



A Good News / Good Neighbour Church

April 2025



Easter Services

Mon 14 April – 7pm Devotions at the Old Church
Tue 15 April – 7pm Devotions at the Old Church
Wed 16 April – 7pm Devotions at the Old Church
Thur 17 April – 6pm Tenebrae Service at Church
Fri 18 April – 9am Good Friday Service at Church
Sun 20 April – 6.30am Sunrise Service at Outdoor Chapel
Sun 20 April – 9.30am Easter Service @ Church



The next Jumble Sale for 2025 will be on
Saturday 26 April.

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

From the Pastoral Care Group

The Pastoral Care Group continues to make progress. With the help of Ian Robinson, the Pastoral Care Policy has been simplified and accepted by the group. Ian Gray has created a link (TBA) on our church website for Pastoral Care, where a form can be completed by anyone interested in becoming a member, or have questions or queries about our church.

We have designed a Welcome Card that will be handed out to visitors. A separate information card is also available to visitors who are interested in being contacted, or if they want to become a part of our congregation. These cards are currently being printed and will be available in the next few weeks.

Our desire to pray with others has commenced. Anyone who needing prayer can stay after the service on Sundays. This is led by Olwyn-Anne. One of the decisions reached by the group is for Grace to teach a simple skill that can be used in getting to know and care for others. This skill will form part of the Pastoral Care Group report that will appear in the Newsletter.

The members of the Pastoral Care Group are: Gillian Seeley, Robyn Robinson, Warren Hilder, Olwyn-Anne Cook, Suzanne Bollard, Sue Forbes, Yvonne McKeanhie, Jenny Kerry, June Dolby, Grace Tielu.

The group plans to meet monthly. When needed, members of the church can approach anyone of the Pastoral Care Group or send an email to pastoralcare@quc.org.au.

Grace Tielu, on behalf of the Pastoral Care Group

From Church Council

At its meeting on 17 March, Church Council met with Rev Liz McMillan from Presbytery as part of the Presbytery's review of Apelu's placement at Queanbeyan Uniting Church. Such reviews are normally conducted during the fifth year of a minister's placement. Rev McMillan held a separate discussion with Apelu and will prepare a report on her discussions for Presbytery. In our meeting, Council noted that, while there is always a range of views within any congregation, Council was of the view that the majority of the congregation would welcome a continuation of Apelu's ministry at QUC.

Council also finalised the arrangements for the Congregational meeting and election of office bearers held on 23 March. Five members of the congregation nominated a total of four people for Church Council membership. Of these four, two felt unable to accept their nominations and two accepted. Disappointingly, there were no nominations for the position of Congregational Chairperson and Congregational Secretary.

At the Congregational meeting, Col Imrie and Trevor Parsons were unanimously re-elected to Council for a further three years; an excellent outcome. Further excellent news is that, following the meeting, Jane May indicated her willingness to serve as Congregational Chairperson. We will formally elect Jane to this position at our next Congregational meeting later in the year. On behalf, of the whole congregation, I extend my sincere thanks to Jane, Col, Trevor and the continuing members of Church Council for their willingness to fill these roles.

Col's report, as Treasurer, to the Congregational meeting noted that the expected deficit for 2024-25 had increased slightly to around \$29,000, primarily due to a fall in giving. While this outlook is sobering, there was the good news of an anonymous \$50,000 donation to help with unexpected property maintenance and upgrades. This money will be kept in a separate account assigned to this purpose and there will be the opportunity for any member of the congregation who wishes to do so to make a financial contribution directly to this account to sustain our ability to maintain our property. Speak with Col if

you think this is something you could do. This is a very encouraging development.

Another positive at the Congregational meeting was a report from the Pastoral Care Committee outlining the substantial progress the group is making in re-establishing pastoral care arrangements at QUC; great work!

I am also pleased to report that the meeting approved the draft Mission Statement which Council has been preparing in consultation with the congregation. This statement outlines who QUC is, what we do and how we seek to behave and so forms a benchmark for assessing any future mission initiatives. Our next challenge, as a congregation, is to think about possible new mission activities we could sustainably undertake to serve God in our community and beyond.

Thanks to all those who were able to attend the Congregational meeting and special thanks to Martin who chaired the meeting so ably.

Ian Robinson
Chair of Church Council

Thank you...

My sincere thanks to all who prayed for me during my recent surgery & recovery. I am progressing well.

Blessings to all.

Kind regards

Glenise

Christians Single Group

12 April – Dinner and dance at Bowling Club, Yass Rd. Music to 71 model (80's music)

26 April – Progressive dinner night (we are looking for people to host. If you can do entrée, dinner or dessert please contact Sue at the details below)

10 May, 1pm – picnic & trivia at Wanniasa Park (near Hungry Jacks)

29 May- Bring a friend 80's dress up (details TBC)

For more information call Sue on 0401 219 173.

