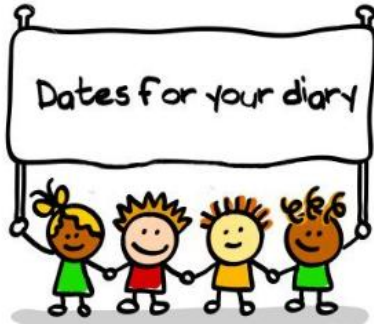




A Good News / Good Neighbour Church

October 2026



Things on in October

3 October – 12pm Living Water Season of Creation combined service at Queanbeyan Baptist Church

6 October – 7:30pm Worship Committee meeting

14 October – 10am Bible study

14 October – 11:15am Pastoral Care meeting

16-17 October – Working bee to paint the blue room

20 October – Church Council

11-25 October National Church Life Survey

24 October – Monster Jumble Sale / Spring Fair!!

Things on in November

22 November – Congregation meeting / Shared lunch

Church Council

Church Council met on 22 September. It was a full meeting, as there are a lot of significant things happening at QUC at the moment.

Christine Warren has agreed to take over from Jo Shilling as our Culture of Safety Coordinator. We are grateful to Jo for her work in this role and to Christine for taking it on. As part of the requirements of serving on Church Council, members are completing the Culture of Safety training.

Council reviewed the Mission Planning Report prepared following our workshop with Synod. The report has now been shared with the congregation, and a working group has been formed to consider its recommendations and work toward developing a draft mission plan for QUC.

Our Pastoral Care Team also continues to develop its role and resources. An important part of this is encouraging all of us to recognise that caring for one another is part of the life of our whole congregation, not simply the responsibility of the Pastoral Care Team. Over the coming months, the team will be sharing some practical ideas and resources to help us think about how we can care well for one another.

There continues to be quite a bit happening with our property. We have begun reviewing the rental rates charged for use of our facilities, which are well used by the wider community. We have also reviewed our energy plans and negotiated new rates with Origin, saving 8% on our electricity rates and 20% on our gas rates.

Glen, Ruth and others have continued their work to improve our older church buildings. We look forward to seeing their ongoing work. The Blue Room will be the next exciting stage, with a working bee planned for the painting. We're grateful to those who have already volunteered to lend a hand.

Council agreed that we could resume sharing the peace through a physical greeting, a practice that stopped during COVID. It has now resumed and was very well embraced. People are welcome to greet one another in whatever way they feel comfortable.

Dave Warren

Chair, Church Council

council@quc.org.au

Mission Planning Working Group

Our Mission Planning Working Group has now been formed and will begin meeting on Tuesday 6 October at 7:30pm at the church. The group will meet mostly weekly over the coming weeks as it considers the Mission Planning Report and works toward developing a draft mission plan for QUC, with a report to be brought to the Congregation Meeting on 22 November.

The group includes Jane May, Ruth Adams, Martin Harris, Wendy Imrie, Matthew Stuart, Ian Gray and Apelu Tielu.

Pastoral Care Corner

This month we begin a new regular Pastoral Care Corner in our newsletter. Each month we will explore a different aspect of caring for one another, with practical ideas and opportunities to reflect on how pastoral care can be part of the everyday life of our congregation.

Over time, these resources will also be shared on our website, Facebook page, and through the new Pastoral Care Corner in the church. We invite you to join us on the journey, share your experiences and ideas, and help shape how we grow together as a caring community.

