

February '24



The Uniting Church in Australia
QUEENSLAND SYNOD

MARYBOROUGH PARISH

Maryborough, Tiaro & Bauple Congregations

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<https://ucmaryborough.org.au/>



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Making Christ Visible

Maryborough Church Services

SUNDAY 4th February

Leaders' Commissioning

9:00am St. Stephen's Church - Rev Delma

READINGS: Is 40:21-31 Ps 147:1-11, 20c
1 Cor 9:16-23 Mk 1:29-39

SUNDAY 11th February

9:00am St. Stephen's Church - Rev Delma

6:00pm *SIMPLY WORSHIP* Wesley Auditorium

Theme - Ash Wednesday

READINGS: 2 Kgs 2:1-12 Ps 50:1-6
2 Cor 4:3-6 Mk 9:2-9

THURSDAY 15th February

3:00pm Chelsea Retirement Living Community Hall,

with Irene Leegwater & Maryan McGown

SUNDAY 18th February

Lent 1

9:00am St. Stephen's Church - Dawn Jenkinson

READINGS: Gn 9:8-17 Ps 25:1-10
1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:9-15

SUNDAY 25th February

Lent 2

9:00am St. Stephen's Church - Rev Delma

READINGS: Gn 17:1-7, 15-16 Ps 22:23-31
Rom 4:13-25 Mk 8:31-38, or Mk 9:2-9

FRIDAY 1st March

World Day of Prayer

9:30am St. Stephen's Church - **Praying for Palestine**

Country Church Services

SUNDAY 11th February

2:00pm Bauple Home Group - Rev Delma

Minister's Message

Dear Friends

Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colours. So don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way. (James 1:2-4 The Message)

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing. (James 1:2-4 Good News Translation)

What on earth is happening here? How can this one Bible passage seem so different in two different versions? And yet, just maybe the underlying message is still the same. It is hard to imagine that when we have multiple problems thrown at us that we might see them as 'a sheer gift' or 'an opportunity for great joy.' I don't know about you, but I find it extremely hard when I am inundated with multiple tests or challenges to find joy in the situation, let alone consider these trials as a gift. Perhaps that is even more so if I am trying to navigate through those times on my own, leaving God out of the chaotic mess. Sometimes when this happens, I feel like I am jumping off a cliff into the unknown and wondering if I am going to hit the

**SUBMISSION of notices for the March
Bulletin close on (Wed) 24th March 2024**

bottom with a resounding thump, battered, bruised, and broken. I think God loves nothing more than being with us in those times when we might finally call out, 'please help me/us God.' I find there is nothing more therapeutic than when I find God responding to my cry for help by catching me and helping me land safely. The thing is that the landing safely may take minutes, hours, months or sometimes years.

Navigating through the big problems in life can take a lot of time, emotional energy, and effort. If we are to find any joy in the journey, we need to ask God to join us because problems can test our faith. How we respond can deepen our faith or to the other extreme, shake the foundations of our faith and draw us away from God. In times of trouble how much deeper would our faith be if we dug deeper into the word of God that only the Bible can give us and reached out to God in stillness and prayer. No matter which version of this passage you read, it is about how the problems of life are character building. When we are steeped in troubles, how we respond can be seen by those around us. As Eugene Peterson says in The Message version: 'You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colours.' What do we show the world about our faith when we are under pressure? Let us pray that this year, any problems we face will build our character and deepen our faith in the one true God, our Lord, and our Saviour. Let us lean into God and trust that God will get us through. Let us find a deep sense that God's got this, that we will get through this no matter how it turns out, that all will be well with our souls because God is with us. Let us give thanks for the joy that only God can give us in times of trouble.



Blessings
Rev Delma Lovell



Report on Leaders' Council Meeting 22 January 2024

Denise Wilschut and Diana Collins were elected Leaders Council Chair and Secretary respectively for 2024.

