

Reflections on retiring...again!

I believe I was led by God into pastoral care when I retired from education at the end of 2016. I had turned 60 and that seemed to be a good time to go. God must have been having a bit of a giggle then, as my entry into this world of hospital pastoral care has taken me into places and situations creating the ground for personal and spiritual change in ways I could never have imagined.

In this place I have discovered a second home. Each person who comes into our pastoral care rooms and Place of Prayer comments on the sense of peace and sacredness in that space. I too felt that when I first began and have come to realise since that the sacred space is a space where much prayer occurs.

To be able to give of myself in the role of pastoral carer I have to be in a "good" place spiritually, emotionally and physically. For how can I adequately care for the troubled spirits of those patients I meet if I am not in a good relationship with myself, my colleagues and most importantly with my beloved Lord. The role asks a lot of each of us who feel called to it – to gently listen, care and demonstrate God's love for each person we meet, no matter how they come across.

I am retiring from my role of coordinator of this pastoral care service and grateful to be able to hand those responsibilities across to someone who comes with energy, enthusiasm and wisdom. I will not retire from a volunteer role as a pastoral carer because I still feel that sense of call.

There have certainly been crises and dramas since I started as coordinator in 2018 and continues to be as churches need to work out how important this ministry is to them and their community. Money needs to be dedicated both by us, our community and I believe the government to provide people who will be available 24 hours a day / 7 days a week to meet the needs of those patients, their families and the hospital staff who appeal to pastoral care for help.

I would urge us as a church family to actively support this ministry and I continue to uphold it in prayer as I hope you will also.

Marg Thorpe

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We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land - the Jarowair and Giabal people.

News and Announcements

AGM

Thanks to all who attended our Annual General Meeting on 8th October, and congratulations to Paula Nicholls, Neil Middleton and Gordon Gillmore who were all elected to Church Council.

Men's Breakfast

A big thank-you to all who helped with this event on 7th October. We had a very blessed time together as we ate, talked and heard from Ps Peter Cole who shared his faith journey with us. The event was started with the desire to provide a time of connection and reflection for men, who are finding it hard in our society to develop friendships.

We are planning the next event for Saturday 3rd February.

Keenagers Carols - 30th November

Our Keenagers group is meeting on Thursday 30th November from 9.30am for morning tea, and a time of Christmas celebration and traditional carol-singing. All welcome.



November 2023 Sunday Services

Sunday 5th November 9am (Holy Communion)

Worship Leader: Va Palfi
Preacher: Derek Curnow

Sunday 12th November 9am

Worship Leader: David Hogg
Preacher: Rev Adam Tipple

Sunday 19th November 9am

Worship Leader: Marg Thorpe
Preacher: Rev Adam Tipple

Sunday 26th November 9am

Worship Leader: Kerrie Andrews
Preacher: Rev Adam Tipple

Livestreams - please see [Facebook](#) for the latest link.

Giving Details

If you would like to give to Lifeworks, you can use the following methods:

Electronic direct deposit
Bank: Westpac Bank
Name: Lifeworks Uniting Church
BSB: 034 242
Account Number: 359 011

Write a cheque to Lifeworks Uniting Church, and post in the mail to: PO Box 18093, Clifford Gardens, Qld, 4350

Cash can be left in the offering bag on Sunday mornings.

We thank-you for your generosity!

Quick Links

www.lifeworksuniting.org.au



[YouTube](#)



[Facebook](#)

Midweek online prayer link (Weds 7am) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81432040065...>
Password: B1x6cs

Meeting of the 37th Queensland Synod of the Uniting Church in Australia

The theme of the 37th Synod meeting from the 21st to the 25th October, was 'Renewal'. Rev Bruce Moore (pictured top) was inducted as the new Moderator.

The emphasis of the meeting was on renewal being a spiritual process, and one that starts with God and prayer, and not something that we can make happen through merely having programs and events. Rev Bruce Moore articulated the 'deep work' that each person has to be willing to undertake so that renewal can take hold, flourish and grow.