Caring is for Everyone – it is not an Optional Extra

Jill McGilvray in God's Love in Action – Pastoral Care for Everyone states:

"Sometimes pastoral care is seen as an optional extra, the responsibility of the minister, priest, pastoral staff or perhaps a few committed people. In fact, caring for one another, loving one another, is fundamental to our life as Christians." In our context, we might be tempted to think of pastoral care as primarily the responsibility of the Minister, Elders or the Pastoral Care Team. But caring for one another belongs to all of us. Throughout Scripture, we find many "one another" commands that shape our relationships as believers. Today we focus on John 13:34 *Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.*

We are all different, with varying personalities, abilities, and gifts, and therefore we will show our love for another in diverse ways. Let's imagine our congregation, a place where everyone is actively looking out for one another, where encouragement, love, and support flow freely within the body of Christ. This is what God calls us to! Let's be intentional about reaching out, checking in, and showing the love of Jesus to those around us.

What does it actually mean to care for someone?

Suggested reading: John 13:34–35

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Pastoral care can sound like something formal, or something that needs special training. Most of the time, it is much more ordinary than that:

- It might be noticing that someone seems quieter than usual and taking the time to check in.
- It could be remembering that someone had an appointment or a difficult week coming up, then asking how they went.
- Sometimes it is sitting with someone who is on their own, making a phone call, offering a lift, or visiting someone who can no longer get to church.
- At its heart, caring begins with paying attention to one another.

Most of us already do this in some way:

- We remember people's names and something of what is happening in their lives.
- We notice when someone has not been around. We listen when someone needs to talk, make a cup of tea, or send a message because someone came to mind.

We do not have to solve whatever another person is facing. Often, we cannot. Pastoral carers are not counsellors, and we are not expected to have all the answers. Our role is to care, listen and encourage. What matters is that people know someone has noticed, and that they do not have to face everything alone.

Something to think about...

Who are the people I naturally look out for, and who looks out for me?

Have a thought or experience to share? Talk with Warren Hilder or Gillian Seeley, or contact the Pastoral Care Team at pastoralcare@quc.org.au.

Congregation Meeting - Sunday 22 November

Our next Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday 22 November at approximately 11.00 am, following the morning service.

The meeting will be followed by a shared lunch for those who would like to stay and enjoy some time together.

An agenda and further details will be provided closer to the date.



We are painting the Blue Room! We'd love you to be involved!

Join us on Friday, 16th October and Saturday, 17th October – 9.00am

Come on both days, or one day, or just an hour or two. Every little bit will help as we commence the next stage of re-vitalising our buildings.

If you don't feel painting is your thing, you could contribute by helping provide and serve morning tea (bonus: your chance to use the new kitchen!!)

All painting equipment will be provided.

Talk to Glen Crawley or Ruth Adams for further information and to let them know you are joining the fun.



The next Jumble Sale will be on Saturday 24 October.

The team sort goods on a Tuesday morning and are always looking for more helpers to assist. For more information contact Greg Toone 0412 060 465 or visit

www.quc.org.au/support/jumble-sale

National Church Life Survey



Queanbeyan Uniting Church will be taking part in the 2026 National Church Life Survey (NCLS) from Sunday 11 October to Sunday 25 October.

The NCLS is conducted every five years, alongside the Australian Census, and has been surveying Australian churches since 1991. It gives people across the congregation an opportunity to share their experiences, views and hopes for church life.

The results will help us better understand the strengths and health of our congregation and will also help inform the future mission and focus of QUC. NCLS research also draws on Australian Census information, helping churches understand the demographics of their wider community and consider how they connect with the people around them.

More information about completing the survey will be provided in October.

Monster Jumble Sale / Spring Fair Help Required

This years Spring Fair is being held on Saturday 24 October. It's time to start thinking about how you can help. Any time you can give either setting up on the Friday, helping man a stall on the Saturday or cleaning up afterwards will be very much appreciated.

In the meantime here's a list of suggestions on how you can begin preparing now:

For the Jumble Sale Shed

Now is the time to do your spring cleaning and sort those clothes / toys / kitchen items / books etc that are no longer required, ready to donate.

For the Cake Stall

Now is the time to practise those cake and cookie recipes, and start adding some extra flour, sugar and butter to your grocery shop each week, ready to cook up a storm.

