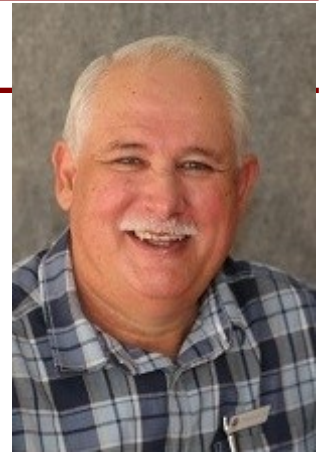


Reflection - Ps Graham Huth



Greetings Presbytery, and welcome to Spring, a season of renewal within Creation, which we pray will also be reflected within the life of the Church. The terms 'green shoots', 'renewal' and 'revitalisation' have become a consistent and pronounced part of Uniting Church vocabulary of late as we look forward with anticipation to the way Christ, through the gift of the Spirit, will renew his church.

"The Sovereign Lord will show his justice to the nations of the world. Everyone will praise Him! His righteousness will be like a garden in early spring, with plants springing up everywhere." Isaiah 61:11 (NLT)

Passages like the one above from Isaiah offer great hope of refreshment and growth. However, I often consider the fact that we want renewal, as long as we also get to hang onto the past. The lectionary readings for the first Sunday in September challenge us to recognise and let go of everything that prevents us from experiencing the potential of what God can do in our lives. Are we willing to give up our present comfort to find greater something far more valuable when we yield control of our lives, and our church, to God?

In Luke 14:25-33, Jesus turns to the crowd and speaks words that are anything but comfortable: "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children... yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple." He's not advocating hostility, but radical reordering. Discipleship, He says, costs everything. It's not a casual commitment—it's a total surrender.

This echoes the image in Jeremiah 18:1-11, where God sends the prophet to the potter's house. There, Jeremiah sees clay being shaped on the wheel. When the vessel is marred, the potter doesn't discard it—he reshapes it into something new. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand," says the Lord.

Together, these passages offer a profound truth: to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, we must be willing to give up everything so that God can form us into something new.

As individuals and as congregations, we often come to God with our plans, our identities, our comforts intact. But clay doesn't dictate its shape. The potter does. And Jesus makes clear that following Him means laying down our rights to self-determination.

(Cont. next page)

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Join us on [Facebook](#)



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.



This surrender isn't punitive—it's creative. God doesn't crush us to discard us. He reshapes us to reflect His glory. But are we really willing to go that far, because reshaping requires soft clay? Hardened hearts resist the wheel. Stiff pride cracks under pressure. Only those willing to be undone can be remade.

Consider Jim Elliot, the missionary who gave his life reaching the unreached in Ecuador. He famously said, *"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose."* His surrender led to a legacy that still inspires.

So, what must we surrender? Perhaps it's control. Perhaps it's reputation. Perhaps it's relationships, build-ings, independence, habits, obsessions, possessions, or even dreams. Jesus doesn't ask for part of us—He asks for all. And in return, God offers something far greater: a life shaped by grace, purpose, and eternal significance.

We must be soft clay in God's hands. May we count the cost and find it worth it. And may we become true disciples—not by clinging to what we were, but by surrendering to what He is making us to be. Then we will experience renewal.

May the eternal and perfect Joy of the Lord Spring forth in your life.

Graham Huth



Mary Burnett Presbytery
Cordially invites you to the
Closure Service for
Rev David Ellis
from
Burnett Network of Churches

Saturday 20th September 2025
10.00am
At Gayndah Uniting Church
41 Meson St, Gayndah
Followed by Bring and Share Lunch

RSVP by Monday 15th September
to Kylie Aalbers (presbytery)
admin@maryburnettpres.org.au

