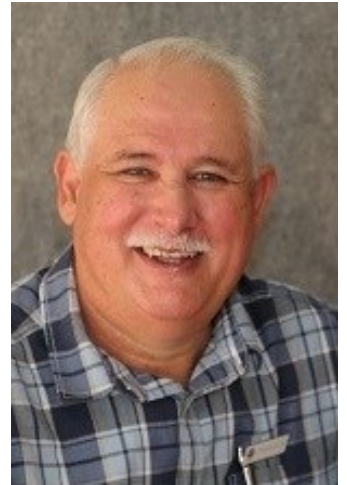




"Come, let us return to the Lord... He will revive us... He will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth." (Hosea 6:1-3)

Greetings Mary Burnett,
Welcome to Spring.

In recent weeks, as I often do near the end of winter, I have wandered through the garden, looking closely at what first appears lifeless. Some trees are bare, many plants appear dormant, and the earth can seem still and unchanging. Yet I walk with a sense of expectation, searching for the first signs of new shoots pushing through the soil and tiny buds appearing on branches. They are often easy to miss, but they are faithful reminders that spring is on its way.

Even in areas where there does seem to be new life, patience is needed to see if the new growth will bear fruit. We have Snow Peas that look really healthy, and yet are not flowering.

(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.

My wife has planted potatoes that are growing incredibly fast, and yet it will be months before we can look below the surface to see the outcome of the watering and nurturing.

Hosea uses a similar image to describe God's renewing work among His people. After seasons of hardship, disappointment, or uncertainty, it can sometimes feel as though little is changing. Yet God promises that He will come to us "like the spring rains that water the earth." Quietly, persistently, and faithfully, God brings new life where we see only dormancy.

As we reflect on this year's Synod in Session theme, "Renewal and Growth," Hosea offers the church a timeless message: if we faithfully return to the Lord, He will revive us.

As the church, we may look back on challenging times, but we can do so with hope.

We may seem to be working hard across our individual congregations with little to show for our toil. But renewal will come if our plans and focus are on the mission of God.

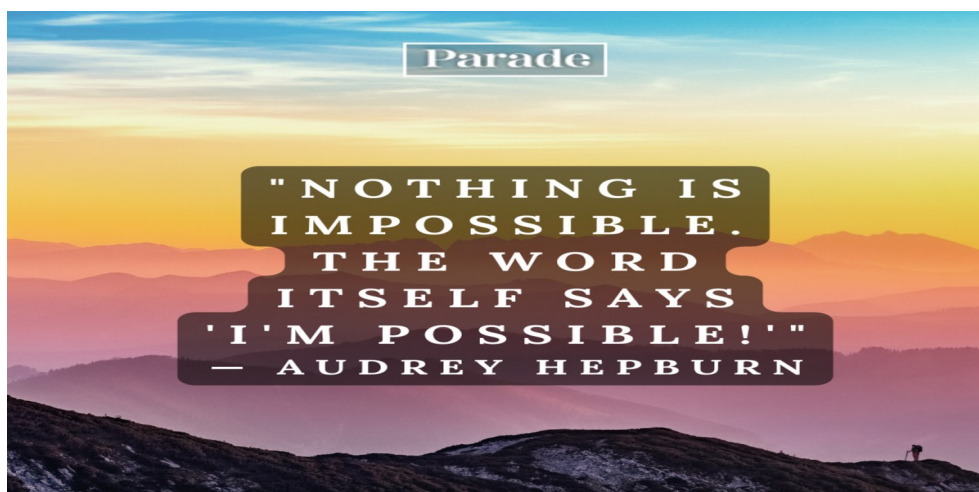
Just as the garden's renewal begins long before the flowers appear, God is often at work beneath the surface, preparing hearts, restoring faith, and nurturing new growth. The first signs may seem small, but they point to a larger work of grace unfolding among us.

May we continue to seek the Lord with confidence, trusting that His promises are as certain as the coming of spring. For the God who has sustained us through winter is also the God who brings new life, renewed purpose, and fresh hope.

