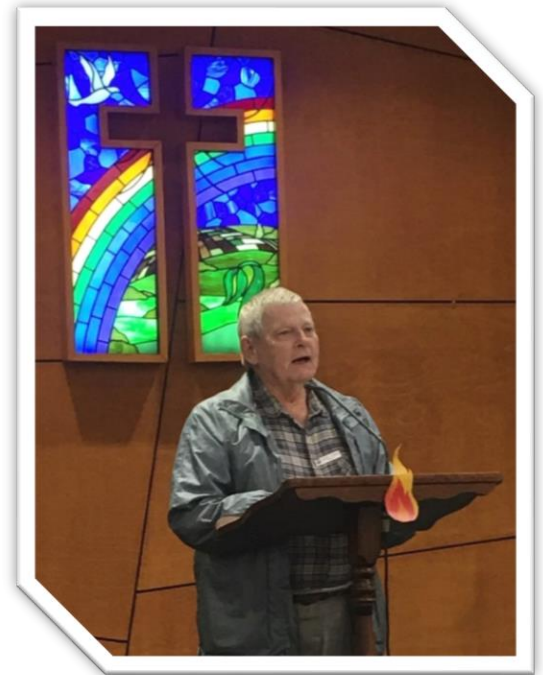


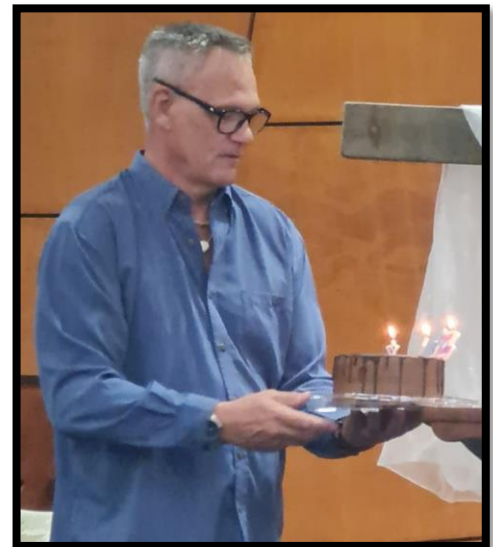
# *New Horizons*

*Warwick Killarney Uniting Church – July 2024*



***Let's***

***Celebrate***



***Baptisms, Birthdays, Weddings  
40 years of Lay preaching***

## *Pastoral Ponderings*

I greet you in the name of Christ our Lord!

I share with you the official media release from the Uniting Church Queensland synod about the Imminent closure of Protea Place Warwick.

### **Protea Place, Warwick – Closure**

The Uniting Church was saddened to hear of the closure of Protea Place, Warwick and had no knowledge of the decision by Protea Place prior to last Thursday, 20 June.

We honour the work, support and generosity of the local community, business and corporate sponsors, the Uniting Church and the Warwick congregation for the last twelve months of this venture. We are committed to working with the local community to explore options for ongoing support.

The Church Council, concerned Community members and the Southern Downs Regional Council are looking for ways to continue this valuable service in Warwick. Please pray for us and for the vulnerable women in our community needing this project.

The preaching series A Heart After God's Own, looking at the life of David in 1&2 Samuel is progressing well. Our first session on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June explored: "the kings we serve and desire other than Jesus, who act like computer viruses and take from us" June 23 we focussed on "Chosen and Anointed"- where God would choose the most unlikely people i.e. the outcast, the lonely, the youngest etc to build God's kingdom and that each one of us is chosen and anointed through our baptisms and invited to participate. June 30, we looked at the Facing Giants and discovered that Giants and storms will be defeated if we remember whose we are and who we are. I am looking forward to the last two Sundays of this preaching series and if you have enjoyed it, or would like to see more of it, please let me know! For those who missed out, please check out our YouTube channel and our Facebook page to link into the services.

I have been blessed with our worship offering and I want to give thanks to our worship team who have worked so hard during the past six weeks to provide a space for us to meet with our Lord more deeply. We are thankful for the gift of Cathi Brown providing assistance and leadership during our services. There will be an evaluation on July 14<sup>th</sup> and your feedback is valuable to us, thank you to those who have participated in the evaluation forms.

