

Graham's Reflection

Greetings Mary Burnett Presbytery, and God's richest blessings to you all.

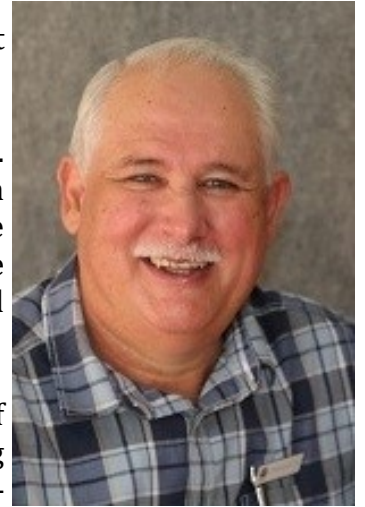
As I type this message, it is the middle of Holy Week. We have just celebrated Palm Sunday, and we are in that period of mixed emotions that takes us from the celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, through the events of his betrayal, brutal torture and sacrificial death, to the joy of Easter morning.

For most ministers this week is the most exhausting of the year; it is not just the personal emotion of reliving the rollercoaster effect of the events of that first Easter, but the time and pressure of preparing so many services and events (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday with possible Dawn services). Add a couple of congregations together into a cluster and it makes for a busy and tiring week. It is quite understandable for ministers and congregations to expend all this energy, then fall into a tired heap as they look forward to slipping back into 'normal' church life.



We know that the disciples hid away after the events of Easter, waiting for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit to empower them for the task ahead. Likewise it seems, after Easter, without realising it, we also seem to go into a holding pattern as we start preparing for Pentecost.

(cont. next page)



Mary Burnett

WITNESSING THE LOVE AND TRANSFORMATION OF JESUS

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Presbytery [Webpage](#)



admin@maryburnettpres.org.au



Admin 0417 509 433



UCA Qld Synod [Webpage](#)

Please submit newsletter articles to the admin officer at admin@maryburnettpres.org.au by 26th of the month.

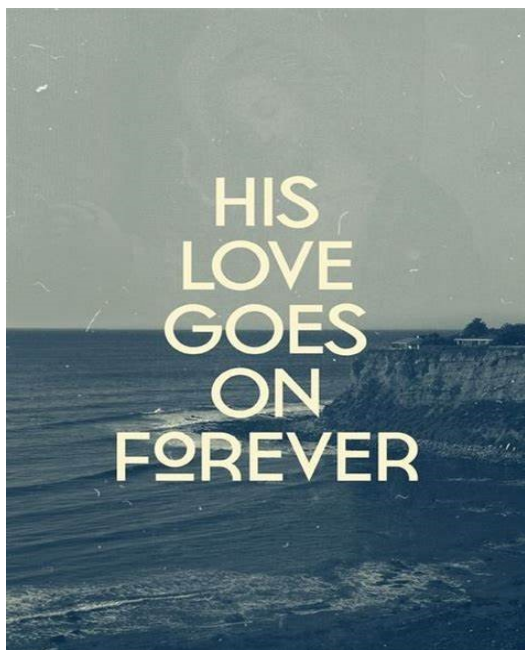
How quickly we come down from the spiritual high of Easter. But the fact is that Easter is not something that occurs once a year; an annual event we can cross off our calendar. Easter isn't just a day, or a celebration – it is a way of life. Easter – the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is played out in our lives every day, because we have been forever transformed. Easter is knowing that because we have been joined by Baptism to the Risen One, Jesus the Christ, we participate in his new reality and are, indeed, new creatures. We now play a significant and constantly active part in God's plan to bring His Kingdom to completion on Earth.

Well known Author and Theologian N.T Wright declares, *"Jesus's resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven."* ("Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church")

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (5 Peter 5:7).

Now is not the time to take our 'foot off the peddle" to coin another phrase. Easter is a time for new beginnings, and we need to look to see where God is at work doing these new things. In doing so we will also draw renewed strength and energy from being drawn into the current and future plans of God, rather than seeking the comfort of the past.

