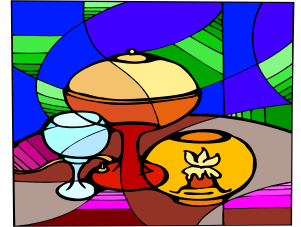


New Horizons

**Newsletter of the Warwick/Killarney Parish of the
Uniting Church in Australia NOVEMBER 2024**



Our Coffee Connoisseurs – still waiting!



The hat fits!



Warwick Central Choir



Apprentice Barista



Gardening advisor!

I extend my warm greetings to you in the name of Christ! Can you believe it's already November? It feels like the year has flown by so quickly! I pray that God, who brings us together, will support and refresh us as we take time to reflect on all the events this month brings.

Southern Downs Women Support Centre:

- We have set up a framework for the steering committee's activities, and we're thrilled about the vibrant group of individuals who have stepped up to guide WillowTree37 into the future. The Committee now includes Jill Bockman, Russell Wantling, Sheryl Windle, Jo Rathmell, Rosie Corny, Kathy Payne, Helen O'Brien, Ansie Liebenberg, and one more member who will be confirmed next week.
- We've partnered with Little Pig Marketing to develop a marketing strategy and campaign. They aim to have a "soft launch" with social media and the website going live by mid-December, followed by a hard launch in early February 2025.
- The church oversees the project until February 2025, and donations are appreciated through the usual banking details (please specify that they are for the support centre). While the project is in caretaker mode, tax receipts are unavailable, but we hope to have everything in order by early 2025. In October, twenty-four women utilized the services offered.

Affordable Housing:

- The agreement with the Killarney builder, Rose City Builders, has been completed, and we held our initial site meeting at the end of October. Construction is set to begin soon, with activity expected to start as early as next week.
- The tender process for the Warwick project wrapped up on October 31, 2024, and we'll finalize the contract details with the builder in November.
- We aim for a gradual start before the year ends, with full operations in progress in January.
- Please stay tuned for updates on how our lives will be affected during the construction period.

Special services in Warwick during November.

- **Moderators Convocation – 8 November**, the convocation is for all church leaders, Lay and ordained to come and be restored and renewed. Please pray that those presenting and those participating will experience a time of renewal. As this is one of only three convocations to be held across the Queensland there will be a number of visitors both ordained and lay leaders of Parishes in attendance. This is an opportunity to interact, fellowship and share hospitality.
 - If you are interested Cost: This will be a free event with morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided Register through :
<https://www.trybooking.com/CUYGC>
- **Presbytery of the Downs – From 8 November to 10 November**, members of Presbytery from across the region will gather to reflect and discuss the work of God in this region. Moderator of the Queensland Synod, Rev Bruce Moore, will preach in Warwick on Sunday 10 November

- **The President of the Assembly, Rev Charissa Suli, 17 November** will preach in Warwick.
- **The Presbytery Minister, Rev Yvonne McRostie, 24 November** will preach in Warwick her official last service as the Presbytery minister of the Downs

Please support these special services and help us welcome many visitors with hospitality and generosity.

If you are able, please offer to help with hospitality or provide something to share during our Sunday morning services. Pray for all the team members serving during these upcoming events: our hospitality team, our worship teams, our church council members, and all those who help prepare the property to host visitors three weeks in a row!

**With a grateful heart
Ansie Liebenberg**

Moderator – Rev Bruce Moore

The Moderator is, in a sense, the spiritual head of the church. Elected by the gathered meeting of the Synod for a three-year term, the Moderator presides at meetings of the Synod, and its various committees and groups. The Moderator provides pastoral leadership to the whole church in Queensland. Rev Bruce Moore was inducted as Moderator in October 2023 and will serve until October 2026. Rev Moore has previously served as Director of Mission within UnitingCare Queensland, and in a range of Synod and congregational settings, together with other professional experiences.

Rev Charissa Suli is serving as the 17th President of the Uniting Church in Australia Assembly. Her election marks a historic milestone as she becomes the youngest person, the first person of non-Anglo-Celtic background, and the first of Pacifica heritage to hold this position.



Thanks to Marg Bryant for this Psalm. THE TWENTY-THIRD PSALM FOR BUSY PEOPLE.

The Lord is my pacesetter, I shall not rush.
 He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.
 He provides me with images of stillness which restore my serenity.
 He leads me in ways of efficiency through calmness of mind
 His guidance is peace.
 Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day, I will not fret,
 For His presence is here, His timelessness, His all importance will keep
 me in balance.
 He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity by
 anointing my mind with oils of tranquility.
 My cup of joyous energy overflows.
 Such harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours,
 For I shall walk in the peace of the Lord and dwell in His house forever.



