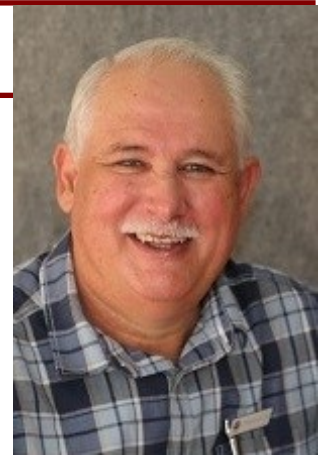




Reflection - Ps Graham Huth



Greetings Mary Burnett,

There are seasons in the life of the church when confidence feels fragile, energy is low, and the future seems uncertain. That was certainly the case in the days following Christ's crucifixion. Jesus' disciples saw no hope and no future. The three brief yet intensive years of Christ's ministry did not result in the outcome that aligned with their expectations. In those moments when things don't go according to our plan, many of us quietly echo Thomas' words from John 20: *"Unless I see... I will not believe."* Not because we have rejected faith, but because we are longing for reassurance that God is still present in our circumstances.



What's striking in this story is that although we have come to label him as 'doubting Thomas', Thomas is not actually portrayed as a failure. He is simply honest. He names what many disciples were already feeling but could not say aloud. His doubt becomes the doorway through which Jesus reveals himself again.

I often hear people expressing doubts and fears about the future, and God's presence in it; this is only human, and I admit that there have been many times when I have struggled and failed to remain confident in the face of unexpected and painful circumstances.

(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.

When Jesus returns to the disciples a week later, he comes *specifically* for Thomas. He doesn't scold him or demand stronger faith. Instead, he meets Thomas at the point of his deepest need: "*Put your finger here... reach out your hand...*" It is a moment of profound tenderness. Jesus shows that he is not offended by our questions, our weariness, our uncertainties, or our longing for something more solid to hold onto. We need to be honest and name our needs.

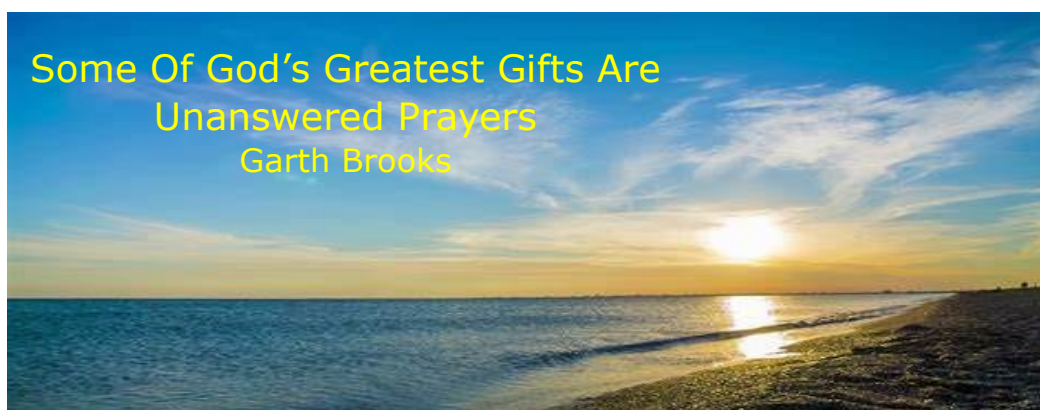
From the perspective of a presbytery minister, it is evident that this narrative provides three distinct assurances for a number of our churches currently facing challenges.

- **Christ enters locked rooms.** Fear, uncertainty, and dwindling hope do not keep him out. They are precisely the places he chooses to stand among us and speak peace. Remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 18:20, 'For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.'
- **Honest questions are not a threat to faith.** Thomas' doubt becomes the soil in which a renewed confession grows: "*My Lord and my God!*" Our own questions can become the starting point for deeper trust.
- **The blessing extends to those who cannot see clearly.** Jesus' final words—"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe"—are not a rebuke. They are a promise for every community that must walk by faith when evidence feels scarce. I often reflect that the church does not have a 'Crystal Ball' to see the future, but we have something far better. We have hope in a God that goes before us, and will be there with us regardless of our circumstances.