During Jumpers and Jazz, we will host Hayden Wiseman and Cathi Brown on 20 July and the Toowoomba Male Voice choir on 28 July, I am most excited about the display by Christian artist Janice Reid (can you believe it?) that will feature in the church during the ten days of the festival. It will be a wonderful experience to see the images of Christ final eight movements that "scored" for us the biggest win! Please come and see this and invite your family and friends as well, our Courtyard Coffee will be open and after you have fed your soul you can also share in a good morning cuppa!

On a personal note, our family celebrated Lesego's wedding with Lee Pop on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June.

Kind blessings *Ansie Liebenberg*

## My Journey

On 15<sup>th</sup> June 1984, the Presbytery of the Downs issued my certificate of accreditation as a Lay Preacher of the Uniting Church of Australia. This followed my completion of the prescribed course of study during 1982 and 1983.

To celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of accreditation, I was privileged to lead worship in Warwick on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June.

Forty is a prominent number in the Biblical story as it is in my life – I was 40 years old when I completed my certificate.



The Bible records 40 days and nights of rain to flood the earth, 40 years of wandering by the Israelites during the exodus, 40 days of temptation of Jesus in the Judean wilderness, and so much more. In some contexts, 40 indicates the period of a generation, while in others it suggests times of change and reorientation in life.

As I reflected on the past 40 years, it came to me that life is something like a kaleidoscope, with individual pieces falling into hopefully pleasing patterns as the years roll by. For me, the fragments of the pattern are portions of scripture, which have formed and informed my life. From Genesis to Revelation come pieces of guidance and wisdom, and I will mention just a few.

Moses is my biblical hero, and my prayer is that, like Moses, I will be useful and able to the end of life. His address to the people of Israel recorded in the latter chapters of Deuteronomy is an inspiring recommendation to make God the Lord of life.

The Prayer of Jabez recorded in 1 Chronicles 4:9 is challenging. He asks God to –

- bless him in life
- expand his horizons
- be with him in life
- protect him from causing and experiencing pain

Luke 12:48 reminds me that those who experience God's providence in life, have a duty to share with others. One version of scripture reads "Great gifts mean great responsibilities; greater gifts, greater responsibilities!"

Finally, I am both inspired and constrained in life by 2 Corinthians 3:18 "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect God's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the spirit.

Grace and peace.

David Cahill

## ***Food for Thought...Warwick's Week of Fun***

This issue of New Horizons is full of what is ahead in July as we embrace *Jumpers and Jazz in July* and the town becomes a celebration of fun, laughter, amazement at the clever craft and zany ideas, and welcomes visitors to join in with us all. I started to find ideas about "Celebration" and realized that underpinning all those special times of celebration is laughter and joy. So, I decided to join in our special month with some fun bits!

*On Life and Work...Refer to Colossians 3:23*

- Nothing is foolproof to a talented fool.
- The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- Borrow money from a pessimist: they don't expect to get it back.
- If at first you don't succeed, destroy all the evidence that you tried.
- Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
- The sooner you fall behind in your work, the more time you will have to catch up.
- If at first you don't succeed, then skydiving is not for you. (Anonymous)

*What you can Learn from the Movies...Refer to John 8:32....Truisms?*

- All shopping bags contain at least one stick of French bread.
- The Eiffel Tower can be seen from any window in Paris.
- Cars that crash will always burst into flames.
- You can always park directly in front of the building you are visiting.
- Any lock can be picked by a credit card or a paper clip in seconds...but, if it's a door to a burning building with a child trapped inside, the door must be knocked down.
- Medieval peasants had perfect teeth.
- The ventilation system of any building is a perfect hiding place.
- Any person waking from a nightmare will sit bolt upright and pant. (Anonymous)

*Lessons from Noah....Refer to 1 Peter 3:20*

- Don't miss the boat.
- Plan ahead....it wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- Stay fit. When you are 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something big.
- Build your future on high ground.
- For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- Speed isn't always an advantage...the snails made it on board with the cheetahs.
- When you're stressed, just float awhile.
- Remember the Ark was built by amateurs, the Titanic by professionals.
- No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.  
(Anonymous)

Enjoy all the fun and the hard work of so many people from July 19 until July 27. (Jean)



A very special Thank you to all who donated blankets and doonas to keep our PNG friends warm and cosy during these very cold days.

Your generosity is very much appreciated.

## Jumpers and Jazz in July at The Warwick Uniting Church

Through Friday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July, our Warwick complex will be right in the swing of this lively community event. Starting with our very popular baristas serving hot drinks in our colourful courtyard from Fri 19<sup>th</sup> to Sat 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am – 12pm. At these times visitors will be able to wander through our 155 year old church and contemplate the art display set up following the ministry of Jesus.

