



Moreton Rivers Presbytery

Newsletter No 3

10 February 2016

Moreton Rivers Presbytery Office
P.O. Box 193, Ashgrove, Qld 4060
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Website: <http://www.moretonriverspresbytery.org.au/>

Please remember in your prayers....

- Please pray for Wesley Mission Brisbane/Albert St Uniting Church. Pray for Rev Lyn Burden and Rev Dan Skippen, Chaplains, the ministry team and the congregation as they seek to minister to their community.
- Please pray for Chaplains working in schools.

Presbytery notices and events....

• Presbytery Meeting

Please note the details for the upcoming Presbytery Meeting:

Wednesday 9 March, 2016
4:30pm - 9:30pm

RSVP Closes: Wednesday 2 March

@ Evan and Mary Thompson Auditorium, The Wesley Hospital, 30 Chasley St,
Auchenflower

PLEASE NOTE: For FREE PARKING you MUST let us know your VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER by the RSVP Closing Date (Wednesday 2 March) so it can be pre-entered into the system.

If you do not let us know by Wednesday 2 March you will be required to PAY for parking.

Dinner: Meals can be purchased from The Gown and Glove Restaurant (\$10 - \$15). Please note that there will be no Meal Ticket purchases.

[To RSVP please right click here](#)

Furthermore if there are any changes to be made to the Presbytery Roll (ie change of Lay Rep), please contact the Presbytery Office (3366 0236 or office@moretonriverspresbytery.org.au) to let us know.

- **Healthy Ministry Breakfast**

Ministry Agents (and spouses) are invited to the Healthy Ministry Breakfast on 23 February, 8am – 10am at Milk Cafe, Ashgrove Ave, Ashgrove.

[To RSVP please right click on the link:](#)

- **Strengthening Life and Witness Consultation Training**

As you may be aware, a number Strengthening Life and Witness Consultations were undertaken throughout the Presbytery during 2015. This was largely possible because people, both lay and ordained, took up an opportunity offered by the Presbytery to be specifically trained for the task. Those who participated in this training last year have reported that the skills acquired have not only allowed them to be involved in the exciting work of consultations but have also proven extremely useful for other ministry contexts.

The Presbytery is offering this training opportunity again this year and would invite you to take up the challenge to grow your skills in this area.

Strengthening Life and Witness Consultation Training will be held at the Presbytery Office on Friday 4 March to Saturday 5 March. An opportunity for Refresher Training, Team Formation and Coaching during a consultation process will be available Thursday 14 to Sunday 17 April.

Please RSVP to the Presbytery office (3366 0236 or office@moretonriverspresbytery.org.au) by **19 February 2015**.

- **SYNOD 2016 ROLL**

The 32nd Queensland Synod will be held from Friday 20th May (afternoon) until Tuesday 24th May (afternoon) 2016 at Alexandra Park, Mari St, Alexandra Headland. Registration fee is \$300 (which does not include accommodation or travel).

Each congregation and ministry agents will need to have the names and addresses (both postal and email) of representatives to the Presbytery Office by **FRIDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2016**.

office@moretonriverspresbytery.org.au

Educating & Equipping....

- **Learning for Living, 1st semester 2016**

This course is part of our program to equip people to be Lay Preachers. It's also a great program for anyone who wants to be better equipped to lead Bible studies, teach RI, exercise chaplaincy, or simply grow in their faith. There are assignments for people who are undertaking the course as Lay Preachers, but these are optional for others. We also tailor assignments to equip people with other ministry learning needs, for instance pastoral or missional.

Cost: \$125 including required text book. \$100 without textbook (eg if you can borrow from a previous participant). Discounts for multiple people attending from the same congregation, faith community or agency.

Ashgrove first semester 2016 course will be “Exploring the Old Testament”

Sessions are held 7.00 – 9.15 pm on ten Thursdays at the Presbytery Centre, 22 Ashgrove Ave, Ashgrove.

First block: 18 & 25 Feb, then 3, 10 & 17 March

Second block: 12, 19 & 26 May, then 2 & 9 June

The text is R Burnette-Bletsch “Studying the Old Testament: A companion” (Abingdon, 2007).