God Bless, Pastor Graham Huth



Possible electricity savings

The Synod Office is exploring options for saving money on your electricity expenditure. To register your interest in this initiative, please email bdu@ucaqlld.com.au with the following;

- Contact details
 - Congregation or UEL location
 - Four most recent electricity bills
- Please contact bdu@ucaqlld.com.au if you have any questions.

Graham's Diary

April

13 Standing Committee/PRC meeting

19 PSI - Bne

20 Placements - Bne

21 Act2 Workshop

Graham is available and willing to come and visit,
and/or preach Contact Graham at
presmin@maryburnettpres.org.au



Presbytery Meeting Dates 2023

July 22 Glasshouse Mountains

November 10 - 12 Camp Pialba Live in **Corinthians 12**

*For just as the body is one and has many members, and all
the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it
is with Christ.*

Mary Burnett Online Services

[Bargara](#) - Facebook

[Blackall Range](#) - Website

[Bundaberg](#) - YouTube

[Cooroy/Pomona](#) - Facebook

[Gympie Uniting Church](#) - YouTube

[Hervey Bay](#) - YouTube

[Mooloolaba](#) - Facebook

[Bells](#) - Facebook

[Buderim](#) - YouTube

[Caloundra](#) - Facebook

[Glasshouse Country](#) - YouTube

[Kawana Waters](#) - Facebook

[Nambour](#) - YouTube

Apologies if I've missed anyone.

The Synod office has put together a list of Queensland Uniting
Church congregations live streaming available on the [website](#).

Standing Committee and PRC 2023 Meetings

Submissions accepted for consid-
eration up to 1 week before meet-
ing.

† 13 Apr 2023

† 8 Jun 2023

† 10 Aug 2023

† 12 Oct 2023

† 7 Dec 2023

Have you read any good books recently?

Email your review to me at admin@maryburnettpres.org.au

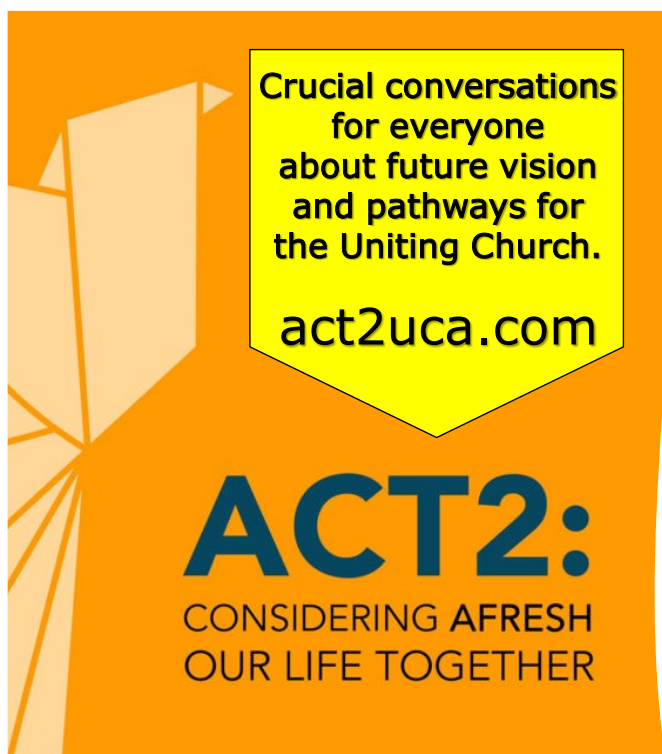
Paassangdiens (Easter Song)

After an amazing Kerssangdiens (Carols) Service at the beginning of Avent. Buderim Unit-ing Church was blessed to host Paassangdiens (Easter Song) at the beginning of Lent. Rev Liena Hoffman led us as we journeyed through the Easter story.