For the Craft Stall

As the cooler weather draws to a close, grab that crotchet hook, those knitting needles, or dig out that sewing machine and let your creativity fly! Hand made goods are always popular.

For the Jams & Pickle Stall

Gather the last of your winter produce and cook up some vege pickles. Maybe your citrus trees are currently loaded, whip up some marmalade or lemon butter.

For the Plant Stall

We always appreciate the many plants that are donated for sale at the mini-Spring Fair. This year we are particularly hoping for donations of "potted colour" and vegetable/herb seedlings.

Here are some ways you can help:

1. At the beginning of October buy a small tray of vegetable/herb seedlings or flowers from a nursery or hardware shop.
2. Pot them up into individual, small pots. Use a paddle pop stick (or similar) to label each pot (this is important - especially with tomatoes, customers are very keen to know what they're buying).
3. Enjoy looking after them for a few weeks as they grow taller and stronger.

4. Joyfully bring them down to the church the night before, or early morning of, the Spring Fair.
5. Look on with great satisfaction as our many loyal customers stock up on the plants you grew!

If you need any assistance please contact Ruth Adams. (catch up with her after church on Sundays if you'd like to help) She usually has potting mix to spare, and lots of small pots that can be used. Another item we have found very popular in recent years is garden art. So, if you have a cherub, or a garden gnome, or a cute little rusted metal flower please donate it to us -we'll help find its' new forever home.

Bennie's Food Basket



Congregation members are invited to bring along a grocery item or two each week to be placed in a basket at the church. Once a month these items are passed on to St Benedict's.

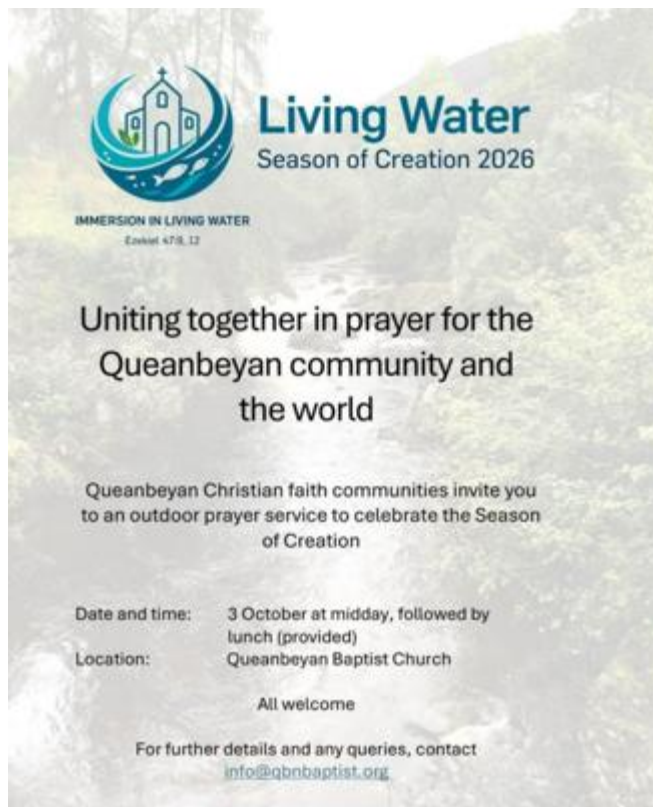
Suggested items to donate are tinned meat dishes, pasta, spaghetti sauce, single serve microwaveable soup or meals, cup a soups, tomato and BBQ sauce, cereals, noodles, long life milk, tea bags, coffee, muesli bars, vegemite, honey, jam, toiletries (deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, body wash)

tearfund Useful Gifts

As Christmas approaches, a Tear Fund "Useful Gift Shop" will operate as usual at the back of the church after the morning service to allow people to buy gift cards for Christmas gifts. These gift cards support the work of the "Tear Fund" in their national and international projects.

