

## TRANSITIONS - FROM PASSOVER TO PENTECOST



**Moses really wanted to lead the people into the Promised Land, and Joshua probably would have been happiest to support Moses as he led the way.**

**But God had a plan that was bigger than either of them could see, and it required that they allow God to work through the transition.**

In my earliest years in ministry, I tended to work hard trying to convince congregations of the necessity of change. Through the years, I've had to learn to allow God to work in every heart.

I have to constantly remind myself, it's not my church (nor is it yours), and it's not my job to persuade people (nor is it yours).

Even when I'm not working, - God is.

All too often, our work is in 'our strength,' working from 'our own agendas,' towards 'our preferred outcome' and consequently, rather than helping the situation, we end up hindering it.

Even in difficult transitions, Romans 8:28 – 30, is still true.

Truth is, Jesus loves the church far more than we do!

He is far more concerned with its health and wellbeing than we could ever be.

We must trust that He is sovereign over the church, and we must give Him room to work.

The first step in guiding the church through transition, is a step back.

We step back and commit everything, especially ourselves, to the Lord.

God is greater than I am, than you are, than we are, and He has a plan for His church.

That plan is better than my best plan, greater than our greatest's plans.

Transition is a part of God moulding *us*, it is His 'Proving Ground.'

One word of caution, however: -

The more we complain and gossip through transition, the longer it takes, see 'Exodus.' Getting carried away with the 'what ifs?' and 'why me's?' can be a sign of operating in the flesh rather than the Spirit.

As spiritual leaders and mature Christians, we need to remember that God is in charge.

The 'gold standard' of the Christian life is the sovereignty of God.

*The Vine*      22 May 2022

Much Grace,  
Orrell

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## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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Our Next meeting is scheduled for **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 10:30am** in our Gympie church. Once the worship service is finished, there'll be enough time to get a cup of tea or coffee & some biscuits which you will be welcome to bring back with you into the church.

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## FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

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This **Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> May**, commencing at **9am** in our Gympie CE Room. We'll have a musical morning, 'Guess The Name of The Song'. Please bring a mug from home to use at morning tea. All ladies are welcome ~ we look forward to seeing you there.

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## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - MAY DONATIONS

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During the month of May, we're collecting **Something to Love**. Soft toys, dolls, hand puppets etc. ... small enough to fit in a shoebox with lots of other things.

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## MARY VALLEY SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY *TRIVIA* NIGHT

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**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May 5.30pm** at Mary Valley Wesleyan Methodist Church (198 Amamoor -Dagun Road, Amamoor). Come along and support the wonderful work these Chappies do. \$15 includes a drink and entry into the lucky door prize. There will be prizes to win and you can buy a BBQ dinner.

Register at <https://brushfire.com/sua/trivianight/5333131>

We're organising a team from Gympie ... if you're interested in a fun night out for a great cause, please contact Cherylie.

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## COOINDA NEWS

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You may be aware that, late last year, Cooina Aged Care Centre came under the responsibility of Lutheran Services. As we come and go from Cooina we observe some changes. One of the big enhancements has been the increase in the number of chaplains employed. Currently there are four very experienced chaplains who are employed over the week and available for conversations. On Wednesday May 18<sup>th</sup> these new chaplains were commissioned and blessed at the Lutheran Church.

Joan & I have already been encouraged by the presence of other smiling, supportive people around Cooina. Jim



*Dear friends, on behalf of all our family, we appreciate and thank you for your love, prayers, messages, support & attendance as we celebrated and thanked God for the life of our much loved Tony Tramacchi ... Narelle Towner.*

**Corporate identity is more than just design; it's who we are as a church. It incorporates our culture, our values, and our internal and external communications.**

As you would most probably be aware, we have been trialing a new church corporate identity.

This has given us all a chance to compare the suggested one with our current one.

Church Council will formally present the new ideas at our upcoming congregational meeting. You will be presented with: -



- Our church's current corporate identity.
- The new corporate identity for QLD Synod's Childcare.
- The corporate identity we are suggesting is adopted by GRUC.

It is our wish to keep in line with the Uniting Church as a whole and our suggestion does mirror very closely the new corporate identity developed by QLD Synod for the newly developed Childcare Unit with whom, as you all know, we work very closely.

Our rationale behind the new corporate identity is that it is succinct, catchy and will modernise our brand, bringing us into line with most other growing churches.

There has been a move over the last few years for churches to bring to the community a name and corporate identity that is memorable and easy to recognise.

An example is the impressive new facility built by Kenmore Baptist Church, which is now branded as Riverlife and, of course, we only need look to some of the largest Uniting Churches in QLD and indeed, Australia, to see how they are presenting themselves to their communities - Newlife, Village, Christian Church, and Real Life to name but a few.

Please prayerfully consider this matter before the congregational meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June and feel free to discuss any questions you may have with either Staff or any Church Council member.

Following this, at a later date, a time will be set when we can decide on the preferred way to move forward in presenting our church to the community in these changing times.

God bless, Keith Brown (Church Council Chair)



**UNITING 4570**  
**So we can be one**

Our primary purpose is to fulfil our calling ... the calling of exhibiting the character of Jesus, spirit of humility, love, and unity, coupled with resurrection power, proving that the church is truly 'The Body of Christ' inhabited by God Himself!

## GYMPIE REGIONAL UNITING CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS

### WORSHIP

**Gympie:** 15 Red Hill Road - Together at 9am + Kidz Church  
**Imbil:** 3 Elizabeth Street - 9am

### LIVE-STREAMING

Sunday messages livestreamed to facebook & YouTube; look up 'Gympie Regional Uniting Church'

### CHURCH OFFICE

P: 5482 2985 E: [cherylie@gruc.org](mailto:cherylie@gruc.org)  
[www.gruc.org.au](http://www.gruc.org.au) F: [www.facebook.com/guchurch](http://www.facebook.com/guchurch)

### OFFICE HOURS

Mon & Tue 8:30am to 12pm - Thur & Fri 9am to 3pm

### REV ORRELL BATTERSBY

0423 985 200 [orrell@gruc.org](mailto:orrell@gruc.org)

### PASTOR JIM HALL

0418 727 408 [jimh@gruc.org](mailto:jimh@gruc.org)

### PASTORAL CARE

Please contact the office or Jim Hall



- ★ **Corporate Prayer** - 26 May, 8am - Red Hill Church
- ★ **Friendship Circle** - 26 May, 9am - CE Room
- ★ **Mary Valley Trivia Night** (School Chaplaincy) - 28 May, Amamoor
- ★ **Congregational Meeting** - 5 June, 10.30am
- ★ **SHINE Women's Conference** (Gympie) - 26 August
- ★ **GROW Women's Conference** (Brisbane) - 3 September

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## GREAT COMPANY at D'CAFÉ

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Come along to our café mornings for a great time together.

Tuesdays & Fridays → 9.30am D'Café (Southside)

### OFFERING & ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Attendance: Due to the major flood event last weekend, there was no worship service in Gympie, a smaller gathering at Imbil and no livestreamed message.

Total Week's Offering: \$2227.00 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,792.00.

Tithes & Offerings by Bank Transfer: Westpac BSB 034 127 Acct: 29 4101

*(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)*