The music was wonderful with a wide array of musicians and singers sharing their talents with those who came along.

It was an evening filled with song in both Afrikaans and English and was followed afterwards with some wonderful food.

Planning is already underway for what will be the second annual Kerssangdiens service.



Crucial conversations
for everyone
about future vision
and pathways for
the Uniting Church.

act2uca.com

ACT2:
CONSIDERING AFRESH
OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Open forum

with the Assembly Act2 team

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

1PM – 3PM
Buderim UC
Connections on King

RSVP
admin@maryburnettpres.org.au
To register attendance.





The Uniting Church in Australia
QUEENSLAND SYNOD

Moderator
Rev Andrew Gunton

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am writing to inform the Synod of the recent changes for Mooloolaba Christian Church (MCC) and the Mary Burnett Presbytery.

On the 18th of March the Mary Burnett Presbytery came together in a prayerful and careful meeting and resolved to formally dissolve the MCC congregation. This decision came at the end of a process over many months and in response to a mutual agreement with the congregation that it was not possible to maintain appropriate relationship and that separating would be the best way forward. Prayers were said for and by the congregation.

Although it was a challenging process, I give thanks that it was also one of peacemaking.

Please join with me in praying for the former members of the congregation and the members of the Mary Burnett Presbytery. Let us pray for clarity and truth, forgiveness and hope in this and all other circumstances.

Peace be with you

Rev Andrew Gunton
Moderator
Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod

ucaqld.com.au
P: 1300 822 753 P: 07 3377 9777
GPO Box 674, Brisbane QLD 4001

Uniting in Christ
acting with love
living with hope
witnessing in faith
working for justice

The Uniting Church Centre
60 Bayliss St, Auchenflower QLD 4066
The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q.) ARBN: 142 498 780

Easter

Easter Sunday is the high point of the Christian Church year. We celebrate the Resurrection - the demonstration of God's power and authority over life and death in the raising of Jesus to new life following his crucifixion and death by the Roman Occupation Army in Israel around 33 Common Era (AD). Christians believe God sent the Son to the world in Jesus of Nazareth to reveal God's true nature and to call the people of Israel and the whole world back to living God's way of justice and peace for all. Through believing in Jesus as Son of God and following his teaching, we are reconnected with God and offered Eternal Life in God's kingdom.



Sadly, the people of his time misunderstood Jesus' mission and resented his ministry. The priests and religious authorities in Jerusalem resented his challenge to their interpretations of the Scriptures and the rituals and laws developed over at least 1000 years before his time. They were jealous of his popularity and capacity to heal, and offended by his freely forgiving people in God's name. The Roman authorities, in soldiers and the consul, Pilate, were afraid of Jesus' power and thought he might stir the people to rebellion against Rome. The story is told in each of the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in the Bible. Despite the fears and jealousies of humans that killed Jesus, God's power overcame that death and showed humans Eternal Life with God is God's intention for all.

We find the Resurrection a mystery – a miracle beyond our full understanding – for this new life of Jesus seemed both normal physical (his friends could see and touch him and he could eat) but also beyond the physical for he could appear in locked rooms and disappear from sight at will. But his disciples saw and believed in him as God's Son and have taught countless others through the past 2000 years to believe in him and trust his revelation of God's will for us. Come and hear the story at churches this Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Happy Easter all.

Rev Dr Elizabeth Nolan





Empowering Lay Preachers

National Conference of Lay Preachers 2023
Sunshine Coast, Queensland

Proudly Hosted by the Uniting Church in Australia Queensland Synod

For lay preachers, candidates and those interested in leading worship.
Share in a wonderful few days and be encouraged, supported and challenged in your ministry.

Starts: 4:30pm Friday, 4 August
Ends: 1:00pm Monday, 7 August

The Queensland Synod is pleased to host on behalf of the National Lay Preacher Committee, the **2023 National Conference of Lay Preachers** to be held Friday 4th August to Monday 7th August 2023 at Alexandra Park Conference Centre, Sunshine Coast Queensland.

