



## Christmas Happenings

- Sunday 1 December – 9:30am Children's Service
- Wednesday 4 Dec – 6pm Service of Solace. Sausage sizzle beforehand at 5:30pm
- Saturday 7 Dec - Christmas Lunch at the manse. Details to follow in Apelu's Friday email closer to the date.
- Sunday 15 Dec – 9:30am – Lessons & Carols.
- Wed 25 Dec – 9am – Christmas Day



The Jumble Sale crew are having a well deserved break. They'll be back in 2025 – dates to be confirmed.

For more information contact Greg Toone  
0412 060 465 or visit

[www.quc.org.au/support/jumble-sale](http://www.quc.org.au/support/jumble-sale)

## From the Chair of Church Council

Well, here we are in December –another year that just seems to have whizzed by!

For those who have not heard, our mini-Spring Fair held on 26 October raised \$6,353.82, a fabulous outcome. A thousand thanks to all those who worked so hard to achieve this result and to make the day such a happy and successful one.

We had our final Jumble Sale, Shed and Let's Meet Our Neighbour sausage sizzle on 23 November – another extremely successful and happy day, and Council is very grateful to all those who put in so much work to make these events so successful.

Apelu and Grace had two weeks well-deserved annual leave from 4 to 18 November and Council is grateful to Robyn Robinson and the Rev Gregor Henderson who led the two services while Apelu and Grace were away.

24 November saw a congregational meeting after the morning service, the main focus of which was a report on the work being done to enhance pastoral care at QUC and the financial results for 2023-24 and budget for 2024-25. The financial picture is not pretty: QUC recorded an overall deficit of some \$10,500 last financial year and is currently forecast to make a deficit of about twice that amount in the current financial year. Unavoidable property expenditure, including the very substantial cost of repairing the sewerage lines in the old buildings, have made a major contribution to these results. While we have sufficient money in the bank to cover these losses, we clearly need to get back to a more balanced budget over the next few years if QUC is to remain financially viable. There is very little scope for us to reduce expenditures so our focus will need to be on growing our income.

As most of you will know, there are a number of above-ground garden beds between the hall and the Jumble shed. These were built some years ago as part of a garden ministry which was operating then, but have been unused for quite a few years now. Council is interested to know if there is anyone in the congregation who would like to reactivate this ministry so that the garden beds can be used productively. If you are interested in making use of these beds, please speak to one of the Council members. If there is no interest, Council will consider removing the beds.

As usual, we will be holding elections for QUC office bearers in March next year. We have vacancies for the positions of Congregational Chairperson and Congregational Secretary and there are also expected to be some vacancies on Church Council, as a number of councillors are expected to stand down at the completion of their term. There will be more about this issue in the New Year but, in the meantime, I encourage everyone to give prayerful thought to this

challenge: are these areas in which you may be able to help out at QUC or can you think of other members of the congregation who might be suitable for these roles?

With December upon us, our usual Christmas events are coming up, starting with the Service of Solace at 6:00pm on Wednesday 4 December, with a sausage sizzle beforehand at 5:30pm. The Christmas lunch will be held at the manse on Saturday 7 December, the Lessons and Carols service will be on Sunday 15 December and, of course, the Christmas Day service (at 9:00 am) on Christmas Day. Christmas is a time for thinking of others and at QUC we are operating the Tear Fund Useful Gift shop each Sunday morning, so you can do some of your Christmas shopping in a way that supports those in need, and our collection on Christmas Day will, as usual, be donated to the Christmas Bowl. I encourage everyone to be as involved as they can be in all these activities, making Christmas 2024 a memorable one.

On behalf of Church Council, I would like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement over the past year and to wish you all a very happy, blessed and peaceful Christmas season.

Ian Robinson, on behalf of Church Council.

## 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.

# You are invited to a Community Service of Solace

**Wednesday**  
**4th December**  
**2024**

**Queanbeyan**  
**Uniting Church**  
**Rutledge St**

**5.30pm Sausage Sizzle**  
**6pm Service**  
**Followed**  
**by Supper**

**Please join us.**  
**Contact 0455 034 285 or**  
**113greencars@gmail.com**  
**for further details.**

If you are missing a loved one, or grieving for any other reason, we invite you to join us at a special gathering to honour and commemorate those who have passed or to help start the healing process of any hurt that you may be experiencing in your life. There will be time to reflect on treasured memories of loved ones or just to reflect on what is on your mind.

\* You are invited to hang a decoration on the Christmas Tree as a sign of remembrance of those you miss so much.

## 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 <sup>th</sup> ), 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.quc.org.au)

You can contact our **Minister** Apelu Tielu 0409 550 088 or email [minister@quc.org.au](mailto: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](mailto: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 February 2025 newsletter are due by Sunday 26 January for publication Sunday 2 February 2025. Email to [news@quc.org.au](mailto:news@quc.org.au).

Read Presbytery, Synod, Insights and previous QUC newsletters at [www.quc.org.au/news/news](http://www.quc.org.au/news/news)