

10th March 2024

**Series: The Great Restoration Project**

**Message: 'He Restores My Soul'**

*Not only does He bring back the lost sheep,  
He also brings dead sheep back to life.*

The **VIBE**

**Psalms 23.1-3. NIV. Psalm 43.5. NIV.**

**Matthew 10.28. MSG. 3 John. 1-4. NIV.**

At some point in your life, you will need each verse of Psalm 23.

These four words are real standouts: **"He restores my soul."**

Present tense. David is saying, 'God has restored me many times in the past and He will restore me many times in the future as well.'

Remember this: **Jesus did not die just to get you into heaven; He died to get heaven into you!** The difference between your life as a believer and the life of a non-believer is your relationship with the Creator. When the ups and downs of life happen, you do not have to be broken and stay broken. Instead, your soul can be restored, realigned, and recalibrated in Him so that you live and thrive in His fullness! God wants you to have a health-giving soul.

In 3 John verse 2, John wrote:

***Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.***



Having a healthy soul affects everything in your life – and it starts with making God and His priorities your priority.

When your soul is healthy, you will experience peace, joy, contentment, and purpose. So, as you face the road ahead, invite God to be first and welcome His restoration of your soul so that your everyday life prospers, and you play your part in bringing heaven to earth!

**Kidz Church Leaders**

Thank you to those who have, so far, answered our call for Kidz Church Leaders. We do need more for our roster! Please, prayerfully consider taking on a role in this vitally significant ministry. Don't feel daunted - you will be part of a team. Have a conversation with Narelle or Sophie Collins.

- \* **Prayer & Communion** - Tuesdays, 8am, in our Gympie CE Room
- \* **Joy Circle** - Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 9.30am, CE Room

# What's the Plan?

## Jess Pinkerton – Mission Integration Project Officer

Anyone who knows me knows I love to plan. I like writing lists and ticking off tasks when they are complete. I love being organised, knowing what's next, and getting things done. I remember someone telling me as a young adult that “planning and preparation prevents poor performance,” and I wonder if the alliteration, or just the fear of a job not being done well, made it stick.

Like anything, a restoration project needs a plan.

I did Manual Arts (Woodwork) in high school and remember my final year 12 project. We had to design and build something. It could be anything but had to include timber and demonstrate the skills we'd learned. A while earlier, we'd pulled apart my grandparents' milking shed, and I'd decided I wanted to keep the doors. They were old, heavy, covered in dirt, and well-worn but full of wonderful memories of milking and being on the farm.

At that time, I didn't know what I'd do with them, but when that final project was released, I quickly got to work. I got out my 2B pencil, drew a design, and wrote up a plan. First was cleaning, then sanding, measuring, cutting, more sanding, drilling, joining, screwing, and finally oiling. The project took a long time and almost wasn't complete in time for moderation.

Although not everything followed the original plan (like finding that the warped timber meant that the butt joints didn't sit flush on one side and that the original castors weren't strong enough to hold the weight), I stuck at it and adapted the plan as required. The finished product is a blanket box that sits proudly in my lounge room today. I originally used it as my glory box (ask someone who grew up in the 50s or 60s what that is if you don't know), and it's moved with me to every house I've lived in. It's a beautiful piece of furniture, and I'm so glad I get to hold onto this piece of my grandparents' farm. I hope it stays in the family for generations.

I wonder whether Abram had ever thought about how something would be passed down the generations when God appeared to him at ninety-nine. He was childless at that time, but God revealed to him a plan that included children, royalty, new names for him and his wife, and a covenant for a relationship for generations to come (Genesis 17).

No doubt Abraham and Sarah were surprised, but we see that they and God were faithful. If we follow the trail through history, and we find that there were children, royalty, and a covenant relationship that still lasts today. We read later in Romans that Abraham didn't waver “but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had the power to do what he had promised” (Romans 4:20-21).




I wonder if Abraham ever wished to know more of God's plan. I know I do, and sometimes find it hard when I don't know the full plan. But then I remember that God is faithful and has revealed the plan to many along the way and that we are all part of that plan.

The great plan for all people to be in a relationship with God.

So, as we journey to restoration this Lent, let's recognise the faithfulness of God throughout history.

**Let's recognise that God has a plan, that we, the people of God, are part of that plan, and that God is waiting for us to join in, be changed, and be transformed.**



*Pamela Armfield went home to Jesus on Wednesday, 28th February, 2024.  
You are invited to celebrate Pam's life at The Gympie Funeral Home,  
1pm on Monday 11th March. Please keep Malcolm, Chantelle  
and family in your prayers.*

### **Operation Christmas Child 2024**

**During March we're collecting 'Things for School'** - drawing and coloured pencils, felt pens, biro, rubbers, sharpeners, small pencil cases and notebooks/exercise books. **NO RULERS PLEASE.**

*All items need to be NEW, of GOOD QUALITY and of a SIZE THAT ALLOWS A NUMBER OF GIFTS TO FIT IN A SINGLE BOX.* Thank you for your support.

## **A personal invitation to you this Easter ...**

### **Good Friday Service 29<sup>th</sup> of March @ 8am**

1. **Remember and affirm your baptism** - come forward along with others to be anointed in the shape of the cross with oil on your forehead.

**You can do this on Good Friday without any need of prior notice.**

### **Resurrection Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> of March @ 9am**

2. **Reaffirm your (infant) baptism**, by full emersion in water and public acknowledgment of Jesus as your Lord and Saviour.
3. **Repent and be baptised** by full emersion in water as a public acknowledgment of Jesus as your Lord and Saviour.

**If you would like to either (2) reaffirm your baptism or (3) be baptised for the first time by full immersion in water, then please let us know prior to Resurrection Sunday.**



## UNITING 4570 Better Together

In this new year, as we look forward with faith for a new season, we remain energised by the possibilities of RENEWAL.

We seek a deep and powerful renewal that encompasses reflection, recognition, and restoration, one that challenges us to resurrection and re-affirmation, that may ask us to repent or to reconcile, and that calls us to re-align, reimagine, and rejoice.

We need to look clearly at ourselves, and the path set before us.

The Uniting Church has a particular commitment to recognising our imperfections.

Let us also recognise the Spirit in all we do, the possibility of a miracle, and the hope of a new way.

*(Qld Synod)*



### 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 Us

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

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

**Rev Orrell Battersby..** 0423 985 200 [orrell@gruc.org](mailto:orrell@gruc.org)

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

### Offering & Attendance Last Sunday

Attendance: Adults 65 • Children 9 • Facebook 77 • YouTube 8

Total Week's Offering: \$ 2,808.25 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,270.00.

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

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