



Dear Friends

"Afterward I will pour out my Spirit on everyone: your sons and daughters will proclaim my message; your old people will have dreams, and your young people will see visions." (Joel 2:28 GNT)

In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams. (Acts 2:17 CEB)

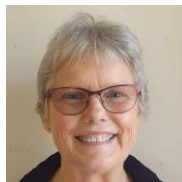
Have you ever heard the story about the 3 generations and cooking a roast? "Why do you cut off the ends of a roast before cooking it?" a husband asked his wife. "Because my mother did it that way" she responded with a smile. Wanting to know more, the husband called his wife's mother and asked her the same question. She gave an identical response. Frustrated because he hadn't found an answer he called his wife's grandmother. The moment this wise woman heard the question, she laughed and said "I don't know why THEY cut off the ends of the roast, but I did it that way because a full roast wouldn't fit into my pan!" Sometimes we keep doing things the way they have always been done because we don't question the why. We don't want to rock the boat by being the one to make a change, to do things differently.

Recently I got to thinking about how often in life we must travel backwards to be able to travel forwards. We can have all sorts of thoughts when we are doing a road trip on our own. You see I was feeling a little frustrated that I had to drive for about 3 ½ hours (260km) south to be able to then travel back north (1,703km) on a two-hour flight to get to Cairns. I could have decided not to go to Cairns because of all the hours travelling in the wrong direction. But then I would have missed out on a wonderful opportunity. How often do we keep travelling in the same direction because we are stuck in the groove of what we have always done. It can be good

to go back to look at the past, but it is not healthy to stay stuck in the past.

The recent Presbytery meeting was held in Caloundra and I was reminded of what it is like to visit a church where the entry is flat with no stairs. I see so many of us struggle to climb up and down the stairs of our church. I wonder how safe are those stairs? When we worship in the Auditorium there are no stairs to contend with and it is more cosy sitting around tables whilst in the church we are all so spread out we often don't see each other. As I find more and more cracks in our buildings and walls in our St Stephen's Complex I have been pondering and dreaming of something different, something newer, without structural and drainage issues, isn't impacted by major floods and there aren't 5 buildings that are looking tattered, tired and needing more funds spent on them than we could ever dream of finding.

My mind has been coming back to our West Complex and I wonder if this is where God might be calling us to. For some of you it would be a going back, but then it is around 13 years since it was used as a church. My dreaming went beyond that to become quite grandiose, with a removal of the hall and manse, leaving the chapel and garage. Perhaps the chapel could be extended? Have you been dreaming about the future and where God might be leading us? It is time for us to dream big. It is time for us to enter into fervent prayer and lean into the Holy Spirit's leading. What will our legacy be for future generations?



Blessings

Rev Delma Lovell

Tel: 0428 598 309

Email: min.ucamaryborough@gmail.com

CHURCH SERVICES:

Sunday 3 August - Rev Delma
9:00am St Stephen's Church

Sunday 10 August - Rev Delma
9:00am St Stephen's Church

Sunday 17 August - Rev Delma
9:00am St Stephen's Church
2:00pm Bauple Home Group

Thursday 21 August - Rev Delma
3:00pm Chelsea Retirement Living
Community Hall

Sunday 24 August - Rev Delma
9:00am Wesley Auditorium

Sunday 31 August - Rev Delma
9:00am St Stephen's Church

*Please note: Maryborough's
4th Sunday church service is held
in the Wesley Auditorium.*

PROPERTY MATTERS:

The structural engineers report for the **St Stephen's Manse** has been received: The verandah stumps are inadequate. The shrink swell properties of the soil type as "Class H" with H representing plastic soil with high shrink swell properties. This will cause the shallow footings to be affected by the movement of the soil from dry and wet climate variations.' **Two repair options:**

One: Underpinning of the existing foundations which will require a new strip footing and supporting piers @ 2.5m ctrs. This option will require repair of the spalled concrete and installation of new brackets for the posts where necessary.

Two: Demolition and re-building of the verandah as a timber framed structure with new footings, posts, bearers and floor joists.

Garage Cracked Wall: The wall is not suitable for a strong rafter connection and is pulling the wall over where it has cracked and moved outwards. It needs a separate steel SHS post underneath.