North Lakes first semester 2016 course will be “Exploring the New Testament”

9.00-5.00, on three Saturdays at The Lakes College, 2 College St, North Lakes:

11 June: Jesus and the Gospels

16 July: Paul’s Life & Letters

13 August: The Finished Product and Beyond

The text is W Loader “The New Testament with Imagination” (Eerdmans, 2007).

[Brochure, poster & enrolment form downloadable from the Education section of the Presbytery website.](#)

• Worship & Preaching Day – Holy Week & Easter 9.00 – 3.30 Saturday, 12 March 2016 Venue: Chermside Kedron Community Church

Morning sessions on:

- The Theology & Spirituality of Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday, led by Rev Dr Rob McFarlane
- The Theology & Spirituality of Good Friday and Easter Day, led by Rev Mel Perkins
- Visible Signs of Grace: Water & The Banquet Table (Understanding Sacraments for Lay Preacher candidates), led by Rev Lyn Burden



Afternoon sessions on:

- Contemporary music, led by Rev Yvonne McRostie, Mrs Kerry Riley & Mrs Tricia Menso
- Design Essentials for PowerPoint, led by Rev Paul Clark

Special afternoon tea for current Lay Preachers.

For more information, see the flyer (attached) or go to our Worship & Preaching Day link:

<http://www.moretonriverspresbytery.org.au/worship-preaching-day/>

Registrations online at:

https://docs.google.com/a/moretonriverspresbytery.org.au/forms/d/1deG2WxeCDQzTjcEgJI1FGpVNGM4zNskMSY1ogt-3Og/viewform?edit_requested=true

• Mission Shaped Ministry 2016

After rave reviews and suggestions for improvement, MSM will be back in 2016, bigger and better than 2015!

Whether you want to start a new fresh expression of church, or find a missional edge for your congregation, *mission shaped ministry* will encourage, equip and inspire. Learn, dream and grow together in a learning community.

Course content includes:

The mission of God
Understanding your mission context
Worship and sacraments
Evangelism
Leadership
Children and young people
Gospel and culture
Lessons from failure
Starting something new



MSM Intro Intensive: 18-19 March (6pm Friday to 4.30pm Saturday). Venue tba

Three short blocks, each including a series of Wednesday evenings (7-9pm) plus one Saturday field trip (8.30-4.30)

Block one: Wed 13 April to Saturday 7 May

Block two: Wed 1 June to Saturday 18 June

Block three: Wed 13 July to Saturday 6 August

Registration options:

Intro, with optional extension for the full course (\$95 + \$200)

Full course rego (\$295)

Group discount policy for multiple registrations from same congregation/community

Special offer: Job share! It can be hard to find people able to attend all sessions of the course. Talk to us about having several people “job-sharing” single places in the course. Contact Jill on 3366 0236 (Wed-Fri) or adminsupport@moretonriverspresbytery.org.au

For more information, go to: msmqld.com or facebook.com/msmqld

Registrations are now open!

Please click here to register:

<http://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/BcCq04LX1QI1jR9P>

• Preaching Peer Learning Group

12 noon to 2.00 pm

Five Wednesdays: 24 Feb, 9 March, 23 March, 13 April & 27 April

Venue: Presbytery Centre Training Room

A gathering for preachers of any level of experience, lay or ordained, but committed to reflecting on their preaching and working to maximize their effectiveness.

Each two-hour gathering will include:

- A 60 minute video clip of Rob Bell's sessions
"Poets/Prophets/Preachers"
- Time reflecting on how the input relates to our current preaching
- Time reflecting on how we can put fresh insights into practice

Video series description:

Poets, Prophets, and Preachers is a five-part film series devoted to reclaiming the ancient, beautiful, provocative, healing, inspired art form known as the sermon.

These five live talks explore the theological, conceptual, practical and personal dimensions involved in giving a talk, sermon, message, or teaching.

BYO lunch and a hunger for ministry.

Tea & coffee provided.

