

PIONEER VALLEY UNITING CHURCHES

Mission Statement: *Sharing Christ throughout the Pioneer Valley and in
Worship Services at Walkerston, Mirani, Eungella*



'The Window'

14th June, 2020

Preparations are being made for the resumption of the Parish Worship Services on **Sunday, 5th July, 2020** in The Valley UCA and St. Andrew's UCA. However, please watch this space and wait for confirmation from Pastor Allen or myself. In the meantime, please continue to join our Zoom Worship Services using the Link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/559169125>

Bible Reading: Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23) (NIV)

The Workers Are Few

³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.

³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

10 ¹Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;

³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;

⁴ Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans.

⁶ Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel.

⁷ As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’

⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy,^[a] drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

⁹ “Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts—

¹⁰ no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff, for the worker is worth his keep.

¹¹ Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave.

¹² As you enter the home, give it your greeting.

¹³ If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you.

¹⁴ If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet.

¹⁵ Truly I tell you, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

¹⁶ “I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

¹⁷ Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues.

¹⁸ On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles.

¹⁹ But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say,

²⁰ for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

²¹ “Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death.

²² You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.

²³ When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

Discipleship Thought: *Jesus addressed the disciples inviting them to participate in his mission, acknowledging that the task is overwhelming – “the labourers are few”. We could easily apply those words in our own times. Sometimes the size*

of the tasks of servant leadership seem almost impossible. This pales into insignificance when compared to what he asked them to do. "Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the leper, cast out demons." What a job description. Of course, this generation has made huge strides in medicine and disease control, but that is not what he is on about. The clue lies in his words, "As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The Kingdom of heaven has come near'." This is the power of the Gospel to save, to heal and to renew. Dwelling in the "kingdom of heaven" makes all things possible, even those things which seem impossible, for it is our perspective that is changed, and new horizons are ever before us.

Prayer: God of love and grace, we come to offer our adoration, praise and thanksgiving.

In you we find fullness of life.

In you we encounter pure truth.

In you we come to know abundant life.

Receive our praise and thanks, for truly, we adore you.

May your goodness be acknowledged in every place.

May your people shine with your perfect love.

May you be glorified forever. Amen

(Words for Worship 14th June, 2020)



Each week during Worship we pray for families from our congregations. This week we pray for:

Pray for....John & Beth Higham and Families, Greg & Kathryn Wicks and Families, Dianne & Bill Hobbs and Families, Val & Angus McGregor and Families.

....those receiving or recovering from medical treatment – Carl, Richard, Len, Rev Nathan, Debbie, Ray, Stephen's father, Earl, Ruth, Kevin, Angus, Megan.

A Prayer for Comfort and Healing: Loving God, we pray that you will comfort those who are suffering, lend skill to the hands of the medical people, and bless the means used in all sources of treatment. Give those in need confidence in the power of your grace, that even when they are afraid, they may put their whole trust in you; through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

....commonsense amongst members of our communities. Pray that they take notice of the self-isolation regulations.

....the Leaders of our Country as they make decisions in these uncertain times.

....the safety of medical staff across the world as they provide medical treatment for those who have been in contact with the coronavirus and other diseases.

....those who have contracted COVID-19, for those who are recovering and for those who have lost loved ones.

....all who work in frontline services: Hospitals, Schools, Residential Care, Emergency Services, Counsellors and our Community Services.

....teachers, parents and children as they return to school on Monday.

....Ian and Lynn in their missionary work.

....**Parish Elders** - Bruce, Beth, Morelle, Sam, Colleen and Lyn.

....**individuals and families** who are feeling stressed, sad and lonely, the homeless and for those who have lost their jobs.

....**individuals, families** to come to know the Lord and join our members in Worship as soon as we are all able.

....**an abundance of finances for our Parish.**

....**members of our Church Council and Property Committee.**

....**safety in the workplace.**

....**Reach Out Activities.**

....**those who are being affected by the violence in our community, in our nation and all over the World.**

....the members of **Local, State and Federal Governments.**

....**Scripture Union Queensland, Bible Society, Frontier Services and School Chaplaincy.**



....**Pastor Allen Soxsmith, Moderator - Rev David Baker, Rev Suzy Sitton** who is the **Interim CQ Presbytery Minister.**

....**for retired ministers** who are doing supply ministry and for the **lay people** who are working to keep Parishes functioning.

