



UNITING CHURCH IN
AUSTRALIA
**BREMER
BRISBANE
PRESBYTERY**

P O Box 70 Booval Fair 4304
admin@bremerbrisbane.org.au

If you have something you would like to share in the April 'BB Connex', please e-mail – We would love to hear from you.
admin@bremerbrisbane.org.au



Presbytery Dates 2017

- 28th March – Education & Training Meeting – 1pm
- 4th February – Property Meeting – 3pm
- 4th February – Standing Committee – 4pm
- 4th February – PRC – 7pm

Bremer Brisbane Presbytery Admin office hours

- Monday 9.30am – 2.30pm
- Tuesday 9.30am – 2.30pm
- Thursday 9.30am – 2.30pm
- Friday 9.30am – 2.30pm

BB CONNEX

February & March 2017

No. 15

Brian's Buzz

What an exciting range of offerings are available at the moment for people who want new ideas, information, practical examples that will benefit their life and mission and engagement with church and community. As a Presbytery, we are excited to be hosting Craig Mitchell, the National Director of the Assembly Body Formation, Education and Discipleship. Craig will be presenting a range of seminars in Bremer and the Downs around the theme of Discipleship. Try and catch at least one of these events. Mission Shaped Ministry (The Introduction) started last weekend. The format was changed this year so that the course will be offered over four Saturdays that each can stand alone but there is great benefit in doing all four which covers the whole course. There is also the Further faster conference at Newlife Church, Robina on the 20-21 March promoting churches to grow further and faster.

Don't forget the Tuesday night series that Indooroopilly offer which has a diverse range of topics with quality speakers. Check their website, or upcoming events for details. Trinity Unplugged is on 24 March with Dr Sam Chan talking about sharing faith at school or work. And we can't forget Safe Ministry with Children training which is required every 2 years, continues, please contact Melloney if your congregation needs training and check the dates in 'Upcoming Events'.

There are a great range of offerings that help our ministry and mission. Please engage with these opportunities and flavor your ministry and learning with these quality offerings.

Brian



Bremer Brisbane Presbytery needs a Logo – can you help ?

- ❖ *Do you like a bit of a challenge ?*
- ❖ *We need a logo for Bremer Brisbane Presbytery – get your thinking caps on and see if you can come up with an awesome, modern, relevant design.*
- ❖ *Entries close end of March.*
- ❖ *Please e-mail to Melloney admin@bremerbrisbane.org.au*

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

50 Years of Lay Preaching (Now 51 !)

Way back in January 1966 in the Tewantin Methodist Church on the Sunshine Coast, Harry Thompson was presented with his Lay Preachers Certificate by the Reverend Robert Walker, Minister of the Noosa Methodist Circuit. Fifty years later, on 24 January 2016, a still very-youthful-looking Mr Walker accepted an invitation to join the Presbytery of Bremer Brisbane Chairperson, Reverend Brian Hoole, in presenting Harry with his Fifty Years Certificate as an Accredited Lay Preacher. The presentation formed part of a special service which takes place each year



in January before the new year's activities commence in the Oxley Uniting Church in Brisbane. Harry felt especially privileged as there are very few times in the life of the Church that the person who made the initial presentation fifty years ago is able to attend fifty years later to present the 50th Certificate. These days, Harry ponders on a Church that provides accredited Lay Preachers with very few opportunities to engage in a preaching ministry.



Care of Colleen & Geoff Keena

Journey To Greece - 17th September – 1st October 2017

Escorted by Rev Rod Fisher

Come along on an unforgettable journey in the footsteps of St Paul, as we travel through some of the most significant historical and religious sites in Greece, from ancient empires, to the early church and through to modern times. Whatever your particular interest, there will be lots to see and do, plenty of bucket list items to tick and even enough time to rest in-between.

Rev Rod Fisher is a Minister in the Uniting Church and lives with his wife and two sons in Brisbane. He is passionate about teaching and learning, having fun and meeting new people. He is eager to share his insights gained during his recent tour of Greece in 2015. This journey will be enjoyed by both student and tourist alike, regardless of educational or religious background. Be prepared to learn, to laugh and to join in the adventure.

Click on link for more info and registration form



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



EASTER MADNESS 2017 – Registrations close in 8 days !

7-10 APRIL

Sunshine Coast Recreational Centre
Currimundi Beach
Registration Cost: \$250
<http://eastermadness.com.au/register/>

One week before Easter we'll break open the life-changing story and uncover the **TRUE** meaning of Easter! Young People (high school to 25yrs) across Queensland will have the chance to come together and explore what '*real world faith*' means.
Easter Madness 2017 is going to be filled with lots of fun activities, worship and much more.

For more information and registration please visit eastermadness.com.au

EASTER MADNESS

Do you know of some youth and young adults (high school to 25year olds) who would like to attend Easter Madness, but have not registered? Numbers are quickly filling and the closing date for registrations is quickly approaching! Only 8 days left until registrations close! So please encourage your young people to register ASAP. Easter Madness is a great weekend for young people across Queensland to come together, be reminded that they are part of a bigger community, and explore God's amazing, gracious, love for all while looking at the Easter Story. For more information visit the Easter Madness website or facebook page. <https://eastermadness.com.au/>

The Induction of Rev Sharene Fechner to Forest Lake UC

22nd January 2017



'Code of Ethics' Training

will be held at Goodna UC on Friday 23rd June from 9am – this will be immediately followed by SMC Ministers Component – all should be finished by 1pm – will confirm nearer the time

Trinity Unplugged – Sharing Faith at Work and School

Jesus commands us to make disciples. But are we all equipped for the job?

How do you talk with your friends about following Jesus?

