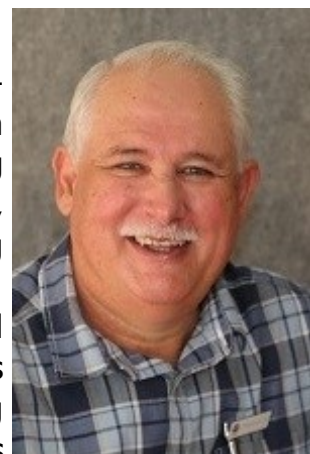




Mary Burnett

Greetings Mary Burnett!

Across our Synod and certainly within our Presbytery, many congregations are living through seasons of change—reducing numbers, aging membership, fewer volunteers, financial stress, and ministries that once thrived now feeling fragile. These realities are not unique to us; they are shared across the Uniting Church and much of the wider church in Australia. But this is not the whole picture. God is still planting green shoots. Renewal is not only possible—it is already beginning. Often, we are just so inwardly focused, we do not see what God is doing around us and is seeking to do in and through us if we open ourselves to God's possibilities.



Romans 8:1–11 is the Epistle reading for the first Sunday in July, the start of a new Financial Year and an opportunity for a fresh assessment of the path that lies before us. This passage offers a word that speaks directly into this moment. Paul writes to a community learning how to live faithfully amid limitation, and he begins with a declaration that cuts through discouragement: "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." For congregations who worry that dwindling size and capacity signal failure, this is liberating. Our fragility is not a verdict. Size is not a measure of faithfulness. God does not look at our membership rolls to decide whether we have a future.

(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.

Contemplating Paul's contrast between life "in the flesh" and life "in the Spirit" can help change our perspective and give renewed purpose. Life "in the flesh" is church life driven by human capacity—our energy, our resources, our ability to sustain what once was. When rosters shrink and buildings feel too large, it is easy to believe that our future depends on what we can manage.

But Paul insists that the church's true centre of gravity is elsewhere. Life "in the Spirit" is life animated by God's presence, not powered by our own strength. It is measured by attentiveness, not activity; by depth, not breadth; by willing to trust that God is doing something new even when we cannot yet see it.

This is where the Synod's ongoing themes of Renewal and Planting Green Shoots become more than slogans. In verse 11, Paul writes, "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you... he will give life to your mortal bodies also." This is not only a promise for individuals. It is a promise for the whole body—the church. The same Spirit who raised Christ is at work in communities that feel small, tired, or uncertain. God's pattern is resurrection: bringing life where death seems to reign, opening new possibilities where old structures can no longer be sustained.

Renewal most likely will not look like returning to former size or activity. It may actually look like becoming a smaller, more prayerful, more relational community. It may look like partnerships with neighbouring congregations, shared ministry, or new forms of worship. It may mean releasing what no longer fits and discovering what does. Green shoots by their very nature are small at first—fragile, tender, easily overlooked. Yet they are signs of real life.

Romans 8 invites us, and I challenge you, to trust that God is already breathing life into us. Our future does not depend on our capacity, but on the Spirit who dwells within the church. Even in our weakness, Christ is forming something new. Renewal is not a distant hope. It is already sprouting among us.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Graham Huth



Graham's Diary

July

9 PRSC - Zoom
15 PSI
16 Placements
18 Presbytery Meeting
19 Preach at Kingaroy
26-30 National Presbytery Ministers Gathering in Hobart.



Presbytery Meeting Dates 2026

Save the dates now!

***18 July - Buderim Uniting Church
14 November - Bundaberg***

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](#) - 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

2026 Meetings

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

13 Aug (F2F)	9 Jul (Z)
8 Oct (F2F)	10 Sep (Z)
3 Dec (F2F)	12 Nov (Z)

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



Join us for
Renewal Prayer
Tuesday
7-730pm
Online

Renewal Prayer Gathering

As we long for God to make all things new, we remember God's goodness in the past; the glimpses we have had of God breaking through in new and beautiful ways throughout our lives, and across history. We remember these moments, and we lift up our voices in prayer asking that God would open our eyes to what God is doing in the world now and our minds to imagine what could be done.

