

A photograph of the Howard United Church building, featuring white horizontal siding, a prominent gable roof with a pinkish-red trim, and a central entrance with a double door. The building is set against a bright blue sky with light clouds and a white dove flying in the upper right corner. The text is overlaid on the image in a black, cursive font with a yellow outline.

*Howard  
Uniting Church  
Celebrating 140  
years  
7th & 8th September*

**Worship Service at 9:30am  
Every Sunday**

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
My soul shall be joyful in my God;  
For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
He has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments,  
And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Isaiah 61:10 NKJV

# Welcome



## Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Memories of Howard Uniting Church (by Pastor Graham Huth) .....	4
From the Howard Uniting Church centenary booklet.....	6
Musings of Jack Whitby <i>dec.</i> .....	7
The beginnings of Church in Howard .....	8
Timeline .....	9
The early pioneers.....	16
Ladies Guild .....	17
Picnic days .....	17
Organist.....	18
Communion Cloth .....	18
Our Hall.....	19
Do you know about the Uniting Church?.....	19
This is just a snippet of information.....	20
Our Church community.....	20
Space for you to use.....	22

140 years of Worship

140 years of Celebrating the birth of Jesus

140 years of proclaiming the risen Lord

140 years of Knowing Jesus

140 years of Fellowship

140 years of Serving

140 years of Praise

140 years of Caring

140 years of Grace

# 140 years of Worship and Community

I will praise the Lord God, with a song and a thankful heart.

Psalm 69:30

## Introduction

140 years is just a drop in the ocean of human experience. Our story does not start with the building 140 years ago, but a journey that started with creation.

It is the relationship that we have with God, the hope we find in Jesus and the following of Jesus' teachings and examples, that make us the church.

To worship God for one's whole life is such a privilege but even if we have strayed from the teaching we are not lost forever.

**Our story is of a broken relationship with God and of God working to bring us back to him, time and time again.**

since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 3:23

140 years of worship and praise has been happening at Howard Uniting Church. We praise God for the faithful people who have worshipped at Howard Uniting Church, for those who have preached, those who taught Sunday School, the musicians over the years, those who have been stewards, elders, church councillors and on many boards and committees, the people who have cleaned and maintained the building and the people who have tirelessly worked to raise money for the church and many charitable organisations who they have supported.

There has been such change in the community since 1884 when the church was dedicated as a Primitive Methodist Church. It has been a church that has continued to serve the community the only time it did not hold services was during the recent Covid pandemic but as soon as it was possible to hold services they started again.

In 1977 with the coming together in God, of, The Congregational, Methodist and the Presbyterian Churches the Uniting Church in Australia was formed and so Howard Methodist Church became Howard Uniting Church.

## **Memories of Howard Uniting Church (by Pastor Graham Huth)**

I have very strong and fond memories of the Howard Uniting Church during the time of ministry at Hervey Bay from 2007 until 2017. On the Sunday mornings I travelled to Howard it was usually following a 7.30am service first at Burrum Heads. After an early morning start, a brief stopover at the Burrum Heads boat ramp to pray and prepare myself, and then worship with the folk at Burrum Heads I would set out on the 20-minute drive to Howard. As I was invariably a bit late due to time restrictions and not wanting to simply preach and run at Burrum Heads, I would be greeted on arriving at Howard by the sounds of singing drifting across the car park as the congregation, accompanied by Janet Stocks on the organ, enthusiastically sang favourite choruses.

Worship and fellowship at Howard were always warm and I left uplifted, as if I was the one being ministered to, and not the other way around. And perhaps that is exactly what happened.

I never really needed to worry about either breakfast or lunch on those days because of the renowned hospitality of the Howard congregation. There were never 12 baskets of crumbs left, but my memory was that we all left comfortably full, and there were still leftovers that were shared across the church community.

Perhaps one of the surprise highlights of my time came from realising I was following in the steps of my grandfather Rev Rudolph Huth. Upon picking up a copy of the 1984 Anniversary book, my eyes were drawn to the list of ministers, which revealed that Granddad Huth was minister for Howard during World War II (1940-1943), and at a time when Howard was connected to the Childers Methodist circuit. I knew Rudolph had been at Childers because I recalled stories of the family travelling to Scarness for day trips and holidays but had otherwise missed the significance. Thus, it held a sense of delight to find myself standing and preaching in the same place from which my grandfather preached as a young minister around 70 years earlier.