Sam Chan (gifted evangelist and trainer in evangelism) will help us think through some of the key steps to telling our friends about Jesus and the challenges of doing this in a pluralistic society. He will help us to tell our story as a story.

This evening isn't just for adults. It's for Christians at school too. We've put this Trinity Unplugged on a Friday night so that you can bring along your youth group before heading out for some fun on the town.

Speaker: Dr Sam Chan

Time: 7-9pm

Date: Friday 24th March

Venue: Trinity College Queensland, Level 1, 60 Bayliss St, Auchenflower Parking onsite

Cost: \$10 Refreshments included

SAFE MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN TRAINING

These courses will run every month

Centenary Uniting Church - Thursday 30th March 6pm – 9pm

Indooroopilly – April – details to be confirmed

Rosewood/Haigslea – details to be confirmed

Glebe Rd – May – details to be confirmed.



The Closing of the Darra Congregation and Commissioning of Pastor Dr Phuoc Dang

19th February 2017

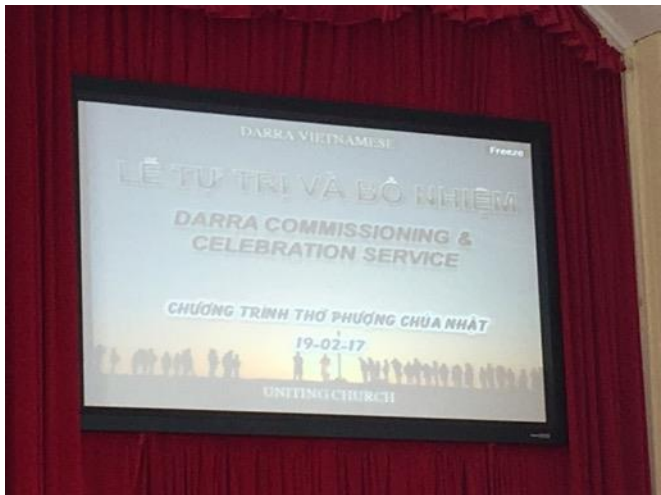
The 19th February 2017 was a very special day in the life and history of the Uniting Church in Darra.

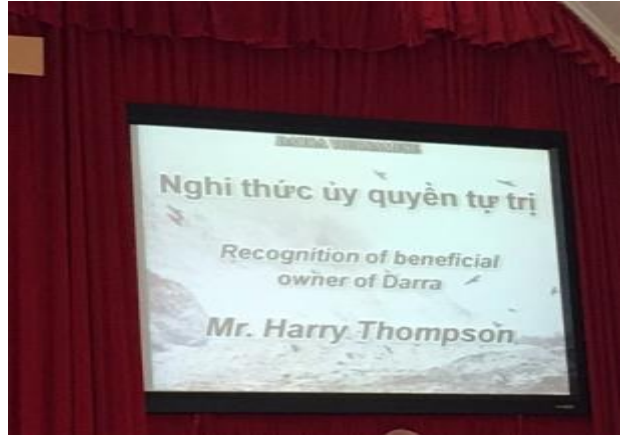
The first celebration was the formal closing of the Darra congregation that had been in existence for over 100 years. The congregation had been in recess for several years but it was time to formally close the congregation.

However, this closure opened the way for the property to be given formally to the Darra Vietnamese congregation that worship there. It is one of the few occasions where a CALD congregation has been given property with no strings attached and so this was an important occasion to celebrate.

The third and equally important event was the commissioning of Dr Phuoc Dang as the Pastor for the Darra Vietnamese people, having served his time within the Uniting Church before he could be commissioned.

It was a great day of celebration with Presbytery Chair (Rev Andrew Gunton) and Presbytery Minister (Rev Brian Hoole) both leading parts of the service.





FROM MONIQUE COUGHLIN

As you hopefully would have heard by now Craig Mitchell, the National Director of Formation, Education and Discipleship will be joining Bremer Brisbane and the Downs Presbyteries next week to share with us about leading a community of Growing Disciples.

This is a great opportunity for ministry agents, leaders within congregations and people passionate about discipleship to come together, grow in community, be inspired, feel equipped and have an opportunity to ask and explore questions about growing disciples together. Each session that Craig is offering will offer fresh insight and allow opportunities to build on your ministry and vision for your congregation and community. RSVP by this coming Friday to the sessions that you would like to attend.

It is not too late to grab a team and come along! These sessions will be well worth your time! Hope to see you there!

STRETCHING FAITH – 19th March

Just a final quick reminder that our first Stretching Faith session for 2017 will be happening this Sunday, 19th March 6:30pm-8:30pm at Forest Lake Uniting Church.

MINISTER'S LUNCH – 22nd March

The Minister's Lunch for Bremer Brisbane will be held on the 22nd March, 11am-2pm at Oxley Uniting Church. Cost will be \$5 per person and presbytery will be providing lunch, so please RSVP by Monday morning if you are able to attend. Craig Mitchell will be joining us for the minister's lunch and will be sharing a session on 'Leading a Community of Growing Disciples'.

CONSULTATIONS WITH CRAIG – 24TH March

On Friday 24th March between 9am-12pm at Goodna Uniting Church, there will be an opportunity for congregations to book a one on one consultation with Craig Mitchell. This is a great opportunity for ministry agents or leaders within your congregation to meet with Craig to discuss;

- discipleship strategies
- ask advice or seek direction regarding discipleship within your local context
- or discuss any other questions that you might have for Craig.

Each consultation session can go up to 40 minutes. We only have 4 spaces available, so contact me ASAP if you would like to book a spot with Craig.

Consultation times available on Friday 24th March:

- 9am-9:40am
- 9:45am-10:25am
- 10:30am-11:10am
- 11:15am-11:55am