Join us every **Tuesday night** as we gather **online**, from **7-730pm** (Qld time), in prayer to thank God for the new life we have experienced and ask that we might be part of the ongoing work God is doing now in renewing all things.

To join us simply use this link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81994146488?
pwd=VDcxd1dCbjluaHZQR3JsM0wySGdWUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81994146488?pwd=VDcxd1dCbjluaHZQR3JsM0wySGdWUT09)

If you are unable to join us, you might like to join us in this prayer during the week

Prayer

God, your church needs to wake up.
Help us let go of the comfortable routines we've settled for.

Turn our whole attention to you - our true center,
not the noise around us.

Renew our first love:
genuine devotion, not habitual obligation.
Make us a people of truth - attractive through how we
live,

modelling for the coming generations
what it means to genuinely follow you.
Give us courage to be the people you're calling us to be,
for a world that desperately needs to see
what real love and community looks like.

Amen.

(source PSU email 25/6/26)

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

Sunrise Beach Uniting Church Organ Recital Invitation

Sunrise Beach Uniting Church at 6 Grasstree Court, Sunrise Beach invites you to an Organ Recital by one of Australia's dynamic organists on **Saturday July 25th** commencing at 3:00pm.

Come and hear Christopher Trikilis who is Director of Music at the Cathedral of St Stephen in Brisbane. He is responsible for provision of all sacred music in the Cathedral, conducting its choirs, playing the Cathedral's renowned Jubilee Pipe Organ and curating the annual concert series.

He has performed extensively across Australia, New Zealand, Europe and North America and his playing has featured on the national broadcasters of Australia (ABC) and Croatia (HRT)

Entry fee is \$20 which includes refreshments.

For more information call Ruth - 0421 540 347

Please RSVP for catering purposes -

Email your RSVP to E: noosacoastaluc@gmail.com

(source: email from Sunrise Beach)



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.



Resist... Rest... Rhythm... An Exhibition by Wendy Jarrott-Smith

On now until 31 August!

Often in life, we just need to call 'time out' from life's busy-ness and demands. After many years of work, people sometimes take a 'Sabbatical'... an extended time away from paid work, to study, travel or pursue personal growth. It's interesting that this word has its root in Christian Scripture, where we are called to take a Sabbath... a 'day of rest'.

In my own life, I have come to understand that taking 'time out' often means 'RESISTING' the should-dos, have-tos, must-dos and demands of others... of intentionally setting aside time for REST... so that we can find again the unique RHYTHM of our life, and rediscover what we can bring as 'gifts' to our world. The paintings and photographs in this display all reference these themes.

My art is 'conceptual'... an art of 'words & pictures'. So, as you look at my paintings and photographs on display, please take the time to read the accompanying reflections, for they express the 'soul' of my work, and complement how I see the world through the lens of my camera, or at the tip of my paintbrush.

'Conceptual art' helps us to observe the 'rub' between the temporal and eternal worlds, through our human experiences. The Celtic Christians would describe this space between the temporal, material world and the eternal world, as a 'thin place', and it is in the 'thin places' in our lives, that we often see the hand of God.
I have found this to be true in my life. For that I am very thankful.

Wendy Jarrott-Smith

(source Monville Reflection Gallery email)

UNITING journey

We're delighted to announce the return of a printed publication to our Queensland church community, with the first issue of Uniting Journey arriving later this month!

To be published twice a year as a 40-page full-colour magazine using eco-friendly paper and ink, Uniting Journey will sit alongside our digital channels and offer another way to connect with congregations, community leaders and broader networks.

It's been six years since the Synod last published a regular print magazine, and we know it's been missed (when we visit congregations, "what happened to Journey?" is usually the first question we're asked.) This refreshed version will share stories of faith in action, community impact, thoughtful reflections and practical articles on the issues shaping church and community life today. A readership panel is helping shape the content, so it reflects the voices, hopes and priorities of our diverse communities. Distributed through congregations, agencies and community spaces, Uniting Journey will work hand in hand with our digital channels to build connection, trust and deeper engagement.

