



The Uniting Church in Australia
QUEENSLAND SYNOD
MARYBOROUGH PARISH

Bulletin

MAY 2025

MINISTER'S PASTORAL MESSAGE:

Dear Friends,

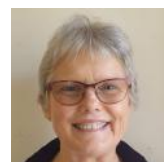
Are you creative? You may know people who are creative in music, needlework, cooking, gardening, woodwork, metalwork, sewing, knitting or crochet. I'm sure you can think of other creative activities that give joy to the people creating and those who may be fortunate to receive the fruits of their projects. I know I enjoyed admiring Mary's long stitch creations displayed in our church over Easter. Even though we mightn't think so, we are all creative. Without even trying we have built a great big colourful tapestry that tells the story of our life. Lyn Ungar wrote about weaving in 2020: "First set the warp, the plain, stable threads that hold the pattern in place – the infrastructure of joy, the girders that hold up all we build of meaning, or justice, or peace. Use strong threads left by those who have gone before. Only then pick up the weft, the coloured thread that you will use to weave accordingly to your plan. Choose carefully – this is what the world will see, each tiny act that builds the bright pattern of your life. Yes, the threads will tangle or knot or fray, and the flaws will show. Oh well. Tuck in the ends as best you can and start again. This is not the time to stop your weaving. So much is pulling at the great design."

Our congregation has created a vivid tapestry of its own that includes mission activities in Maryborough. Some of that mission is still visible today, although not all is still in Maryborough. There was St Stephen's Hospital, Meals on Wheels, BlueCare, Lifeline (which has branched out into UnitingCare) and Girls' Brigade. Our congregation has woven a lot of love into its mission throughout the years that permeated into the community. But we didn't get stuck when the earlier missions moved on, we have woven a few newer missions into the tapestry like Breakfast Ministry (14 years), Chatty Tuesday (2 years), joined into BlueCare's Memory Support Café (2 years) and UnitingCare's Connect100+ initiative (3 years). As the poem says, what we weave won't be perfect but that is okay. We can start over again and again. Congregations aren't meant to stay the same, there is meant to be continual change as happens so rapidly in the world around us.

There is one thing though that never changes and that is the mission that Jesus continually sends us on: *"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."* (John 13:34-35 NIV) As the world around us changes with the pressures of government legislation seeming to be constantly changing, the church may sometimes feel like our focus is on buildings, finances, governance and compliance. You might wonder where is the love in that?

Recently some of our leadership attended Trinity College Qld's Congregational Risk and Safety short course online. In this course it was explained to us why we do Safe Church training and have a focus on risk assessments and managing risk. Yes, it may seem that the only reason we do these things is because we are worried that if an accident were to happen WorkPlace Health and Safety would enter our space, or that we mightn't be able to get Public Liability insurance coverage. Although this is an important aspect to the reasoning behind what Safe Church is about, it goes much deeper than that. For the Uniting Church, Safe Church has a deep theological foundation that underlies the processes and procedures. You see, Jesus mentioned love many times in the Bible, but there are other standout verses that also underpin our faith and how we are meant to treat others. Verses like: *Do to others as you would have them do to you.* (Luke 6:13), *The second [commandment] is love your neighbour as yourself* (Mark 12:31 NIV). Loving each other and those who interact with us are foundations for our Safe Church policies, processes and procedures. I know I like the concept of a 'Safe Church' where all who come feel safe emotionally, psychologically, spiritually and physically. To provide this safety we need to consider the safety of our buildings, our footpaths and how we do what we do as a church, including our mission activities. When we weave a tapestry with love in every thread, it is then that people will know that we are disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, making Christ visible.

Blessings, Rev Delma Lovell
0428 598 309
min.ucamaryborough@gmail.com



Maryborough Services

SUNDAY 4th MAY (Communion)

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

READINGS: Acts 9:1-6, (7-20) Ps 30

Rev 5:11-14 Jn 21:1-19

SUNDAY 11th MAY

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

READINGS: Acts 9:36-43 Ps 23

Rev 7:9-17 Jn 10:22-30

THURSDAY 15th MAY

3:00pm Chelsea Retirement Living

Community Hall - *Rev Delma*

SUNDAY 18th MAY

9:00am St Stephen's Church

READINGS: Acts 11:1-18 Ps 148

Rev 21:1-6 Jn 13:31-35

2:00pm Bauple Home Group

SUNDAY 25th MAY

9:00am Wesley Auditorium - *Rev Delma*

READINGS: Acts 16:9-15 Ps 67

Rev 21:10, 22 - 22:5 Jn 14:23-29

St. Stephen's Monthly Service Locations

1st Sunday – St Stephen's Church @ 9.00am

2nd Sunday – St Stephen's Church @ 9.00am

3rd Sunday – St Stephen's Church @ 9.00am

4th Sunday – Wesley Auditorium @ 9.00am

5th Sunday – St Stephen's Church @ 9.00am

CONTACT DETAILS

St. Stephens Church - **25 Sussex Street**

Wesley Auditorium, St. Stephen's Hall & Offices

21 Sussex Street

Email for Leaders Council – operational issues

lc.ucamaryborough@gmail.com

Email for Finance- including finance, hall/church bookings

financeucamaryborough@gmail.com

Email for other items – availability for roster, bulletin items, bluecards

ucamaryborough@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook at:

Maryborough Parish Uniting Church

Find us on Web site <https://ucamaryborough.org.au/>

Mail:

POST: PO Box 585, Maryborough, QLD, 4650

Tel Office: **0402 425 340** (this number will go through to Rev Delma's Number automatically)



Qld Synod In Session # 38

Dates:

16 May 2025 - 19 May 2025

Location:

Alexandra Park Conference Centre,
Mari Street, Alexandra Headland



SAVE THIS DATE:

You are Invited to a Presentation of Gospel music by

Brisbane & Bundaberg Male Voice Choirs:

2.30pm SATURDAY

21st JUNE 2025

ST. STEPHEN'S UNITING CHURCH

QLD SYNOD PRAYER:

Lord, You are our strength and our song —
You are the one who rescues us in the time of
despair.

You are our salvation.

Thank You for Your steadfast love that never
ends.

Renew our hearts when we grow weary.

Revive our joy when we feel dry.

Restore our hope when the way feels hard.

Let Your light shine on us again.

Make Your Church a place of praise,
a people who live in Your freedom,
and a voice of truth in the world.

For this is the day that You have made —
we will rejoice and are glad in it.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

FELLOWSHIP MORNING TEA

Date: SATURDAY 31st MAY 2025

**Place: Maryborough Services & Citizens Memorial
Club Lennox Street Maryborough**

**Time: 9am Café opens for orders 10am Program
commences**

RSVP by Sunday 25th May 2025

**Contact: Marion Tappenden on
0437 287761**

kenandmarion1968@gmail.com



Maryborough Lifeline BookFest

Dates: 8th May - 10th May 2025

Time: 08:00am - 4:00pm

**Location: Maryborough Showgrounds
Free Entry**

© Lifeline
BOOKFEST
Lose yourself

MAY 2025

PRAYER MEETING	Monday 5th @ 8:30am - 9:00am in St Stephens Church
BREAKFAST MINISTRY	Tuesday 6th @ 7:00am - 8:00am St Pauls Anglican Church Hall
CHATTY TUESDAY	Tuesday 6th @ 9:30am - 12:00 noon Wesley Auditorium.
GIRLS BRIGADE	Tuesday 6th @ 6:00pm Wesley Auditorium Cadets 6:00pm – 7:30pm / Upper Section 6:00pm – 8:00 pm
PRAYER MEETING	Monday 12th @ 8:30am - 9:00am. in St Stephens Church
PARISH TEA	Monday 12th @ 5:30pm at Maryborough Services and Citizens Memorial Club Please RSVP your attendance to Nalda Brett on 0407 628 072 before 10.00am on that day.
BREAKFAST MINISTRY	Tuesday 13th @ 7:00am -8:00am St Pauls Anglican Church Hall
CHATTY TUESDAY	Tuesday 13th @ 9:30am - 12:00 noon Wesley Auditorium.
GIRLS BRIGADE	Tuesday 13th @ 6:00pm Wesley Auditorium Cadets 6:00pm – 7:30pm / Upper Section 6:00pm – 8:00 pm
BLUECARE MEMORY SUPPORT CAFE	Wednesday 14th @11:30am - 1:30pm Wesley Auditorium <i>Supporting those who care for someone with dementia or memory loss.</i>
CHELSEA CHURCH SERVICE	Thursday 15th @ 3:00pm Retirement Living Community Hall
PRAYER MEETING	Monday 19th No prayer meeting - Rev Delma at Synod
GIRLS BRIGADE	Monday 19th @ 6.30pm - LEADERS MEETING - Wesley Auditorium
BREAKFAST MINISTRY	Tuesday 20th @ 7:00am - 8:00am St Pauls Anglican Church Hall
CHATTY TUESDAY	Tuesday 20th @ 9:30am - 12:00 noon Wesley Auditorium.
GIRLS BRIGADE	Tuesday 20th @ 6:00pm Wesley Auditorium Cadets 6:00pm – 7:30pm / Upper Section 6:00pm – 8:00 pm
BOOK CLUB	Cancelled for May. Next meeting 17 th June
PRAYER MEETING	Monday 26th @ 8:30am - 9:00am. in St Stephens Church
LEADERS COUNCIL MEETING	Monday 26th @ 4:30pm VENUE CHANGE to St. Stephen's Church
BREAKFAST MINISTRY	Tuesday 27th @ 7:00am -8:00am St Pauls Anglican Church Hall
CHATTY TUESDAY	Tuesday 27th@ 9:30am - 12:00 noon Wesley Auditorium.
GIRLS BRIGADE	Tuesday 27th @ 6:00pm Wesley Auditorium Cadets 6:00pm – 7:30pm / Upper Section 6:00pm – 8:00 pm
FELLOWSHIP MORNING TEA	Saturday 31st @9.00am Maryborough Services Club

Have you got a notice or information to share?
Submissions for inclusion in the JUNE 2025 Bulletin end 22 May.

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 this
options to support the work of the Church*

