



NOTES & UPDATES

- **Christy in Brisbane for week of meetings, will be in Napranum/Weipa over weekend then will be back in Cairns until 30 August**
- **REMINDER for Reps on Carpentaria Presbytery Roll to 39th Synod – you must register using the link sent to you by Synod. Registration closed on 17 August**
- **BlueCare Sunday on 23 August – Please send photos & a short description of your celebration to connect100@ucareqld.com.au**

PRAYER POINTS

- **Carpentaria Presbytery Minister, Congregations, Faith Communities, Ministry Agents and Councils as they serve and live out their church mission within the community**

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
Residing in Southern Zone
Mon (Day Off), Available Tues-Fri

Deputy Chairperson

REV CRAIG MISCHESKI
0400 036 630 | cjmisch@gmail.com

Executive Assistant

ANA MILA (Secretary)
0459 544 507 | office@ucacarpentaria.com.au
Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.00pm

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](#)



PRAYER FOR AUGUST

Dear God, Thank You for being so generous with us with Your wisdom! You are wise beyond measure. Help us to grow in wisdom. Show us how to trust in You when we don't understand.

Please provide us wise friends, and help us to be wise friends to other people.

May You be glorified in our wise actions. Guide us and correct us every day! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

HOPE FILLED FAITH



CARPENTARIA NEWS

ANNUAL RETURN

The Annual Return has been emailed to all Treasurers and Secretaries, noting an earlier return timeframe this year. Please check your emails for version 2, sent **19 Aug**.

Next steps:

1. Save and complete the Excel document
2. Email the Excel to pres.accounts@ucaqld.com.au and office@ucacarpentaria.com.au

Due: 15 September 2026

If you didn't receive a copy or need assistance, please contact the Presbytery Support Unit on psu@ucaqld.com.au or **07 3377 9984** on Mon-Fri 8:30am-5pm or Wed 5pm-8pm.

LIFELINE CRISIS SUPPORT AND SUICIDE PREVENTION CAIRNS – 55TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER – 10TH OCTOBER 2026

Lifeline Cairns is inviting community members to its 55th Anniversary Gala Dinner on 10 October 2026, celebrating decades of crisis support & suicide prevention across Far North Qld. It's theme: Saving Lives Together - celebrating volunteers, staff, supporters & community members who have contributed to Lifeline's work over the past 55 years.

The evening will include keynote speakers, entertainment, and networking opportunities with organisations and community leaders committed to suicide prevention and community wellbeing. A special recognition will also be given to a team member marking 45 years of service with Lifeline.

Event Details:

- **Saturday 10th October 2026**
- **6pm to 11pm**
- **Pullman Reef Hotel Casino Cairns**

To purchase a ticket/s:

1. Visit the Eventbrite registration page at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/lifeline-cairns-55th-anniversary-gala-dinner-tickets-1993982190408>
2. Select your ticket type - Standard Earlybird Individual
3. Enter the discount code **LLC55** and click Apply.
4. Complete your registration.

Accommodation – Guests can receive **10% off accommodation**, on the night of the event, generously provided by the Reef Casino Hotel, Cairns.

To book, contact the hotel on +61 (0)7 4030 8888 or Reservations@reefcasino.com.au quoting **1010QLDLIFE**. Rooms are subject to availability.

Should you have any queries, your direct link is [Therese Wade](#), Service Leader & Trainer, Lifeline Far North Qld, 0461 577 272.

DATE CLAIMER – CROSS CULTURAL MISSION WEEKEND AT AITKENVALE UC – 19-20 SEPTEMBER 2026

A Cross-Cultural Mission weekend will be held on 19-20th of September 2026 at Aitkenvale Uniting Church. Leader will be Rev Dr Jason Kioa and details to follow. Enquiries can be made to Rev Brendon Lukin on mob 0408 212 210.

PROPERTY CONDITION REPORTS

A big thank you to everyone from our congregations who assisted the Synod Office Property Team and Presbytery Support Unit to enable completion of our statewide QLD Synod property condition site assessments. A report for each property will be available via Protecht toward the end of November, due to confirmation of the rollout process required from Presbytery Synod Interface (PSI), Synod Office Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Synod Standing Committee (SSC).