Graham's Diary

September

1 Gympie JNC	10 Buderim JNC
2 Buderim JNC	11 PRSC Committee (Zoom)
3 Glasshouse JNC	16 Attend Ordination Sam McDonnell
6 BNoC Support team meeting - Mundubbera	17 PSI
7 Attend Uniting Life - Mooloolaba	18 Placements
9 Attend The Downs PRC & PSC meetings	20 Closure Service Rev David Ellis - Gayndah
	24 - 1st Oct - Annual Leave

Presbytery Meeting Dates 2025

November 14 - 16 - Camp Duckadang

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

[Blackall Range](#) - Website [Buderim](#) - YouTube
[Bundaberg](#) - YouTube [Caloundra](#) - Facebook
[Cooroy/Pomona](#) - Facebook [Hervey Bay](#) - YouTube
[Gympie Uniting Church](#) - YouTube [Kawana Waters](#) - Facebook
Apologies if I've missed anyone, please let me know.

Pastoral Relations & Standing Committee

2024/25 Meetings

**Submissions accepted for consideration up to 1 week before meeting.
(Z = Zoom)**

11 Sep (Z)	9 Oct Gympie
13 Nov (Z)	4 Dec Gympie

All ministry agents are required to have a Professional Supervisor.
Professional Supervision Covenant forms are available on the
[Presbytery website.](#)

Presbytery Safe Church Training Coordinator

Presbytery is seeking a volunteer to be the safe church coordinator for the Presbytery. You would be responsible for keeping up to date with the current training requirements and sending details to the Admin for distribution to the congregations.

Kylie Aalbers - admin@maryburnettpres.org.au



The banner features a sunset over a landscape with a church steeple. The text 'The Church as a Prophetic Voice in Australian Society' is on the left, and 'Past, Present & Future' is on the right. A small circular logo with a cross is in the top right corner.

UNITING CHURCH NATIONAL HISTORY SOCIETY	NATIONAL CONFERENCE 3-5 OCTOBER 2025
ucnhs2025conference@gmail.com	uniting.church/uca-national-history-society/

Invitation to UC National History Conference
All who have an interest in the heritage of our churches are invited to register for the UC National History Conference to be held at Canberra City Church on 3-5 October.
The theme is about our church offering a 'prophetic voice' having spoken up on issues affecting Australia. Speakers will look at the impact of the church's influence in the past and give a focus to the present and offer inspiration for the future.
Please visit our website (below) for information and registration options.
<http://www.uniting.church/uca-national-history-society/>
Enquiries: Rev Ivan Roberts – mobile 0422 648 191

Let me know what's happening in your congregation
admin@maryburnettpres.org.au

Southern Zone Fellowship

Following on from the successful picnic at Glasshouse Country UC, the next Southern Zone Fellowship day is on THURSDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2025. It will be held at the KA-WANA WATERS UNITING CHURCH 3 Honeysuckle Drive BOKARINA.

KWUC Fellowship will provide morning tea at 10am and there will be a B.Y.O. lunch at approx 12 noon if staying.

Our theme is "Fishing"

JEREMIAH 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"

Other verses you may look at and give some thought as to what they mean to you/ fellowship are Mark 1:16-20 & John 22:6 Come and enjoy a time of fun and fellowship together. Please invite other friends you know who may wish to come also.

It would be appreciated if you could reply by SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER with the approx number attending.

Blessings
Nancy Imhoff (pres)
KWUC Fellowship
0409 751 818
gnimhoff@bigpond.com

Tongan Cultural Day—Nambour UC **Sat 13 September 1pm**

Each year Nambour UC's Tongan community make and share a beautiful traditional lunch. There will be some traditional entertainment also, with singing and dancing.

BYO - Smiles and gratitude!

Kylie Aalbers
(source Nambour Weekly Nexus 24/8/25)

A Summary of the new MDF structure

Synod has created two new endowment funds to support Church Renewal and Covenant Ministry for generations to come. These two funds have clear guiding principles and a funding strategy to support their growth and to ensure they can support the church's mission for years to come.

