



The VIBE

14th May 2023

Theme **Fit For A King**

Scripture....

Matthew 20.1-16 NIV

- The parable of the workers in the vineyard.

Matthew 20.20-28 NIV

- A mother's request.

Message **The Signature Dish**

"In His name and after His example

I come not to be served but to serve." King Charles III

Introducing... Coronation Quiche!

Chosen personally by Their Majesties, The King and The Queen Consort have shared a recipe in celebration of the Coronation and the Big Lunches taking place during the Coronation weekend, [#CoronationBigLunch](#)



Bible Society Meeting

The Gympie Branch invites you to come to their meeting this Wednesday, **17th May** at **9.30am** in our **CE Room**. For more info, call Narelle Towner on 0418 729 268.

BBQ and Games

After our Gympie Worship Service on Pentecost Sunday - **28th May** - we're having another of our BBQ & Games events with delicious food and indoor / outdoor games. We've had loads of fun on these mornings in the past - hope you can join us.

Containers for Change

As a church fundraiser, we're collecting those bottles, cans etc. which attract a 10¢ refund. Glenda has purchased a small, pink wheelie bin which is located just outside of our Gympie coffee hut. If you would like to donate your acceptable empty containers, that would be great. Glenda has volunteered to take them to the Collection Depot when the bin is full to claim the funds.

Fit for a King

**The greatest leaders
recognize that they're
here to serve,
not to be served.**

Christmas Shoeboxes ~ May collections

During May we're collecting **Something to Love** - dolls, soft toys (home-made or bought), action figures (e.g. transformers), plastic animals (like dinosaurs) ... size to fit into the shoeboxes with all the other exciting gifts you've given. **Please do not include** any war or violence related figures. You'll find Collection boxes in our church foyers. Thanks for your support.

'Horse Ride for Hope' ... Update

Check out Hope Reins' facebook page to catch up on their adventures. They're meeting amazing people along the way and are experiencing some very cold nights. Their planned events over the course of the ride include:

8th April Nanago - stories of Hope around the campfire

21st April Condamine - community BBQ sharing hope & raising awareness for a suicide prevention network.

3rd May Great Artesian Spa,

Mitchell - Hope High Tea

3rd June Longreach - end of the journey celebrations.

Last month, they celebrated Naomi's 40th birthday. I'm sure we'll hear some fascinating tales when Naomi returns.

As you know, the aim is to raise \$100 per kilometre for 'Hope Reins' and 'Outback Futures'.

The team is truly appreciative of all the support they've

received so far having reached 50% of their \$120,000 target. Still a way to go.

To donate online, go to <https://hopereins.org.au/ride-for-hope/>



Thank You

To Joy Circle and all who have contributed at Uniting 4570 ... this is a short note to let you know just how much your willingness to give has been appreciated by all the families who have received the Care Packages that you've so kindly donated.

The families have been overwhelmed by your generosity and are so very grateful for the tangible care you have shown to them.

Please know that the support they feel and the encouragement they get from receiving the food and other groceries has far more benefit than the actual food itself. Thank you so much for all the help you are giving these families in need living in our Gympie community.

~ Orrell's May Blog ~

"My Father (Not Your Mother) Knows Best"

'**Mother Knows Best** is a well-known and well-worn quote.

It's also the title of a song in the Disney movie entitled 'Tangled.'

A line from the song says, "**Skip the drama, stick with Mama.**"

The invitation to the cosseted, pampered lifestyle, absent of challenges has great appeal, but it comes at great cost.

Jesus said, "My Father (not your mother) knows best." Matthew 20.23

Despite hearing Jesus' parable of God's grace and generosity (Matthew 20.1-16), despite hearing Jesus' remark - twice, that the first shall be last and the last shall be first, Jesus' disciples are still missing the point.

The mother of James and John asks Jesus to grant her two sons the most prominent places in His coming Kingdom.

The two men are standing there, and Jesus turns to them and asks, "Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?"

To which they respond, "We are."

When the other ten disciples hear about this, they are angry.

Jesus takes this opportunity to challenge their notions about prominence.

You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many. (Matthew 20.20-28).

One of the most powerful moments from King Charles' Coronation was when a young boy, addressed the King, "**Your Majesty, as Children of the Kingdom of God we welcome you in the name of the King of Kings.**"

The King replied, "**In His name and after His example I come not to be served but to serve.**"

Jesus gives you an invitation and a challenge.

It's an invitation to a deepening relationship with Him and a challenge to live as part of His Kingdom, doing His will on earth as it is done Heaven.

It requires movement on your part - a paradigm shift, from a cozy, pampered church culture to an empowered Kingdom culture.

Are you willing to move?

Grace and Peace,
Orrell



SAVE THE
DRAMA
FOR YOUR
MAMA

- Need the services of a Justice of The Peace? ... Call Glenda Davis 0418 187 698
- Need help with your computer? ... Call Mike Timperon 0403 271 413

Back in 2020 the Uniting Church's Assembly Standing Committee launched a national conversation about the identity and future direction of the Uniting Church.