Food for Thought....Our Saints

As I write this, tomorrow is All Saints Day and I began to think of how many people in our congregation are saints, but don't know it. Think about all those who give unselfishly of their time, their talents and their love and compassion, never expecting praise, thanks, or remuneration! That's the lifeblood of our church! From the music and the flowers to the planning and preparation, from the visiting, the cleaning and the catering, from the gracious outreach to the going the second mile, the love, care and compassion in so many diverse ways... it all happens

Stop and consider it all and be amazed at the servant discipleship all around us, those following in the footsteps of Jesus without really being aware of it. Consider the following story I found in a book titled *Taking Flight* by Anthony de Mello.

There once lived a godly man who had no notion that he was holy. He just went about his humdrum tasks diffusing goodness like the flowers diffuse their fragrance. He forgot each person's past and looked beyond appearance right into the centre of their being where they were innocent and blameless. Thus, he loved and forgave everyone he met and saw nothing extraordinary in this.

One day, an angel said to him, "I have been sent by God to tell you to ask for anything you wish, and it will be given to you. Would you wish to have the gift of healing?" The man answered that he'd rather God did the healing himself. The angel then asked him if he would like to bring sinners back to the path of righteousness, and again he answered that was the work of the angels.

"Would you like to be such a model of virtue that people will be drawn to imitate you?" He answered no that would make him the centre of attention. "What then do you wish for?" asked the angel. All he asked for was the grace of God, that was all he desired. "No, you must ask for some miracle, or else it will be forced upon you", said the angel. "Well then," he answered, "let good be done through me without my being aware of it." So, it was decreed that the holy man's shadow would be endowed with healing properties whenever it fell behind him. And so it happened that in his shadow, the sick were healed, the land became fertile, sorrowful faces were lightened and so on...but the saint knew nothing of this!

OK...it's just a story! But parts of all this can be found in our own saints, regardless of their shortcomings. Keep your eyes peeled and discover who they are! Let me conclude with a prayer poem that helps us to become saints within our congregation.

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace , how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.

When I am blinded by things that are different,
save me by a grace that opens my eyes to truths that are new.

When I am blinded by my own prejudices,
save me by a grace that opens my eyes to the goodness of others.

When I am blinded by despair and hopelessness,
save me by a grace that opens my eyes to hope and new possibilities.

When I am blinded by the rightness of my cause,
save me by grace that opens my eyes to different points of view.

When I am blinded by my own failures,
save me by the grace that opens my eyes to forgiveness and beginning again,

When I am blinded by not knowing or believing,
save me by a grace that opens my eyes to what is beyond my seeing.....Amen...Jean

mainly music Warwick

A special time each week is Thursday morning when we share with our mainly music families. So much fun and laughter, as we sing and dance our way through the music program before enjoying morning tea usually in the Courtyard. Age is no barrier to being involved and we often welcome as you can tell from the photo as grandparents have as much fun as the children. New play equipment is planned for next year.



Girls Brigade in Ballina



COURTHOUSE CUPPA MINISTRY

In 2001, thanks to a very observant Margaret Darnell the seed was sown to enable a ministry for those who wait outside the Warwick Courthouse until called to appear before the Magistrate. Through a grant application, the trolleys which are so useful in the kitchen were made by Shelley's Industries and containers were purchased to keep the water hot and cold plus the accumulation of all the other necessary items to provide tea, coffee, cordial and cold water along with approximately 30 pieces of home cooking. Jam drops have always been very popular whenever they are on offer, commencing in February 2002

A roster of those willing to serve the Cuppa over at the Court House was compiled and so we have a record of each one as it was required that we sign in and out each morning when on the roster.

These are the names of most of the helpers, however some were not legible. Col Dodd, Margaret Darnell, Angela Lester, Jean Dodd, Gloria Malone, Val Parsons, Ruth Gunders, Jenny Topp, Meredith Heard, Joyce Loble, Elizabeth Gray, Alison Payne, Sue Fox, Gordon Reid, Nancy Hancock, Ivan Hancock, John Morris, Helen Sexton, Jenny Potter, May Morris, Val Rose, Greg McKay, Jenny Garde, Leith Geisel, Lois James, Mary Goynes, Claire Duggan, Jill Bockman, Mary Johnston, Ann Henzell, Fay Marley, J Stewart, Mary McKay, Marg Wells, Gayle Purcell, Wendy Bryce, John Marley, Sue Campbell, Les Davies, Dianne Jones, Jean Reid, Judy Lester, Graeme Waterhouse, Tracey Waterhouse, Scott Young, Thelma Zabun, Dianne Cahill, Lesley Harrower, Jen-Rose Holmes, Sue Schulz, Sandy Dalziel, Alison Baistow. Unfortunately, there is not the same record of our wonderful cooks who donated food but did not participate in serving the cuppa. Lyn Parkinson and May Morris are just two of many.

