



The QUC Vision: The Whole of Creation Reconciled and Renewed

Reflections from Janice.....

Advent Hope

Colossians 1:1-6 (NIV)

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

2 To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, **4** because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people— **5** the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel **6** that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace.

As we begin the season of Advent – preparation for the coming of Christ - we focus on hope. Everyone needs it, everyone should give it, and everyone thrives when they have it. Advent is a time of encouragement and anticipation, a time of joy and love, peace and hope. Paul writes in Colossians 1:4 about the believer's faith and hope that spring from the hope that is stored up in heaven and how it's all about the truth of the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ. He says in 1 Corinthians 15:17-19 that if Christ has not been raised from the dead our faith is futile, we're still in our sins and we have no hope.

This advent season it's important for all of us to remember the hope we have that comes from the Good News of the Gospel. Our hope isn't something

we wish for, it's what Hebrews 11:1 tells us. Our faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Jesus Christ - poured out His life so that we might have eternal hope; so that we might be encouraged in our faith to trust in everything Jesus said and did for us. Hope in the Son of God. Hope in His love. And hope in all of His promises this Advent Season.

Dear God,

If I have gone my own way and have put my hope in so many other things apart from You, forgive me. Show me how to live in the confident expectation of how You can impact my life, my character and my circumstances. I place my hope in You right now and ask You to make Yourself known to me.

A Christmas Blessing

“May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace, as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13

Grace and peace,

Janice

Christmas Services

- ❖ Lessons and Carols on Sunday 23rd December at 9:30am. This is a great time to hear the Christmas story and sing related carols.
- ❖ We will be having our usual BBQ and carols on Christmas Eve so bring your family and friends to this casual but joyful time together. It starts at 7pm. (gold coin donation welcome)
- ❖ Watch Night Service - Christmas Eve at 11pm
- ❖ Christmas Day service is at 9am and will be a great family service.

For Christmas Gift Options see Page 4

KALEIDOSCOPE



Queanbeyan Christmas



SUN DEC 9 2pm at QUC

Tickets @ door Adults \$15 concessions \$10
Afternoon tea included

Rosters

There have been a lot of changes this year and as we prepare the rosters for the upkeep of the grounds and the 9-30am worship service I would like to invite you to pray about how you can be involved in the coming months. Training is available for people to learn new skills and roles to assist you to step out in faith. You can be put in touch with someone who has been on the roster and can help you get started. It is such a delight to see people volunteering to be involved and using their gifts to build up the Body of Christ. It brings a richness to our worship and witness when a variety of people volunteer and share of themselves as they serve our church community. Some of the roles are done in teams and this is a great way to get to know people a little better. A reminder will be sent via email or you can check the roster on the notice board near the crying room. The following roles are needed to maintain our worship and our property:

✝ Flower arrangements for the worship space (currently once a month)

- ✝ Welcome/Offering (this requires the greeters to arrive early and welcome people and then take up the offering during the worship service)
- ✝ Worship leading (making sure all the volunteers are available prior to the Sunday, preparing the PowerPoint and order of service, and leading the worship on the Sunday)
- ✝ Preaching (there will be a particular need for the last Sunday in December and all the Sundays in January)
- ✝ Announcements and welcome (within the worship service)
- ✝ Bible Reader (check with the preacher about which readings and translation are being used)
- ✝ Prayers of the people (a format can be given to follow or even a prayer written by someone else could be read e.g. Bruce Prewer) I am happy to help with this.
- ✝ Musicians for worship
- ✝ Sound and PowerPoint (this requires the person to arrive around 9am to turn everything on and get the PowerPoint going as well as moving the slides forward through the songs etc)
- ✝ KUCA leaders (we currently only have 2 leaders and it would be great if there were at least 2 more so that people could take it term about throughout the year)
- ✝ Morning tea (this needs a team of 3 or 4 people each Sunday who provide the food, milk etc) (the cups etc are set up before worship and then everything cleaned up after morning tea)
- ✝ Holy Communion preparation once a month (set up and packed up afterwards)
- ✝ Grounds roster - mowing, whipper snipping etc. (This is done in a team.)

If you are willing to participate on the roster in any of these roles, please reply to the church newsletter via email or let Ian Gray or Janice Freeston know in the coming weeks. If you are already on the roster, we will assume you are able to continue unless you tell us otherwise. Thank you for your current involvement (it has been a busy year), and I look forward to hearing from you.