....**for our families and friends** and for the **freedom** we take for granted in our Country.

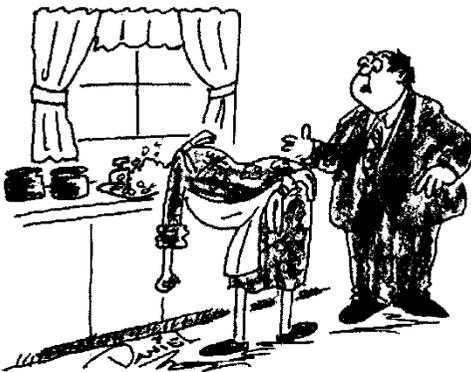
....**for Teachers, RI Instructors, School Chaplains** and all those who work with children.

....**for Lay Preachers and Retired Ministers** who give of their time and talents conducting Worship Services across the Mackay District.

....**for the many blessings** we receive in our daily lives.

....**for the joy children and grandchildren** bring to our families.

A Little Humour: ☺



"GOSH, HONEY, I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULD MIND HAVING ONE MORE JOB AT THE CHURCH."

Monday Morning Prayer with Moderator Rev David Baker:

Loving God, we give you thanks for the changing of the season that reminds us again that we are a part of something so much bigger than ourselves.

In the midst of times of distancing and isolation may we know even more keenly your presence and your plenty.

By your spirit, prompt us to know where we can serve you and love our neighbour, near and far, in new, unexpected and generous ways. Amen. Rev John Ruhle



1 Georgia Woolston (18th)

Thomas Wicks (19th)



Amelia Viti (20th)

June Income \$700.00

June Expenditure \$80.00

Planning is underway for the Annual Harvest Blessing Service as per below. The Government COVID-19 Restrictions are being revised all the time, so please be aware that this Event may be cancelled or postponed.

Proposed date for Harvest Blessing Service



**Combined
Pioneer Valley
Churches**

*Invite you to join us
for an afternoon of fun and friendship
as we ask for
God's Blessing of the Harvest*

- ☛ **WHEN....**Sunday, 5th July, 2020
- ☛ **TIME....**3pm to 4pm
- ☛ **WHERE....**Marian Catholic Church Hall
- ☛ **WHY....**to ask God's Blessing on this year's Harvest
- ☛ **WE WILL....**be taking up a Collection.

S.H.I.N.E – (Seeking Him In Everything) For the youth and young at heart

When Jesus saw the people he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless. Is he calling you today to become a shepherd for his sheep?

Jesus, I wonder why you don't call me to work for you?
Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, I'm happy to work for you as long as I don't have to change anything in my life.

Christ, have mercy.

Jesus, help me to tune into your voice so that I may hear your call, and then to respond.

Lord, have mercy.

Story: Sometimes we feel that God has not called us to anything special and that can feel as though we aren't worthy to be called. But actually God calls all of us. If we really want to respond to God's call, we need to learn to hear and identify his voice.

In this story, Toby isn't sure whether he has heard his master calling, or whether it's his own imagination and yearning.

Toby Hears The Call - Toby pricked up his ears. He stood stock still, only his nose quivering as he listened intently for the call. He couldn't remember how long he had lived in the forest. He could only just remember Mr Digby, who had been his master. But he could remember very well that fateful day when Mr Digby had put him into the car and taken him for a ride.

Toby had been so excited. He loved the car and would sit with his nose pressed against the window as they sped along roads, up and down hills, round corners, through woods, past fields and at last into the forest. As soon as Mr Digby had opened the back of the car, Toby had shot out like a bullet from a gun and had sped into the forest. He had capered and played and jumped and rolled until he was so tired he could hardly stand. Then he had looked around for Mr Digby, but Mr Digby was nowhere to be seen.

Toby had trotted around for a while with his nose snuffing the ground, trying to sniff for Mr Digby. But he was unable to detect any of Mr Digby's scent. Then he had started to howl as loudly as he could, until some of the forest deer chased him away and a fox bared its teeth at him. Then he had slunk into some undergrowth and fallen asleep.

Each day since then he had hunted for Mr Digby, but without success. Toby knew he had been in the forest for a long time, because he was aware that he had grown. But he didn't know whether that had been weeks, months or years.