Now, as the Mary Burnett Presbytery Minister, I again find I play a part in the ongoing mission and ministry of the Howard Church and congregation. The stories I hear continue to delight and speak not only of the faithfulness of the members of the church in maintaining a place of worship but striving to be a beacon of the light of Christ across the Howard district. Congratulations Howard UC on reaching this milestone, and I pray that you flourish as you continue to live a life of worship, witness and service as Christ will lead you.



Rev. Rudolph Huth Minister at Childers  
Preached at Howard  
When Howard was part of the Childers Circuit  
Great grandfather of  
Ps. Graham Huth,



Ps. Graham Huth,  
Current Presbytery Minister and  
previous minister for the Hervey  
Bay Parish which includes  
Howard and Burrum Heads.

*According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it.*

*1 Corinthians 3:10*

## **From the Howard Uniting Church centenary booklet.**

***‘Our lives today are far removed from those faithful people who built the church in 1884.***

*“How does one tell the story of 100 years?*

*How does one tell what it was like in just one of those years?*

*Can we again live the days of kerosene lamps and sailing ships. Is there an imagination so vivid to live again on £6.00 a month (approx. \$12.20). Can there be a night when a whole town comes out to pack a theatre for church service.*

*Was there ever a time when there were no television sets and no trains to Howard from Maryborough.*

*We honestly won't try but we will peek through the window of memorabilia, to those people in those days”*

***There are many reasons why people flock to live in a new community.***

*It was not a March out of Egypt to the promised land that first brought settlers from across the world to BURRUM. It was not even the black gold to begin with. It was a search for a sawmill site that brought two brothers Robert and John Miller up The Burrum river in a sailing boat.*

*They found a site and skilfully used the tidal water to drive their machinery of their sawmill. The sawn timber was shipped the long way round to the growing town of Maryborough. This was their source of supplies. While fishing for fresh food John Miller dislodged a piece of coal from the bank. Their find did not bring wealth to them but gave a new direction to the community.’*

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16

## Musings of Jack Whitby *dec.*

This is an extract from the Century Booklet by long time and valued member of the Howard Church.

*‘What is our centenary?’ thoughts by Jack Whitby for our congregation*

*As I take up my pen to contribute to this centenary souvenir booklet, I ponder on what the celebration means to me and also to you. It would mean many things to many people.*

*To me it means a time of reflection on the work of those magnificent men ably supported by their loyal wives who 100 years ago and since laboured so diligently and arduously to establish their church primitive Methodist in the Burrum area.*

*Looking back through the Vista of time and great challenge I see periods of immense hardship toil sweat anguish and weekends absence from their families as they rode horseback to spread the gospel and established congregations in neighbouring townships of Torbanlea, Horton and Pialba. At the same time, they were doing spade work to firmly establish their own church in Burrum and later in Howard they sacrificed a goodly portion of their meagre weekly pay packet to build and furnish their church or to the glory of God*

*During my adolescence and in the later years I witnessed and was stimulated by the continuance of this work and have a deep and abiding respect for these men of God in whose shadow we live and move and strive to keep God’s Barque (Barque is a type of sailing vessel) afloat in the troublous seas of modernism commercialism and fanaticism.*

*By the help of God, they prevailed and so will we if we do not allow our faith to be dimmed by things physical and material.*

*I know you all pay tribute to our founding fathers and join with me in praising God for their lives and testimonies.*



*This cleaning from the work of George Matheson should set us on a target as we launch into our 2nd century; - "there are songs that can only be learned in the valley. No art can teach them; no rules of voice can make them perfectly sung. Their music is in the heart. They are songs of memory, of personal experience. They bring out their burden from the shadow of the past; they mount on the wings of yesterday."*

*So, may we too, use the wings of yesterday to ride on into tomorrow with the songs of the memory of our forefathers in our hearts. May their personal experience of service for Christ and his church be ours also.*

*They suffered many physical and financial hardships.*

*Ours is by nature a different climate, with more weariness of soul and spirit but we cannot give into pessimism as so many depend upon so few trying very hard to keep today's world on an even keel.*

*May God grant us wisdom to practise the knowledge we have gained through the experiences of the prophets of old, our elder brother and his disciples and from our own forefathers.*

*We hope, through the help of God, we can hand on the torch to future generations, as untarnished as we received it.*

*To those privileged to attend the centenary celebrations, we hope it will be an occasion of happy reminiscence and renewal of many friendships found and kept within the ambit of the Howard Church.*

*Were you able to attend we hope you may receive a souvenir of the centenary which will revive the memories you have stored deep in your heart of the happy and lasting friendships made during your stay with us. May God bless you all.*

*For the Howard congregation, Jack F Whitby elder." (1984)*

In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps.

