



UC

Differently now!

Sunday 16th March, 2025

Issue (9)

Welcome

We come together to worship God.

Hervey Bay @ 9:30am Howard @ 9:30am Burrum Heads @ 7:30am

Morning teas are served following each of our services and you are most welcome to join us.

A gold coin donation is appreciated at Hervey bay to help with the additional cost of consumables

Lectionary Readings:

[Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18](#)

[Psalm 27](#)

[Philippians 3:17-4:1](#)

[Luke 13:31-35](#) or [Luke 9:28-36 \(37-42a\)](#)



Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

[Isaiah 55:1-9](#)

[Psalm 63:1-8](#)

[1 Corinthians 10:1-13](#)

[Luke 13:31-35](#) or [Luke 9:28-36\(37-43a\)](#)

Please be mindful of resource usage, such as printed copies of 'UC'

leaving them for those without access to email.

Preaching at Hervey Bay is Rev. Willem Smit

Preaching at Burrum Heads & Howard is Norma Doyle

Transforming Encounters

Lent Two 16 March

Encounter:

"to meet (someone) without expecting or intending to."

Britannica Dictionary

"an encounter with someone is a meeting with them, particularly one that is unexpected or significant."

Uniting Church Hervey Bay
Hervey Bay, Burrum Heads & Howard

To grow in the love of God, to make disciples and to show His love in all we do

Our Vision:

With God's help,

We seek to grow our Congregation into an effective missional church that will engage with the community and beyond.

Through prayer and forming active and accountable disciples of Jesus, we seek to grow spiritually and numerically

Rev. Willem Smit's contact details

Email: minister@hbuc.org.au Phone: 0472 600 949

Rev. Willem's Day off is Monday

Whilst Willem may check messages and respond to urgent requests, please leave non-urgent matters for work days. Thank you.

Pastoral Care

For pastoral care contact the office on 07 4125 5233 if no one is there please leave a message and we will get back to you.

Prayer Chain

Shiree Royall 0417 171 020 or email shiree.tropix@gmail.com



Church Council
12 April 2025
Hervey Bay
10am



Presbytery Meeting
19 July
Caloundra UC

Church Contact

56 Exeter Street
Torquay QLD 4655
(PO Box 5072)

Office Hours Tuesday-Friday 9am - 12pm

admin@hbuc.org.au

www.hbuc.org.au

Facebook

(07) 4125 5233

Do you need prayer Today?

Please contact one of our Church Council Members
or your Pastoral Carer to pray with you.

Sunday's service livestreaming is back up and running 9:30 am on Sundays

Older services are available on our YouTube Channel.

You are welcome to check them out.

[Click here to go to our YouTube channel.](#) Please subscribe



Congregational meeting after service this week



Special Thank you from Kay King

On Sunday 23rd of February, I was upheld by the prayers and concern of the members of this church during a medical episode I experienced. My thanks to everyone who helped me, especially to Dr Henk for his assistance and subsequent hospital visit. I appreciate all the care given to me. Praise to God. Drs visits still ahead to find answers, but I'm ok. Kay King.

Prayer for Transforming Encounters

Heavenly Father, as I step into this day, I open my heart to the possibility of transformative encounters. Guide my steps to cross paths with people who will challenge my perspective, ignite my compassion, and inspire me to grow closer to You. May every interaction, whether brief or profound, be a vessel of grace, revealing Your love through the lives of others. Grant me the wisdom to see beyond the surface, to listen with an open mind, and to respond with kindness and understanding. Use me as an instrument of Your healing power, allowing me to be a catalyst for positive change in the lives of those I meet. In Jesus' name, Amen.

How to personalize this prayer:

Specific situations: If you are anticipating a particular interaction, mention it in your prayer and ask for God's guidance in that specific context.

Areas of growth: If you are seeking transformation in a particular area of your life (e.g., patience, forgiveness), highlight that need in your prayer.

Gratitude: Express thankfulness for the transformative encounters you have already experienced in your life.

Transforming Encounters

God's story is one of encounters. God doesn't stay distant. God doesn't love people from afar. Throughout the Bible, we hear of many encounters between God and humans – life-changing moments that inspired confidence and helped people/groups transform and renew their behaviour and their lives.

What about our story?