The winter is not the end of the story. God's spring is coming.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Graham Huth



Graham's Diary

September

5 Northern Zone Assembly proposal meeting - Bundaberg
10 PRSC (Zoom)
16 PSI
16 Induction - Rev Glen Schweitzer
17 Placements

18 Sunshine Coast Zone Assembly proposal meeting - Maroochydore
19 Inland Zone Assembly proposal meeting - Murgon
20 - 26 Annual Leave



Presbytery Meeting Dates 2026

Save the dates now!

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.

Is God calling you?

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)**

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.](#)



Join us online for
Renewal Prayer
Tuesday 7-730pm

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=VDc0d1dCbjluaHZQR3JsM0wySGdWUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81994146488?pwd=VDc0d1dCbjluaHZQR3JsM0wySGdWUT09)

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

Prayer

*God, we thank you for all the good things you
have done for us
and for the ways you are still at work among us.
Help us to remember your goodness
and share your story with joy.
May our memory of your graciousness
give us fresh faith, fresh courage
and fresh love for the future,
May it move us out of our buildings
and into our communities
as we seek you,
follow where Jesus leads,
and join in what you are already doing in the
world.*

Amen.

(source PSU email 24/8/26)

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

HERVEY BAY UNITING CHURCH 40TH BIRTHDAY.

On the weekend, 2nd August 2026, Hervey Bay Uniting Church, Celebrated 40 years at its current location Exeter Street, Torquay, Hervey Bay.

In the latter part 2025 suggestion was made, "Why not celebrate 40 years!"

Ideas and suggestions were aired and agreed too, then the hard work of implementing those ideas began.

One of the major decisions; upgrading of the worship Centre with new chairs and curtains, and outside; redesigning of the remembrance garden next to the office.

As the days drew closer to the August weekend invitations were sent out to people who had been involved, in the life of Hervey Bay church.

A new banner was made. The banner depicting, God, Son and Holy Spirit as rays of sun shining down on his church. Stitched onto the sun rays are felt circles, each circle depicting differing aspects of the church's activities.

A 40 yearbook was designed and printed.

Our current Uniting Church was officially opened. On the 3rd of August. 1986. By Reverent Eric Moore, and His son, Rev. Bruce now Moderator for Queensland, had as his first parish, as a M.O.W, Hervey Bay.

Our current minister Reverend Willem Smit, together with Pastor Graham Huth, Mary Burnet Presbytery Minister shared the leadership of worship and communion, which we all enjoyed.

The order of service Included appreciation to the many groups who had been part of the church, including three groups where the church played an essential role; baptises, marriages, and funerals.

We also had a pleasure of government representatives who also participated in the service.

George Seymour. Fraser Coast Mayor

David Lee. State Member for Harvey Bay.

David Brett. Federal Member for Hinkler.

Following worship, we moved into the hall, where we shared in delightful morning tea and the cutting of the cake.

Numerous church members and non-members made this weekend possible. Therefore, we can all praise God for the great things he has done past and present, within the Hervey Bay church and community, and we look forward with great anticipation to God continuous leading developing and empowering new leaders and ministers, within the next 40 years here at Hervey Bay Uniting Church, Exeter Street.

Patricia (Paddy) Walker, - 04.08.2026



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.



Expressions of interest for exhibitors in 2027 to 2028 are now open!

The Gallery aims to:

- provide a quiet, creative, reflective space for local residents and visitors to rest, ponder and pray;
- share the Christian message of inspiration, hope and peace through the hospitality of the space; and
- provide an exhibition space for artists working in a variety of faith-based contexts.

We are currently seeking exhibitions for next year. For themes and dates please contact Anita Monro @ revdrajm@gmail.com with your expression of interest.

Viewing now:

An Exhibition by Debbie Westbrook at Montville Reflection Gallery

Season of Creation

Debbie Westbrook writes, "My desire is that my artwork captures just a little of the wonder, creativity, colour and design that so uniquely points to God."

Find the exhibition at Montville Uniting Church, 152 Main St, Montville - A space to rest and reflect 10am to 3pm, most days of the year.

(source Uniting News 1/9/26)



For the Season of Creation
1 September to 4 October

Do you have someone in your congregation to celebrate?