**Proverbs 16:9**

## **The beginnings of Church in Howard**

1884 is the start of the building's history but not that of the church in Burrum. The first church it is believed to be a slab one of bush bearers and choice stumps. The men and women who came and established this work for God here, came from buildings that had

been there for some five to eight hundred years. It must have been a daunting task.

We remember the earlier settlers that came to NSW. Yes New South Wales as it was only 42 years since that last convict ships arrived NSW and only 25 years before the building of the church did Queensland became a colony. People who had faith and for whatever reason brought them they wanted to be in a community of people that loved God.

## Timeline

*a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;*

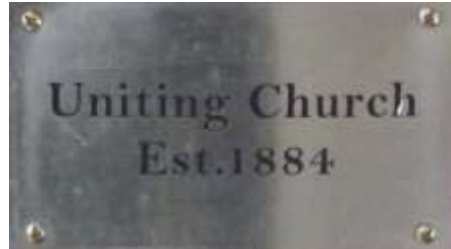
**Ecclesiastes 3:4**

Here is a timeline of interesting things that have happened in the world and the Howard Church

- 1842** Last convict ship arrived at New South Wales
- 1859** The Colony of Queensland was established
- 1863** Coal was found by the Miller brothers
- 1866** Mining started in Howard.
- 1875** Wesleyan Minister Rev. Parkinson held monthly services at the home of Mr and Mrs Abel Steley at Burrum. These services were held on Monday evenings. Services each week were held at the home of Mr Thomas Watson snr and Thursdays he held prayer meetings..
- 1879** A temporary building was erected in the style of the slab huts of the time. This church housed the first district provisional school.
- 1879** Wedding of Jane Thomas and Joseph Steley. The first wedding celebrated in Howard
- 1880** Sunday School was opened
- 1881** population 25 people
- 1883** St Matthew Church of England opened (closed in 2016)
- 1883** Railway line opened bringing immigrant labour to the town. 3 of them were George Barker, John Tench and Charles Whitby and were Primitive Methodist. These 3 and their families who

through enthusiasm and leadership of Rev. Edward Knights built the church that is still here 140 years later. They would also go onto building Horton, Torbanlea and Childers Churches.

**1884** Howard Church Was dedicated to God was built to seat 200 Cost £307.15s.7p It was built by Steve Ward who also built Brooklyn House.



**1884** The Sunday School was opened on the 13<sup>th</sup> May, Mary Steley (nee Marshall) was one of the first Teachers

**1884** For a skilled worker, the wage was between 7-12 shillings per day who were not supplied board and lodgings. If board and lodgings were included in their income it would have been 20 to 50 pound per year depending on the job.

**1884** in this year, was the first Christian missionary arrives in Korea.

**1884** Lewis Edson Waterman invents the first practical fountain pen and James Ritty invents a functional mechanical cash register. Both of these inventions would become invaluable to VanCooten who is also celebrating 140years.

**1886** Horton Church was built to seat 100 Cost £80

**1886** John Pemberton introduces [Coca-Cola](#) (a world changing product)

**1886** Nicolette Bruining, Dutch theologian, humanitarian is born (d. 1963)

**1887** Andrew Fisher arrives in Howard (*he becomes the first Labour Prime Minister in Australia*) while living in Howard he worked as a coal miner. His home he built and occupied for 6 years still stands in Watkins St.

**1891** Torbanlea Church built to seat 80 Cost £84

**1891** The Australian shearers' strike, that leads indirectly to the foundation of the Australian Labor Party, begins.

**1891** In the Kuperovskaya district of [Vladivostok](#), a grand ceremonial inauguration of construction work on the [Trans-Siberian](#)

Railway is carried out by the Tsesarevich Nikolay Alexandrovich, and a religious service held

**1892** The zipper was invented

**1895** Howard Catholic Church was opened

**1896** Childers Church was built and to seat 200 Cost £265

**1896** First Howard organ purchased from Cornish and Co, Washington, New Jersey USA for £21.10s.0d it came with stool and book and had a Guarantee of 10 years. Extract from the centenary booklet.