I really appreciated the time of prayer that we had on the Monday night, praying for one another and for renewal in our personal lives and in our churches. I also enjoyed the 'Yarning Circles', which replaced our usual small group meetings, and provided a great opportunity to listen to and learn from one another, and build new connections in the body of Christ.

As well as stories of hope, renewal and green shoots, we also acknowledged and lamented some of the pain that many members are going through due to the decision to stop funding chaplaincy in public hospitals. I believe that the Synod was able to express some of its disappointment and grief regarding this decision, and to think about how we move forward and make sure that we do not abandon these spaces.

We had some excellent Bible studies and the Norman and Mary Miller lecture given by Stan Grant (pictured right), which was a profound reflection covering theological, personal and political ground, with Stan saying, "God never fails me, words are where I find God. Today I was reminded about how God speaks to us ...always ... especially in despair... There is love waiting at the end of the story."

I thank Gordon Gillmore who was an excellent roommate and friend throughout Synod. Thanks be to God I feel spiritually refreshed from this meeting and believe that God has been stirring up some thoughts about the future direction of Lifeworks.

If you have any questions about Synod, feel free to speak with Gordon or I, or have a look at the Uniting Church in Queensland's Facebook page which has lots of information and photos from this event.

Rev Adam Tipple



Prayer Points

- Pray for all those affected by bushfires in this region.
- Pray for the Joint Nominating Committee (JNC) as they meet with applicants for the Connect 100 role at Lifeworks.
- Give thanks for the ministry of Tim and Paula Nicholls through the NEXT youth group over many years as they have decided it's time to step back from this ministry.
- Pray for the new Moderator of the Qld Synod Rev Bruce Moore and the new General Secretary Rev Dr Adam McIntosh.
- Pray for the November Presbytery meeting at St Stephens that this will be a good meeting focussed on Jesus Christ, to the glory of God.
- Pray for Michael and Tanya Bollingmoore as they begin married life together.
- Give thanks for the ministry of Marg Thorpe as Pastoral Care Coordinator at Toowoomba Base Hospital, as she soon concludes in this role.



CHRISTMAS

at

**Lifeworks Uniting Church
Glenvale**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10TH, 9AM

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

CHRISTMAS EVE, 7PM

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

(NO SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE)

CHRISTMAS DAY, 8AM SERVICE

THE PROMISE OF PEACE



615 Boundary St, Glenvale, Toowoomba

A close-up photograph of a board game board. The board features a green landscape with yellow paths and various colored rectangular blocks (red, blue, purple) representing roads or paths. Numerous miniature, tan-colored buildings are scattered across the board. A central circular logo with a cross and other symbols is visible. The text 'Kalisz' and 'Wrocław' are printed on the board. The main title 'GAMES, GRUB & GOD' is overlaid in large white letters.

GAMES, GRUB & GOD

**SUNDAY 26TH NOVEMBER
4.00PM TO 6.30PM
AT LIFEWORKS UNITING CHURCH**

**BOARD GAMES
SKILL GAMES
CARD GAMES
ALL WELCOME**

LIFEWORKS UNITING CHURCH

November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tues- day	Wednes- day	Thursday	Friday	Satur- day
			1 7am Midweek online prayer 9.30am mainly music	2 9.30am Keenagers Morning tea	3 7pm NEXT Youth Group Presbytery Meeting (Until Sunday)	4
5 8.30am Prayer in the meeting room 9am Service Holy Communion	6	7	8 7am Midweek online prayer 9.30am mainly music	9	10 7pm NEXT Youth Group	11
12 8.30am Prayer in the meeting room 9am Service	13	14	15 7am Midweek online prayer 9.30am mainly music	16 9.30am Keenagers Morning tea	17 7pm NEXT Youth Group	18
19 8.30am Prayer in the meeting room 9am Service	20	21	22 7am Midweek online prayer 9.30am mainly music	23	24 7pm NEXT Youth Group Break-Up	25
26 8.30am Prayer in the meeting room 9am Service 4pm Games, Grub and God	27	28	29 7am Midweek online prayer 9.30am mainly music	30 9.30am Keenagers Christmas Break up and Carol singing		