I am sure that we all have many anecdotes from the hours we have spent sitting on the bench outside the Guy St entrance being observed by all who drive by. One day a Daily News journalist stood across the road taking photos of those coming out of the door or standing outside. I wasn't impressed, but he told me it was a free country, and he could take whatever photos he chose.

One very unusual occurrence was the time Margaret Darnell and Ruth Gunders drove a young man whose licence had been suspended home to Clifton. One driving the vehicle of the offender and the other following to bring the driver home.

Why are we stopping the Courthouse Cuppa? This was not a decision taken lightly. The Queensland Court System established a new registration requirement for all volunteers. This included a police check and other detailed paperwork. As each of us was only rostered a couple of times each term for at most two hours, it became very difficult to justify continuing.

NOVEMBER CHATTER

November 8th – 10th will see us hosting one of the Moderator’s Regional Convocations - “Drinking from the Well” which aims to provide a retreat style experience to our Ministry leaders and Council members.

Location: Warwick Uniting Church, 37 Guy Street, Warwick QLD

Date: Friday 8th November 2024 Time: 9:00am – 4:30pm (approx.)

We follow this with Presbytery of the Downs session November 8-10th 2024

Please hold these days in prayer as Ministers and Presbytery Reps gather to reconnect with God and each other. Most sessions of the Presbytery meeting are open to anyone interested in attending. However, only Presbytery reps are eligible to vote on business resolutions. The program as published includes

November 8th,

- **5:30pm-** Presbytery members gathering
- **6-6:45 Dinner before members go into worship and the business session.**

• November 9th:

- A big day, 8:30 – 9am start, 9pm finish.
- Ansie and our Worship Team will present worship from 9am-9:45am
- Ansie will present the Warwick story 2:30pm

• November 10th

- 9:30am Preacher, our Moderator Rev Bruce Moore
- Conclusion of Ministry Rev Yvonne McRostie

... AND THERE IS MORE TO CELEBRATE

All to be held in the Warwick Uniting Church

- **9:30am November 17th:** Preacher: Assembly President Rev Charissa Suli
- **9:30am November 24th:** Preacher Rev Yvonne McRostie

Office closure: 20 December 2024 to 7 January 2025

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve - Freestone 7: 00 pm

Christmas Day - Warwick 7:00 am

Killarney 8:30am

Annual Parish Meeting: Sunday 16th February.

The many congregations and faith communities in Queensland are at the core of our mission. As the Basis of Union reminds us, they are to serve as a foretaste of the coming kingdom. They are places of worship, witness and service. Congregations and faith communities, at their best, are a place in which the life of Jesus flows to be visible to the wider community. They are your **local church**. The Annual Parish meeting is the opportunity to hear and see what our local Parish has achieved over the past 12 months.

Markets Review for 2024

What a successful year we have had through the three market days! A dedicated few have worked very hard and generously donated time and goods to ensure everything ran smoothly.

A special thank you to Scott Young and David Angell who undertook the organisation, set up of stalls and making sure that everything was returned from where it came and the complex always a welcoming place for members of the Parish and visitors.

There are too many to name individually, but Scott and David extend their grateful thanks to all the stall convenors, their many helpers and the backup crew who were essential in the setup and pack up each time.

Many pleasant interludes during our Market Days are provided by the entertainment which this year was Warwick City Band twice; Warwick Central School Choir twice; Ellie Kelso's Dancers; Warwick Thistle Pipe Band; Inverness Highland Dancers; Melomaniacs ;East Street Singers; Scots Pipers; Filipino Dancers and ARK twice with pets for rehoming.

One of the very onerous tasks is the arranging of stall floats and collection and calculation of the income at the end of the Market Day. Now we have the EFTPOS and Square these also need recording after the counting of the cash takings. Pam Fletcher has all this down to a fine art and makes it appear "no big deal" however let me say there is quite a deal to preparation involved. The following is an outline of the income from each stall on the Market Days and the final total for the year. It certainly gives an appreciation of the contribution from John Morris and his team and Darrell and Pam with the Plant stalls, and how vital the Home baked and Treat yourself stalls are to all three days.