Blessings, Janice

An Uncommon Call

"The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others." 1 Cor 2:7

You have one. A divine spark. An uncommon call to an uncommon life. "The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others." So much for the excuse "I don't have anything to offer." Did the apostle Paul say, "The Spirit has given some of us..."? Or, "The Spirit has given a few of us..."? No. "The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others." Enough of this self-deprecating "I can't do anything." And enough of its arrogant opposite: "I have to do everything." No you don't! You're not God's solution to society, but a solution in society. Imitate Paul, who said, "Our goal is to stay within the boundaries of God's plan for us" (2 Cor 10:13) Clarify your contribution.

Don't worry about skills you don't have. Don't covet strengths others do have. Just extract your uniqueness.

(Cure for the Common Life - Max Lucado)

Youth Group

Christmas party is on Friday 14th December at the church from 7pm. More details to be sent via e-mail.

Adult Fellowship

Our adult fellowship meets at the church at 2pm on the first Thursday of every month except January. Activities include guest speakers, worship and afternoon tea, among others.



This month (Thursday 6th December) we will be having our Christmas sing-along and a scrumptious afternoon tea at QUC.

Please bring a plate to share and invite a friend. All are welcome.

The first meeting for 2019 is the AGM on Thursday 7th February.

For more details, contact Yvonne Wallace on 0414 869 423.



Messy Church is a less formal way of meeting as a church community. The music, story and activities are presented so that children and families can participate. It's a great time to build relationships across generations, and beyond our congregation, as we share a meal together. All are welcome to attend.

The last Messy Church is at 4pm this Sunday 2nd December. It will resume in February after a well-deserved break. Any musicians interested in assisting next year would be particularly welcome.

A big thank you to all those who have helped out during the last few months. If you would like to know more about Messy Church, contact Rosemary on 0417898917 or rosemaryr2@iinet.net.au

QUC Jumble Sale and Shed

Thanks to all who have faithfully supported this ministry over the last 12 months. The team are having a well-earned break and will resume later in January.

Please save your donations until later in January.

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for the new year are available on the tables in the CAST (foyer) area

Stamps

Leave used stamps in the labelled box in the bookshelf in the CAST area



National Council of
Churches in Australia



Climate Change & Bushfires



Because of climate change, [fires are getting more intense and fire seasons are extending](#) to the point where the northern and southern hemisphere fire seasons are overlapping. Since the 2003 Canberra bushfire and the current Californian bushfires we have seen that urban areas are also at risk. The Canberra/Queanbeyan area is predicted to get more frequent and more dangerous bushfires. In this issue we will look at how you can help keep yourself, your house and other people [safe in a bushfire](#).



Know where your [Queanbeyan-Palerang neighbourhood safer places](#) are. If you have elderly neighbours make sure you have their phone numbers so you can check on them in the event of a bushfire.

www.smore.com/m8ueg-quc-caring-for-creation

"However, under a "high global warming scenario", catastrophic events are predicted to occur every year in Mildura, and firefighters have been warned to expect up to a 230 per cent increase in extreme danger fire days in Bendigo. And in Canberra, the site of devastating fires in 2003, we are being asked to prepare for a massive

increase of up to 221 per cent in extreme fire days by 2050, with catastrophic events predicted as often as every eight years. Given the Federal Government's dismal greenhouse gas emissions cut of 5 per cent, the science suggests we are well on the way to guaranteeing that somewhere in the country there will be an almost annual repeat of the recent disaster and more frequent extreme weather events."

Peter Marshall - National secretary of the United Firefighters Union of Australia.

For more information and practical ideas visit:
www.smore.com/fr4vs-quc-caring-for-creation

Sharing Christmas with Others

Queanbeyan TEAR Useful Gifts

QUC has been a long-term supporter of TEAR's Useful Gifts shop. Here's a great opportunity to give something meaningful to give opportunity to the world's vulnerable. A table of cards will be available at church over the coming Sundays or alternately Lee has set up a QUC Online Shop. <http://useful.gifts/MEN3L>

For more information speak to Lee Davy

Everything in Common

QUC has also been a supporter of Uniting World's Everything in Common.

Make a difference with your Christmas gift giving. Each gift represents a life-changing project that is helping lift people out of poverty. Your gift will help provide clean water, education and income opportunities for families to live with dignity. Choose a gift card, dedicate it to a loved one, change lives. Every gift you buy helps take us closer to the kind of world we all hope for! Robyn Robinson will have these cards available in the lead up to Christmas.

<https://everythingincommon.com.au>

Act for Peace - Christmas Bowl

Many churches support the annual Christmas Bowl each year including QUC. Gifts through the Christmas Bowl will support local partners around the world to both meet urgent need and create change that lasts. You can donate online from the following link:

<https://www.actforpeace.org.au/Christmas-Bowl>

St Benedict's Community Day Centre Relief Fund

Tax Deductable Donations

Looking to make Christmas Time donations?