If your heart feels a little like Thomas' these days—tired, uncertain, longing for reassurance—take comfort. The risen Christ does not wait for perfect faith. He comes toward us, again and again, with peace on his lips and compassion in his hands.

May we as individuals, and the church, like Thomas, discover that even in our doubt, Christ is always standing among us, ready to breathe new life into our weary places.

Pastor Graham Huth



Graham's Diary

April

8 BNoC support team meeting
9 Presbytery capacity meeting
10 PRSC - Maroochydore
12 Nambour UC
14 MC3 meeting - Synod
15 PSI

16 Placements

17 to 1st May - Annual Leave



Presbytery Meeting Dates 2026

Save the dates now!

18 July - Buderim Uniting Church
14 November - TBA (in the north)

Corinthians 12:12

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

[Buderim](#) - YouTube [Bundaberg](#) - YouTube
[Caloundra](#) - Facebook [Cooroy/Pomona](#) - Faceook
[Hervey Bay](#) - YouTube [Gympie Uniting Church](#) - YouTube
[Kawana Waters](#) - Facebook

Apologies if I've missed anyone, please let me know.

Pastoral Relations & Standing Committee

2026 Meetings

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

10 Apr (F2F)	14 May (Z)
11 Jun (F2F)	9 Jul (Z)
13 Aug (F2F)	10 Sep (Z)
8 Oct (F2F)	12 Nov (Z)
3 Dec (F2F)	

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

Introducing the New Executive Director of Finance, Property and Enterprises



Synod are pleased to announce the appointment of Thea Madigan as our new Executive Director of Finance, Property and Enterprises. Thea brings a wealth of experience spanning finance, procurement and corporate services within complex, highly regulated and mission-driven organisations.

A seasoned CFO, Thea's expertise includes financial strategy, capital planning, statutory and management reporting, governance, risk management and ethical procurement. She has a strong record of stewarding large faith-based organisations and supporting long-term strategic, operational and pastoral objectives.

Thea holds a Bachelor of Commerce, CPA accreditation, governance qualifications, and early clinical training, giving her a uniquely holistic perspective on the role.

We are also thankful to our outgoing ED Peter Cranna for his dedicated leadership and service to the Synod over nearly 11 years. Peter will be supporting Thea through a handover period, before he leaves at the end of April.

(source Uniting News 10/03/26)

Annual Church Report

After your AGM, please send your church annual report (not financial reports) to the Presbytery Secretary:

secretary@maryburnettpres.org.au

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



DATE CLAIMER: Moderator's Convocation 2026 'Leading Change in Complex Times'

We know the reality of ministry is complex and change is constant. Expectations are high and often we are asked to lead with clarity while carrying our own questions, fatigue, and hopes in the midst of uncertainty. By recognising the unique pressures leaders face, we can better nurture communities of trust and innovation.

The Moderator's Convocation invites ministry leaders from across the Synod to gather in a space of honesty, wisdom, and prayer - to reflect on what it means to lead change well, to learn from other stories of change, to hold tension without losing heart, and to be renewed for the work to which God continues to call us.

- **Venue:** Evan and Mary Thompson Auditorium, Wesley Hospital – 451 Coronation Drive, Auchenflower
- **Dates/Times:** Tuesday, 21 April, 10:00am–5:00pm Wednesday, 22 April, 9:00am–3:00pm (approx.)
- **Cost:** There will be a cost per attendee. Payment will go towards conference costs with the remaining contributed to a travel equalisation fund.
- **Registrations:** open in 2 weeks. Keep an eye on your emails for the registration link.

Enquiries: please email Vanessa Van Der Rhede: events@ucaqld.com.au

(Source Uniting News 03/03/26)

Jesus knows me, this I love!

MARY BURNETT PRESBYTERY



CONGREGATIONAL RENEWAL

Sat 16 May

9am-3pm

Hervey Bay Uniting Church

56 Exeter Street, Torquay



Renewal is the buzzword in the church at the moment - but how do congregations enable renewal in today's crazy world?

Come and learn from a practitioner who has renewed three congregations, in the bush and the city. Practical, pragmatic, Biblical learning. Not for the faint hearted.