Final details are still being finalised, but we anticipate each congregation and presbytery will receive copies delivered to the office. If you would like more information or are interested in being involved, please contact us at communications@ucaqld.com.au.

(source Uniting News 9/6/26)

Smile!

I've worked out how to make a
good egg roll.

You push it





June

14-20 Refugee Week

16 Net Zero Roundtable #2

22 49th Anniversary of the Uniting Church in Australia

28 UnitingWorld Sunday

July

5-12 NAIDOC Week

10 Anniversary of the UCA-UAICC Covenant

16 Net Zero Roundtable #3 - Learn about the concrete actions being taken across the Church to reduce emissions—and how your congregation or ministry can be part of the solution. [Register here](#)

19 Intercultural Neighbouring Sunday

August

4 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

30 Frontier Services Sunday

[Click here](#) for the Uniting Church Assembly 2026 calendar. (source UCA National Update 27/5/26)

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

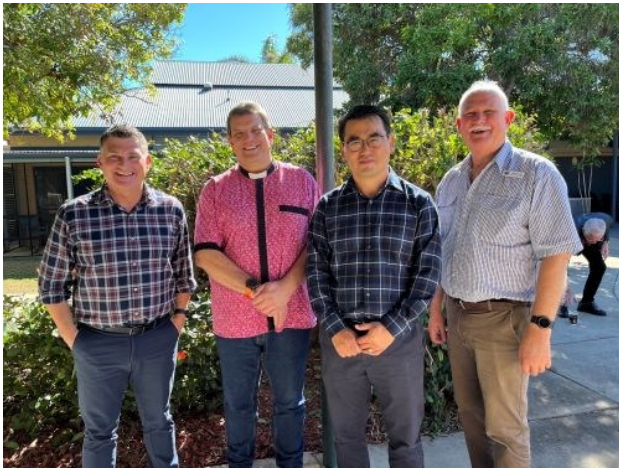


DongWoo Oh BlueCare Bundaberg Commissioning

DongWoo's commissioning into his Bundaberg BlueCare Role was well attended by members from both Coral Coast UC and Bundaberg UC and residents and staff of BlueCare Bundaberg.

We wish DongWoo every blessing as he moves forward with this role in addition to his role with Coral Coast Uniting Church.

Kylie Aalbers





**NAIDOC
WEEK**
**50 YEARS
DEADLY**
5-12 JULY 2026

***Paralpi* by Zaachariaha Fielding**

Paralpi extends Zaachariaha's acclaimed *Inma* series and reflects a deeply cultural and immersive narrative grounded in Country. The artwork depicts the sounds of *Paralpi*, a significant place just outside Mimili on the eastern APY Lands in South Australia. As Zaachariaha describes, *Paralpi* is a place where people come to embrace and celebrate children, where they are taught by Elders to move and mimic their Clan emblem – for Mimili, this being the maku (witchetty grub).

