



A Good News / Good Neighbour Church February 2026

From our Minister Apelu

Special Services in February and March

9:30am Sunday 8 February – Covenant Service
5:30pm Wednesday 18 February – Ash Wednesday
9:30am Sunday 8 March – Harvest Service

Lent Bible Studies

I will be preparing a six-session Lent Bible Study, starting on the 18th of February to the 25th of March.

During Advent last year, some organised Advent studies, which the feedback say were very successful. I would like to encourage such initiatives during Lent and at any other times. You can develop totally different materials suitable to the needs of the people or use the material I will be developing.

Further, I'd like to hear from you what you want to have in Bible studies. The studies that I prepare are a little deeper than usual, almost like tutorial materials, because I feel you deserve to have insights into what ministers are exposed to.

From Church Council

Here we are in February and Christmas and the New Year are rapidly disappearing into the past! Time flies when you are having fun! Hopefully, everyone had a happy and peaceful Christmas and is ready to launch into the new year.

Church Council hasn't met since 15 December so there is not much new to report in this newsletter.

On behalf of Council I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Christmas services, especially Apelu for leading us through the Advent and Christmas Day services. Thanks, too, to Sue Camm and her team for the Children's Service on 7 December – what a delight to have so many children participating in our service! And thanks to all involved in the Lessons and Carols service on 14 December, especially our wonderful musicians.

Just prior to Christmas we farewelled Nicole Alexander who is returning to Queensland after three years 'down south'. Nicole was a valuable member of Church Council for the last two years and led us in worship a number of times during her time at QUC. We will very much miss her contribution to the church, but wish her well on the next stage of her journey.

Council is scheduled to meet for the first time in 2026 on 9 February. An immediate priority will be arranging the survey of members foreshadowed at the November Congregational Meeting. This survey will be designed to see what ideas we can come up with to build on QUC's strengths and reinvigorate our church. Another priority will be arranging the Church Council elections in March 2026. As I have mentioned on a number of occasions, many of the existing Council are stepping down so we will need new volunteers to take on this important and rewarding role.

Ian Robinson
On Behalf of Church Council



An Ecumenical prayer gathering in Queanbeyan to celebrate the Season of Creation in 2026

Ian Gray received the first information about setting up an ecumenical group to prepare for a service to celebrate the Season of Creation in August 2025 and he passed the information onto me. It came from Elenore Karpfene, part of a Caring for Creation Group at St Gregory's Parish. I believe Apelu Tielu, our minister was also sent the same information as were all the Queanbeyan Churches.

In the end Elenore & Nick Pelle met with Apelu and I at the Uniting Church on Saturday 23 August and a plan was set for the service to be held at the St Gregory's Senior School Campus in Macquoid St on a Saturday in September. I was away and could not participate but Apelu was involved in the service and some members of our congregation attended – sorry I'm not sure who they were.

Another prayer meeting was organised by Elenore for Nov. 29th, but I did not attend, where a name for this group was discussed and an initial idea was 'Queanbeyan United in Prayer' but it did not indicate what the group was praying for – God's creation!

A prayer and planning meeting was held on Saturday 17th January 2026 in the parish meeting room at St. Raphael's church - attended by myself and 6 others, representing the Catholic, Uniting, Anglican & another Church whose name I have forgotten but at present they meet in the C3 building but are going to move into the Axis Youth Centre building!

A date has been set for the Season of Creation 2026 Service – Saturday 3rd of October and the Uniting Church has been asked to host it as we have outdoor (preferred) and indoor space available for refreshments and if the weather is inclement.

The symbol for 2026 is immersion in Living Water, Ezekiel 47:9-12.

Many ideas for the service were discussed at the gathering on the 17th January with an emphasis on involving young people in some way – through scripture classes; through banner making on the day and a desire for music was supported. Please indicate to me if you are interested in attending the prayer/planning meetings which seem to be held monthly on Saturdays at about 2.30pm. A date was set for the next meeting, but I do not seem to have written it down anywhere! I will keep the congregation notified of upcoming meetings.

Alison Crawley
agcrawley@gmail.com or 0429 978 492

tearfund Useful Gifts

Thank you! Before anything else, we want to celebrate the wonderful effort the Queanbeyan Uniting Church community have put into running a Useful Gifts Shop this Christmas.

Poverty is multidimensional, and lasting change happens when we address it from many angles. Tearfund's Useful Gifts reflects this holistic approach – from goats that provide income, to teacher training that shapes a new generation of learners, to toilets that bring dignity, safety and improved health.

In the same way, partnership with Tearfund is also multidimensional. You – the Queanbeyan Uniting Church community – are a vital expression of hope, faith and Christ's love in action. Your commitment equips Tearfund and our partners around the world to tackle injustice and walk alongside communities as they overcome poverty.

From the child who spends pocket money on a \$5 chicken, to families who exchange Useful Gifts at Christmas, to individuals who faithfully save throughout the year to choose an item from the catalogue... your whole community has played a part in equipping people around the world to lead change in their own lives, families and neighbourhoods.

Thank you again – your partnership is a gift. Thank you!

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.

St Benedict's Community Centre



Donations of Food

We would appreciate the following items:

- Tinned Meat Dishes (Irish Stew, Beef and Vegetables)
- Pasta
- Spaghetti Sauces
- Single Serve Microwavable Soup or Meals
- Tinned Vegetables (Peas and Corn, Potatoes, beans)
- Cup a Soups
- Tomato & Barbeque Sauce
- Cereals
- Noodles
- Long Life Milk
- Tea Bags
- Coffee
- Muesli Bars
- Vegetemite, Honey, Jam
- Toiletries (Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Bodywash)

Thank you



The first Jumble Sale for 2026 will be on Saturday 28 February.

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

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 March 2026 newsletter are due by Sunday 22 February for publication Sunday 1 March 2026. Email to news@quc.org.au.