9am Congregational Renewal

Lunch Included
Donations appreciated

1:30pm Recruiting & Releasing Volunteers

Your facilitator, Rev Paul Clark, is an author, broadcaster and Minister with over 20 years experience, helping congregations find health and growth through Christ. He now oversees Ministry formation for the Uniting Church in Queensland.

This workshop is aimed at Church Leaders and is best done by a whole church leadership team.



To Register Call - (07) 4125 5233
or email admin@hbuc.org.au

Trinity College recently hosted a short Course on Congregational Renewal. This was attended by 24 people from all over Queensland, including four from Cairns, three from Townsville, two from the Downs and one from Central Queensland.

This is Trinity's contribution to the Synod's vision for renewal, offering training for church leaders to feel empowered for the mission.

The course was developed with a guiding coalition of practitioners who have been part of renewal in each Presbytery. The Unit facilitator, Rev Paul Clark, said "With big picture thinking, and practical and pragmatic skills, we want people to feel equipped for this season of renewal we find ourselves in."

This unit is being offering in Hervey Bay on 16th May for the Mary Burnett Presbytery, and we trust it will be a resource to empower congregations and individuals for the important work of congregational renewal.

(Source Uniting News 17/03/26)

Prayer

*Lord, You are our Shepherd.
We have everything we need in You -
and yet we confess that we have wandered,
we have looked for rest and nourishment
in places that cannot satisfy.
Come and lead us back.*

*Lead Your Church beside still waters again.
Restore our souls - worn out, distracted, and dry.
Guide us back onto the right path,
not for our glory,
but for the sake of Your name.
Even in the dark and difficult seasons,
help us not to fear.
Remind us that You are with us -
Your comfort, Your correction, Your presence
is enough.*

Amen.

(source Uniting News 10/03/26)

WANTED

VOLUNTEERS who would like to
assist Presbytery with a
**Congregational Life and Witness
Consultation**

**Location and suitable times can be
negotiated!**

**If you are interested, please contact
Naomi in the Presbytery Office:**

**Mob 0401 161 165
Email: secretary@maryburnettpres.org.au**

Webinar - From Mission to Funding: Preparing Grant Ready Projects
SAVE THE DATE - Wednesday, 15 April



In this practical 30 minute webinar, congregations will learn how to identify and prioritise mission aligned projects, capture them in a simple project register, and strengthen one project so it is genuinely “grant ready.”

You’ll leave with clear tools to help you plan ahead, avoid last minute grant stress, and confidently work with Synod Fundraising to identify the right funding pathways for your projects.

This is the first webinar in a three part Grant Planning series, and is ideal for Church Councils, Treasurers, mission leaders, and anyone involved in project planning or fundraising.

[Please click on this link to register through Teams](#)



March

6 World Day of Prayer

8 International Women's Day

19 Close the Gap Day

17-23 Harmony Week (including 21 March - International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination)

29 Palm Sunday

[Click here](#) for the *Uniting Church Assembly 2026 calendar*.

(source National Update 04 Feb)

April

3-5 Easter weekend

24 Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide

25 ANZAC Day

Presbytery Office Closure

Please note the Presbytery Office will be unattended on the 13th and 14th April due to the Secretary and Admin attending meetings at the Synod office.

Presbytery Office

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



[Drop in for a cuppa](#) *Except - PRSC face to face meeting days - see page 3 for dates

Presbytery Postal Address

Mary Burnett Presbytery
PO Box 1635
Sunshine Plaza
4558



Uniting World Lent Event



This Lent, stand with families on the front line of changing climate. During Lent, join congregations from across Australia as we share in what God is doing among our neighbours fighting poverty and the impacts of climate change.

UnitingWorld has created a range of simple, meaningful resources to support you this Lent:

- A weekly story and prayer for each Sunday in Lent to use in worship.
- The 40 for the Future Challenge, a practical, all-ages fundraising activity that combines care for creation with compassion for communities facing climate disruption.

- A UnitingWorld speaker to visit your church and share stories from our partners. *Places are limited and fill quickly.*

[Watch the video here](#)

Find out more or sign up your church at www.lentevent.com.au





Centre for
Ministry and
Leadership

Church Council Essentials

This two-part course provides an outline of the purpose and responsibilities of a church council within the governance structure of the UCA. It also looks at some practical elements of a church council, including basic team building skills, meeting practices and electing new members. This course is for current and prospective church council members.