No charge – just your investment of time in your ministry effectiveness.

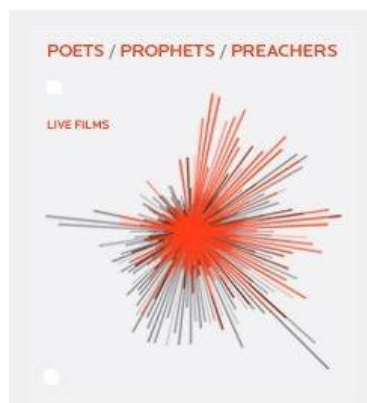
For more information, contact:

Rev Harlee Cooper 3264 5433 or

acucminister@hotmail.com

Rev Dr Rob McFarlane 3366 0236 or

edofficer@moretonriverspresbytery.org.au



Youth and Children's Focus....

- **Safe Ministry with Children**

Thank you to all the congregations who responded to the 2015 Child Safe Church audit. Across the state, around two-thirds of congregations are conducting some form of activities with children. Your feedback has been heard, and the Synod Standing Committee has approved Safe Ministry with Children the 2016 policy. A new suite of resources which is more straightforward will be launched in March 2016 to support the great work you are doing. This is a positive improvement in the quality of what is offered to congregations.

So... Getting your ducks in a row:

This is the time when many congregations are preparing to commence their children's ministry for the year. We've listened to your feedback, and revamped the policy, process and tools, so that they better meet your needs. The new Safe Ministry with Children Policy is now on the website (http://ucaqld.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/SafeMinistryWithChildren_Policy.pdf). The process documents and tools will be out in March.

Kind regards

Lynette Drew

Qld Synod

Safe Ministry (Children) Administrator

- **Safe Ministry with Children Training
(Child Safe Church Training)**

Child safety is vital in the life of each and every congregation. Please see the following opportunities for Safe Ministry with Children (Child Safe Church) Training:

Team Member Training: Saturday 20th February 2016
(Chermside Kedron Community Church, 8am – 10:30am)
Wednesday 24th February 2016
(Kenani Uniting Church, 7pm – 9:30pm)

***Coordinator/Leader Training: No separate training required if
Leader/Coordinator attends Member training.***

[Click here for information flyer](#)

[To register click here](#)

For further information contact Jill Bow at
adminsupport@moretonriverspresbytery.org.au or Ph: 3366 0236

- **Growing Ministry Training Days**

To grow the ministry with Children and Young People in the Moreton Rivers Presbytery through leadership - existing ministry staff development, encouraging and equipping next generation of ministry staff.

[Click here for flyer](#)

[Click here for registration](#)

For further information please contact Jill Bow :
adminsupport@moretonriverspresbytery.org.au or Ph: 3366 0236

- **Combined Youth Group: BEACH VOLLEYBALL**

*Friday 4th March, 7-9pm
\$5 Each
Beach Volleyball Mania
72 Pickering St, Enoggera
RSVP to Rev Fa by Friday 26 February
RevFa@ckcc.org.au or 0401 611 273
[For Flyer click here!](#)*

- **Renovators: Discipleship Training – Building Leaders**

Renovators is a great training and mentoring opportunity for youth leaders. This six month course running from February to July is a journey of leadership development. It includes input from a range of topics, practical experience and intentional reflections with a mentor. Please consider who you can support through this program. The course kicks off with a weekend at Samford Valley Community Church 27th – 28th February 2016. A flyer with more detail is attached.

- **IGNITE Date Claimer**

Children's Ministry Training Day and Expo
Saturday 5th March 2016
Mueller Christian College, Rothwell
\$55 per leader
www.igniteexpo.org.au

- **EASTER MADNESS: The Main Event (Date Claimer)**

Make sure your young people don't miss this amazing opportunity for Uniting Church young people from across Queensland to experience a life-changing journey through the Easter story. Easter Madness will include two streams covering high schoolers, and young adults up to 25 years of age.

To be held in the breathtaking rainforest setting of the QCCC Mapleton Centre in the Blackall Range. **Easter 2016: Good Friday 25 March to Monday 28 March.**
More exciting news to come.