Market Day	March 9 th 2024	Aug 17 2024	Oct 12 2024	Total
Plants	2,751.00	1232.40	5,383.60	9367.00
Produce			700.00	700.00
Books	524.25	942.85	425.00	1892.10
Café	498.60	596.00	604.30	1698.60
Home baked	847.30	1129.90	1,074.00	3051.20
Treat yourself	952.20	1067.55	1,185.10	3204.85
Sausage sizzle	474.95	391.00	537.10	1403.05
Craft			521.50	521.50
Collectables			724.76	724.76
Trash and Treasure	1,167.60	661.60		1829.20
Donations		90.00	100.00	190
Net amount:	7,215.90	6,111.30	11,255.36	24582.56

In 2025 the Affordable Housing will be under construction between Guy St and Stacey St. so at the Market Review meeting on Thursday 31st October it was resolved to hold two Market Days on 8th March (Trash & Treasure, books, plants) and 1st November (Produce, Plants, Collectables, Craft, Books.) also entertainment, the cafe, food stalls, & ARK at both.

Further adaptations may be made once construction is under way.

2025 Planning meetings :- Thursday 6 February; Thursday 18 September.

All meetings at 11.30am in the Wesley Room.

2025 Review meeting and 2026 Planning meeting – Thursday 20 November.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Fortunately, we do not often have accidents or emergencies in our Warwick Church buildings. However, what to do if someone falls, faints, cuts themselves, needs urgent resuscitation or there is a fire?

DON'T PANIC! Would you know what to do or where to look?

- On the wall of the foyer to Williams Hall is a Defibrillator and a First Aid box.
- Fire extinguishers are located
 - on the back wall of the Williams Hall near the bookshelves.
 - In the church foyer and both rooms at the western end of the church.
 - In the kitchen where there is also a fire blanket.
 - Exits in all buildings are clearly marked.
 - In case of evacuation the assembly point is beside pillars of the Guy St entrance near the Uniting Church sign.
- All incidents must be reported to the Safe Church Leader Jonna Cowan.

Hosting the Hakuna Matata Children's Choir from Nairobi, Kenya

Our church has been blessed to be asked to host a group of young people from Nairobi, Kenya who form the Hakuna Matata Children's Choir. They are so talented in singing and dancing and are from Connect with a Child orphanage in Kenya. The group is dedicated to spread God's love, hope and joy while raising awareness for orphans and vulnerable children in Kenya.

The proposed visit will be on February 16th, 2025, for the choir to be part of the morning service in Warwick. There are 14 children ages range from 11 – 15 years (most of whom are orphans) and 6 adults. All the children speak English.

The group will require hosting for a few days prior so we are asking for folk who would be willing to billet the children in pairs and the adults for that time. They will be with the adults during the day and be with the host families overnight. Apart from the worship service there may be opportunities for the group to share in other places.

If you would like to be part of this wonderful opportunity, please contact Dianne Cahill (mobile: 0427 000 887).

Come and Join us!

The Beta Home Study Group extends an open invitation to join in a Church Family BBQ picnic lunch in the Warwick church grounds. This will take place on Sunday 1st December after worship and will replace the TWEATTT lunch for that month.

Feel free to come along and share fellowship and friendship. You are welcome to bring friends. There is NO charge, and the only request is that you indicate attendance on the boards in the church and hall foyers. Any inquiries may be directed to Terry Smart on 0488 654 357 or David Cahill on 0417720152



Western Night

As always, the food was in abundance and so much choice, our catering crew, demonstrated their talents and we ate more than we should, but it was all so delicious.

Fiona Gray added to the ambience with her musical renditions and those who attended knew they were in the wild west thanks to Jonna and her table decorations and posters are the walls. The balloon horses really added a finishing touch. Deputy Sheriff Ian Darnell made sure all guns were checked in at the door and all horses suitably tied up. Betty ably assisted Ian in keeping everyone in order.

Charles and his sidekick took out the prize for the best dressed cowboys. The lucky door prizes were hotly contested and how random that one brother picked the ticket of his brother even though the numbers were not consecutive.

The funds raised will assist with purchasing more user friendly tables for the courtyard.

Thanks to the organisers and all who joined in the night. Much better than a night in front of the telly!



New Horizons contributions always welcome.
 Contact Angela Lester email: lesterwm@activ8.net.au.

May the grace of Christ uphold you,
 And the love of God enfold you.
 May the Holy Spirit guide you,
 And all joy and peace betide you,
 Now and always. Amen.