22nd (Part 1) & 29th (Part 2) April
6pm to 8pm
Online on Zoom

[Register Today](#)



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)
- * Ms Donna Hamill (St Stephens)
- * Ps Jim Hall (Bli Bli/Gympie)
- * Mr Craig Doherty (Sunrise Beach)
- * Mr Peter Robertson (Hervey Bay)
- * Ms Jo Mould (Kingaroy)
- * Mrs Helen Cifuentes (Caloundra/Maleny)





Montville Reflection Gallery

Space to rest and reflect 10 am to 3 pm most days of the year!
Montville Uniting Church, 152 Main Street, Montville Q.

Behold I Stand at the Door and Knock! An Exhibition by Kimberley Oehlman



Rather than presenting one fixed interpretation, this collection explores the gospel in layered and accessible ways with mixed media. Each piece reflects on different aspects of love, sacrifice, grief, restoration, and hope. Through this work, I invite viewers to engage with a story that continues to speak across time -one that has profoundly shaped my life.

My hope is that when people walk into the church, they encounter the reality of God's love. As Revelation 3:20 says: *"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me."* I hope viewers recognize that He is at the door of every heart, inviting each one to open it to Him.

Please come along enjoy the art, bring someone special with you and maybe they might be touched by Gods message and be (like me) forever changed.

On now until 23 May!

Faith sits at the heart of my work, and this collection is shaped by the story of Easter. The gospel is the foundation - not as a fixed narrative, but as a living story expressed through multiple perspectives and mediums.

My name is Kimberley Oehlman, and I have been walking with the Lord since I was fourteen. At that age, I encountered a love that completely transformed my life, like a warm blanket surrounding my very soul. What began as a moment of surrender became a lifelong relationship that continues to shape who I am. I have been forever changed by what He has done for me, and creating has become one of the ways I express that gratitude.

Traditionally working in digital art, I have expanded into acrylic and charcoal for this collection, embracing texture, contrast, and physical mark-making as metaphors for the message itself. To help inspire this work, I asked my church, Maleny Baptist Church, a simple question: *"If you had one picture and a paragraph, how would you explain the gospel?"* Their generous responses gave me ideas that shaped this year's 2026 series, 'Behold I stand at the door and knock'.





Within a busy life, your calling still matters.

The interest in studying theology is there, but timing can be challenging. Between work, family, and life commitments, the weeks can fill quickly. A traditional study schedule can feel hard to keep up with. That's why Trinity College Queensland introduced the Trinity Stack.

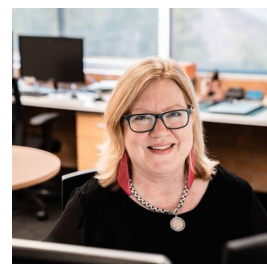
The Trinity Stack is a simpler, more flexible way to study theology. You focus on one unit at a time, studying over six focused weeks. You are not stretched across multiple subjects or locked into long semesters. You are simply focusing on one unit at a time, in a way that fits alongside your life.

It's a way of studying that gives students the space to focus more deeply on a subject without feeling overloaded. It also gives students additional capacity for connection and discussion around a particular subject. It's designed for people whose schedules are full, but who don't want to put learning on hold. If you've been thinking about studying or returning to study, but aren't sure how it could realistically work for you, we'd love to share how the Trinity Stack would work for you.

A course advisory session is a free, one-on-one conversation with **Belinda Hoadley**, who will be the person you meet from Trinity College Queensland. As the office manager and executive assistant, Belinda is often the first friendly face students connect with, taking the time to understand your situation and help you explore the study options that fit your life. It's practical, personal, and shaped around your circumstances.