Website <http://eastermadness.com.au/>

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MadnessAu?fref=ts>

- **Easter Madness Appeal**

HELP YOUNG PEOPLE IN RURAL QLD GROW IN FAITH!



Give young adults like Katelyn (14 years) from Chinchilla UC and Nick (12 years) from Emerald Fernlees UC the same opportunities as their friends in the South East corner, to benefit from a life-changing experience to walk through the Easter journey. Every donation will subsidise registration and accommodation fees (\$340 per attendee) for young people from rural and remote Queensland to attend the 2016 Easter Madness camp and carry on the baton of the Christian faith in the Uniting Church. Donate online at missionpossible.ucaqld.com.au or give by cheque/money order or over the phone with your credit card on (07) 3377 9777. Thank you for your support!

Other events....

- **Garage Sale: The Gap UC**

The Gap Uniting Church is having its Annual Garage Sale on Saturday Feb 20th, 6am till Noon at the Church (1050 Waterworks Road). Kitchenware, Furniture, Electrical Items, Sporting Goods and Garden Tools are just some of the many items for sale. Come along for great finds and fantastic bargains.

Donations are being accepted at the Church from 9am to Noon on Saturday Feb 13th. For more info contact The Gap UC Office on 3300 2712 or visit www.thegapuca.org.au

Flyer attached.

- **Different steps, one journey: STORIES FROM THE EMERGING MULTICULTURAL CHURCH**

The Assembly's National Reference Committee for Multicultural and Cross-cultural Ministry, involving about 20 members from across Australia, is meeting in Brisbane, February 22-25. As part of that meeting, the Committee is inviting all those involved or interested in multicultural ministry to join them for an open community gathering at Sunnybank Uniting Church on Wednesday, February 24, from 6:30 pm. Called "Different steps, one journey": Stories from the emerging multicultural church," it will be an evening of sharing food, worship, songs and stories. It is especially hoped that groups will come from different, culturally-diverse Congregations, ready to share a song or a story that expresses their faith and mission in the UCA. This is also a great opportunity for Brisbane people to meet the Chairperson, National Director and Reference Committee members from our national church. RSVP to Kym Riches at Sunnybank UC, phone 3273 4433. See the [flyer](#) (right click) for more details, and please promote this in your Congregations

- **Seminar: Testing Tradition and Liberating Theology Practising Theological Hospitality**

Prominent Australian Theologian Dr Val Webb (originally from Brisbane) will visit Brisbane and Sunshine Coast, hosted by the Progressive Spirituality Network and Common Dreams on the Road. Please right click the [flyer](#) and [Registration](#) for a one day seminar led by Dr Val Webb on *Saturday 5th March* at the *Merthyr Road Uniting Church Centre*. We would appreciate it if you could circulate this information in your church. Val is internationally popular as a teacher, presenter and author. She has written 9 books and will speak about her latest book *Testing Tradition and Liberating Theology*.

- **Lay Preacher & Pastors' Gathering (Downs Presbytery)**

Bob Brownley & the Downs Presbytery eagerly invite those to attend the **Lay Preacher & Pastors Gathering** a valuable chance to meet, gather information, network & exchange ideas.

Saturday 12 March at St Stephen's Uniting Church, Neil St, Toowoomba. 9AM – 3.30PM.

Please could you help us advertise this amazing event within your communities. Details of which are enclosed in the invitation, also on the presbytery website www.downspresbytery.org.au & the Facebook Group "UCA – Presbytery of the Downs".

RSVP. Tuesday 1 March via online link <http://goo.gl/forms/u8SkAuchrp>

For further information or query, please contact Bob Brownley directly on tdpresb.lay@gmail.com or 4010 707 468.

• **Planning for Retirement and Beyond Seminar**

Tuesday 19 April 9.30am – 11.30am
Beenleigh Region UC, 32-50 Mt Warren Blvd., Mt Warren Park

South Moreton Presbytery have invited David Loy, Principal Client Service Manager with Mercer, and others, to conduct this seminar, which will offer information and answer your questions.