He had learned a lot, being on his own. He had learned to hunt for his own food, he had learned to keep clear of the bog in the centre of the forest (having once fallen in and smelt terrible for days), and he had learned to be wary of some animals and humans. Most of the time he was content, especially now that the weather was warm and sunny.

But he still yearned for Mr Digby, even though deep in his heart Toby suspected that Mr Digby was far away by now and unlikely to return. And there was another problem too. It had been Toby's own fault that he was lost, so perhaps Mr Digby was so angry with him that he would never want him back. Toby felt cold whenever this thought occurred to him.

Today Toby wandered further away from the part of the forest he had come to look upon as "home". And now he had heard a sound. At least, he thought it was a sound, but he wasn't sure. He so longed for it to be Mr Digby's call, but it was so very faint and quiet that he had to strain to hear anything. Then again, perhaps it was nothing, just Toby's imagination running riot.

He was rather afraid to move in the direction from which he thought perhaps the call had come. If he went too far that way, he might become lost again and never find his way back to his forest home. And he might very well have been wrong. Why should Mr Digby come back for him after all this time?

But Toby couldn't help himself. He found himself trotting down a strange path going far away from his forest home, just in case it had been Mr Digby's call. After a while he thought perhaps he heard the call again, but it was still very faint and he still wasn't sure. Nonetheless it heartened him and he set off faster.

Toby ran and ran until he was nearly too tired to go another step. But then he heard a familiar whistle and the words, "Come on, Toby! Here boy!" Toby raced into the forest car park and leapt at Mr Digby, who was so thrilled that tears began to trickle down his cheeks.

"Well, well, now! After all this time! I've been here every day for two years calling for you. I began to think you'd never hear me. Let me look at you -- you've grown into a fine dog!" And Mr Digby hugged and cuddled Toby. Then he said seriously, "Do you want to come home with me, boy? After all, you've been on your own for a long time now. You may prefer to stay in the forest."

But Toby licked Mr Digby's face until he had no licks left, then he jumped into the car. He settled down with his head on his paws, full of the most supreme joy he had ever known. At last he had heard and heeded his master's call and now he was going home where he belonged.

Blessing: May you focus on God, learn to identify his voice and respond to his call. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you, be in your homes and in your families, with those whom you love and with those for whom you pray, both now and always. **Amen.**

Mottos for Success: Tell others what you are thinking, rather than expecting them to read your mind or correctly interpret your actions.

Contact Details: P.O. BOX 152, WALKERSTON 4751

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Minister: Pastor Allen Soxsmith

Phone Number: 07 4959 3974



8.00am Every Sunday

St Andrew's UCA

Bold Street

WALKERSTON



10.00am Every Sunday

The Valley UCA

Victoria St

MIRANI

EUNGELLA

3.00pm

Holy Communion

ECDA Hall

EUNGELLA

Elders: Beth Higham 4958 3158: Morelle Coxwell 4959 1229: Bruce Kerr 4966 6924: Lynette Gargano 4951 4075: Colleen Brown 4954 5470: Sam Fernando 4959 3298

Electronic Banking Details

UCA Pioneer Valley – ANZ Bank - BSB: 014-010

Account No: 2115 57247

Containers for Change

ANYTHING ENVIRONMENTAL, 19 INTERLINK COURT, PAGET.

Parish's Registered Number **C10195946**

Alternatively, collect the cash and drop it into the offering plate.

Newsletter: Kerith Noy: 07 4959 2328: **email:** glen.noy@bigpond.com or

P O Box 346, Walkerston Q 4751

Prayer Warrior: Vicki Kiem: Mob: 0408 767 331:

email: vakmoss@gmail.com

7.40am-7.55am – St Andrew's Vestry – Sundays

Lectionary Readings:

14th June, 2020 - Pentecost 2 - Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7); Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

21st June, 2020 - Pentecost 3 - Genesis 21:8-21 or Psalm 86: 1-10,16-17; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

28th June, 2020 – Pentecost 4 - Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

5th July, 2020 – Pentecost 5 - Genesis 24:34-38, 42-29, 58-67; Psalm 45:10-17 or Song 2:8-13; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

12th July, 2020 – Pentecost 6 – Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

19th July, 2020 – Pentecost 7 – Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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