CONTACT DETAILS:

St. Stephens Church
25 Sussex Street

Wesley Auditorium,
St. Stephen's Hall & Office
21 Sussex Street

EMAILS:

Leaders Council – operational issues
lc.ucamaryborough@gmail.com

Finance- including finance, hall/church
bookings
financeucamaryborough@gmail.com

Other items – availability for roster, bulletin
items, bluecards
ucamaryborough@gmail.com

FACEBOOK:

Maryborough Parish Uniting Church

WEBSITE:

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

POST:

PO Box 585, Maryborough, QLD, 4650

PHONE:

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

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DIRECT DEPOSIT:

The details are:

BSB: 014 010

Account: Uniting Church Maryborough

Account Number: 3873 956 67

*Thank you for prayerfully considering this
option to support the work of the congregation.*

Have you got a notice or information to share?

Submissions for inclusion in the September 2025 Bulletin end 24 August 2025

BIBLE READINGS:

	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
3 August	Hos 11:1-11	Ps 107:1-9, 43	Col 3:1-11	Lk 12:13-21
10 August	Is 1:1, 10-20	Ps 50:1-8, 22-23	Heb 11:1-3, 8-16	Lk 12:32-40
17 August	Is 5:1-7	Ps 80:1-2, 8-19	Heb 11:29-12:2	Lk 12:49-56
24 August	Jer 1:4-10	Ps 71:1-6	Heb 12:18-29	Lk 13:10-17
31 August	Jer 2:4-13	Ps 81:1, 10-16	Heb 13:1-8, 15-16	Lk 14:1, 7-14

PRAYER:

Lord our God,
We praise you for lifting us up and being with us in the time of trial.
You have brought us up from the depths and restored our lives.
Transform our mourning into dancing, our sorrow into joy.
Remove the sackcloth of discouragement from our hearts and clothe us with gladness.
Renew our spirits, that we might sing of your goodness and not be silent.
Turn our weeping into songs of thanksgiving,
For your favour lasts a lifetime.

Refresh your church, Lord.
Where there has been pain, bring healing.
Where there has been division, bring unity.
Where there has been despair, restore hope.
Where there has been death, bring new life.
Help us remember that weeping may remain for a night,
But rejoicing comes in the morning.
Make us new, that our hearts may sing to you, and of you
That the world might hear of your unfailing love.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen. *Qld Synod Uniting News, 1 July 2025.*

DID YOU KNOW?

Maryborough Uniting Church Adult Fellowship (MUCAF) provides Morning Tea each Sunday after our Worship Service. Members purchase the supplies, set up, serve and clean up as part of the Fellowship's contribution to our Church life.

If you'd like to be involved, you would be most welcome and your donations are always appreciated and enable the Fellowship to continue this service.

There is also a **Bring and Buy table** each Sunday so if you have surplus produce or other items that you would like to contribute, you can simply place them on the Trolley preferably (but not essentially) with a suggested price.

Thank you MUCAF.

REV DELMA ON MINISTER'S RETREAT:

Rev Delma will be away on a spiritual retreat on **Monday 18, Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 August** at Alexander Park Conference Centre.

PRAYER MEETING:

Every Monday 8:30am - 9:00am

St Stephen's Church

BREAKFAST MINISTRY:

Every Tuesday 7:00am - 8:00am

St Pauls Anglican Church Hall

A community breakfast for those in need.

CHATTY TUESDAY:

Every Tuesday 9:30am - 12noon

Wesley Auditorium

All are welcome to come for a cuppa and a chat, play boardgames or bring your craft.

GIRLS' BRIGADE:

Every Tuesday (during school terms)

Cadets 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Upper Section 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Wesley Auditorium

MEMORY SUPPORT CAFE:

Wednesday 13 August 11:30am - 1:30pm

Wesley Auditorium

Providing support for carers of those with dementia or memory loss.

PARISH TEA:

Monday 11 August 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Maryborough Services &

Citizens Memorial Club

RSVP to Nalda Brett on 0407 628 072 before 10:00am on 11 August.

BOOK CLUB:

Tuesday 19 August 2:30pm

Wesley Auditorium

Join us for a chat, a cuppa and to share discussions on our readings.

LEADERS COUNCIL MEETING:

Monday 25 August 4:30pm

Wesley Auditorium

MARYBOROUGH UNITING CHURCH**ADULT FELLOWSHIP AGM:**

Thursday 14 August 1:30pm

Wesley Auditorium

All welcome. Afternoon tea following the meeting.

CONGREGATION MEETING:

The meeting will be held on

Sunday 24 August following the church service in the Wesley Auditorium. The Annual Reports will be presented as well as the 2025/2026 budget.

PROPERTY:

Further **cracking** has been found in the bricks on the **office photocopy room** back wall and on the side wall of the **Wesley Auditorium's enclosed outdoor area**, opposite the glass sliding doors, backing onto the manse's side yard.

