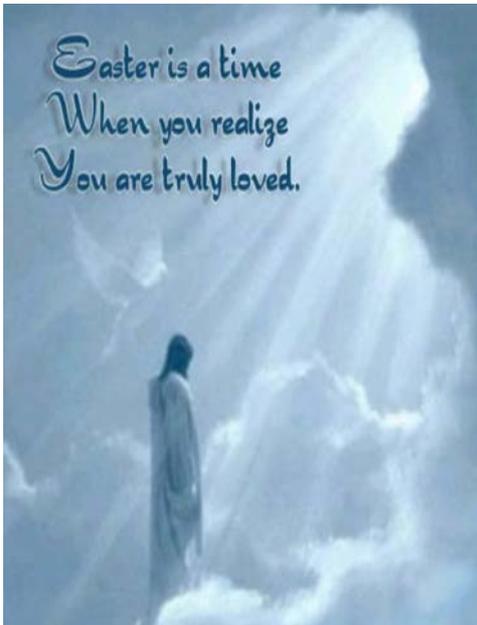




UNITING CHURCH IN  
AUSTRALIA  
**BREMER  
BRISBANE  
PRESBYTERY**

P O Box 70 Booval Fair 4304  
[admin@bremerbrisbane.org.au](mailto:admin@bremerbrisbane.org.au)

*If you have something you would like to share in the May 'BB Connex', please e-mail – We would love to hear from you.*  
[admin@bremerbrisbane.org.au](mailto:admin@bremerbrisbane.org.au)



### Presbytery Dates 2017

- 9<sup>th</sup> May – Property Meeting 3pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> May – Standing Comm. 4pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> May – PRC 7pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> May – Presbytery Meeting – Oxley 9am
- 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Education & Training 1pm

### BBP - Admin office hours

- Monday 9.30am – 2.30pm
- Tuesday 9.30am – 2.30pm
- Wednesday – No Admin
- Thursday 9.30am – 2.30pm
- Friday 9.30am – 2.30pm

# BB CONNEX

April 2017

No. 16

## Brian's Buzz

We are in Holy Week, the most important week of the Christian Year, and the culmination of Jesus life on earth.

Easter Madness has just concluded and we have had many young people and leaders attend and share this time together.

The time with Craig Mitchell recently with an emphasis on discipleship was very fruitful for those who attended and there are summaries and notes that will soon appear on our website summarizing some of that for you.

Easter is a mixed time as we celebrate God's goodness but also the suffering and sinfulness of humankind. This year is no different as we see the goodness of God but are reminded of people's pain as they recover from floods and cyclones both here and overseas. The situation in Syria and drought and famine in Sudan and Ethiopia all bring us face to face with the pain and suffering of our world.

As you prepare to celebrate this Easter remember the world for which Christ died and pray for the healing and wholeness that it currently needs.

May God richly bless you that Easter season.

*Brian*

# DON'T FORGET TO VISIT THE BBP WEBSITE – A WHOLE YEARS WORTH OF EVENTS AND FLYERS FOR YOUR VIEWING AND DIARY



## Mission Shaped Ministry

You are invited to come share in a learning journey, with a supportive community, to be equipped for a lifetime of good practice and learning in growing fresh expressions of church. Whether you want to start a new fresh expression of church, or find a missional edge for your congregation, mission shaped ministry will encourage, equip and inspire.

### Dates for 2017

**10-11 March** - MSM Introduction

**Saturday 3 June** - Leading Missional Communities

**Saturday 26 August** - Young Adult Mission

**Saturday 25 November** - Discipleship & Spirituality in Missional Communities

For more information contact Discipleship Facilitator, Monique Coughlin  
on 0468 989 671 or email: [discipleship@bremerbrisbane.org.au](mailto:discipleship@bremerbrisbane.org.au)



## Musical Liaisons

A Benefit Concert for the CYCLONE DEBBIE RELIEF APPEAL



Sunday 30th April 2017 at 2PM | Brisbane Taiwanese Uniting Church

# Induction of Reverend Aaron Moad as Minister of the Word, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at Graceville Uniting Church



Reading – Meg Trenaman



Preaching of the Word – Reverend Janet Staines



With help from his daughter Elspeth aged 3½



## **ASSEMBLY NEWS - 40 Days of Prayer/Week of Prayer and Fasting**

From 14 May until our Church anniversary on 22 June I will lead 40 days of prayer. That period of prayer will start with Moderators, General Secretaries and myself coming together for 40 hours of continuous prayer. Prayer resources will be shared across the church.

That 40 days will include A Destiny Together – a week of prayer and fasting for justice for First Peoples.

Conferences The Uniting Church History Association will be formally launched at a national conference at Pilgrim Uniting Church in Adelaide from 9-12 June.

Later in June and in August there will be President's National Ministers' Conferences, open to all people in specified placement. The first conference will take place in Darwin from 29 June-2 July under the banner Honouring First Peoples as Sovereign.

The second conference will run alongside the Uniting Leaders 2017 conference in Adelaide, South Australia from 22-24 August.

The Assembly Working Group on Worship and Formation, Education & Discipleship will also host the Transforming Worship conference at Burnside Uniting Church in Adelaide from 27-30 July.

Stuart McMillan  
President

**'Code of Ethics' Training**  
**will be held at Goodna UC on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June from 9am - this**  
**will be immediately followed by SMC Ministers Component - all**  
**should be finished by 2pm - will confirm nearer the time**

### **SAFE MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN TRAINING**

These courses will run every month

Walloon UC – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 9am – 12 noon  
Centenary UC - Thursday in May – 6pm to 9pm (Date TBC)  
Glebe Rd UC – Saturday June – 9am to 12 Noon (Date TBC)  
Indooroopilly UC – Saturday July - 9am to 12 Noon (Date TBC)

Do you need SMC training at your Congregation? E-mail Melloney asap

## *Personal Profile – Rev. Glen Schweitzer (Chapel Hill Uniting Church)*

### *What's your earliest childhood memories?*

There are two that come to mind. The first is holidaying at Cabaritta beach with my family and watching my dad catch Tailor from the beach. He looked ridiculous (at least to me) in his big waders...but the fish tasted amazing.