Like to support a local co-operative ministry of Christian Churches, whose work you could actually observe & participate in?

St Benedict's provides a safe day time place for people from all walks of life, many of whom experience marginalization and frequently, the prospect of homelessness in Queanbeyan.

We serve a nutritious, hot lunch time meals five days a week; provide social support; and practical intervention to address real needs of folk in our community.

We have a wonderful team of volunteers who join in this work, and your financial commitment will directly provide much needed resources & help.

Donations, whether ("One Off" or ongoing periodic) can be made through the "GiveNow.com.au" website.

GiveNow efficiently handle, for free, the formal tax receipting of monies donated for St Benedict's Relief work.

You can Google "GiveNow" & search the cause "St Benedict's", or simply use the link www.givenow.com.au/cause3304.

Alternatively direct donations can be made by arrangement, via email stbenedicts@lizzy.com.au or phone (02) 6297 5331.

We gratefully value your support.
Have a lovely Christmas



Donate your drink containers to us

Do your bit to help us raise funds with **RETURN and EARN**

Eligible containers

Containers should be empty, uncrushed, unbroken and have the original label attached. Wine, spirits, cordial and plain milk containers, are generally not eligible. If a container isn't eligible for a refund, please use a recycling bin.

Liquid paperboard (cartons) Aluminium and steel Glass Plastic

Find out more at returnandearn.org.au

We'll be collecting for: St Benedicts Community Centre

Where: Queanbeyan Woolworths, Antill Street

When: 26 November 2018 to 24 February 2019

When you deposit your bottles at the collection point in the Woolworths's carpark there will be an option to select St Benedict's from a list of charities.

Thank you to Janice

The Christmas Service will be Janice's last service with us. As chair of Church Council, I would like to thank Janice on behalf of the congregation for the commitment she has made to QUC over the past few months during what has been a challenging time for many. She has put in a massive effort and her time here has helped settle things in the life of QUC and begin a healing process that gives a good foundation for the next stage of an Intentional Interim Ministry. We wish Janice and her husband well in whatever the next chapter in her life holds.

Yours in Christ's service

Ian Gray



Regular Ministries of QUC

Ministry	When	Contact
Adult Fellowship	First Thursday of every month, 2pm.	Yvonne Wallace
Bible Studies and Small Groups	Various times, weekly or fortnightly.	Warren Hilder
Chapel Service	Sundays, 8:45 to 9.15am during school term.	Robyn Robinson
Choir		Suzanne Prowse
Jumble Sale	One Saturday per month (usually the 4 th), 9am-12pm.	Julie Veal
Men’s Breakfast	Currently having a break	Ian Gray
Messy Church	First Sunday of the month, 4-6pm.	Rosemary Robinson
Night Church	select Sundays 6pm.	Amy Junor
Nursing Home Service	2 nd and 4 th Tuesday, 11-11:30am.	Robyn Robinson
Pastoral Care Coordination Team	Brenda Harper, Sue Forbes, Alida Bell, June Lawrence, June Dolby, Olwyn Anne Cook, Iris Talbot, Janice Freeston and Amy Junor	
Playgroup	In recess	
Prayer Group	Tuesday Mornings	See Ian Gray
Refugee Advocacy/Justice Issues	varies	Vivian Harris
Safe Shelter	Resumes next year as the weather cools down	June Lawrence
Schools Ministry (Scripture)	Regularly during School Term	Julie Posthuma
Sunday Morning KUCA	Sunday Mornings, during NSW school term, as part of 9:30am worship service.	Amy Junor
Sunday Morning Worship	Sundays, 9:30am.	Amy Junor
The Shed	Same dates as Jumble Sale.	Heather Irons
Youth Group	Friday, 7pm, fortnightly during school term.	Amy Junor

If your ministry group’s details are missing, or incorrect, please contact the office 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 bag each Sunday.
3. **Weekly Envelopes** - cash (or cheque) put in the offering bag each Sunday during worship. The envelopes are freely available to be picked-up from the back table at the church.



Church Office (by appointment)

For general enquiries (including [room use/hire](#)) please see our webpage www.quc.org.au or leave a message at phone 6297 9046 or email office@quc.org.au

You can contact our **Minister** Rev. Janice Freeston (half time supply) 0411 128 519 or email minister@quc.org.au.

Amy Junor, our **Youth & Community Pastor**- pastor@quc.org.au or Ian Gray, **Chair Church Council**, 0408 252 447 (not during business hours) or email quccouncil@gmail.com