#NAIDOC2026

#FIFTYYEARSDEADLY

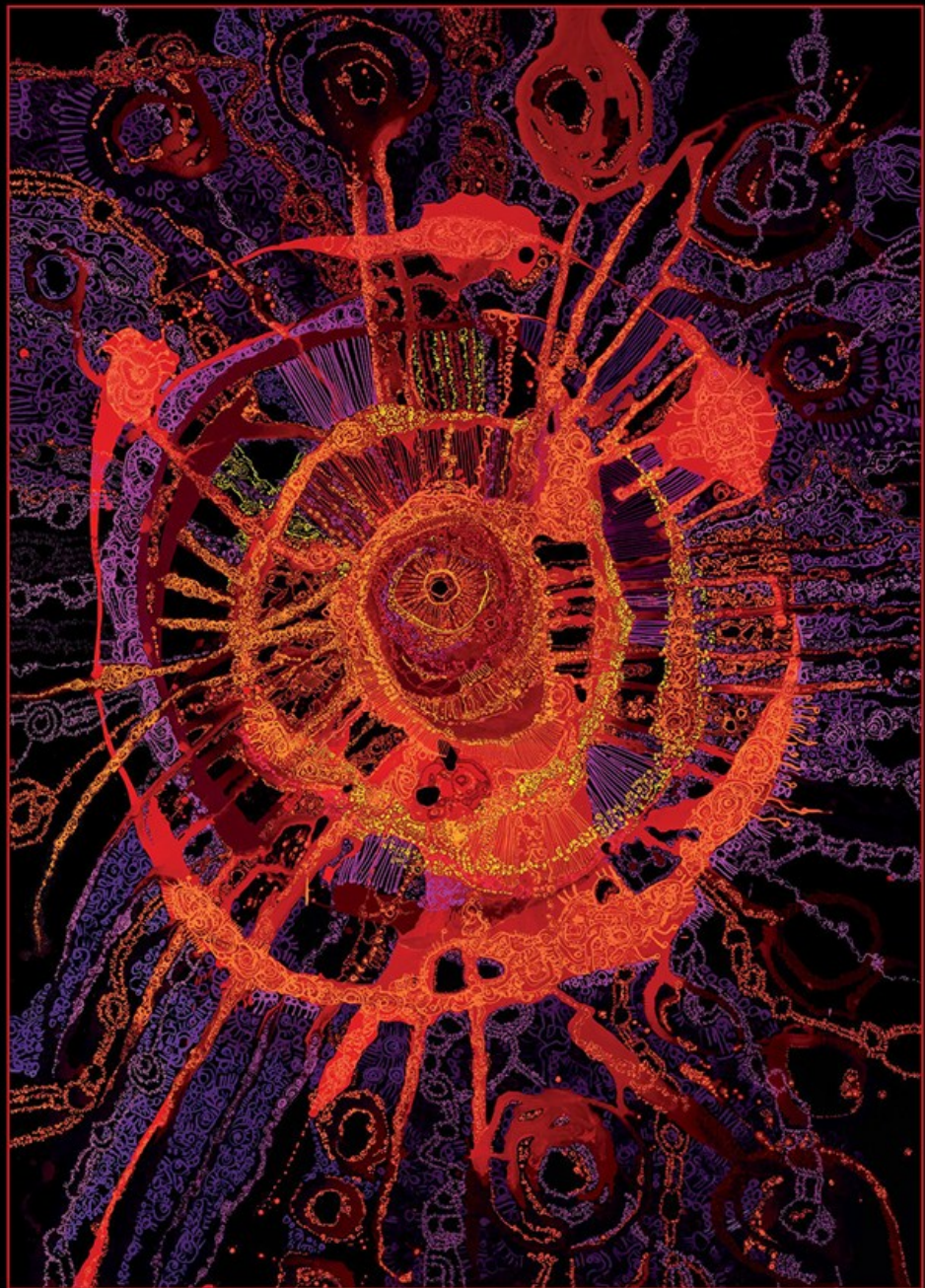
#NAIDOCWEEK

 facebook.com/NAIDOC

 @naidocweek

 @naidocweek

 
Aboriginal Flag designed by Mr Harold Thomas.
Torres Strait Islander Flag reproduced by kind
permission of the Torres Strait Island Regional
Council, designed by the late Mr Bernard Namok.



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)
- * Ps Peter Sutcliffe (Bundaberg retirement living)
- * Ps DongWoo Oh (Bundaberg aged care)

*Prayer
Works*



Moderator's Reflection - NAIDOC Week 2026

NAIDOC Week invites us to listen deeply, to learn, and to honour the strength, faith and enduring cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For the Uniting Church, this is a covenantal calling. Our relationship with First Peoples sits at the heart of who we are, inviting us to walk together in humility, truth-telling and hope.

This year's NAIDOC theme reminds us of the resilience and faith of generations who have carried culture and story, trusting in God through all circumstances. As Scripture says, "*we know that all things work together for good for those who love God*" (Romans 8:28).

Across our Synod, there are encouraging signs of this shared journey - deepening relationships, renewed First Peoples leadership, and a growing commitment to express our covenant in tangible ways. Yet covenanting is not simply a program; it is a way of being the Church - listening before we lead, and seeking justice as an expression of God's love.