For Lay Preachers, prospective Lay Preachers and those interested in leading worship. Share in a wonderful few days and be encouraged, supported and challenged in your ministry.

[Click here for the brochure](#)



37th Synod in Session

Nominations due by 30th April to

admin@maryburnettpres.org.au

October 20 - 24

Commencing 11am Sat 21st.

Alex Park, Alexandra Headlands

Presbytery committees members

Thank you to all who have stepped into Presbytery roles to serve on our committees.

We welcome:

Presmin: Graham Huth

Chairperson: Liena Hoffman

Secretary: Naomi Cavalli

Treasurer: Peter Mortimer

Mission Engagement Officer: Phil Smith

Property Committee: Liena Hoffman

Standing Committee: Stuart Bosch; Tanya Richards, Susan Mortimer; MEO, Presmin, Pres Chair, Pres Secretary; Pres Treasurer

Pastoral Relations Committee: Stuart Bosch, Tanya Richards, Bruce Ames, Margaret Gilbert, Presmin, Pres Chair, Pres Secretary

Please pray for the members of these committees as they carry out the work of the Presbytery on our behalf.

I URGE THAT PETITIONS,
PRAYERS, INTERCESSIONS,
AND THANKSGIVING BE
OFFERED FOR ALL THOSE IN
AUTHORITY, SO THAT WE
MAY LEAD TRANQUIL AND
QUIET LIVES IN ALL
GODLINESS AND DIGNITY.

A place for all of us: History of Alex Park

The Presbyterian Young People's Fellowship Association's first Easter Camp at Alexandra Hostel was in 1933.

Back then, Alexandra Headlands was a secluded place and much harder to travel too than now. But it was also seen as a wonderful place where young people could come together at Easter and remember the sacrifice of Jesus.

Between 1933 and 1942 the site was used for Easter camps and grew in popularity. During this time there had been a number of attempts to sell the hostel boarding house which occupied the land but the price was never right for the owner (and too much for the Church).

Then along came World War II, the boarding house was taken over by the Australian Army and Easter Camps ceased 1942-44.

But the visionaries were not finished with Alex Park and by the summer of 1945 Queensland Presbyterian Camps purchased Alexandra Hostel at a reduced cost. They began setting up the camp home for the Young People's Fellowship Association.

They quickly developed concept plans for how they would use the 173 acres of land as a training centre for youth workers, youth leaders, organised camps, a holiday centre and a rest haven for people needing a place away.



Ann Street Group - Christmas 1949



Erecting the Fire-bell pole Christmas 1949

Those early days of Alex Park were largely thanks to the foresight of Norman Nelson. Many of the plaques at Alex Park today credit Mr Nelson who influenced the Church to buy the site as a destination for Easter campers. Later in his life, he was to pen a book called *To Help Them Find Their Feet about Alexandra Park*.

Their own place

The work teams prepared the house for the next Easter Camp and the opening was held the night before Good Friday, April 19, 1946. It hosted 200 campers who were finally in "their own home".

Alex Park's current manager Danny Salzke says the original mandate was to have a place where young people could come together for both holiday and teaching camps, as well as conferences.

But getting Alexandra Park Hostel ready for Easter Camp 1946 was not easy. In Danny's words: "The first task was cleaning up... and a mighty task it was. Burning stacks of rubbish and undoing blacked out windows".

"Coming to Alexandra Park during the 30s and 40s was very different," he says. "I have old pictures of just a dirt sand track and a very old, small surf club-type building. It wasn't the popular tourist destination we see today. There were only a few houses."