During the Jazzy Breakfast on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>, our hospitality team will be fired up and ready to feed the multitudes as we once again provide a hot buffet breakfast as we take in the ambiance of the jazz era with our visiting live jazz band - Sting Ray's Quartet from Toowoomba. From 7:30am to 10am – at \$25/adult, \$12/child and \$50/ (2 & 2) family – tickets available on the morning.

And if you'd like to linger after breakfast, our baristas will be ready to take your order in the courtyard where you can browse the pop-up stalls of plants and crafts each morning – 9:30 to 12 throughout the week of the festival.

In-keeping with the theme of tree decorations, our Cape Chestnut tree will be 'dressed' to echo the event theme of SCORE – now how would you create that image? Come and see.

And to complete our contribution to the Jumpers and Jazz theme of SCORE – we have an activity that all visitors can participate in – set up on the lawn in front of the hall. Come and see.

Warwick's Jumpers and Jazz in July is a time when our quiet city becomes full to overflowing with visitors who enjoy our local experiences and treasures and when we join in these special activities, we can become visitors in our own neighbourhood – so we encourage everyone to join in as they can. Each local association will present their take on this year's theme of SCORE and we invite you - locals and visitors – to enjoy the hospitality we as a community offer.



So be part of this entertaining time and join in as you can.

## CHURCH COUNCIL CHATTER JUNE 2024



### COUNCIL POINTS:

- We are hosting our Presbytery November meeting. Date claimer 8/9 and 10 November
- Baptism: a huge welcome to Anna and her children Oliver, Charlotte, Ashlyn and Ronnie – all baptized into the family and faith of Christ on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June in Warwick.
- We will be replacing the kitchen screen doors with plastic strips to allow for ease of access for our Courtyard Coffee service.
- A secure letterbox has been installed in the office to allow money to be deposited, in envelopes, detailing the event – an important step – for our treasurer
- Affordable Housing: on track with Contract being drafted. Much hard work continues with Synod and our very own Treasurer Jenny, Property Ian and Minister Ansie.
- Grief and Loss update: Ansie with our wonderful leaders Jean Reid and Barbara Cutmore are in conversation hoping to run our own program.
- We have commenced a trial period 23 June to 14 July of sermon series “A heart after God’s own” Focussing on 1 and 2 Samuel, the story of David. Cathi Browne will lead the team during the four Sundays and add her creative style to bring items and musical moments during our worship services.
  - A survey of the congregation be taken on Sunday 9 June and again on Sunday 14 July (survey attached)
- On June 16<sup>th</sup> David Cahill preached as we celebrated 40 years of David’s service as Lay Preacher. Thank you, David!

**OUR MINISTRIES:** we celebrate the way they have experienced God in their outreach and person lives. Please hold them in your prayers!

- Adult Fellowship Killarney: meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month, 1:30pm Killarney UCA. A caring group welcoming new members. Leader: Julia Beck
- Akooramak and Bromley Court Service: welcoming Rev Duncan as needed. A special time with residents, many of whom have been long time members of our Church family. Meeting time: Akooramak, each Monday 10 till noon; Bromley the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 2pm. Leader Lyn Parkinson.
- Catering: An opportunity to join this wonderful team and is willing, energetic, focussed and tuned in to providing warm hospitality over a meal. Leader: Terry Smart.
- Coffee, Craft and Chat: valuing a creative get together and fellowship on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month. Meeting: Williams Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, 9:00am Leader: May Morris.
- Courtyard Coffee: Extending our Friday morning to 9am-11:30 due to demand. Highlights include Blue Care bringing a group to morning tea and preparing our arcade styled theme for Jumpers and Jazz, ½ price coffee for our Police neighbours (when coming in uniform). Leader: Cathy Ryan
- Courthouse Cuppa: Providing a friendly cuppa over at the Courthouse. Would like more helpers. People are so grateful, and it is powerful in a very Godly way when you are there

for some people, like the overseas worker from Killarney who recently lost his 2 year old son. Roster: 8:30am when the Magistrate Court sits. Leader Alison Baistow.

