



The Maroochydore Herald

Maroochydore Uniting Church_

The Uniting Church in Australia



Uniting in Christ
acting with love
living with hope
witnessing in faith
working for justice

Sunday 17th May 2020
Easter 6



**Uniting Church Links - For Information from the Wider Church
Qld Synod Information - <https://ucaqld.com.au/>
For links an information to Synod Resources and Activities.
National Assembly News - <https://assembly.uca.org>.**

The Maroochydore Herald

We seek to be a prayerful and listening church



Please Contact us

6 Millwell Rd (POX 357)

Maroochydore Qld. 4558

Church Office: 5443 2441

Find us on Google search:

Maroochydore Uniting Church

Minister: Rev James Stevenson

M: 0427 106 531

Minister's Office: 5443 2441

E: jamesbstevenson10@gmail.com

Worship Services Normally

English Language Sundays, 8.30am

Korean Language Sundays, 11am

Korean Leader: Ps. Gil Park

M: 0413 836 557



Thank you for the ongoing support for the Ministry, & Ministry of our Church. A reminder that direct deposit offering is available.

Our Church Banking Details: **UCA Maroochydore Uniting Church**

- St George Bank. BSB 334 040: Account No. 553864 511

Birthdays: Tsar Nicholas (1868); Pope John Paul 11 (1920); Andre the Giant (1946); James Stewart (1908)
Just checking you are reading this. There are no U.C. congregation birthdays this week.

Please send any notices for next week's 'Herald' to janstrudwickart@gmail.com by Wednesday afternoon

Lectionary Bible Readings

May 17 2020 Easter 6

Acts 17:22-31

Ps 66:8-20

1 Pt 3:13-22

Jn 14:15-21

May 21 2020 Ascension Day

Acts 1:1-11

Ps 47 or Ps 93

Eph 1:15-23

Lk 24:44-53

May 24 2020 Easter 7

Acts 1:6-14

Ps 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Pt 4:12-14, 5:6-11

Jn 17:1-11

Moderator's May Prayer

- Please join us in praying together each Monday at midday



Worship options around the Church

For information for live streaming options -click on this link to show the particular church and what they are doing.

<https://ucaql.com.au/coronavirus/live-streaming-worships/>

You may have to copy the URL above, paste the whole address in your internet task bar, and then hit

This is an opportunity to see what other Uniting Churches are doing across Queensland during this time. There are a variety of ways to "connect" (given that connect is the word for the time-being. There is also Facebook, Utube, vimeo, radio links, email texting ... livestreaming ...all of which are an invitation to a new challenge).

video services and resources

The Synod office continues to produce online services and resources to support the church.

Moderator services

- Sunday 17 May is available to [download](#) from the website
- Sunday 21 June: a whole-of-church anniversary service
- Ongoing services for the third Sunday of the month

Chaplaincy Sunday

With a theme of Living Faith in Uncertain Times, updated resources and small videos will be made available prior to [Chaplaincy Sunday](#) on 24 May for use as part of your own service.

Pentecost Sunday

The Multi-Cross Cultural Reference Group is producing support resources for Pentecost Sunday on 31 May for use as part of your own service.

All services and resources will be available online at ucaql.com.au/uniting

A reminder to familiarise yourself with the roadmap to easing Queensland's restrictions.

Friday's announcement from the Prime Minister and Premier were positive with clarity and a roadmap for what the next few months might look like. It might also be exciting for some, who have looked at the roadmap and seen that church services for up to 100 people with appropriate social distancing might be possible in mid-July. Whilst there is a roadmap for when things may be allowed to re-open, no changes are permitted until Queensland's Chief Health Officer issues an update to the relevant Public Health Direction. The Synod office is monitoring changes and will send communication when updates applicable to the Church occur.

There is a lot that needs to happen in order for the timeframes in the roadmap to be met, and the assumption is that the curve will continue to flatten. Social distancing measures and cleaning requirements will also remain in place for months to come and should be taken into account before any operational decisions are made. We cannot get ahead of ourselves and must continue to follow the restrictions that are in place. The more we practice social distancing and gather in groups that are the size prescribed by government authorities, the sooner we will be able to return to normality.

There have been a few questions regarding small group meetings and hall hire. With respect to small group meetings, as per advice and Public Health Directions, these are not permitted to occur within places of worship, which are reserved for "services".

With respect to hall hire, the roadmap has not indicated when community halls will reopen. The recommencement of hall hire should not be considered by Church Council until the Public Health Direction has been updated. When hall hires are permitted by the Public Health Direction and Church Council, social distancing and hygiene measures will need to be taken into account. This will mean thorough cleaning between each hall hire.

Vale Rev Len Bray

Last Friday (8 May), Rev Len Bray passed away after a long period of illness. Len's life and ministry were characterised by a deep dedication to his own formation and development, the formation of Christian disciples, and the development of congregational life, particularly in areas of population growth. A tribute to Len was posted on JourneyOnline today. Our prayers are with Len's family, particularly his daughter and current Presbytery Minister in the Carpentaria Presbytery, Rev Christy Allen.

The Patience of Faith Oswald Chambers *My Utmost for His highest*

"Because though hast kept the word of My patience" Rev 3:10

Patience is more than endurance. A saint's life is in the hands of God, like a bow and arrow in the hands of an archer. God is aiming at something the saints cannot see, and He stretches and strains, and every now and again the saint says-"I cannot stand anymore". God does not heed, He goes on stretching till His purpose is in sight, then He lets fly. Trust yourself in God's hands. For what have you need of patience just now? Maintain your relationship to Jesus Christ by the patience of faith. "Though He slay me, yet will I wait for Him".

Faith is not a pathetic sentiment, but robust, vigorous, confidence built on the fact that God is holy love. You cannot see Him just now, you cannot understand what He is doing, but you know Him. Shipwreck occurs where there is not that mental poise which comes from being established on the eternal truth that God is holy love. Faith is the heroic effort of your life; you fling yourself in reckless confidence on God.

God has ventured all in Jesus Christ to save us, now He wants us to venture our all in abandoned confidence in Him. There are spots where that faith has not worked in us as yet, places untouched by the life of God. There were none of those spots in Jesus Christ's life and there are to be none in ours. "This is life eternal, that they might know Thee" The real meaning of eternal life is a life that

can face anything it has to face without wavering. If we take this view, life becomes one of great romance, a glorious opportunity for seeing marvelous things all the time. God is disciplining us to get us into this central place of power.