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Work-party rest break
Cathedral site
Christmas 1949



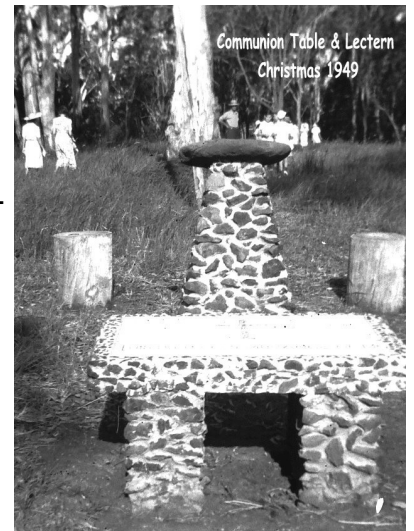
Picnic lunch at top of property
prior to the hike to Buderim
Christmas 1949

Alex Park also became a home for people in the church who wanted somewhere to go for sanctuary, peace and quiet, or to connect with family. "There are still generations of people alive who had their youth camp experience at Alex Park; they might have made lasting friendships or even met future spouses," Danny says.

Working parties were constantly held for things like repairs on the original hostel, planting trees for the surrounding regenerated rainforest and building the outdoor chapel (located on a different part of the property today), which featured a stone Communion table and altar.

Danny says: "I recently read where working bees of young people in the church were brought in to get that bush chapel area ready. They built these stone artefacts."

Eventually, it was decided that upkeep of the hostel building was becoming difficult and that it no longer served all the needs of the church, such as its formal member conferences.



In 1988, a new build, the biggest the site had seen, was planned and it would need more than a few youth group working bees to complete! On what was the second land sale of the Alexandra Park site, the Presbyterian Church let go of a chunk of the property to fund this historic development. The new facility comprised two accommodation blocks, a main building with offices, an auditorium, kitchen and a dining room.

Danny says that for a church-owned facility to be located amid a rainforest next to the coast, reflects the vision of Alex Park's forebears.

"What has always served young people, even today, is a shared experience - an outdoor experience," he says.

"Because back in the day, that's all Alex Park was - the outdoors with a building on it.

"It's the people who shared it that made it special.

"In our modern world that means more than television and devices.

"Alex Park today still offers an escape with nature and all its beauty, but with all of today's comforts to make connecting and growing possible."

Tamaryn Cammarano

Marketing & Communications Manager

Wildhive Studios

W: wildhive.com.au



Blue Care 70th Birthday



Blue Care 70th Anniversary

Thanks to those who have volunteered to be their local champion for anniversary celebrations.

Planning is already underway for the festivities throughout the year.

If you would like to put your name forward to be your local champion, please contact Sheri Holland.

Sheri.holland@ucareqld.com.au for further information and support.

Please pray for our chaplains

- † Ps Barbara Betts (Kingaroy)
- † Narelle Cramb (Sunshine Coast North)
- † Rev Anna Ashby (Buderim)
- † Ps Theo Masselos (Buderim)
- † Rev Tanya Richards (SCUH)
- † Pastor Peter Pearson (Bundaberg)
- † Rev James Stevenson (Buderim)

- † Rev Keren Seto (St Stephens Hervey Bay)
- † Ps Merisa Holland (Caloundra)
- † Rev Craig Allan (Hervey Bay)
- † Ps Susan Cameron (Caloundra/Maleny)



Grants and funding - The following grants and funding opportunities are available for your congregation.

2023 NAIDOC Local Grants

This grant opportunity provides funding to organisations to contribute to the cost of activities held during NAIDOC Week 2023 (2 - 9 July) that celebrate First Nations' histories, cultures, achievements and continuing contributions to our country and society. Activities should align with the 2023 National NAIDOC Week Theme *For our Elders*. [Click here](#) for more information.

Green care and community garden projects

The Community Sustainability Action grants provide grant funding to eligible community groups and individuals for innovative projects which seek to address climate change, conserve Queensland's natural and built environment and protect our unique wildlife. [Click here](#) for more information.