Effective from 19th May 2025 the policy will apply to all sales of property held in the name of the Property Trust. MDF accounts prior to 19th May 2025 will not be affected however congregations are welcome to contribute to either or both the new funds.

Church Renewal Fund - minimum 10%

- ♦ Capital Endowment fund overseen by the FIPB (Finance, Investment and Property Board)
- ♦ Annual budget to be set by FIPB, administered by MC3 (Mission Collaboration and Coordination Committee)
- ♦ Specified criteria
- ♦ Pooled for Synod-wide use
- ♦ Relational oversight by MC3

Covenant Ministry Fund - minimum 5%

- ♦ Capital Endowment fund overseen by FIPB
- ♦ Annual budget set by FIPB, administered by UAICC RCQ (Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress Regional Council Queensland)
- ♦ Specified criteria
- ♦ Pooled for Synod-wide use
- ♦ Relational oversight by UAICC RCQ

A minimum of 10% of the net proceeds of a sale of property is allocated to the Church Renewal Fund and a minimum 5% is allocated to the Covenant Ministry Fund. The responsible body will have the option, after prayerful discernment, to allocate more proceeds to the new funds and to transfer any portion of their existing MDF holdings to the new funds.

Some exclusions would apply, such as selling a manse for the purpose of purchasing a replacement manse, if the 'sale' is a transfer of the status of Responsible Body from one Church entity to another Church entity, as legal title remains in the Property Trust or where legal requirements are in place as bequest instructions, or other special trusts that may be in place for schools and other entities.

Kylie Aalbers

(Source General Proposal 3, Synod 38)



Mental Health First Aid training

The Queensland Synod is pleased to offer an accredited Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training, and invite you to register your interest in attending an upcoming session.

Why is this training important? Team leaders and those working in community outreach, and social assistance programs are often the first point of contact for people experiencing mental health challenges. Having accredited training ensures you are equipped to:



Intervene early
Recognise the warning signs of mental concerns in other adults.



Offer support
Learn the skills to speak openly and accurately about mental health.



Respond in a crisis
Respond across a range of crisis situations where an adult may be at risk of harm.



Reduce stigma
Reduce stigma and increase a support for adults experiencing and living with mental health problems.

Why attend a Standard Mental Health First Aid training course?



Improve knowledge
Of mental illnesses, treatments and appropriate first aid strategies.



Improve confidence
Course participants report improved confidence in providing first aid to individuals.



Cost: Free training session designed specifically for team leaders
Location: Synod Office

What you'll learn
Learn how to apply mental health first aid to adults, including:

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Psychosis
- Substance use problems
- Suicidal thoughts and behaviours
- Panic attacks
- Non suicidal self-harm
- Traumatic events

Become an MHFAider
Adults who complete the course become Mental Health First Aiders (MHFAiders).
Accreditations are valid for 3 years.

Duration

- Face-to-face training, 2 x 6-hour sessions, over 2 days.



Take the next step

Register your interest here:



There are 2 [Options](#)

1. 20th and 27th October (2 days face-to-face certified training)
 2. 3 hour summary session (non-certified) date to be confirmed
- (Source Uniting News 26/8/25)

Grief & Loss Community Workshop

Hosted by the **BlueCare Grief & Loss team** with speakers, Barbara Betts, Learning & Development Lead and Jen Nel, Operations Manager Grief & Loss Programs.

When?

Monday 1st September 2025
9:00am - 12:30pm

\$30pp

Where?

Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre
'Hall B' 22 Charles St, Pialba

Morning Tea provided

While death is the first thing that comes to mind when we talk about grief, there are many other losses that cause us to grieve as well. This workshop is designed to be educational, informative and interactive.



For more information, please contact:
Jen Nel 0460 571 946
GriefandLossProgram@bluecare.org.au

Proudly part of
 **UnitingCare**

 **BlueCare**
Live life your way

Have you read any good books recently?