As we consider what renewal means for our Church, and our lives, let's reflect on the times when we've had transforming encounters with God, or with other people.

What did we learn through those encounters?

How did our lives change because of those encounters?

As we focus on renewal, who, in your life, or in your neighbourhood, needs a transforming encounter with God today?



INGREDIENTS

- 125 gram butter, chopped at room temperature
- 1/2 cup caster sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 egg
- 2 cup plain flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- milk for glazing
- coloured sugar for decorating

STAR BISCUITS

METHOD

1. Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan-forced). Lightly grease two large baking trays. In a small bowl, using an electric mixer, beat butter, sugar and vanilla. Beat in egg until combined. Add sifted flour and baking powder. Place onto a floured board. Knead lightly until combined. Wrap in plastic and chill for 30 minutes.
2. Roll dough between 2 sheets of baking paper until 0.5cm thick. Using an 8cm star cutter, cut shapes from dough. Place onto prepared tray.
3. Brush with milk and sprinkle lightly with coloured sugar. Bake for 10-12 minutes, or until golden. Cool on trays.
4. Decorate with coloured sugar, if desired.

This recipe is from:

<https://www.womensweeklyfood.com.au/recipe/baking/star-biscuits-2975/> 6

As you eat the star biscuits you might like to chat about:

Times when you've encountered someone who changed your life. **How you'd like to transform your community and/or Church.** How you'd like to transform your life. **What it means to encounter God.**

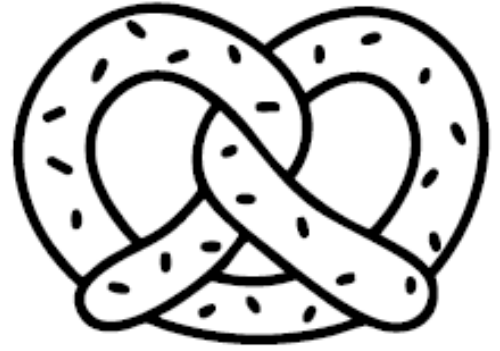
PRETZELS

Pretzels are historically associated with Lent, as their shape looks like arms folded in prayers.

Try making this pretzel recipe or buy some pretzels from the shop.

This recipe comes from Faithforward:

<https://www.faithward.org/lent-pretzels-recipe-and->



INGREDIENTS

- 1 ½ cups hot water
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 package active dry yeast
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 4 ½ cups plain flour
- 10 cups water
- cup baking soda
- 1 egg, beaten and mixed with 1 tablespoon of water

METHOD

1. Mix the water, sugar, salt, and yeast together in large bowl. Let the mixture sit for five minutes, until the yeast starts to bloom (it should look like a layer of foam on the surface of the water).
2. Add in the butter and flour and mix until the dough is smooth like satin.
3. Cover the bowl and let it sit until the dough is doubled in size, about 1 hour.

METHOD Continued

4. Preheat your oven to 220 degrees and spray baking sheets with oil.
5. Boil water with baking soda in a large saucepan.
6. Divide the dough into eight pieces. Shape each piece of dough into a 24-inch rope and then twist it into pretzel shape.
7. Dip each pretzel in the boiling water for 30 seconds on each side before placing it on the sheet pan.
8. Brush the pretzels with egg wash and sprinkle them with salt.
9. Bake for 12-14 minutes.

As you eat your pretzels you might like to:

Think and/or pray about people who might need love and support at this time.

Brainstorm about how you could help people during Lent.

Watch this lovely video about a dog and a stork helping each other:

[\(Piper\) A Joy Story: Explainer Animated Videos](#)

SONG

Have some fun dancing along with
this Pretzel song:

[Do the Pretzel!](#): The Wiggles 10



YOORANA

Women's Domestic Violence & Resource Service Inc

“Yoorana” is an Aboriginal word meaning “Safe Place”

Yoorana, established in 1979, is a dedicated grassroots organization committed to providing safe accommodations and support for women and children escaping domestic and family violence. With a focus on ensuring a violence-free life and access to stable housing, Yoorana offers a comprehensive range of services. These include accommodation, information and referral services, counseling, advocacy, practical support, and specialized programs for parents and children. The organization also emphasizes an educative and preventative approach to raise community awareness about domestic and family violence, reinforcing the rights of women and children to live in a safe and healthy environment.