Course (online) - introduction to Australia's national charity regulator

As the national regulator, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) has specific functions within the charity sector. Gain a better understanding of the charity sector through this course. You'll learn precisely what falls inside and outside the ACNC's area of regulatory responsibility and what kind of support it can offer Australian charities.

For more information and to apply, [click here](#).

Stand up Speak out - Webinar - The rights of future generations



Wales passed the first Well-being of Future Generations Act in 2015, which requires long-term solutions for improving the country's well-being. Sophie Howe, the outgoing Welsh Future Generations Commissioner, will share her experiences leading interventions in education, climate change, and transport planning. She urges the government and others to prioritise future generations. Adopting a future generations approach could revolutionise policy development and create a sustainable Australia. Join the discussion to discover more.

When: 20 April - 12.30 PM - 1.30 PM,

Where: Online event

[Register here](#).

Uniting World



Where your support goes

Right now we're working with grassroots communities in 29 projects in 14 countries

Click on the link to see how your gifts are used.

UNITINGWORLD SUNDAY

We're launching a new initiative called Uniting-World Sunday to help churches deepen relationships with our global partners and celebrate all that we do together.

When your church signs up, we'll provide a whole range of resources to help you host your Uniting-World Sunday! The funds you raise will make a big difference in the lives of our global neighbours.

Sunday 7 May 2023. But you can do it any day that suits your church's calendar! [Find out more.](#)

Gifts in Wills webinar

Would you like to make a difference for generations to come? Leaving a gift to the church, no matter how large or small, can make a difference in missional work. Do you want to learn more about how to leave a gift in your will to the church? We will hold a free webinar on Tuesday, April 18, at 11:30 am. This webinar will cover the role of The Property Trust in estates management and everything you need to know about how to leave a gift to your congregation or the church as a whole. We will have a senior associate from Thynne Macartney talk about what useful gifts you can leave to the church.

When: Tuesday, April 18 at 11:30 am

Where: Online event - Webinar

[Click here](#) to register.

If you have any questions, contact Vanessa, the Office of the Synod's Fundraising Support Manager, at vanessa.griffiths@ucaql.com.au.

Please submit your congregations' activities to:

admin@maryburnettpres.org.au

**What is happening in your church?
Let me know & I can celebrate it in the
Presbytery Newsletter?**

- ⇒ **Events**
- ⇒ **Book or Film Reviews**
- ⇒ **Relevant interesting items**
- ⇒ **Photo's**

Newsletter deadline is 25th of the month.

*Articles are subject to approval.

Dates for your Diary

2023 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS

- † 22 July - Glasshouse Mountains
- † 10 - 12 November - Camp Pialba

Start time: 9.00am

2023 STANDING COMMITTEE, COMBINED & PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

- † 13 April - Barter St, Gympie
- † 8 June
- † 10 August
- † 12 October
- † 7 December

Start time: 9.30am

Submissions accepted for consideration 1 week before meeting.

2023 ZONE MEETINGS

- Inland Zone Meeting (Not scheduled)
- Northern Zone Meeting (Not scheduled)

MANDATORY REPORTING TRAINING (Ministry Agents)

Ministry Agents – Initial training – Module 1 online,
Module 2 face to face,
Module 3 Online. – Begin cycle again

SAFE MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN TRAINING

- †
- † 10 Nov 2023 - Camp Pialba, Hervey Bay - Ministry

Romans 5:19

¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous .

CODE OF ETHICS TRAINING

- † 10 Nov 2023 - Camp Pialba, Hervey Bay
[Online version available here](#) To be completed with 2 or more people together. Then send completed certificates to admin@maryburnettpres.org.au

RETREAT (TBC)

INDUCTIONS, COMMISSIONINGS, SERVICES OF CONCLUSION

FINANCE, INVESTMENT & PROPERTY (FIP) MEETINGS

- † 28 April

RETIRED REVS

SYNOD

- † 21-24 October 2023



www.maryburnettpres.org.au

Are your details on our website correct?
Please email changes to admin@maryburnettpres.org.au

MARY BURNETT PRESBYTERY

WHO ARE WE?