If you have not heard from Property since the inspection, be assured, your property is in reasonable condition. Work orders were only distributed for safety issues such as cracked footpaths which can cause trip hazards.

If you have any questions, please ring the PSU on 1300 390 700 or email psu@ucaqlld.com.au or property@ucaqlld.com.au.

AITKENVALE UC GARAGE SALE – DONATIONS WELCOMED

THE GARAGE SALE is on again – **Sept 4 (5-9) and Sept 5 (8-12) at Aitkenvale Uniting Church**. Invite your Church people to spring clean and we will happily take your **quality unwanted items**. Your trash becomes someone else's treasure. We are also hoping to have a bake stall if that is more the contribution your Church would like to make. For information about donations and pickups contact 0413 527 651.

PRESBYTERY SUPPORT UNIT – EXTENDED HOURS

The PSU is here to assist!

Many of our volunteers conduct or complete church work in the evenings or over the weekend. To provide support in the evening, the Presbytery Support Unit will be open until 8pm on Wednesdays. **A trial will operate from Wednesday 8 July to Wednesday 23 September.** One of our Presbytery Support Officers will be available to answer the [1300 390 700](tel:1300390700) number and any emails that come into psu@ucagld.com.au.

ECUMENICAL – PREPARING FOR SEASON OF CREATION

Each year from 1 September to 4 October, Christians around the world joins in the Season of Creation – a time of prayer, worship and action celebrating God as Creator and caring for our common home.

The Assembly's 2026 Season of Creation celebration guide will be released soon. [Register today](#) to receive your copy directly in your inbox and prepare your community for this special season.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER MID YEAR MORNING TEA AT WULGURU UCA

The World Day of Prayer Townsville Committee 2026 warmly invites you to share this invitation with your church congregation and fellow church gatherings. The annual World Day of Prayer Mid-Year Morning Tea is to be held on **Friday, 28 August at 10:00am at the Wulguru Uniting Church** on the corner of Culgoa and Georgina Street, Wulguru. We look forward to gathering and sharing this special time of fellowship with you as we recount the history of World Day of Prayer services in Townsville. Please RSVP to Rita Tomby by 21 August 2026 on 0400375711 or ritatomba3@gmail.com.

INVITATION TO THE LAUNCH OF THE CONGREGATIONS SOCIAL IMPACT REPORT

We warmly invite you to join us for the **launch of the Congregations Social Impact Report online on 10 September 2026 at 5.30pm**—a moment to celebrate and reflect on the everyday ways our communities offer care, connection and support. This report shines a light on the often unseen, relational and volunteer-led impact happening across our congregations, helping us recognise what we already do and imagine what is possible together.

We look forward to having you attend the event! Please click on the link below to register.

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/1eaa5b94-03da-4229-b648-1dc2d98add31@6f22e5a7-e1b9-4ede-a7c5-31fca0deaa40>

RENEWAL PRAYER PROMO – ONLINE ON TUESDAY NIGHTS AT 7.00PM OR 1ST WED MORNING / MTH AT 6.00AM

Sometimes in life we can get stuck in ruts. Travelling paths in our thinking and acting that are so familiar they bring certainty, but not life.

Join us as we gather online from 7.00-7.30pm on a Tuesday night and pray, asking God to set us free from the things that trap us and hold us back, and help us find again the path that leads to real life for us, and for the world.

We'd love you to join us. Whether prayer feels natural to you, or you're not quite sure what you're doing, you're welcome. Come as you are.