From the Banner group...

Our new banner is paralleled to a boab tree, also known as The Spiritual Tree Of Life. We are each a part of God's Tree Of Life.

The boab grows in areas of Australia, Africa and Madagascar. Many of us have lived and grown up in a variety of places.

Boab trees are palmate, shaped like the palm of our hands, they have 5 or 6 leaves from one stem. Having kind Hands is a blessing.

The biggest enemies of the boab are drought, water logging, lightning, humans and black fungus. We as humans, have things or enemies we must deal with and overcome.

Boabs store large volumes of water in their trunks- humans can be filled with the Holy Spirit in our hearts and minds.

Boabs provide shelter, food, medicine, fibre, juices and a place for ceremonies to be performed. The people of God parallel this.

Each part of the boab- the leaves, the bark, the roots, the fruit and the seeds, can be used and has value. Each one in God's family is of value and can be used to further God's kingdom and spread the Good News of Jesus.

Here we use the Boab Tree to continue growing and naming those in God's family. We use leaves of colour to represent all peoples called to our family. Today we give thanks for Bronte being a part of that family. Her name has been embroidered on a leaf. We pray many other names will join her in the times to come.



PALM SUNDAY RALLY FOR REFUGEES

The focus of this year's rally will be the more than 10,000 asylum seekers in Australia who live on temporary visas with no guarantee that the visas will be renewed and who receive no government assistance, and in many cases are not allowed to work or study. They are totally dependent on charities for their survival. This year the rally will be especially important as it will take place during the national election.

In past years more than 40 churches and religious institutions in Canberra and nearby areas have displayed banners promoting the Palm Sunday Rally. Many Uniting Churches have also sent contingents to the rally.

Speakers at this year's rally will include the Anglican Bishop Mark Short and a personal recent refugee.

The Palm Sunday Rally for Refugees will be held on Civic Square on Sunday 13 April 2025 (Palm Sunday) from 1 pm.

The rally is organised by the Canberra Refugee Action Campaign, which is an independent organisation whose sole aim is to seek just and humane treatment of refugees and asylum seekers who ask for Australia's help. RAC is not affiliated with or sponsored by any political party, and does not advocate voting for any political party.

Contact: Tony Weir , North Belconnen UCA, ph 0406 628 772, em: weirtoabs@yahoo.co.uk

Can you help Jackson?



The front page of last Sunday's Canberra Times shared Jackson's and his family's story. His mum Bel was actively involved in our evening service in her younger years, and she and her husband Simon are still associated with QUC.

Jackson's Brave Fight – Twice

At just two years old, Jackson Fitzgerald was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive cancer—**clear cell sarcoma** of the kidney. His treatment journey was long and painful: major surgery to remove his right kidney, followed by intensive therapy. His family uprooted their lives in Canberra and relocated to Sydney to access the life-saving care he needed. The 10 months they spent there were incredibly challenging—emotionally, physically, and financially. They used up their savings but found strength in Jackson's courage. He beat the odds, rang the bell to mark the end of treatment, and came home in time to celebrate his fourth birthday.

But heartbreak struck again. Just a year later, Jackson was diagnosed with a **second cancer**—T-

cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, an aggressive form of blood cancer.

Once more, the family has had to leave everything behind—home, jobs, support systems—and return to Sydney for urgent treatment. They are now facing a long and uncertain road ahead, possibly years of treatment, with all the associated medical, travel, and living costs. The financial strain has returned, heavier than before, as they try to provide Jackson with the care and stability he needs.

Despite everything, Jackson remains a fighter—funny, full of light, and incredibly brave for someone so young. His family is doing all they can to stay strong and are now reaching out to their wider community for help—through **donations, messages of support, and awareness sharing.**

<https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/8927716/jacksons-second-cancer-battle-at-age-four/>

Bel and Simon would very much appreciate your prayers for Jackson. If you are able to assist them financially, you can donate here

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/jacksons-second-cancer-fight>



Elaine Lollback - Eden Monaro Woman of the Year



Elaine Lollback is the Monaro Woman of the Year 2025, and it's greatly deserved.

Elaine, along with her wonderful team, run [St Benedict's Community Center](#) in Karabar, a community service working tirelessly for those in our region who are food and housing insecure.

Elaine is kind, compassionate, and determined. She is a model member of our society.

Congratulations, Elaine.

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.

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.

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		Grace 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 2025 newsletter are due by Sunday 27 April for publication Sunday 4 May 2025.

Email to news@quc.org.au.

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