I warmly invite you to join Aunty Rev Roberta Stanley (Chair of Muth arrak) and myself at the NAIDOC Service of Celebration at Albert Street Uniting Church, on Wednesday 8th July, as we gather in worship, story-telling and shared witness (*see the invitation under "Life of the Church"*)

May this be a week of gratitude, reflection and renewed commitment - as we continue to walk together, First and Second Peoples, in God's grace, justice and hope.

by Rev Bruce Moore, Moderator

(Source Uniting News 30/06/2026)





Every local Christian church in Australia is invited to take part in the eighth nationwide survey of churchgoers- the 2026 National Church Life Survey.

This year, thousands of churches across 20 denominations will take part in the National Church Life Survey (NCLS). Since 1991, the NCLS has provided trusted insights into church life and trends, making it the longest-running survey of its kind in the world. Post-COVID, this year's snapshot is a vital check.

**All Uniting Church congregations are encouraged to participate.
We want to hear from all voices!**

Cost involved:

Qld Synod pay the \$400 fee, per local church.

Congregations pay \$2 per survey (no cost if congregation < 30)

To Sign-Up:

Please email our regional co-ordinator, Naomi Bell, to confirm participation and order the number of surveys required for your congregation. Email Naomi: naomi.bell@ucaqlld.com.au

To learn more about the NCLS you can watch the Norman and Mary Millar Lecture from the 36th Synod featuring Dr Ruth Powell, Executive Director of NCLS Research: [Norman and Mary Millar Lecture - Dr Ruth Powell NCLS](#).

General information about the NCLS survey can be found on the [NCLS website](#)

(source MRP newsletter 21/5/26)



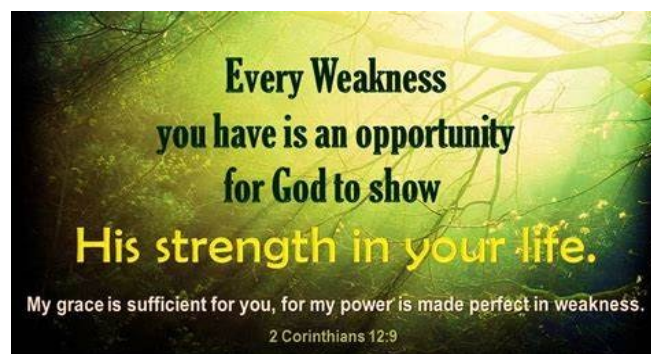
Rather than only helping migrants from Sumba arriving in Bali, Rev Betha and her team at MBM (the development agency of the Protestant Christian Church in Bali) went upstream, partnering with the Sumba Christian Church to reach families at home, before poverty forces them to leave. More resilient food gardens. Water access. Agricultural mentoring.

Our partners in Bali and Sumba are driven by the promise of life in abundance that God intended for every person. And together we can help that promise become real. This End of Financial Year, will you stand with the world's poorest?

Right now is the most powerful time to give - for every \$1 you donate, we can access up to \$5 more from the Australian Government*, meaning your gift has up to six times the impact.

Donate today: donate.unitingworld.org.au/eofy2026

(Source Uniting News 2/6/26)



Dates for your Diary

2026 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS Start time: 9.00am

18 July - Buderim UC

14 November - Bundaberg

Business meeting Saturday 9am

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

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 - 13 Nov - Bundaberg

CODE OF ETHICS TRAINING

* Ministers - 13 Nov - Bundaberg

INDUCTIONS, COMMISSIONINGS, SERVICES OF CONCLUSION

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

* 26 June 2026

SYNOD

* 22 - 26 Oct 2026

ASSEMBLY

* July 2027

MINISTERS RETREAT

RETIRED REVS

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God" "



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

I alone cannot change the
world, but I can cast a
stone across the waters
to create many ripples.
– Mother Teresa

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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Thanks to Garey Southern

05-04-2006

A COUPLE PRAYER WARRIORS MEET ON THE
BATTLEFIELD

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.

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