In this session, you can:

- Explore how the Trinity Stack fits around your commitments
- Gain clarity about what studying at Trinity actually looks like
- Work out the best place to begin, without pressure or obligation



Book a Course Advisory Session and start your journey with Trinity College

[Enquire Today](#)

(source Trinity College Qld email 19/2/26)

Date	Course
25 Feb	Congregational Renewal – Rev Paul Clark
4 Mar	Congregational Renewal – P Clark
11 Mar	Recruiting & Releasing Volunteers – Rev Barry Allen
18 Mar	Ministry with Seniors – Rev Gerda Olafsen
25 Mar	Preaching outside the Church – P Clark
1 April	Frontier Services – Frontier Services
22 April	Flourishing Creation – Emily Murray
29 April	Welfare Ministry in Churches – P Clark
6 May	Youth Ministry – Hannah Legge
13 May	Governance 101 – Simon Moore
20 May	Uniting Early Learning – Belinda Briggs
27 May	Ministry in the 21st Century – P Clark

Anyone is welcome to join us for one or more workshops to enhance their ministry practice/ experience.

Course offerings are subject to change - please contact to confirm. All training is offered free of charge to Uniting Church attendees.

Please Register your attendance to receive access to course resources. To enquire/enrol in any of these workshops, email ask@trinity.qld.edu.au or phone [07 3377 9950](tel:0733779950)



**YOUNG ADULTS
AXIOS**

AXIOS (ἄξιος): WORTHY, DESERVING, SUITABLE

**PRAISE
REVIVAL**

SAT 9 MAY AT 6:00PM

/

82 SHERWOOD ROAD TOOWONG

CONTACT: YOUTHWORKER@MRPRES.ORG.AU OR HANNAH.LEGGE@UCAQLD.ORG.AU

Dates for your Diary

2026 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS Start time: 9.00am

18 July - Buderim UC

14 November - TBA (in the north)

Business meeting Saturday 9am

2026 PASTORAL RELATIONS & STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING (Venue subject to change)

10 Apr (Maroochydore) 14 May (Zoom)

11 Jun (Gympie) 9 Jul (Zoom)

13 Aug (Gympie) 10 Sep (Zoom)

8 Oct (Gympie) 12 Nov (Zoom)

3 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 - 1 May – Maroochydore UC

* Ministers - 13 Nov - TBA

CODE OF ETHICS TRAINING

* 1 May – Maroochydore UC

* Ministers - 13 Nov - TBA

INDUCTIONS, COMMISSIONINGS, SERVICES OF CONCLUSION

FINANCE, INVESTMENT & PROPERTY (FIP) MEETINGS (4th Fri excluding Oct & Dec)

* 24 April 2026

SYNOD

* 22 - 26 Oct 2026

ASSEMBLY

* July 2027

MINISTERS RETREAT

* TBA

RETIRED REVS

John 3:36

“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see live, for God’s wrath remains on him”



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

Professional Supervision coordinator
Period of Discernment Coordinator
CEM coordinator

God's love knows
no bounds

PASTORAL RELATIONS STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

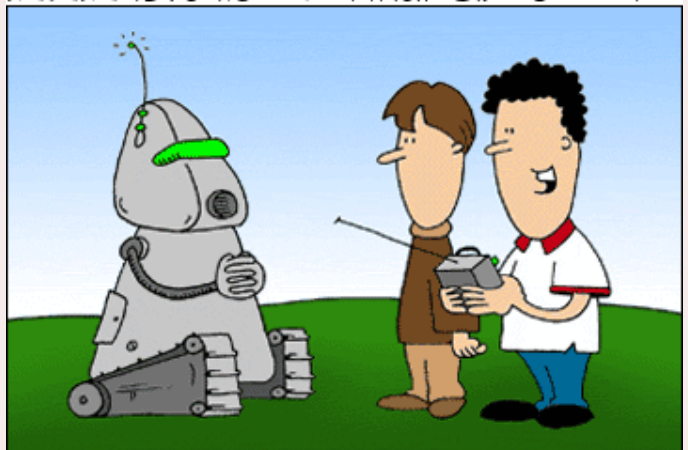
Ps Graham Huth
Mr Peter Coombes (Pres Chair)
Mrs Naomi Cavalli (Secretary)
Mr Johan Frank (Treasurer)
Mrs Wendy Jensen (Property)
Mrs Kylie Aalbers (Admin, Property)
Rev Neil Storey
Ps Steven Fincham
Rev Nathan Barton
Mr Eamon Dunne

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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06-26-2003

HE'S PROGRAMMED TO PRAY AT 9:00 P.M.
EVERY NIGHT ... IN CASE I FORGET

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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. Kylie - Mon-Thu, Naomi Tue-Fri
Thank you.