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

Volunteer Opportunity – Compassionate Companions, Caloundra Blue Care

Blue Care Caloundra is seeking volunteers for the *Compassionate Companions* program. This initiative provides person-focused support to residents who are significantly isolated from family, friends, and community networks. Volunteers offer companionship through friendly conversation, coffee in the garden, group meals, music, puzzles, or short walks.

Training and ongoing support are provided. Opportunities are available once a week or 3–4 hours per fortnight.

For more information, please contact:
Helen Cifuentes – Chaplaincy Services Manager
h.cifuentes@bluecare.org.au | 0491318 607

Or express interest online:

[Better Impact—Computer](#)
[Better Impact—App](#)
[SEEK Listing](#)



Compassionate Companion

Supporting residents through friendship and connection

What is Compassionate Companions?

Compassionate Companions provide person-focused support for aged care residents who are significantly isolated from family, friends, and social networks.

What do Compassionate Companions do?

- Create a sense of connection through friendly conversations, coffee in the garden, group meals, music, puzzles, or short walks.
- Offer social engagement and companionship once a week, or 3–4 hours a fortnight.
- Tailor support to the individual needs of residents.

What support will I receive?

- Guidance from the Chaplaincy Services Manager and care team.
- Relevant training and ongoing supervision to help you feel confident in your role.

Location

Caloundra Blue Care (Waroona & Aminya)

Interested?

Contact: **Helen Cifuentes, Chaplaincy Services Manager**

h.cifuentes@bluecare.org.au

0491 318 607

Or express your interest online:

- **Better Impact (Computer):** bttr.im/a4plc
- **Better Impact (App):** bttr.im/r7vit
- **SEEK:** [View Listing](#)

V2 250313

OFFICIAL PROGRAM NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2025

Supported by



Australian Government
Department of Social Services



NAPCAN

This year's NCPW theme, 'Every conversation matters: Shifting conversation to action,' highlights the crucial role that fostering meaningful dialogue plays in building safer environments for children and young people. [Official Program Webinars & Events 2025 - NAPCAN](#)

NAPCAN wants to hear how organisations are taking action within their own community to prevent children from experiencing abuse and neglect.

You can share your action by [taking the pledge here](#)

(source Uniting News 19/8/25)

Sometimes God works secretly
and behind the scenes,
but He will reveal His work to us
when the time is right

christianquotestoforyou.tumblr.com

Presbytery Office

Maroochydore Uniting
Church
6 Millwell Rd
Maroochydore
Mon - Thurs* 9am -
3.30pm



Drop in for a cuppa *Except - SC & PRC
face to face meeting days - see page 3

Presbytery Postal Address

Mary Burnett Presbytery
PO Box 1635
Sunshine Plaza
4558



Prayer

In you, O Lord, we take refuge.
Be our rock of refuge where we can always go.
When we feel weak and weary,
renew our strength in your fortress.

Deliver us from discouragement
and rescue us from despair.
Make us a community of refuge for others,
a sign of hope that points to you.
From our birth, you have been our hope—Amen

(source Uniting News 19/8/25)



Smile!

I changed my password to
"incorrect". Now, whenever I forget
it the computer will say, "Your pass-
word is incorrect."



Please pray for our chaplains

- * Ps Theo Masselos (Buderim PH)
- * Rev James Stevenson (Buderim PH)
- * Ps Kristen Porter (Buderim PH)
- * Rev Keren Seto (St Stephens Hervey Bay)
- * Ps Jim Hall (Bli Bli/Gympie)
- * Ms Donna Hamill (St Stephens Hervey Bay)
- * Mr Craig Doherty (Sunrise Beach)





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DIOCESE OF
MELBOURNE



Intergen

Belonging by Design

Embracing Neurodiverse Children, Youth & Families in Ministry

SAVE THE DATE!