In 2027 we'll be celebrating fifty years since the Uniting Church was formed.

Fifty years for many organisations is a point at which a pivot is needed. The people who founded the movement have usually passed on and a new generation has the task of reimagining the focus and structure of the organisation. We're part of that generation.



Act2 was chosen as the name for this conversation. Act 2 a reference to plays and operas in which the characters are introduced during the first act. The second act is when those characters must grapple with a crisis or respond to a change in their context.

The results from the last two years of consultation are not surprising. We affirm the church's commitment to equality of women and men in leadership, our tendency to be inclusive and welcoming, the significance of the Basis of Union, every member ministry, promotion of justice.

Three core outcomes have been named by the Assembly Standing Committee.

1. Create an enabling environment for local communities of worship, witness, service and discipleship formation.
2. Foster a cohesive national character of the church and collaborative ways of working across the church.
3. Fulfil the Church's legal, ethical and social and legal obligations.

Three challenges have been presented to us for consideration and action over the next years.

1. How do we move towards a more equitably resourced and sustainable church? The question of good governance and stewardship is directly related to the question of sustainability and resourcing. The movement of resources to places of most significant potential is hindered by the siloing of such

resources into specific Councils of the Church. How can resources be harnessed to serve the discerned needs of the collective? The Assembly Standing Committee suggests that next steps explore a renewed understanding of 'wealth in common' across the national Church.

2. How do we move towards a simpler, more streamlined model of ordering our life? Much has changed since union. Our context has shifted dramatically, while membership decline and changing demography are clear. If the administrative and compliance demands of 'being church' are sapping members and congregations of energy and vitality, that is a great concern. The Assembly Standing Committee recommends that next steps explore a leaner, more agile model of governance that allows us to meet legal and social obligations and encourages living out the Gospel in a changing world.
3. How do we move towards a cohesive national character and vision? Many are satisfied with the current expression and outworking of Uniting Church identity. For others it is in flux and transition; for others still, it is deeply divided and confused. Seeking cohesive national character will require reconnecting with and a fresh articulation of the foundations and shared understandings and frameworks guiding and uniting the work and witness of the Uniting Church. The Assembly Standing Committee suggests next steps explore new opportunities for deep and sustained national collaboration.

Keith Suter, in his 2013 PhD thesis on the [future of the Uniting Church](#), provocatively suggests four controversial scenarios.

1. The Word and Deed scenario involves bringing together smaller churches into regional ones that provide for worship, witness, and service, as we see now in large parish missions.
2. The Secular Welfare scenario has the UnitingCare wing of the church continuing while congregations fade away.
3. The "Return to the Early Church" scenario would involve a move toward "micro churches" that focus on evangelism and faith formation.
4. The "Recessional" scenario involves winding up the Uniting Church altogether. In reality, our future is not likely to be in any one of these scenarios but will be different in each local context.

How do you think the second act of the Uniting Church will play out?

Our Vision is the 'Kingdom of God'

In His first sermon, recorded in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus challenges His disciples to 'seek first the Kingdom of God' (Matthew 6:33), and in His parables Jesus described what this Kingdom looks like in the heavenly realm and here on earth.



UNITING 4570
So we can be one

Our Mission is to Pave The Way For 'The Kingdom'

Jesus laid out the mission very clearly when He invited His disciples to 'make disciples of all people' (Matthew 28). Disciples, as Jesus defines them, are those who *follow* Jesus, *reflect* His character, and *seek* His Kingdom.

As a Christian community, therefore, we embrace the mission Jesus has already laid out before us, while recognizing that our context invites us to live into this vision in a very specific way. It involves a specific *time*, *place* and *purpose*. *God's call is never ambiguous.*

What's on?

- * **See the INSERT to today's issue of 'The Vibe'**
- * **Corporate Prayer & Communion** - Tuesdays, 8am, Gympie
- * **Bible Society Meeting** - Wednesday, 17th May, 9.30am, CE Room
- * **JOY Circle** - Thursday, 25th May, 9am, CE Room
- * **BBQ & Games** - 28th May, after worship, Gympie

About Gympie Regional Uniting Church ~ UNITING 4570

Worship

Worship Services... **Gympie:** 15 Red Hill Road - 9am + Kidz Church (school term)
Imbil: 3 Elizabeth Street - 9am

Live-streaming... Sunday messages are usually livestreamed to facebook & YouTube; look up 'Gympie Regional Uniting Church'

Contact Details

Church Office... P: (07) 5482 2985 M: 0493 442 250 E: cherylie@gruc.org
www.gruc.org.au F: www.facebook.com/guchurch

Office Hours... Mon & Fri 8.30am-12pm; Tue 9.30am-3pm; Thu 8.30am-3pm

Rev Orrell Battersby.. 0423 985 200 orrell@gruc.org

Pastoral Care... Please contact the office by phone or email

Offering & Attendance Last Sunday

Attendance: Adults 77 • Children 11 • Facebook 73 • YouTube 9

Total Week's Offering: \$3143.05 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,792.00.

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

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