



A Good News / Good Neighbour Church

October 2023

## From the Chair of Church Council

During the past month a Presbytery working group organised two zoom sessions to discuss the ways in which the church can use its property resources to further its mission. This work arises out of the Presbytery Mission Plan and aims to use property to build relations with the community. Many churches, like our own, rent their property to raise money but the Presbytery Mission Plan is urging churches to go beyond a landlord / tenant relationship and build relationships with the groups who rent church property.

At the first of these sessions, representatives from Tuggeranong, Kippax, O'Connor and Queanbeyan churches were invited to speak on how they used their property to build connections with the community. I spoke on behalf of Church Council at this session noting that QUC was relatively active in renting out its property; we have regular bookings for about 95 hours a week and rental income makes up between one quarter and one third of our total income. I outlined that much of our rental was to community groups and that these rentals ensured we had a wide range of people, and age groups, using our property throughout the year.

I also reported on our Jumble Sales and Shed morning teas, as a major point of contact with the Queanbeyan community, and noted our new initiative of having free "Meet Our Neighbour" sausage sizzles (or cups of soup) in conjunction with the Jumble Sale once a quarter, with invitations being sent to those who rent our property and to the adjoining childcare centre.

Church Council would be keen to hear any ideas people have on this issue.

Another successful Jumble Sale and Shed were held on 23 September, along with a Meet Our Neighbour sausage sizzle. Church Council remains very grateful to all those involved in these events, which are an essential part of QUC's connection with the community.

The next Jumble Sale and Shed, on 28 October, will also be our Spring Fair, with plants, craft, jam and cooking stalls. While the Spring Fair is no longer as grand an affair as it has been in the past, it is still an important opportunity for us to engage with the community and to raise funds. I encourage everyone who can to get involved in helping with the Fair; it is a lot of work, but it is also a happy day. There is a sheet at the back of the church for volunteers to list where they can help out.

Finally, Council would like to thank Leigh Wilmington, a former member of the church, for coming in and helping us get all the pews back in their correct position. With various activities in the church over recent years the pews had been moved around and many were in the wrong place. Sorting them all out again was something of a task (!) but thankfully Leigh had a good memory of how the system worked and generously agreed to help us out. The pews have now all been numbered so that if they get out of place again it should be an easier task to put them to rights.

Ian Robinson  
On behalf of Church Council

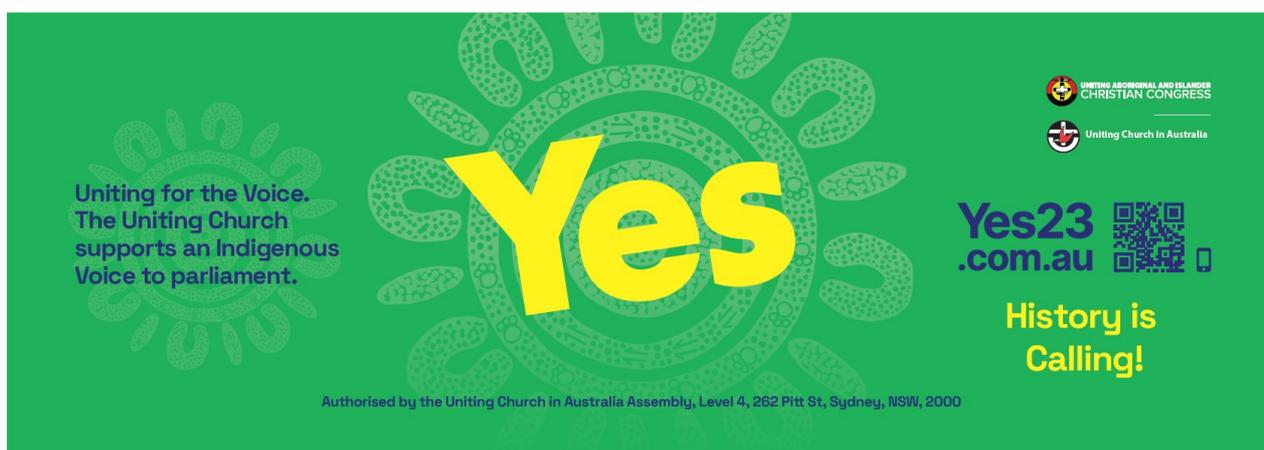
## The Voice to Parliament Referendum

### What the Uniting Church has said

President of the [Uniting Church in Australia](#) Rev Sharon Hollis and UAICC Interim National Chair Rev Mark Kickett have affirmed their strong support for a Voice to Parliament as a critical step toward honouring the sovereignty of First Nations Australians in this land and furthering the work of truth-telling and treaty.

The Assembly Standing Committee (ASC) in March declared the support of the Uniting Church in Australia for the change in the constitution to recognise an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament. The ASC resolved to call on church, community and political leaders to engage in respectful and constructive dialogue in response to the referendum.

In February, the Uniting Church joined a coalition of nine faith organisations in writing to all Federal parliamentarians urging them to co-operate across political divides in support of the Voice to Parliament.



For more information <https://uniting.church/voice/>



The next Jumble sale is on Saturday 28 October.

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

## The Stamp Committee

We raise funds by selling stamps in bulk to stamp dealers and by keeping stock books of stamps to sell to collectors.

With a decline in the number of letters being sent, we often struggle to meet the demand for used stamps.

But you can help. Just remove the stamps from your mail and either place them in the box at church or send them to us at Uniting Church Synod of NSW and ACT, PO Box A2178, SYDNEY, NSW 1235.

If you get a postcard with a stamp on it don't cut the stamp off – they get extra money for these.

## Bennie's Basket' Food Pantry



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.

Ian Robinson  
Church Council Chair

## Ministries to connect with



20 National Circuit, Forrest ACT 2603

[www.wesleycanberra.org.au/music](http://www.wesleycanberra.org.au/music)

For all the latest concert dates and other information:

[CLICK HERE](#)

To receive regular updates via newsletter,  
please email us your details at:  
[wesleymc@music.wesleycanberra.org.au](mailto:wesleymc@music.wesleycanberra.org.au)

## Safe Church Training



**A safe church is who we are called to be**

**Safeguarding** is the approach we take to ensure the wellbeing of children and young people, so they flourish and thrive into the people God calls them to be.

**Safeguarding** is about more than "safety", which is about preventing risk and harm. It is about working with them so they feel safe, supported, and their sense of wellbeing enables them to thrive.

**God** calls us to safeguard children and young people.

**Our Church** expects us to safeguard children and young people.

**The law** requires everyone over the age of 18 to safeguard children and young people, as individuals, groups and as an organisation.



National  
Safe Church Unit

On Sunday 3 September, the Uniting Church will mark Child Safe Sunday - an opportunity to celebrate our call to be a community of Christ in which all are safe and to recommit to the work required to make that a reality. Follow the Facebook page of the Uniting Church National Safe Church Unit (National Safe Church Unit | Facebook) for helpful resources to begin conversations on child safety.

Safe Church will be conducting a workshop on the 17th of November from 9.30am to 1.30pm at Kippax Uniting Church, Canberra.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

## 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)



### 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.

Find us on

**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 November 2023 newsletter are due by Sunday 29 October for publication Sunday 5 November 2023. 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)