



LIVING WATER FOR A THIRSTY LAND

March 2024

WELCOME - REV JOHN CASE, INCOMING CHAIR OF PRESBYTERY

HIGHLIGHTS FROM PRESBYTERY MEETING ON PAGE 2



Fellow members of Presbytery,

I wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the confidence you have placed in me to fulfill the role of Presbytery Chair. I am deeply humbled by your support.

When we work together, as members of one community, I know that we can accomplish great things. This Presbytery is one that has been built on our compassion toward each other, our commitment to serving God to the best of our abilities, and our faith in one another to always seek God's leading.

During these times of rapid change both within our community and the Church, my highest commitment is to faithfully seek God's leading so that we can achieve our shared goals.

Now is the time for us to be united as a Presbytery so that we can genuinely look to the future with confidence and hope. We have a lot of work ahead of us, but I am ready and excited to be working with you.

Once more I thank you for placing your confidence in me and I invite you, if needed, to contact me - chair@downspresbytery.org.au or mobile 0400 992 786.

God's Blessings

Rev. John Case

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ALLORA UC >>>

2

Our deepest thanks to the Eastern Downs Parish (Nobby, Allora and Pilton Congregations) for hosting our February Presbytery meeting in Allora - they kindly offered hospitality and cared for us all over the weekend. The meeting was chaired by Rev Kaye Ronalds in the absence of our outgoing chair Rev Adam Tipple who was unable to join us due to illness - we pray for him as he continues to recover and as he finishes up as the Chairperson after three years. Some other highlights from this meeting were:

- Changes to Presbytery Standing Committee and Pastoral Relations Committee - Presbytery Standing Committee we farewelled Mrs Sharon Baker (Member), Rev Marius Kruger (Member) and Rev Adam Tipple (Chair); extended the terms of Mrs Kath Warner (Member) and Ms Allison Kahler (Secretary), and welcomed Rev John Case (Chair) and Rev Dylan Miegel (Member); Mrs Jenny Noble (Treasurer continues her term until 2026. Pastoral Relations Committee - we farewelled Rev Ansie Liebenberg (Chair), Rev Willie Liebenberg (Ordained Coopted member), Mr Cliff Forrester (Lay Coopted member). We extended the term of Mr David Prestridge (Lay Member) and Mrs Jenny Noble (Lay Member) and welcomed Rev Dona Spencer (Ordained Member); Warren Midgley continues his term until 2025. Rev Willie Liebenberg will take up the role of Period of Discernment Coordinator replacing Rev Jenny Potter. The Property Committee farewelled Rev Rob Callow (Chair) and will continue with Mrs Jenny Noble, Mr Ian Darnell and Mr Gordon Gillmore.
- We approved the establishing of a Rural and Remote Committee to support the Bush Chaplains.
- We heard more about the exciting missional activities happening in Warwick Killarney UC and committed some Mission Development Funds to assist them in this project.
- We were joined by the Moderator Qld Synod, Rev Bruce Moore who shared with us over the whole weekend, preached on Sunday at Allora UC and presented the Moderator's Community Service Medal to Mrs Kath Warner.
- Ps Jess Pinkerton (from Emmanuel Uniting Church and Synod office) talked about the Discipleship Framework, Intergenerational Church and Easter Madness;
- We spent time exploring options to support pastoral care in hospitals with Dr Stephen Hughes, Pastoral Care Coordinator and committed to increase the Clinical Pastoral Education subsidy.
- A Minute of Appreciation for Rev Jenny Potter as she finishes her placement as Chaplain Darling Downs Health Services.





REV TANYA RICHARDS INDUCTED AS DEACON, LIFEWORKS

Tanya is the new Toowoomba Chaplain for Connect100+ an initiative of UnitingCare to increase partnerships with the church body.



Welcome Rev Tanya!

Photo credit Jenny, Tanya's friend

Family, friends and colleagues travelled from the Sunshine Coast, the Darling Downs and Brisbane to join Revs Tanya Richards, Adam Tipple, Lifeworks Church Council and congregation, as well as leaders of UnitingCare as Presbytery Minister Rev Yvonne McRostie inducted Tanya at Lifeworks Uniting Church in Toowoomba on Sunday 21st January. It was a delightful evening. Connect100+ Queensland Coordinator Pastor Samantha McDonnell preached on Jonah, and the calling of the disciples. UnitingCare Queensland's Director of Mission Rev Dr Peter Armstrong attended, as well as many ministers. Tanya expressed her deep thanks to all and guests enjoyed a light supper. Welcome Rev Tanya to Lifeworks, UnitingCare and Toowoomba!

THANKS for your kind wishes and prayers

My family and I appreciated your support as we mourn the unexpected loss of my 55-year-old sister, Liz, in mid-February. God the Comforter holds us all very close, and we received so much grace from everyone. I reeally appreciate Yvonne's efforts and patience in dealing with my long absence so soon after I started in the role to assist her!

It's great to be back into 'normal' life again and I hope to be able to see you at the Winter Presbytery meeting at my home church, Lifeworks.



Anni Cramb, Admin at Presbytery Office

PRAYER POINTS...

- Cambooya Community and for those who have served in ministry in that community over 117 years.
- The people of Allora and Eastern Downs Parish as they continue to serve in their local communities.
- The Warwick Killarney Freestone Parish as they continue preparation for the affordable housing project
- Granite Belt Parish as they prepare for their Life and Witness Consultation.
- The Synod office, the Moderator Rev Bruce Moore and General Secretary Rev Adam McIntosh.
- Holy Week and Easter celebrations within the communities we serve
- Rev Tanya Richards as she begins her placement as Community Chaplain
- The preparation for the upcoming 17th Assembly meeting in July for President-Elect Rev Chariissa Suli and the Act 2 Team.

If you have prayer requests please email them to admin@downspresbytery.org.au

uPcOmIng_eVEnTs



6TH MARCH

Abrahamic Faiths Gathering
Hosted at the Garden City Mosque, the evening will...

boomte.ch



Service to Mark the Conclusion of Placement for Rev Jenny Potter

The Qld Synod and The Downs Presbytery...

calendar.boomte.ch

17TH MARCH



Service to Mark the Closure of Cambooya Uniting Church

The Downs Presbytery and The Cambooya Uniting Church...

boomte.ch

29TH MARCH



Leaders' Retreat

Rev Karen Ross minister at Chapel Hill U...

boomte.ch

6th APRIL

Check out the Presbytery Website for more information of upcoming events.