



UC

Differently now!



Sunday 23rd March 2025

Issue (10)

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

Please be mindful of resource usage, such as printed copies of 'UC' leaving them for those without access to email.

Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalms 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 1:26-38

Next Week's

Lectionary Readings:

Joshua 9:5-12

Psalms 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Preaching at Hervey Bay is Rev. Willem Smit
Preaching at Howard is Rev. Wes Furness



Seeking God

Lent Three: March 23rd

Seek:

"to try to find or get something, especially something that is not a physical object."

Cambridge Dictionary

Hebrew word -baqash. "Seeking to find or take something." (Strong's 1245)

Hebrew word -darash. "Searching, investigating, inquiring, requiring." (Strong's 1875)

God's story is one of being present with humans.

Throughout the Bible, we hear of people searching for, and drawing close to God, and seeking God's comfort, wisdom, and guidance.

We also hear of people seeking God at times when they are desperate – desperate for God's mercy, forgiveness, and protection. Many generations before us have known, and shared their stories, of God being present when they draw close to God.

Uniting Church Hervey Bay
Hervey Bay, Burrum Heads & Howard

Mission:

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.

Do you need prayer Today after Church?

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

Prayer Chain

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



Rosters

In Week one and two of each month please ensure that the roster **RED BOOK** is filled out so that draft Roster can be created.

Please pick up Draft Roster Week on the 3rd Sunday.
Please contact Shiree Royall if she has missed your entry in the RED BOOK

Church Council

12 April 2025
Hervey Bay
10am

Presbytery Meeting

19 July
Caloundra UC

Church Contact

56 Exeter Street (PO Box 5072) Torquay QLD 4655

admin@hbuc.org.au

www.hbuc.org.au

Office Hours Tuesday-Friday 9am - 12pm (07) 4125 5233

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. Pease subscribe](#)



For private meditation

In the quiet, in the calm, in the stillness

I seek God.

In the clamour, in the cry, in the grief

I seek God.

In this time, in this place

I seek God.

Adapted from Source <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship/>

TIME OF SELF REFLECTION

*As we consider what renewal means for our Church, and our lives,
let's reflect on what it means to seek God in our everyday lives.*

When have you searched for God?

When have you sought God for comfort, wisdom and guidance?

When have you sought God for mercy, forgiveness or protection?

What did you learn, experience, or feel during those times?

As we seek God this Lent, what might God be saying to us?

Presbytery Report 15th March 2025

The recent Mary Burnett Presbytery meeting in Bundaberg was a beacon of reflection and renewal for the Uniting Church community. Starting with an invigorating worship service led by Moderator Rev. Bruce Moore, the gathering set the stage for pivotal discussions that are shaping the future of ministry in Queensland.

One of the key topics was the proposal to merge the Pastoral Relations Committee and the Standing Committee. This initiative aims to streamline operations and reduce administrative burdens, a practice already successful in other presbyteries. The focus remains on maintaining integrity and confidentiality while ensuring the committee's functions serve the greater purpose of glorifying God.

The meeting also addressed the pressing issue of sustainable ministry. With a declining number of ministers and increasing risks of burnout, there is a need for balanced expectations between ministers' roles and congregational demands. This ongoing conversation seeks solutions to support ministers in harmonising their calling with personal life balance.

Continuing Education for Ministry agents (CEM) was highlighted as a crucial requirement, offering varied opportunities for spiritual growth, from pilgrimages to lectures. The Synod is committed to making these resources more accessible.

Meanwhile, changes in Safe Church training are slated for April 2025, reinforcing the church's commitment to a safe and loving environment. The Current edUCate system has been deemed as not fit for purpose.

Continued on page 5

MAKE AND BAKE

INGREDIENTS

- 2 litres of Coles lemonade, cold
- 2 litres of tropical juice, cold
- 825g can of Coles fruit salad, cold
- 2 nectarines, sliced
- Ice, to fill

As you drink the punch read Psalm 63:1-8. You might like to chat about:

A time when you've been really thirsty or hungry

What you thirst/seek after?

What it means for you to thirst/seek God?