*'Harmony has been learned by many communities, from the harmony of the music they play in bands and sing in choirs. To have a church which was founded by the families from Wales and England, surrounded by the miners from the old country, and not have good music and good musical instruments would have been unthinkable. So, the best was sought and the best was used at this congregation so long ago'*

**1896** the first modern Olympic Games, are held in Athens, Greece.

**1896** Walter Arnold, of East Peckham, Kent, England, is fined 1 shilling for speeding at 8 mph (13 km/h), exceeding the contemporary urban speed limit of 2 mph (3.2 km/h), the world first speeding fine

**1898** Childers wanted to separate from the Howard circuit due to growth in the area. Was discussed for a new circuit of Howard, Burrum, Torbanlea, Aldershot, Walker Street Maryborough, Tinana and Yengarie and the discission was deferred for one year. This did not happen until the Union of the Methodist Churches.

**1898** Church choir formed

**1899** Ladies Help Society was formed

**1901** Primitive Methodist Church merged with other denominations to be come the Methodist church of Australasia, Mainly called Methodist Church

**1901** 2 Kerosene Lamps were bought to light the church

**1909** the Church was extended by 12ft to the current size cost of the extension was £52.15.0

**1910** 5 tier collapsible stage built by Steve Ward as a labour of love and a gift for Sunday School anniversaries. It expanded across

the whole church and could seat 100 children. Sadly, time has come and gone and age gets to us all

**1910** Mr T. J. Watkins generously donated the allotment adjoining the Church

**1911** Howard population 1502

**1912** The Burrum Church destroyed by cyclone and rebuilt (unknown when it closed)

**1917** Communion Cloth was embroidered with the names of the congregation members

**1919** All building works had been paid for.

**1923** Mr T. Pollard formed a club of senior boys

**1928** Junior choir was formed that gave joy to many people

**1929** Herbert Carter who came from England to work in Home Mission service within the Methodist Church

*'was appointed as a married man to Howard. No parsonage or quarters were available, so he lived on one farm and various houses in town. Had a service in the Picture Theatre which was packed. Preached on: - If Christ came to Howard, what would He say, what would He do, where would He go?'* (extract from Mr Carters diary)

**1929** Fred Hollows, New Zealand-Australian ophthalmologist is born (d. 1993)

**1929** Albanian missionary sister Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu, later known as Mother Teresa, arrives in Calcutta from Ireland to begin her work in India. (b1910-d.1997)

**1932** Ladies Guild and the tennis club asked to support the Church building fund.

**1934** Torbanlea granted permission to add a 16ft x 12ft vestry

**1936** There was a move for Howard Church to join the Walker Street circuit or revert to a Home Mission Station as they couldn't carry on as a circuit unless an adequate grant of £50 or £60 a year be received from Home Missions

**1936** Regular religious education lessons are given at Howard, Torbanlea and Takura schools also services started in the Burrum Church on alternate Sundays

**1939** a grant of £10 a quarter allocated to Howard Home Mission Station

**1941** Howard Home Mission Station attached to the Childers circuit and Rev. R. Huth of Childers directed to take charge and conduct as many services as possible

**1946** Request for Howard Home Mission Station to join the Walker Street Circuit sent to Conference

**1947** Lot in Burrum Heads bought for £5

**1947** Church vestry opened and the Howard state school drum and pipe band performed at the ceremony

**1947** The Conference resolved that Howard cease to operate as a Home Mission and to be linked with Childers to form the Howard/Isis circuit

**1951** Power station opened at Howard

**1951** Superglue was invented

**1952** Brick pioneer memorial wall was dedicated by Conference President Rev H.A. Denn. Music was provided by Maryborough Salvation Army Band.



**1955** Horton Church was moved to Howard as Church Hall. Dedication service was conducted by Rev Ken Horton of Walker St. Maryborough

**1957** Kitchen and servery added to hall.

**1958** Ladies Guild donated 12 hymn books

**1959** Fluorescent lights installed in the church and church porch

**1960** Rev. Rex Smith donated 2 fans for the church from the Brisbane Theatre Royal on its closure as he had family connections with the theatre

**1961** 10ft extension added to hall to increase the size of the Sunday School

**1962** The installation of the illuminated cross in the memory of the late Colonel Eric Paterson, Trust secretary at the time of his

death. A gift from his loving wife and dedicated at a special service on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> of October

**1967** Book cupboard for the vestry and a clock for the church was donated by Mrs N. Paterson

**1968** Rev. Ivan Acorn guest preacher at 84<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Special musical program arranged

**1968** Church trust in best financial position for, maybe all time, with a credit balance of \$415.31. This was lifted by an unclaimed sum of 0.71cents found in the church hall

**1969** Church's 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrated with Morning and Evening services and a pleasant Sunday afternoon with the Childers choir participation. A fellowship tea was served. Rev. Owen Marks of Pialba was the guest preacher.