LENTEN APPEAL

As we approach the season of Lent in 2025, we invite you to join us in a meaningful journey of giving and support. Our Lenten Appeal this year is dedicated to uplifting various causes that make a significant impact in our communities and beyond. This appeal is an opportunity to reflect on compassion and generosity, values that are at the heart of this sacred season.

We are proud to announce that the contributions from our Lenten Appeal will be shared equally among six incredible organisations:

Gideons: Known for their dedication to spreading hope through the distribution of scriptures, Gideons have made a lasting difference in people's lives worldwide.

School Chaplaincy: Supporting the emotional and spiritual well-being of students, school chaplains play a vital role in nurturing the next generation.

Frontier Services: Providing essential support to those living in remote areas, Frontier Services ensures that no community is left behind.

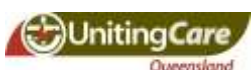
UnitingCare: With a focus on providing compassionate care and support, UnitingCare addresses the needs of the most vulnerable in our society.

Yoorana Womens Refuge: This organization is dedicated to empowering Women who are escaping from domestic violence.

UnitingWorld: Working towards global justice and development, UnitingWorld partners with churches worldwide to create positive change.

Your generous contributions will enable these organisations to continue their crucial work, spreading kindness and hope where it is most needed. We believe that by coming together, we can make a real difference in the lives of many.

Join us this Lent in supporting these causes and be a part of a broader community effort that embodies the spirit of love and service. Together, we can bring light to the world.



FAITH. FUN. FRIENDSHIP.



Your donation helps send young people and leaders to camp.
If you would like to support the Easter Madness appeal please click on the donate button below!
Thank you!

DONATIONS

105.1



rhema.fm
office@rhemawidebay.com



Your weekly tithes/offerings are an important part of worship as they help to pay for our Ministry Agent, maintenance and running costs like paper, power, rates, insurance, etc.

The church is not immune to rises in costs.

Regular tithing keeps our heads above water.

If you have not been attending church you can drop your offering at the church Tuesday—

Friday 9am to 12pm

or

Giving can be banked directly into our ANZ Account

Bank Account: UCA Hervey Bay

BSB: 014010 Acct Number: 3868 52539

Thank you for your generous giving

Please consider making a bequest in your Will to Hervey Bay Uniting Church.

Contact the office for details.

Monday

Prayer Group 8:30am (Contact Office 07 4125 5233)

M&M's (KYB)9:30 am Various homes (Contact Lynne Alexander 07 4194 2538)

Tuesday

Christian Meditation *St John's Anglican Church* 8:20am - 9.20 am
(Contact Sylvia Wright 0498 264 254)

WOW Lady's Fellowship - **Church Seminar Room** 9:30am
(Contact Thora on 0422 676 479) **School Terms**

KYB 'Know Your Bible' Hervey Bay - **Church Seminar Room** 2 pm
(Contact Lynn 0427 809 224)

Wednesdays

Wes's Bible Study - **Church Seminar Room** 9 am
(Contact Wes 0412 235 815)

Sewl Sisters advanced sewing, special projects. Church Patio Area 10am-2pm
(Contact office 4125 5233)

Midweek Prayer for revival- **Church Prayer Room** 5:00 - 5:30pm **School Terms**

Rev Willem's Bible Study - **Church Seminar Room** 6pm
(Contact Willem or the Office 4125 5233) **School Terms**

Thursday

Time for me Playgroup for families with preschool children.

Enjoy a drink and bikkie while the children play - **Church Hall** 9:30am—11.30am
(Contact Arlene 0447 359 288) **School Terms**

Friday

Oasis (Outreach) a place of calm in the middle of chaos. Join us for coffee, chat, activities, sewing, knitting, reading, making friends or just being yourself.

Bring a friend.

Church Patio Area - 10am to 2pm

(Contacts Gwyn 41255242 or Office 4125 5233)

Saturday

Church Family Luncheon - **Church Hall** 11:30 am **1st Saturday in the Month**
unless otherwise advertised (Contact Wes 0412 235 815)

Sunday

Special Morning Tea Church **1st Sunday of the Month**— if you are able please bring
a plate of food to share **Hervey Bay Church Hall** after service

Adult Fellowship first meeting 21st March

Please collect Stamps for 2025

ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME!

Come for fun fellowship and fundraising.

