust Drive-in Ayr 2 - 6pm  
**AFTERNOON of MUSIC ART & FAMILY FUN**

Lynton Allan  
Brendon Walmsley  
Victor Claye

**FREE ENTRY**

- Live Music • Food Stalls • Kids Activities
- **Brendon Walmsley:** Multi award winning Country Music artist
- **Victor Claye:** Blending the golden era Hip Hop with African rhythms
- **Lynton Allan:** Artist / Storyteller back by popular demand

*Bring your friends & family! Spread out your picnic rug and enjoy the show!*



Hosted by the Burdekin Uniting Church  
With assistance from the RADF

The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership  
between the Queensland Government and Burdekin Shire Council  
to support local arts and culture in Regional Queensland



## GRANT TIPS

**Tip 1:** "It's tempting to open the application form and start answering questions straight away. But this often leads to delays and rework. Before you begin, get clear on: what your project is; what outcomes you're aiming for; and what you're asking for. When that's clear first, the writing becomes much easier to move through."

**Tip 2:** "A lot of time is lost starting from scratch with each new application. Instead, build your core information once - then reuse and refine it. This might include: project descriptions; key statistics; or background information. Over time, this makes the process faster, easier, and far less repetitive."

**Tip 3:** "Grant applications are much harder when they're approached in an ad hoc way.

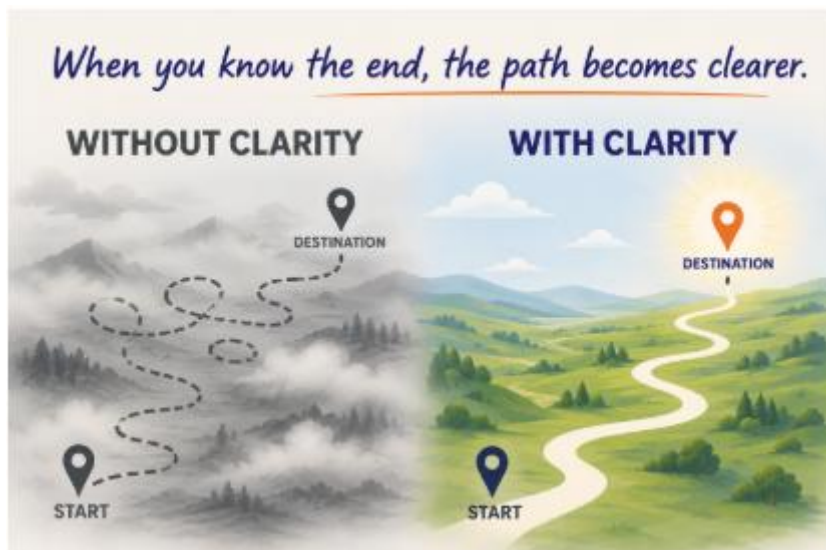
*Jumping between tasks or reacting to questions as they come up can slow everything down. Having a simple, clear process - knowing what to do first, next, and last - makes it much easier to stay on track and keep things moving."*

**Tip 4:** "**Start with the outcome** in mind. Before writing: understand what the application is really trying to achieve; what success looks like; and what information will matter most."

**Tip 5:** "**Keep your key information organised.** Not because being organised is exciting - but because it reduces decision fatigue and repetition, and stops errors when uploading to the portal during the submission process."

**Tip 6:** "Follow a repeatable process. When you understand:

- -what happens first
- -what comes next
- -and where you're heading  
...it becomes much easier to keep moving."



## TRINITY COLLEGE OPEN EVENING ON 25 MAY – JOIN ONLINE

**If it's still on your heart, it's worth exploring.**

For many people, the desire to explore their faith more deeply is what attracts them to theological study. That sense that there is so much more to learn that would give them a greater capacity to live out their Kingdom values.

At Trinity College QLD, that desire is welcome at any stage of life. Whether you're just starting out, mid-career, or well into a lifetime of ministry and service, the invitation to grow doesn't have an expiry date.

*"There's no shelf life for knowledge. There's no shelf life for being valuable in the kingdom of the Lord."*  
— **Rolani D., Trinity College Student**

And for many Trinity College students, that growth takes them somewhere unexpected. The Trinity Stack opens up a breadth of subjects and possibilities that can surprise even those who thought they already knew their direction.