**1969** Man walks on the moon

**1971** The 87<sup>th</sup> Church anniversary was conducted by Rev. O. J. Gunders of Bundaberg. There was a morning service with a pleasant Sunday afternoon service at 3pm and a fellowship tea at 5pm

**1971** Church exterior painted by Mr Bob Bushnell for a very reasonable sum.

**1971** A very successful flower show was held.

**1971** 100ft of reject earthenware pipes bought to drain the church property

**1971** Order from the Wide Bay electricity to have an inspection of all electricity, lights and outlets in the church and hall

**1972** The church property board formally the (Church Trust) was voted to be absorbed within the funds of the Joint Finance Committee and all business coordinated in Childers by the Parish Council of which, Howard, Torbanlea and Burrum Head have representation.

**1976** Mining explosion at Torbanlea results in 5 casualties

**1976** Burgowan mine 13 closes. It was the last pick and shovel mine in Australia

**1977** The Congregational, Methodist and the Presbyterian Churches came together to form the Uniting Church in Australia

**1980** Power station at Howard closed

**1990s** Howard became part of the Hervey Bay Uniting Church and are still under their administration today

**1994** Meals on Wheels started operating out of the Howard Uniting Church Kitchen

**1997** End of the mining era, Burgowan Number 12 mine closes. Number 12 mine operated from 1910 to 1997.

**2014** 6<sup>th</sup> of April with great sorrow it was decided to close Torbanlea Church due to the cost of maintaining the building. Howard Uniting Church was still able to meet the worshipping community needs as it is only 5km away.

**2015** ramps installed on hall and into the vestry for easy access

**2015** The Torbanlea Church was sold

**2016** Windows replaced on the church and hall. Shape of the original windows kept

**2017** Exterior of the church and hall, painted with cream and heritage red

**2020** Does not hold services from the 5<sup>th</sup> of April through to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August resuming services on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August due to covid shutdowns.

**2021** Population of Howard in 2021 1394

**2021** Church and vestry painted internally

**2021** Floors in the church were sanded and coated with an oil sealant

**2022** New church sign put on the corner of Coal and Watkins Street

**2022** We enter the electronic age. A screen was installed in the church for the congregation to follow the service. This was donated by Beverley Baillie a member of the Hervey Bay congregation



**2023** With the help of Hugo Nolan from Hervey Bay we had a sound system installed. Hugo will be greatly missed for all the work he has done as a member of the church council and supporting Howard. 'You were needed elsewhere, RIP Hugo'

**2023** Organ no longer working currently using a keyboard lent to us by Cristi-Mari Smit wife of current Minister Rev. Willem Smit

**2024** Pews get a facelift with locally made cushions

**2024** replaced front stairs by a local builder,  
Pears Plumbing  
Hervey Bay installed a zip water heater for coffees.

**2024** The hall was restumped



**2024** New Sign at front entry of the church that matched the one that is on the corner of Coal and Watkins St

Let your hope keep you joyful, be patient in your troubles, and pray at all times.

**Romans 12:12**

## The early pioneers

It was the early settlers who came to the area, with the knowledge and a relationship with, the risen Jesus, in search for a better life.

They came together, worshipped in homes, and built a basic shelter. Their lives were full of the love for their God. Not only did they work, raise money to build a place of worship, they also went spreading the Gospel in the nearby towns, remember it was before the road system we have now and before cars.

When the forefathers of the church came here there was no running water, electricity or flush toilets, no heating or air

conditioning. It would have been a hard life, but they never strayed from God when the going got tough.

They wore clothing alien to us today, ladies with high neck lines, hemlines that touched or just about touched the ground, with tight sleeves and corsets and don't forget the hat or bonnet whenever outside.

The men had vests and coats and hats.

But those who trust in the Lord, will receive new strength.

They will fly as high as eagles.

They will run and not get tired.

They will walk and not grow weak.

**Isaiah 40:31**

## **Ladies Guild**

Ladies have been a vital part of the church, even in the days when women could not vote, own property or take a ministry role in the church. They are the ones that showed hospitality by feeding, clothing and caring. It was women in the early days that worked hard in garments that I know I could not bear to wear.

In the 1950s ladies from the guild were cutting stumps with crosscut saws while the men were felling trees.

The Ladies of the church have raised thousands of dollars through cooking, sewing, gardening and having produce stalls.

They enriched the whole community with garden parties and flower shows.

In the 1990s They had a fashion show and modelled the clothing from VanCooten's drapery.