"Journey" (February 2016) article "Not so super: Retirement income slashed" refers to the changes in the tax treatment of defined benefit super schemes that are seriously disadvantaging retired UCA ministers. Bruce Binnie, Chair of the Assembly's Employer Committee is coordinating the church response. Bruce will answer questions and give an update on developments.

Come for the seminar and stay for lunch: 12.00 – 2.00pm. (Cost \$10) Following lunch, Rev Dr Dennis Robinson and panel will discuss the topic: "Exercising your calling in a congregation after retirement - Pastorally caring for the retired ministers in your congregation".

RSVP: smpres@gmail.com or 07-3807 7421

• **Journey to Greece (17 Sept – 1 Oct, 2016)**

Come along on an unforgettable journey in the footsteps of St. Paul, as we travel through some of the most significant historical and religious sites in Greece, from ancient empires, to the early church, and through to modern times. Whatever your particular interest, there will be lots to see and do, plenty of 'bucket list' items to tick, and enough time to rest in-between.

Rev. Rod Fisher is a Minister in the Uniting Church and lives with his wife and two sons in Brisbane. He is passionate about teaching and learning, having fun, and meeting new people. He is eager to share his insights gained during his recent tour of Greece in 2015. This journey will be enjoyed by both student and tourist alike, regardless of educational or religious background. Be prepared to learn, to laugh, and to join in the adventure!

Please right click to check out the [Brochure](#).
Right click to view the [booking form](#).

• **UnitingWorld Lent Event**

Lent Event... keeping poverty on the back foot!

With Lent nearly upon us, many in the Uniting Church have determined to set themselves a spiritual discipline through [Lent Event](#) – to live simply, reflect more deeply on our faith and act to support people working hard to free themselves from poverty. In this [video](#) UnitingWorld's overseas church partners share their hopes and dreams of a better future – with your help, these are the communities that Lent Event supports. Get your [Guide to Living Lent](#) and join the Lent Event movement today and be sure to download the latest Lent Event app to receive daily prayers on your mobile device. All resources for congregations available free at www.lentevent.com

• **CHRISTIAN MEDITATION THROUGH YOGA**

(A Holistic Approach: Body, Mind and Spirit)

Benefits of the course:

- Learning and practising simple yoga exercises for vitality, strength and healing.____
- Experiencing, relaxation, peace and wholeness (shalom).
- Learning the art of meditation, based on Christian Spirituality.

Date & Time: *Each Wednesday 10 – 11.15 am, starting on 3 February 2016.*

Place: *Uniting Church Hall, Cnr Bracken St/Pellinore Rd., Bracken Ridge.*

Note: The classes are suitable for all ages and fitness level. There will be 7 sessions. A donation of \$5 per session is welcome towards the Church Ministries.

For Details Contact: Rev. Dr. Amos Manoharan. Phone: 0407254126 or 3269073

• **Housemate Wanted**

Single Christian/s to share a house in The Gap with one other woman.
The house is fully furnished and there are two average sized bedrooms available without furniture.

Easy walking distance to The Gap Village and buses.

Cost is \$190 per week plus expenses.

Available January 2016.

Contact

Katherine 0447 745 688

• **Alcorn Fellowship Trust**

The Alcorn Fellowship Trust is seeking financial assistance to enable grant funding to be available for CEM and lay people programs eg Lay Preacher Accreditation. If you would be interested in donating to the trust several options are available eg donations to the Capital Fund or remembering the Trust in your Will.

In addition the Trust Committee would like to encourage applicants to apply for the grants. Application Forms, Aims of the Trust and Guidelines for Applicants can be found on theUCAQ Board of Christian Formation Website.

For further information please contact Ruth Horton on 3390 2371.

Calendar....

FEBRUARY 2016

23rd – Healthy Ministry Gathering

MARCH

8th – PRC

9th – Presbytery Meeting

15th – Standing Committee

31st – Educating & Equipping

APRIL

11th - Resourcing

12th – PRC