



From the Minister

Apelu will be on leave for 2 weeks after the Easter services.

During his absence, Rev Dr Ockert Meyer will lead worship on the 7th and Nicole will organize the worship service on the 14th of April. Apelu will be back on the 15th of April.

Have you ever wondered about.....

The Mural at the front of the Church.....

When the worship space was being built 30 years ago, the New Church Committee were looking for ideas of what could go on the wall at the front of the church. Merran Toone was looking out her kitchen window and saw all the hills surrounding Queanbeyan, with the Queanbeyan Uniting Church right in the middle of it. Merran made a plaster of Paris 3D mock-up of the hills and the sky, all done in pastel colours.

The committee liked the concept and Geoff McCubbin took a picture of Queanbeyan from the Kings Highway, which was then given to the builders.

The windows in the church are also shaped like hills and where they meet a beautiful, timeless mural was created, entirely out of tiles of Queanbeyan and the surrounding area. The hills are also mentioned in several Bible verses.

From the bottom of the mural up – the layer of brown tiles represents the land we all live on, the dark blue and black tiles are the industrial area and river, then there are the pink and terracotta colours of the buildings and homes of the people of Queanbeyan. Above that, there are the green hills surrounding us and then more hills to include the rest of the Queanbeyan region. The sky is made from blue tiles with rays of white tiles representing God's light, beaming upwards.

Front and centre there is a beautifully crafted wooden cross, a symbol of Jesus's life, death, resurrection, and ascension. A sign of Hope, Peace, Faith, and Love for us all.

Why we call it 'The C.A.S.T' area.....

The area at the back of the church is called 'The C.A.S.T' area.

This was a carry-over from when we met in the Old Church and had morning tea in the room with the big mural on the ceiling, (which was painted by the youth groups when Reverend's Bill and Iva Fisher were here).

Every Sunday morning, we would gather for morning tea and then one of our parishioners would share their life story with the congregation. That is where the name C.A.S.T came from as it stands for Caring and Sharing Time. People discovered things they had in common and got to know each other much better. We also had a world map with pins in it showing where people came from.

The Shed – Morning Tea held in conjunction with the Jumble Sale....

The Shed was named The Shed not just because it was originally held up the back at the Jumble Sale Shed. The Shed is named The Shed because people can come into our church and shed their inhibitions, they can shed a tear of joy or sadness, or perhaps shed light on something.

The word shed can also mean shelter, which is also a place where people feel safe and secure and are protected from the outside.

And all of this takes place where we remember Jesus Christ, who shed His blood for us.

From the Chair of Church Council

I am happy to report that the Congregational meeting on 24 March 2024 endorsed all those who stood for election as QUC office bearers. Nicole Alexander, Ian Robinson, Gillian Seeley and Keturah Whitford were reappointed to Church Council and Andrew May and Heather Irons were elected as new Church Councillors. Col Imrie was re-appointed as QUC's Presbytery representative. Congratulations to all appointees. It is particularly pleasing to have Heather reappointed to Council and to have Andrew join Council for the first time.

Our Church Council for 2024 will now comprise: Nicole Alexander, Col Imrie; Heather Irons, Andrew May, Trevor Parsons, Ian Robinson, Gillian Seeley, Rev Apelu Tielu and Keturah Whitford. The Council is there to serve you, so please don't hesitate to raise with them any ideas or concerns you have about QUC.

These elections saw Martin Harris, Lesley Hilder and Christine Warren retire from Council, and in Martin's case, retire from the position of Congregational Chairperson. On behalf of the whole congregation, I would like to express sincere thanks to Martin, Lesley and Christine for

their great contribution to the administration of QUC during their terms in office.

Unfortunately, we had a disappointing response from the congregation in response to nominations for these positions. Only four members of the congregation made any nominations. Hopefully, next year we will all engage more with this process. One consequence of this poor response is that we currently have no Chairperson or Secretary of the Congregation. Church Council will consider how we deal with this problem going forward but if there is anyone in the congregation who feels they may be able to help by filling either of these roles, I urge you to speak with Apelu or someone on Council.

Saturday 23 March saw another very successful Jumble Sale, Shed and 'Let's Meet our Neighbour' barbeque. Aside for the very positive financial results, it is always great to see so many in the community gathering at QUC and having a happy time. Grateful thanks to the many people involved in running these activities.

Finally, we now have four new large mirrors installed in the hall – at no cost to QUC! Two of the groups who regularly hire the hall, the Queanbeyan Players and the Empire Dance Group joined forces to install the mirrors along the western wall of the hall and have generously met the full cost. The mirrors are useful for the activities of both groups and enhance the look of the hall. Those with long memories will recall there were mirrors in the hall many years ago, so it is nice to see the hall being restored to something of its 'former glory'! Thanks to our property manager, Glen Crawley, for co-ordinating this exercise.

Ian Robinson

On behalf of Church Council



The next Jumble sale is on Saturday 27 April.

The Team sort goods on a Tuesday morning. They are always keen to welcome new helpers.

For more information contact Greg Toone

0412 060 465 or visit

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

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 will be passed on to St Benedict's.

Bennies has provided the following advice; UHT milk, CEREAL (only Weetbix, cornflakes & Rice bubbles), tinned tuna large or small, Spaghetti and Baked beans, 2 min noodles, Pasta; Spaghetti or Spiral, Baby food or formula. But DEFINITELY NO tinned beans or lentils. See the noticeboard for more details.

Church Council sees this as a practical way in which QUC can assist St Benedict's in its valuable work in our community and encourages those who can do so to participate in this scheme.

New Nametags

Name tags are a practical way to help newer people get to know members of our congregation. It has been several years since our name tags were updated.

With a growing number of newer people, the worship committee decided it was a good time to revisit the matter. After discussion three options were presented to the congregation to vote on over 2 Sundays. The results were as follows:

Options	Results
1 – Existing + Cross	9
2 – Mural	14
3 – Colourful with Cross and Music Notes	27
Total Participants	50

This one is Option 3 and received more than half the votes. Thanks to all those who participated.



These should be completed by the end of April. If you are new, don't get a new name tag, or there is a mistake on yours, contact Ian Gray and he will organise you one.

quconline@quc.org.au or 0408 252 447.

Regular Ministries of QUC

Ministry	When	Contact
Bible Studies and Small Groups	Various times, weekly or fortnightly.	Apelu Tielu
Jumble Sale	One Saturday per month (usually the 4 th), 9am-12pm.	Greg Toone
Pastoral Care		Apelu Tielu
Sunday Morning Worship	Sundays, 9:30am.	Apelu Tielu
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 May 2024 newsletter are due by Sunday 28 April for publication Sunday 5 May 2024.

Email to news@quc.org.au.

Read Presbytery, Synod, Insights and previous QUC newsletters at www.quc.org.au/news/news