*"There are so many opportunities at Trinity to help you explore God's calling on your life."*  
— **Malcom S., Trinity College Student**

If you've been wondering whether now is the right time, come and have that conversation with us. Join us for our **Open Evening on Monday, 25 May from 6:00pm to 8:30pm.**

📍 Trinity College  
60 Bayliss St, Auchenflower QLD 4066

**Register Online! Start your journey with Trinity College**

[Join us for our next Open Evening](#)

## UNITINGCARE MISSION GROUP INDUCTION – 16 JUNE 2026

Our Mission Team within UnitingCare fulfil its purpose in supporting *life in all its fullness* by integrating mission into culture, leadership, & services. This ensures mission remains a key differentiator for UnitingCare, & that we continue to live out our purpose as an expression of the mission of the Uniting Church in Queensland.

As part of this shared purpose, you are warmly invited to join **in person** (*seating for 45*) or **online** as we hold space together & formally induct **Rev Richard Cassady & Rev Tim Griggs** into our Mission Group.

**When:** Tue 16 Jun, 11.00am – 12.00pm

**Where:** UnitingCare Corporate Office, Level 5, 192 Ann Street, Brisbane

### Recognitions within UCQ

- **Rev Richard Cassady** – Manager, Church & Community Partnerships (First Peoples)
- **Rev Tim Griggs** – Connect100+ Queensland Ministry Lead, Mission & Community Partnerships

**In-person RSVP by Tue 9 Jun to [mission@ucareqld.com.au](mailto:mission@ucareqld.com.au)**

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact the Mission Team at [mission@ucareqld.com.au](mailto:mission@ucareqld.com.au)

## UPCOMING CML COURSES

The Centre for Ministry and Leadership (CML) has several excellent training opportunities coming up in June. These courses are designed to support discipleship, leadership development, and ministry formation across the life of the church.

These courses are a wonderful opportunity for learning, growth, and equipping for ministry. Please feel free to share this information with others in your congregation or ministry networks.


### Code of Ethics Foundations

 **3 June | 9:00am–12:30pm | Online**

An introduction to the Code of Ethics and Ministry Practice. This is a compulsory course for Interns, Pastors, Phase 2 Candidates and people training to be Lay Preachers.

### Uniting Church Studies – Part One and Two

 **Part One - 10 June | 6:00pm–8:00pm | Online**

 **Part Two - 24 June | 6:00pm–8:00pm | Online**

This two-part course introduces the Basis of Union and the mission and identity of the Uniting Church. All members of the UCA are encouraged to undertake this course. It is a required course for Interns, Pastors, POD participants, and people training to be Lay Preachers.

 **Register or learn more:**

<https://cml.org.au/all-courses/>



## DATE CLAIMERS

### 2026

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

**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  
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) 18 June 20 August 17-19 November - Retreat to be confirmed



# THE WORD FOR TODAY

## “OVERNIGHT SUCCESS” USUALLY TAKES MANY YEARS

**“Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.” Mark 11:24 NKJV**

Country-music star Randy Travis and his manager, Lib, remember the lean days of his career—all 3,650 of them. For ten years, Lib did whatever it took to keep her club open long enough for somebody to discover Travis’s talent. For his part, Randy sang his heart out. And when he wasn’t singing, he was frying catfish and washing dishes in the kitchen.

Then it happened. His break came, and everything seemed to click for him. He had a hit called “On the Other Hand,” an album contract, a tour offer, and a movie deal. He was hot! Suddenly, everyone seemed to be calling him an overnight success. But Randy recalls it differently: “We were turned down more than once by every record label in Nashville. But I’m the kind of one to believe that if you work at something long enough, and keep believing, sooner or later it will happen.” Randy Travis went on to become an American music legend, winning three Grammys and seven Dove Awards and being inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. But it didn’t come easily or happen overnight. It happened because he worked hard, remained faithful through the tough times, and trusted God to come through for him. Jesus said: *“Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.”* And here’s something you need to keep in mind: It will happen in God’s time, and on His schedule. Your part is to keep walking by faith and trusting Him to bring it to pass.

*(Reflection from vision.org.au website – The Word for Today reading, 20 May 2026) The Word for Today is authored by Bob and Debby Gass and published under licence from UCB International Copyright 2026)*



Therefore  
I say to you,  
whatever things you  
ask when you pray,  
believe that you receive them,  
and you will have them.

Mark 11:24