Approval was given for the following:

- Leaders of worship/preachers in 2024 – Maryan McGown, Marion Tappenden, Irene Leegwater, Dawn Jenkinson, Robyn Lowe, Pastor Graham Huth (Mary Burnett Presbytery), Rev Craig Allan (Blue Care), Rev Keren Seto (St Stephen's Hospital).
- 2024 dates and times for the Chelsea Retirement Living church services in the Community Hall.
- A Lenten Bible Study to be held in 2024.
- Holiday leave for Rev Delma Lovell from 12-18 February 2024.
- A first aid kit to be carried by the Minister when travelling and conducting services/fellowship groups in the country.
- A change of time for Girls Brigade who meet in Wesley Auditorium on Tuesdays during school terms. Times will be: Cadets, from 6-7.30pm; Upper Section, from 6-8pm.
- Girls Brigade Leaders for 2024.
- Annual Program Plan for Girls Brigade for 2024.
- Statements of Personal Commitment received from members of Leaders Council and Girls Brigade Leaders.
- Leaders Council meetings to continue to be held on 4th Friday of a month at 4.30pm with the date/time of the December meeting to be confirmed later in the year.

Leaders Council noted that Fraser Coast Council proposes to replace the footpath and kerbing on John St from Walker to Sussex Streets with work to be undertaken at a future date.

A note of appreciation will be sent to Jo Sengstock who has retired from being a Leader in Girls Brigade after many years of service. Leaders Council is continuing its consideration of the diversity of church property issues that have currently arisen or may have implications for future operations.

Diana Collins * Leaders Council Secretary

Rev Delma Holidays & Study Leave

Rev Delma will be on annual leave & study leave in February & March.

During this time for all church matters please contact

- Leaders Council Chair, Denise Wilschut or
- Secretary, Diana Collins or
- The church office on 0402 425 340
9am and 1:30pm, Thursday – Friday.

Rev Delma's leave details are as follows:

Annual Leave: Mon 12 February to Sun 18 February

Study Leave for *Fundamentals of Transitional Ministry*

– the Work of the Congregation:

- Wed 21 Feb (online);
- Wed 28 Feb (online);
- Wed 6 & Thurs 7 March at Uniting Church
Centre for Ministry, North Paramatta, NSW.

Church Tombola

Saturday 24th February 2024

Maryborough Pensioners Hall,
Adelaide St, Maryborough

Over 200 prizes including craft, home
baked goodies, groceries, toiletries,
plants & much more.

Doors open _ 11:30am

First draw _ 1pm

Light Lunch
available for
purchase

RAFFLE &
Lucky Door
Prizes



All proceeds support the Uniting Church in Australia,
Maryborough Parish



World Day of Prayer

1st March 2024 @ St Stephen's Church

Join with members of other churches in our local community to pray and give praise to God at the World Day of Prayer service, this year being held in our own St. Stephen's Uniting Church, on Friday, 1 March at 9.30 a.m. Our thoughts and prayers will be focused on the women of Palestine. The service has been prepared by a group of ecumenical Palestinian women who having prayed and worked together over the past four years to bring us this service with the chosen theme, "I Beg You...Bear With One Another in Love," based on Ephesians 4: 1-7. Following the service, Morning Tea will be served in Wesley Auditorium which will provide an opportunity to fellowship with our fellow brother and sisters in Christ. More information will be available in the next couple of weeks and some of you may be approached to take on specific tasks either in preparation for or on the day.

If you need more information please contact
Marion Tappenden - 0437297761

For more information go to
<https://www.worlddayofprayeraustralia.org/>

"Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action,"

Exploring our Faith and Discipleship Lenten Bible Study

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 14 February.

You are invited to join Rev Delma for a Lenten Bible Study with a faith and discipleship focus, commencing on Friday 23 February at 9:30am.

Details of the study used will be released soon.