The second would be times at Kindergarten. A life long friendship (best man at his wedding and he at mine) was formed, a girl who used to steal my hat (now a part of Chapel Hill UC)...and every now and then I remind her...and she laughs the same way she did then! But the strongest memory from then was the day my mum was late to pick me up as her car had broken down. All the other kids had gone and it was just me and the teacher. I remember tears of sadness and abandonment for her not being there (I was only 4!) and then tears of joy when she arrived. I might be making it up now...but I am pretty sure she took me out for a treat that day.



*What's the best thing that has happened to you?* The discovery of being loved. Firstly, by my parents, then discovering God's love for me, then my wife's (Vikki) and my now teenage twin children, Jacob and Zoe.

*Tell me about someone who has influenced your life* A lady who lead a Life Group while I was at uni – her name is Margie. As a late teen I was living a dual life; the uni life and the church life. No matter what I did, no matter what I didn't do, Margie was a constant to accept me. She helped me to understand grace and forgiveness more fully.

*What might we be surprised to know about you ?* I played tennis against Pat Rafter, Scott Draper, Josh Eagle (all my vintage and all played Davis Cup for Oz). They pretty much beat me. But I did take one set off Josh Eagle in Toowoomba once.

*What do you do for fun ?* Movies, friends, watch my wife paddleboard (I am terrible at it...but no jokes about 'balance' in my life please)

*Describe for us your faith journey?* Grew up in a Christian home. At age 15 I remember believing that Jesus accepted me and because of Him I was going to be ok. At age 16 my brother was killed and the questions started about how could God allow this? I remember at age 21 beginning to understand grace more fully - and I stopped trying to earn God's and other people's approval. What a relief that was!

*Describe for us your ministry path.* I am thankful for the way Logan Uniting Church gave me opportunity to lead from an early age. It was a part of their DNA. I was nurtured as a worship leader from age 15, was given the task of leading 12 young adults at the church which grew to over 50 young adults, was as an elder and preacher. Someone then asked me if I had considered 'ministry'...and I said I thought that's what I was doing. Of course they meant ordained ministry.

After completing my POD, I heard the call to Logan Uniting Church as ‘Associate Minister’ and served there for 10 years.

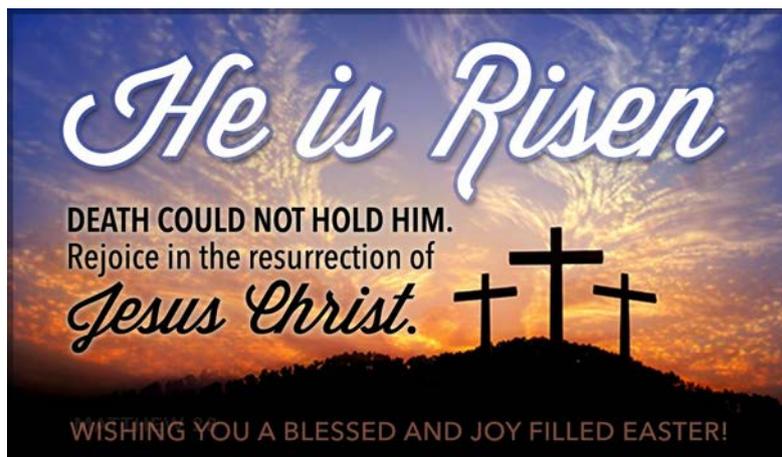
I was then called to Chapel Hill UC and candidate at the same time in 2013. The last (almost) four years have been challenging and rewarding, tough and excellent. Thankful Jesus is Lord and He is building His church.

*What has God been teaching you recently?* Two things: Strangely enough, firstly, the same lesson since I was 15. Don’t let yourself become someone who you are not just so you are liked or accepted – because I (God) accept you. (Happy to talk more about that if ever you are interested!).

Secondly, things tend to rise and fall on leadership...so make sure I am leading diligently.

*What are your hopes and dreams for the future ?* I hope my children continue to find hope and life in Jesus. I hope Vikki and I grow old together and go for many walks on the beach. I hope that somehow, with all my flaws and issues, that I may somehow join in with what God is doing and help many of my family and friends find new life and security in a relationship with Jesus.

Retire at 50? Just kidding...well maybe.



## *From Monique Coughlin - Discipleship Facilitator*

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April**, the presbytery will be hosting its first ‘Community on the Green’ event aimed at Young Adults (aged 18-30). This event will be hosted at Forest Lake Uniting Church using our amazing bell tent. This will be a laid back, get to know you, community building event. There will be live music and the young adults attending are asked to bring a plate of food to share.

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May**, the presbytery will be hosting its first youth and young adult worship service for 2017, at Indooroopilly UC. You might have heard of Boost that was held on a Sunday night in previous year... well ‘Encounter’ is the revamped ‘Boost’ that will be held once a term on a Friday night. This is a great event for our youth and young adults (high school to 30year olds) to come together, share in a time of worship, fellowship and food.

# Induction of Reverend Craig Batty as Minister of the Word, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at Centenary Uniting Church



Three gifts from Rev. Russell Reynoldson: shoes, a spirit level and a glove – in his message



Prayers of the people Marilyn Hunt & Rev. Dr Elizabeth Nolan