17 October, 2025

Pastors, children &
youth staff & key
leaders

18 October, 2025

Pastors, leaders and
church volunteers

Crossway Baptist Church, 2 Vision Drive, Burwood

For more information: intergen.org.au/belongingbydesign

Keynote Speaker
Kirstyn Oliver

Keynote Speaker
Daniel Giles

Keynote Speaker
Louise Gosbell



This event is supported by the
Melbourne Anglican Foundation



The Melbourne
Anglican Foundation

Please click the poster for more information (source email from Intergen)

TRINITY NEWS

Open morning **Saturday 13th September, 8:00am to 9.30am.**

Join us for a morning of campus tours, conversations with faculty and students and a closer look at how Trinity can support your journey in faith and learning.

Spaces are limited, so please be sure to **RSVP now!**

(source Uniting News 12/8/25)

7 DAYS WITHOUT PRAYER MAKES ONE WEAK

Dates for your Diary

2025 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS Start time: **9.00am**

* 14-16 November - TBC

Business meeting Saturday 9am

2025 PASTORAL RELATIONS & STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

11 Sep (Zoom) 9 Oct (Gympie)

13 Nov (Zoom) 4 Dec (Gympie)

Start time: 9.30am (gympie) or **1-3pm** (Zoom)

Submissions accepted for consideration up to 1 week before meeting.

SAFE MINISTRY TRAINING

Ministers - 14 Nov – Camp Duckadang

CODE OF ETHICS TRAINING

* 14 Nov – Camp Duckadang

MINISTERS RETREAT

*

INDUCTIONS, COMMISSIONINGS, SERVICES OF CONCLUSION

* 20 Sept - Conclusion Service Rev David Ellis
Gayndah UC.

FINANCE, INVESTMENT & PROPERTY (FIP) MEETINGS

* 26 September

RETIRED REVS

SYNOD

* Oct 2026

ASSEMBLY

* July 2027

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track. Don't assume that you know it all.



Jesus knows me, this I love!

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

Mr Peter Coombes (Chairperson)
chair@maryburnettpres.org.au
0400 300 267

Kylie Aalbers (Admin Officer)
admin@maryburnettpres.org.au
0417 509 433

Johan Frank (Treasurer)
treasurer@maryburnettpres.org.au
0478 888 727

Property Committee
Wendy Jensen - jensenlw@bigpond.com
Kylie Aalbers - admin@maryburnettpres.org.au

Safe Ministry (Safe People, Safe Environment)
Vacant

Rev Dr Elizabeth Nolan
Professional Supervision coordinator
Period of Discernment Coordinator
CEM coordinator
enolan1@outlook.com

God's love knows
no bounds

STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Ps Graham Huth
Rev Stuart Bosch
Mr Peter Coombes (Pres Chair)
Mrs Naomi Cavalli (Secretary)
Rev David Ellis
Rev Dr Elizabeth Nolan
Rev Neil Storey
Ps Steven Fincham
Mr Johan Frank (Treasurer)
Mrs Wendy Jensen (Property)
Mrs Kylie Aalbers (Admin, Property)

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Ps Graham Huth (PRC Chair)
Rev Stuart Bosch
Mr Peter Coombes (Pres Chair)
Mrs Naomi Cavalli (Secretary)
Rev David Ellis
Rev Dr Elizabeth Nolan
Rev Neil Storey
Ps Steven Fincham
Mrs Margaret Gilbert
Mrs Wendy Jensen (Property)
Mrs Kylie Aalbers (Admin, Property)
Mr Johan Frank (Treasurer co-opted)

POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PRESBYTERY

Mary Burnett Presbytery
PO Box 1635, Sunshine Plaza, Qld 4558
Office Address: Maroochydore UC
6 Millwell Rd, Maroochydore

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SIRI ... SAY GRACE

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WORK DAYS

Grahams day off varies, according to his schedule. Please leave him a message if no answer, and he'll get back to you when he's able.
Thank you.