Time: 9:30am
Venue: Wesley Auditorium, 21 Sussex Street
Dates:

- Friday 23rd February
- Friday 1st March (no study please join us at the World Day of Prayer service)
- Friday 8th March
- Friday 15th March
- Friday 22nd March

If you would like to direct deposit,
the details are:

Branch: **BSB 014010**

Account: **Uniting Church Maryborough**

Account number: **3873 956 67**



Thank you for prayerfully considering these
options to support the work of the Church




CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE

Our Church is a drop off point for
your cans and plastic bottles as
we are already registered to
receive 10c an item.

Date Claimers February 2024

BREAKFAST MINISTRY	Tuesday 6th @ 6am Breakfast Ministry St. Paul's Anglican Hall
	Tuesday 6th @ 9:30am "Cholly Tuesdays". Wesley Auditorium.
GIRLS BRIGADE 	Tuesday 6th @ 6pm Girls Brigade. Wesley Auditorium & Hall. Cadets 6pm - 7:30pm & Upper Section 6pm - 8pm
BREAKFAST MINISTRY	Tuesday 13th @ 6am Breakfast Ministry St. Paul's Anglican Hall
	Tuesday 13th @ 9:30am "Cholly Tuesdays". Wesley Auditorium.
GIRLS BRIGADE 	Tuesday 13th @ 6pm Girls Brigade. Wesley Auditorium & Hall. Cadets 6pm - 7:30pm & Upper Section 6pm - 8pm
	Wednesday 14th @ 11:30 - 1:30pm BlueCare's Memory Support Cafe
	Thursday 8th @ 1.30pm – 3pm MUCAF (Maryborough Uniting Church Adult Fellowship) Meeting
	Thursday 15th @ 3pm Chelsea Church Service
GIRLS BRIGADE LEADERS 	Monday 19th @ 6.30pm Girls Brigade Leaders Meeting _ Wesley Auditorium
BREAKFAST MINISTRY	Tuesday 20th @ 6am Breakfast Ministry St. Paul's Anglican Hall
	Tuesday 20th @ 9:30am "Cholly Tuesdays". Wesley Auditorium.
	Tuesday 20th @ 9.30am BOOKS 'n COFFEE_ Wesley Auditorium <i>Join us every 3rd Tuesday for a chat, a cuppa and to share discussions on our reading.</i>
GIRLS BRIGADE 	Tuesday 20th @ 6pm Girls Brigade. Wesley Auditorium & Hall. Cadets 6pm - 7:30pm & Upper Section 6pm - 8pm
Lenten Bible Study	Friday 23rd @ 9:30am You are invited to join Rev Delma for a Lenten Bible Study with a faith and discipleship focus commencing on Friday 23 February at 9:30am. Continuing in March.
TOMBOLA	Saturday 24th from 11:30am – Church Tombola. See page 3 for details.
	Monday 26th @ 4.30pm – Leaders Council Meeting in Wesley Auditorium.
BREAKFAST MINISTRY	Tuesday 27th @ 6am Breakfast Ministry St. Paul's Anglican Hall
	Tuesday 27th @ 9:30am "Cholly Tuesdays". Wesley Auditorium.
GIRLS BRIGADE 	Tuesday 27th @ 6pm Girls Brigade. Wesley Auditorium & Hall. Cadets 6pm - 7:30pm & Upper Section 6pm - 8pm

Community Notices and Events

	Thursday 1st February @ 9.30am - 11am St Paul's Anglican Parish presents OPEN CHURCH WITH MUSIC
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March advance Date Claimers

<i>World Day of Prayer</i>	Friday 1st March @ 9:30am 2024 World Day of Prayer- Praying for Palestine. Hosted at St Stephens Church with morning tea in the Auditorium to follow.
Lenten Bible Study	Friday 8th March @ 9:30am You are invited to join Rev Delma for a Lenten Bible Study with a faith and discipleship focus, continuing on Friday 8th March.