To join us simply use this link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81994146488?pwd=VDcxd1dCbjluaHZQR3JsM0wySGdWUT09>

If you are unable to join us, you might like to join us in this prayer during the week

*Lord, if you hadn't been on our side,
where would we be now?
We know what it is to feel worn down,
caught in old patterns,
tired in spirit.
But you have not let us be swallowed up.
You are our help,
the one who pulls us free of the ruts,
breaks the trap
and sets us free to breathe again.
So renew your church, Lord.
Breathe new life into tired hearts.
Give us fresh courage, fresh hope,
fresh love for you and for our neighbours.
Our help is in your name,
and your strength,
the God who made heaven and earth.
Renew us, we pray.
Amen*

DATE CLAIMER: RICH CASSADY AND TIM GRIGGS INDUCTION CELEBRATION ON 1 SEPT 2026 (ONLINE LINK AVBLE)

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, we warmly invite you to join us as we hold space for the (new and) upcoming Induction Service for **Rev Richard Cassady & Rev Tim Griggs** into our Mission Group at our Corporate Services office.

When: Tue 1 Sep 2026, serving refreshments at 3pm, for a celebration service at 3:30-4:30pm

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

RSVP either In-Person or access to an Online Link, by Mon 24 Aug to mission@ucareqld.com.au

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact the Mission Team at mission@ucareqld.com.au

GRANT TIPS

Tip 1: "When you hear you've been unsuccessful, review your application straight away. Compare each response against the assessment criteria and ask yourself:

- Did we answer every part of the question?
- Did we provide enough evidence?
- Were we clear about the outcomes?

Even without funder feedback, you'll often identify opportunities to improve."

Tip 2: "Try and get feedback from the funder. Unfortunately, often what they provide is generic (a summary of the grant Round) or they may state they don't give feedback at all. If they are willing to share something, ask specific questions:

- Which assessment criteria scored most strongly?

- Which areas could have been stronger?"

Tip 3: "Get a fresh set of eyes to review your application. This independent perspective will help you understand what may not be 'hitting the mark'. Ask someone experienced to review it to identify what's not obvious. Sometimes you've been too close to the application to see gaps and issues."

FIRST AID TRAINING COURSES

Each congregation should have a First Aid person and be up to date in training. Australia Wide First Aid provides the necessary training. They offer the following training courses:

- HLTAID009 for Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
- HLTAID011 Provide First Aid
- HLTAID012 Provide First Aid in an education and care setting

You can book directly through their website: <https://www.australiawidefirstaid.com.au/qld/townsville>

Alternatively, if you are looking to have the invoice issued to your organization, please complete a booking form which you can get from Ana at Presbytery Office and send it to cic@australiawidefirstaid.com.au.



DATE CLAIMERS

2026

19-20 September – Cross Cultural Mission Weekend at Aitkenvale
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
Selection Day 2
 Synod Selection Day 2 – 7th November

ZONE MEETINGS

Muth Arrak	Northern	Southern	Cape Gulf
19 November - Cairns	12 September	1 August	(Zoom meetings at 5.30pm) 20 August 17-19 November - Retreat to be confirmed



THE WORD FOR TODAY

YOU CAN CONQUER YOUR HANG-UPS

"The weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God." 2 Corinthians 10:4 NKJV

Today's problem is not necessarily tomorrow's problem. Don't incarcerate yourself by assuming it is. Resist self-labelling: "I'm just a worrier." "Gossip is my weakness." "My dad was a drinker; I guess I'll carry on the tradition." Stop that! These words create alliances with the devil. They grant him access to your spirit. It's not God's will that you live a defeated, unhappy life. Turn a deaf ear to the old voices and make new choices. *"The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; yes, I have a good inheritance"* (Psalm 16:6 NKJV).

Live out of your inheritance, not your circumstances. God has already promised you victory and provided you with weapons for the fight. *"Though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds"* (2 Corinthians 10:3-4 NKJV). How did Joshua conquer Jericho? By using God's strategy: *"Take up the ark of the covenant and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord"* (Joshua 6:6 NKJV). The ark of the covenant was the symbol of God's presence. Joshua placed it in the middle of the procession. Every activity orbited around God. The secret of victory is to keep God centre stage in your life, using the weapons of worship, Scripture, and prayer. Employ every tool God offers: Scripture memorisation and petition. Turn off the

TV and open the Bible more. Worry less and pray more. You can conquer your hang-ups by drawing daily on the presence of God.

(Reflection from vision.org.au website – The Word for Today reading, 19 August 2026) The Word for Today is authored by Bob and Debby Gass and published under licence from UCB International Copyright 2026)