Tell me about it.....

admin@maryburnettpres.org.au



Property Is Here to Serve Mission

The Synod Standing Committee has approved the [Property Stewardship Policy](#) and the Finance Investment and Property Board (FIPB) has approved the [Property Development Process](#). Together, these documents are designed to make property matters easier to navigate by providing clearer guidance, clearer pathways and better support across the Queensland Synod. Importantly, they are not intended to take decision-making away from local communities, reduce the role of Presbyteries, or create additional bureaucracy. Rather, they have been developed to strengthen collaboration between congregations, Presbyteries, Presbytery Property Committees, Presbytery Property Officers and the Synod Property Team so that property matters can be approached with greater confidence and clarity.

The [Property Stewardship Policy](#) provides a shared framework for how property is stewarded across the Church and clarifies where support and guidance are available.

The [Property Development Process](#) provides a clearer pathway for property development opportunities and projects, helping ensure ideas are appropriately supported, considered and planned before significant commitments are made.

The role Presbyteries play in supporting and guiding congregations remains critically important. These documents recognise and reinforce that role. The Synod Property Team is here to work alongside Presbyteries, providing additional expertise, resources and support when needed. Property is one of the resources entrusted to the Church to support worship, ministry, community connection and service. Whether the conversation is about maintaining existing property, exploring new opportunities or considering a development project, our shared goal is to help local communities make informed decisions that support ministry, mission and future sustainability. Property is here to serve mission, not itself. Together, let us turn property opportunities into mission opportunities.

For queries, contact property@ucaqld.com.au so enquiries can be directed through the right Property, Presbytery and support pathways.

(source PSU email 25/8/26)

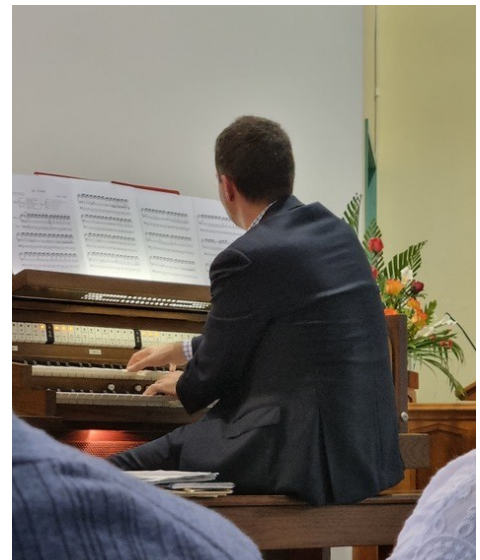
Organ Recital

On Saturday afternoon July 25th, Sunrise Beach U.C. engaged Christopher Trikilis (Director of Music at St. Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane) to perform an organ recital on the church's Allen digital organ.

It was an outstanding success with 80 people attending including two from New Zealand. A lot of positive responses and many requests for another recital next year.

Christopher was pleased by the audience's response and has agreed to another recital next year. (date to be arranged)

Bruce Walker
Sunrise Beach
Noosa Coastal UC



Code of Ethics Update for Ministers

The Uniting Church is updating its Code of Ethics and Ministry Practice to better support ministry agents in today's changing contexts.

Following extensive consultation across the Church, the revised Code strengthens guidance around accountability, cultural safety, Safe Church practices, professional boundaries, technology and wellbeing. It also recognises the diverse settings in which ministry takes place and the Church's commitment to being an intercultural Church.

Scheduled to take effect from 1 January 2027, the revised Code seeks to equip ministry agents to exercise their calling faithfully, safely and with confidence

(Source - UCA National Update 11/8/26)





September

- 1 Season of Creation (until 4 Oct)
- 4 - 6 National Lay Preachers Conference

October

- 4 Older Person's Sunday
- 20 Anniversary - National Apology to Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse
- 30 Filipino National Conference (until 1 Nov)

[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



Invitation from the Moderator - 40 Days of Prayer



As we prepare with anticipation for the 39th Synod, I invite the whole church to join in **40 Days of Prayer**.

The 39th Synod calls us to embrace prayer not simply as an activity, but as a posture of our lives. Renewal is God's work before it becomes our work. Before we plan, build, discern, decide, or act, we are invited to place ourselves before God with open hearts and attentive spirits.