The "Useful Gift Shop" will operate on 1st, 8th, 15th, 29th November and 6th December. Cash or card can be used to purchase a gift card. Thank you in advance for your support.

Robyn Robinson, on behalf of Tear Fund



Season of Creation 2026: Living Water

From 1 September to 4 October, Christians around the world mark the Season of Creation, a time to pray, reflect and act in response to God's gift of creation and our shared responsibility to care for it.

The 2026 theme is Living Water, inspired by Ezekiel 47:9 and 12. In Ezekiel's vision, a river flows from God's sanctuary, bringing healing, restoration and new life.

Uniting Church President Rev Charissa Suli invites us during this season to "pray, learn, act and advocate", and to reflect on how we care for creation and stand alongside communities affected by environmental degradation and climate change.

Throughout September, you might like to set aside some time for personal reflection, prayer and practical action. The Uniting Church has gathered a range of resources that can help us reflect on the theme of Living Water and consider how we might respond.

[Watch Rev Charissa Suli's Season of Creation message](#)

[Explore the Season of Creation 2026 resources](#)

Alison Crawley is actively involved in the ecumenical Caring for Creation group on behalf of QUC. If you would like to know more about this work or ways you can become involved, please speak with Alison. You can also find out more about the wider Uniting Church response to climate change and caring for Creation through Uniting Climate:

www.unitingclimate.org.

SIEV X Memorial, 25th Anniversary



Image Source: SBS News

This year marks 25 years since the SIEV X tragedy, in which 353 people seeking asylum lost their lives, and 20 years since the creation of the SIEV X Memorial at Weston Park.

QUC has its own connection with the Memorial. A group from our congregation came together to paint one of the 353 memorial poles.

Members of QUC are invited to a commemorative gathering at the SIEV X Memorial, Weston Park, Yarralumla, at 2 pm on Saturday 17 October.

Read more: [Twenty five years on, SIEV X still speaks to the Australia we are becoming](#)

SIEV X Memorial: www.sievxmemorial.com

Regular Ministries of QUC

Ministry	When	Contact
Bible Studies and Small Groups	Various times, weekly or fortnightly.	Apelu Tielu minister@quc.org.au
Jumble Sale	One Saturday per month (usually the 4 th), 9am-12pm.	Greg Toone
Pastoral Care		Gillian Seeley pastoralcare@quc.org.au
Sunday Morning Worship	Sundays, 9:30am.	Apelu Tielu minister@quc.org.au
The Shed	Same dates as Jumble Sale.	

If your ministry group's details are missing, or incorrect, please email news@quc.org.au to correct them for the next newsletter.



Your generous giving helps us fulfil our vision and mission – locally, nationally and internationally. There are a number of ways you can regularly give and/or make a once-off donation.

1. **Direct Giving** (encouraged) - is giving that you arrange with your own bank (can normally be set-up as weekly, fortnightly, monthly or annually) into:

**QUEANBEYAN UNITING CHURCH AT CALL ACCOUNT,
B.S.B. 634-634, ACCOUNT NO. 100 020 066**

2. **Cash** (or Cheque) offering put in the offering box each Sunday.
3. **Weekly Envelopes** - cash (or cheque) put in the offering box each Sunday before or after worship. The envelopes are freely available to be picked-up from the back table at the church.

For more information visit www.quc.org.au/giving



Find us on 

Church Office (by appointment)

For general enquiries (including [room use/hire](#)) please see our webpage www.quc.org.au

You can contact our **Minister** Apelu Tielu 0409 550 088 or email minister@quc.org.au. Apelu works from the church office on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Please check with him a suitable time.

Chair Church Council email council@quc.org.au



If you can't make it to church, you can join us on Zoom via [this link](#).

To access the service, you will need to have a Zoom account and be logged in.

Next Newsletter

Contributions for the November 2026 newsletter are due by Sunday 25 October for publication Sunday 1 November 2026. Email to news@quc.org.au.