- Congregations:
  - Warwick: Encouraging all members in service and decision making. Chair: Terry Smart
  - Killarney: upgrading sound system and Television still a priority. Working with other denominations to host monthly services. Chair: Brad Beck
  - Freestone: Growth in nature and our personal lives. Addressing the problems with the front door. Chair: Alan Payne
- Grief and Loss: Looking to see how we continue this valuable service.
- Girls' Brigade Killarney: A very happy and active program, seeing 16-24 girls per night. Meeting Killarney UCA each 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in term time at 5pm. Leader: Wendy Lewis.
- God's Garden: come and see what is growing: peas flowering, silverbeet looking good and carrots on the way. Open to all! Leader: May Morris
- Home Groups: meeting each Wednesday in term time
  - Beta (Leader: Terry Smart) and Selah (Leader Jean Reid) continuing and working well, meeting
  - Intergen: NEW! Formed from and replacing the evening Intergeneration Service and the Young Women's Group. Meeting 6:30pm at the Mission House each Wednesday night, in term time.
- Hospitality: We need to grow these teams. Even an older person can sit and welcome at the door. All of us can have a turn at providing food. Teams are following protocol in having two of those on hospitality, or asking another to be the second person, take the offering to the office and lock in the office. Pam Fletcher or Jenny Lane count the offering and record for banking. **BUT IT IS MANDATORY FOR ALL GROUPS TO PROVIDE TWO PEOPLE TO COUNT AND RECORD MONEY WHETHER FROM COLLECTION OR EVENTS.**
- Marriage Course: Looking at running again in 2025 if requested.
- Mainly music:
  - Warwick: Attendance averaging 13 families. Meeting 9:15am each Thursday in term time
  - Killarney: 2 new families welcomed and one of the mainly music children being baptised. Meeting 9:15 each Wednesday term time. Leader: Julia Beck
- Music Killarney: goal for next period to prepare Christmas music to present to the church congregation. Meeting: Each Wednesday 3pm-4:45pm. Leader Julia Beck.
- TWEATTT: Grateful And Experiencing God in the generous and amazing way that the Catering Team have loved, served and reached out to us month after month. Meeting for lunch on first Sunday each month. Leader Jean Reid.

Dates to remember:

June 30<sup>th</sup>: Warwick Congregational Meeting

July 7<sup>th</sup>: Killarney Congregational Meeting

July 8<sup>th</sup>: Catering Police Morning Tea, Williams Hall as part of NAIDOC week.

July 18<sup>th</sup> 7pm Wesley Room: August Market Planning

## THANK YOU TO THE HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

NEWS FROM SYNOD. For many years Uniting Church chaplains have honoured their calling, commitment to and passion for the valuable service they have provided to the church and community. We celebrate with the Public Hospital Chaplains all that God has achieved through their presence and ministry.

In September 2023, it was found unfortunately this ministry can no longer be sustained, and the Synod made the difficult decision to discontinue chaplaincy in public hospitals in its current form on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024. We have seeking to find other arrangements and are pleased to inform you that at the recent Synod Standing Committee, a position was approved with an initial three-year term of Pastoral Care Manager, to coordinate, support and equip volunteers in pastoral visitation. We will also work ecumenically to establish Hospital Chaplaincy Queensland as a founding member, to provide a best practice model for pastoral care in hospitals, providing quality training and resources for spiritual care providers and volunteers to ensure that God's presence and work is still tangibly felt in our hospitals.

To continue to care for our Uniting Church members, we encourage you, if you find yourself in need of spiritual care in a state hospital, to firstly seek the help of other Christian Chaplains in the hospital, and if you require more help, contact your own minister, or ask for a Uniting Church minister to visit you.

### **Prayer - God of Grace and Mercy**

We give thanks as your church for the privilege to walk beside patients, families and staff in Queensland's public hospitals through the work of our chaplains for over 40 years. We lament that we have not been able to sustain the provision of this important mission in the same way. We pray for guidance as we seek out new ways of being Jesus' hands and feet in hospitals across our state.

God, we pray for every chaplain who has heard your call to serve, to love, and to be the presence of Christ. We give thanks for them and pray blessings over their lives. We give thanks for each opportunity they took to share with a patient in moments of joy and celebration and in moments of pain and anguish. For the chance to support family and friends caring for their loved ones, we give thanks. For each moment in which our chaplains could care, encourage and sustain medical, operational and administrative staff in their work, we give thanks. We give thanks for each time our chaplains have been able to share peace, offer comfort, speak a blessing, sit in silence, or hold a hand.

We ask you to reach out into their lives and fill them with purpose, peace, hope, and energy for the next steps they are taking. In the times to come, we pray for your ongoing presence with patients, families, and staff in hospitals across the Synod. Inspire us to new opportunities - to serve, to help, and to bless those in need.