The purpose of these forty days is not simply to prepare for a meeting. It is to prepare ourselves as God's people. As we pray without ceasing, may God renew our hearts, reshape our imagination, deepen our discipleship, and awaken us to God's future.

Over forty days, from **13 Sept to 23 Oct 2026** we will reflect on the theme **Renewal: Praying Without Ceasing**. Together, we will seek God's renewing work in our hearts, our congregations, and across the life of the church. We will pray for God to do a new thing among us and listen attentively for what the Holy Spirit is saying as we prepare for Synod.

This resource has been created to support individuals, families, small groups, congregations, agencies, and schools as we journey together in prayer. Each week includes reflections, Scripture readings, questions for reflection, prayer points, prayers, and family activities centred around a different aspect of prayer and renewal.

Weekly Themes

Week One – Listening in Prayer

Week Two – Beholding in Prayer

Week Three – Reflecting in Prayer

Week Four – Renewing in Prayer

Week Five – Responding in Prayer

Week Six – Perceiving in Prayer

My prayer is that this resource will be shared widely throughout the Uniting Church and that, as we pray together, each of us will open our hearts to God's renewing presence and be strengthened in faith for the season ahead.

May we arrive at Synod not merely informed but transformed; not merely organised, but attentive; not merely gathered, but renewed. And may we leave ready to bear fruit as disciples of Jesus Christ, sent in the power of the Holy Spirit to participate in God's mission throughout Queensland and beyond.

Thank you for joining us on this journey of prayer.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Rev Bruce Moore

Moderator

(Source - Uniting News 1/9/26)

renewal

PRAYING WITHOUT CEASING • SYNOD 39

INVITATION – Celebration of Ministries Service

This October the Queensland Synod will host its 39th Synod in Session. An important part of the business agenda is the Celebration of Ministries that gives acknowledgement and recognition of retired ministers, joyfully welcomes newly ordained ministers and gives solemn reflection of those ministers that have passed since the last Queensland Synod meeting.

You are invited to attend the 39th Synod in Session Celebration of Ministries Service

Date: Thursday, 22 October 2026

Time: 10.45am for 11.00am

Venue: Albert Street Uniting Church, 319 Albert St, Brisbane City

RSVP: Friday, 9 October 2026 via [Register Now](#)

Lunch will be provided after the service in the Burnett Room

(Source Uniting News 28/7/2026)



Moderator's Community Service Medal

Nominations open until Monday 21 September 2026



Nominations are open for the Moderator's Community Service Medal, and we invite you to help us recognise the remarkable volunteers whose dedication, compassion and service make a lasting difference in our communities.

Every day, volunteers across the Uniting Church and its agencies help bring the UnitingCare mission to life.

The Moderator's Community Service Medal is an opportunity to celebrate those volunteers who have demonstrated exceptional commitment, innovation and care through their service, and who have made an outstanding contribution to the lives of others.

(Source Uniting News 1/9/26)

Treasurers

Congregation annual returns are due by the 15th September!

Please send completed returns to **Pres.accounts@ucaqld.com.au** and to the **presbytery office** - **admin@maryburnettpres.org.au**

Please pray for our chaplains

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| * Ps Theo Masselos (Buderim PH) | * Mr Peter Robertson (Hervey Bay) |
| * Rev James Stevenson (Buderim PH) | * Ms Jo Mould (Kingaroy) |
| * Ps Kristen Porter (Buderim PH) | * Mrs Helen Cifuentes (Caloundra/Maleny) |
| * Rev Keren Seto (St Stephens) | * Ps Peter Sutcliffe (Bundaberg retirement living) |
| * Ms Donna Hamill (St Stephens) | * Ps DongWoo Oh (Bundaberg aged care) |
| * Ps Jim Hall (Bli Bli/Gympie) | |
| * Mr Craig Doherty (Sunrise Beach) | |



Property Condition Reports

A big thank you to everyone from our congregations who assisted the Synod Office Property team and Presbytery Support Unit to enable completion of our statewide QLD Synod property condition site assessments. A report for each property will be available via Protecht toward the end of November, as there is a requirement for confirmation of the rollout process from Presbytery Synod Interface (PSI), Synod Office Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Synod Standing Committee (SSC).