The Presbytery, as a Council of delegates from congregations and agencies, are disciples witnessing the love and transformation of Jesus in order to better serve our ministry agents, congregations and other places of ministry within its bounds.

Presbytery Contacts

PS Graham Huth (Presbytery Minister)
presmin@maryburnettpres.org.au
0456 556 528

Mrs Naomi Cavalli (Secretary)
secretary@maryburnettpres.org.au
0401 161 165

Rev Dr Liena Hoffman (Chairperson)
chair@maryburnettpres.org.au
M: 0490 421 874

Kylie Aalbers (Admin Officer)
admin@maryburnettpres.org.au
PO Box 284, Nambour, 4560
0417 509 433

Peter Mortimer (Treasurer)
petermortimer@gmail.com
M: 0477 642 251

Rev Dr Liena Hoffman (Property Officer)
Hoffman.caritas@gmail.com - 0490 421 874

Sue Mulcahy (Safe People, Safe Environment)
sue@qmp.net.au
0403 052 123

Ps Phil Smith (Mission Engagement Officer)
mission@maryburnettpres.org.au - 0414 823 125

Rev Dr Schalk Pienaar (Professional Supervision)
pienaarschalk@yahoo.com
(07) 5493 8739

(Retired Ministers)

Inland Zone Coordinator
Secretary: Mr Ron Mason
rmason5@bigpond.com

For God has great
Plans for you!

WORK DAYS

Grahams day off is Monday, Phil's day off is Saturday. Liena's is Friday

Whilst Graham, Phil & Liena may check messages and respond to urgent requests, please leave non-urgent matters for their work days. Thank you.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Ps Graham Huth
Rev Stuart Bosch
Pastor Phil Smith
Mrs Naomi Cavalli (Secretary)
Rev Liena Hoffman (Chair)
Mr Peter Mortimer (Treasurer)
Mrs Susan Mortimer
Rev Tanya Richards

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Ps Graham Huth
Rev Stuart Bosch
Mrs Naomi Cavalli
Rev Liena Hoffman
Ps Bruce Ames
Rev Tanya Richards
Mrs Margaret Gilbert

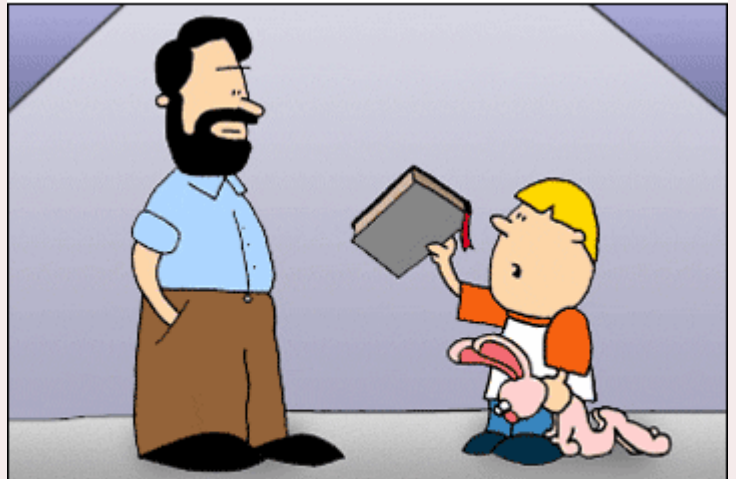
PERIOD OF DISCERNMENT COORDINATORS

– Inland Zone
Nigel Rogers – Southern Zone 07 3377 9952
– Northern Zone

POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PRESBYTERY

Presbytery Secretary
Mary Burnett Presbytery
PO Box 133, Moffat Beach, Qld 4551

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04-13-2006

DAD, I NEED YOUR HELP TO FIND OUT
WHERE IT TALKS ABOUT THE EASTER BUNNY
IN THE BIBLE