We pray for your healing and blessing. In the name of Christ,

**Amen**



**MINUTES OF THE WARWICK KILLARNEY FREESTONE UNITING CHURCH**  
**WARWICK CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**SUNDAY JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> 11am**

**ATTENDANCE:** 31 plus 5 apologies

Meeting opened with prayer by Rev Ansie.  
Thank you to Marg Wells for taking the minutes.



## **REPORTS**

### **Affordable Housing Update:**

- Still in contract signing phase and cannot speak publicly until Government makes the announcement
  - Busy getting final pricing in from consultants
  - Killarney on track to have units built first
- Ian Darnell thanked for many, many extra hours of work. Without Ian's expertise and time this project could not have begun. Thanks to Jenny Lane for her financial calculations.*

### **Jumpers and jazz**

- Advertising happening and volunteers needed to place posters around town. Pick up a poster, fill in where it is going and date when you take it, so we know that Noticeboard is covered.
- Program detailed with a plea to help as you can.
  - See Terry Smart or Dianne Cahill if you can help with Jazzy Breakfast.
- Church Display will need a church sitter as well as artist Janice Reid.

### **Organ Update**

- Work going on at home and a sincere thank you to Ray Browne for helping one day a week. With rapid build when first installed in 1924 and another renovation in 1964, windchests have had to be rebuilt. Should be playing sometime in 2025.
- David Cahill issued invitation to come and have a look at his workshop – just phone first. / If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask David.

*David thanked for the hours and expertise going into this restoration.*

### **Minister**

- Thank you to Communications Task Team for promoting our footprint into the community.
- People urged to come and see the Church display during Jumpers and Jazz and invite others.
- We are week 2 into a 4 week trial in worship to be followed by a review.
- On a personal Note: Lesego was married last Thursday.
- Ansie and Willie travelling to South Africa July-August for well needed visit to family and friends.

### **Protea Place**

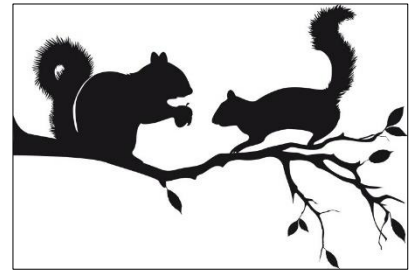
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, Ansie and the previous Protea Place Committee members will meet with our SDRC to see how the service can continue.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

- Please note during the special Services, the Notices will continue to follow the lectionary with devotions from Jean Reid and May Morris
- Do we need to continue Facebook Devotions?  
Answer: People can continue but we have moved on from that Covid isolation.
- Church freezer: please label what you freeze, or it may be used by others.
- Concern with information that SDRC is scrapping prayer before the meeting. Ansie and others on roster from Ministers' Association have had time extended from prayer to devotional/message. Ansie to check on whether this is still happening.
- Property: please contact Ian or David if things go wrong – are damaged in any way. We need to know how and why things break so we can prevent it happening again.
- Handling money: Two people needed to count money together. Envelopes provided for functions like TWEATTT where amount can be noted and signed by those counting then placed in envelopes in safe on the wall in the office which will be cleared and opened each Sunday.
- Fire Drill performed and congregational members thanked for attending.

### SMILE AWHILE

After a particularly mild winter the small town of Chestermere became infected with squirrels in the spring. Because the local churches had the best trees, the squirrels often congregated (pun intended) near them and this is what each church decided to do about the pesky animals.



The Presbyterian church called a meeting to decide what to do about their squirrel infestation. After much prayer and consideration, they concluded that the squirrels were predestined to be there, and they shouldn't interfere with God's divine will.

At the Baptist church the squirrels had taken an interest in the baptistery. The deacons met and decided to put a waterslide on the baptistery and let the squirrels drown themselves. The squirrels liked the slide and unfortunately, knew instinctively how to swim, so twice as many squirrels showed up the following week.

The Lutheran church decided that they were not in a position to harm any of God's creatures. So, they humanely trapped their squirrels and set them free near the Baptist church. Two weeks later the squirrels were back when the Baptists took down the waterslide.

But the Catholic church came up with a very creative strategy! They baptized all the squirrels and made them members of the church. Now they only see them at Christmas and Easter.

Not much was heard from the Jewish synagogue. They took the first squirrel and circumcised him. They haven't seen a squirrel since.

*The blessing of the Lord be upon you.*