If you have not heard from Property since the inspection, be assured, your property is in reasonable condition. Work orders were only distributed for safety issues such as cracked footpaths which can cause trip hazards.

If you have any questions, please ring the PSU on 1300 390 700 or email psu@ucaqld.com.au or property@ucaqld.com.au

Caloundra Uniting Church invites you to

The Annual Get-together of Mary Burnett Congregations!

“We have much pleasure in inviting you and members of your congregation to the annual Get-together of Adults from Congregations in the Mary Burnett Presbytery to be held at Caloundra Uniting Church Hall on Thursday 17 September 2026.

The theme will be Living in God's World. Morning tea will be provided and served from 9:30am with our Program commencing at 10 am.

Everyone is welcome to stay for a Bring Your Own Lunch where tea and coffee will be available. We look forward to this annual gathering and hope to see you at Caloundra.

Please RSVP to Jan Louttit, Secretary at ianandjanl@hotmail.com by Friday 11 September.”



The Queensland Synod Mission Collaboration and Coordination Committee (MC3) is pleased to announce that applications to the Church Renewal Fund for the 2026/27 financial year will open mid-August for new mission and renewal initiatives in congregations and faith communities. Applications for this round of funding will open from 15th August to 30th September 2026. Funding decisions will be announced December, with funding available from January 2027 for successful applicants.

Resources available on the links below:

[**MC3 Funding 2026-27 Information**](#)

[**MC3 Funding 2026-27 Presbytery Assessment**](#)

[**MC3 Funding 2026-27 Grant Application Form**](#)

For more information, contact [**MC3@ucaqlld.com.au**](mailto:MC3@ucaqlld.com.au)

(Source Uniting News (11/8/2026))



With God, all things are possible

Registrations open for Held Together Conference



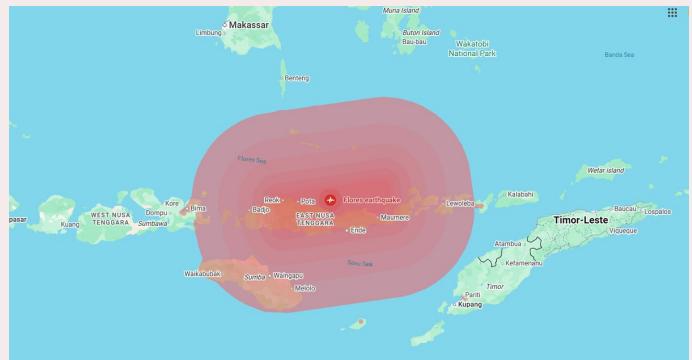
Registrations are now open for [Held Together](#) – a four-day gathering of young adults aged 18–35 from across Australia and around the world, taking place from 21–24 January 2027 at Merroo Christian Centre in Kurrajong, NSW.

Co-led by Uniting Church President Rev Charissa Suli and the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, Held Together will bring diverse cultures, communities and stories together through faith, worship, learning and connection.

The gathering will create space for spiritual renewal, intercultural engagement, and First Nations leadership and perspectives – offering young adults an opportunity to listen, learn, grow and build relationships across cultures.

An early bird price is available until 30 September. Gather your group and [register today!](#)

(source UCA national update 25/8/26)



Nepal Emergency Appeal

Donations received through UnitingWorld will be directed to the work of United mission to Nepal - [Donate Now](#)

A Prayer for Flores and East Nusa Tenggara Indonesia

A powerful 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck off the coast near Flores island in Indonesia on Saturday. [Read more](#)

7 DAYS WITHOUT PRAYER MAKES ONE WEAK

Dates for your Diary

2026 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS Start time: **9.00am**

14 November - Bundaberg UC

Business meeting Saturday 9am

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

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)

* 25 September 2026

SYNOD

* 22 - 26 Oct 2026

ASSEMBLY

* 8th - 13th July 2027

MINISTERS RETREAT

RETIRED REVS

Galatians 5:22

"But the fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness and Self Control"

God's love knows
no bounds



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



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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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.