This recipe comes from: <https://theorganisedhousewife.com.au/recipes/coles-tropical-punch/>

METHOD

1. Place all ingredients into glass dispenser
2. Fill dispenser with ice
3. Serve immediately

Seeking God In Prayer

Dear God,
You are the living water.
You are the bread of life.
You are the light.
You are our salvation.
And yet, I am aware we don't always seek you.
Instead, I turn to the world and to others and:
I seek comfort
I seek status
I seek wealth
I seek praise

I seek pleasure
I seek revenge
I seek knowledge
I seek power
For a while, it might feel good.
For a while, it may make me happy.
And yet, I know it doesn't fulfill, it doesn't truly satisfy.
God, I turn to you. I thirst for you. I call on you.
For only you can satisfy. For only you can fill.
Forgive me for not seeking you.
Amen



Funny Face Biscuits

Ingredients

- 2 cups icing sugar
- 2 tbs water
- yellow gel food colouring
- 250 g Arrowroot biscuits
- 16 g Smarties
- 190 g Allen's Retro Party Mix
- 190 g jelly beans
- sprinkles

Method

Sift icing sugar into a bowl; add enough water to make a spreadable paste. Add a few drops of yellow food colouring to get the right funny face colour.

Spread a teaspoon of icing onto the biscuit and then use the lollies to make the faces. When the face is done, use the sprinkles for hair, beards and a moustaches.

Presbytery report continued from page 3

Rev. Bruce Moore and Scott Guyatt presented the “Green Shoots” proposal, which includes a Renewal and Growth Strategy for 2025-2028, focusing on mission renewal, leadership formation, and resource stewardship with the aim for a flourishing future for both church and community. The strategy emphasises the Uniting Church’s mission: ‘to participate in God’s life-giving mission in the world, embodying justice, mercy, love, peace, and reconciliation, so that all people and creation might share abundant life.’

Additionally, the Presbytery Support Unit (PSU), has been established. Meri Stoerr has been appointed to support the Mary Burnett and Moreton Rivers Presbyteries. The PSU is designed to alleviate administrative and governance pressures, ensuring effective compliance and property management.

In Meri’s appointment to the PSU, she will be championing our cause by, providing vital support to congregations and the Mary Burnett Presbytery. The upcoming presentation at the 38th Synod in May will further detail these initiatives, may all decisions be guided by the Spirit of the Lord for the glory of God.

We are encouraged to pray for guidance and unity in pursuing these transformative goals that strive to create a flourishing future for both church and community.

By Louise

THE CHURCH FAMILY LUNCHEON



Donation: \$10.00

**Enjoy lunch and
good fellowship
No speaker this week**

Saturday 5th April @ 11:30am



Hervey Bay Uniting Church 56 Exeter St Torquay QLD 4655

Every day in the community, we engage with people from all walks of life. We deliver skilled, evidence-based interventions for those facing adversity, and utilise our reach and vision to confront injustice.

We are leaders in crisis response, the protection of vulnerable children, financial resilience and family wellbeing.

We meet people where they are and walk alongside them to achieve positive change and growth.

UnitingCare supports thousands of people living with a disability in redefining what's possible in their lives.

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.

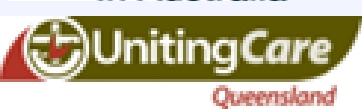
Frontier Services: Providing essential support to those living in remote areas, Frontier Services ensures that no community is left behind.

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!

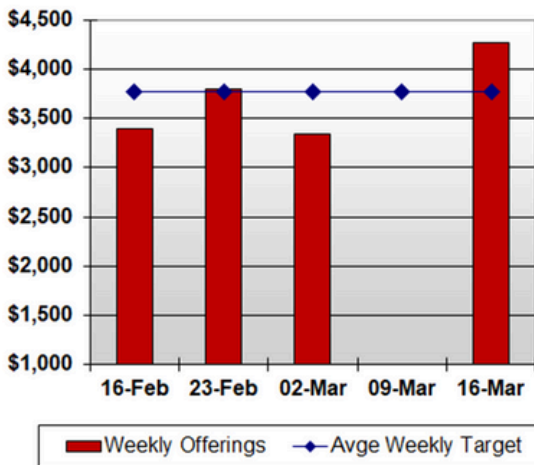
DONATIONS



Offerings from All Congregations (Includes Direct Deposits)

16/03/2025 = \$4,268.75

Average Weekly Target for Giving = \$3,776



FROM 1 JULY 2024

Giving Target for 2025 Financial YTD	\$ 135,936.00
Actual Giving for 2025 Financial YTD	\$ 124,618.65
Difference:	\$ - 11,317.35
YTD Difference to Target Per Week	\$ - 314.37
Forecast End of Year Position	\$ - 16,347.24

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 next meeting **19th April**

Please collect Stamps for 2025

All Ladies are welcome!

Come for fun fellowship and fundraising.