They have always had a heart to serve.

## **Picnic days**

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works,

and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

**Matthew 5:16**

Held as close as possible to May Day. It is rumoured that many romances started at these picnics that led to Wedding Bells. When some picnics were held on one of the congregant's citrus orchards, you would find the youngsters in the packing shed enjoying an orange or two.

## Organist

*My heart, O God, is steadfast, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make music.*

**Psalm 57:7**

The organist has been a vital part of congregational worship, since that very first organ came over from the United States in 1896. They keep us singing in time, even if not everyone is in tune.

Considering how long we have been holding services, regular organists have been few in number. They have been dedicated to the task and for them it completes their worship.

Two of the organists below represent past and present.

Gert Whitby was the main organist for many years. She also would give free organ lessons to any child who wished to learn on the proviso they attended Sunday School.

Our current main organist is Jeanette Stocks who drives out from Hervey Bay on Sundays to worship and play for us. We love and thank her very much.

## Communion Cloth

*"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."*

**1 Corinthians 11:26**

We have a communion cloth that has been preserved under glass. On it is hand embroidered all the names of the congregation from 1917. It is a wonderful piece of work and scrolling through all the names we will find many of the Howard Street names listed and in particular, the Van Cootens, of Van Cootens groceries, that we are celebrating 140 years with, over the weekend of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

We don't know why this cloth came about but seeing the year that it was made, it may have been a way of raising money for those who were away during World War II.

## **Our Hall**

We lease our hall at competitive rates for community groups. Currently we are proud to have the following groups using our hall:

- Alcoholic Anonymous who meet on every Wednesday Morning
- U3A who have many different activities on different days. They cater for ↔ Actively Retired ↔ Semi-retired ↔ 50 Years and over. For details on their activities please check out the Burrum River News. There might be something there for you to do.

## **Do you know about the Uniting Church?**

*Christ is like a single body, which has many parts; it is still one body, even though it is made up of different parts*

**1 Corinthians 12:12-14**

The Howard Uniting Church is a worshipping community and part of the much larger Uniting Church.

Through Uniting Church agencies such as Frontier services, Uniting world, Uniting Care, Uniting Disaster Recovery, the church follows Jesus' teaching of giving and loving.

As a church we have a mission to spread the word of God in words and works, the agencies, help people in many ways from bush to city, here are some of the areas that we help in; suicide crisis, family services, aged care, schools, hospitals, retirement, social justice, poverty, family violence and our global neighbours with sustainability and much more. These agencies don't just talk, they are in the coal face of society, meeting the needs of the community.

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another:  
just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.  
By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for  
one another  
**John 13:34-35**

## **This is just a snippet of information.**

*Three denominations came together in 1977 to form the Uniting Church in Australia. The Basis of Union is the document that set the platform for how these churches came together. It outlines the roles of the different councils of the Church including the presbyteries, the synods, and the Assembly.*

*It states the central affirmations of the Christian faith and is a guide to what is central in the life of the Uniting Church. (source <https://uniting.church/basisofunion-2/>)*

The constitution of the Uniting Church paragraph 4 breaks down what the purpose of the church is.

- *The purposes of the Church are to provide for the worship of God,*
- *to proclaim the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ,*
- *to promote Christian fellowship, to nurture believers in the Christian faith,*
- *to engage in mission, to assist in human development and toward the improvement of human relationships,*
- *to meet human need through charitable and other services and*
- *to do such other things as may be required in obedience to the Holy Spirit.*

(Source [The constitution of The Uniting Church in Australia](#))

## **Our Church community**

Howard Uniting Church story is of, faithful, imperfect people who work hard to build a personal relationship with God, and of the gift of eternal life. In all our disobedience God is there and when we repent and follow Jesus as Lord and saviour, we can regain the relationship that has been lost. Together we praise and worship. We welcome all with open arms of love and hospitality to share the gifts and joy that we have.

You are welcome to join us for worship at 9:30am on Sundays followed by morning tea. **Come as you are!**

Thank you to everyone who has been part of the Church community now and over the years. There are too many to mention by name but every one of you have been loved and valued.

If you are not currently attending a church service anywhere, we would welcome you with open arms.

Hope to see you soon.

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

**Numbers 6:24-26**



## Space for you to use

Use this space to write down contact details of people you have lost connection with or new friends

Name	Contact

140 Years of Worship



1884-2024

Howard Uniting Church  
Corner of Watkins & Coal Streets  
Howard Queensland QLD 4659  
Worship Service Sundays 9:30am