PIONEER VALLEY UNITING CHURCHES

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



22nd November, 2026

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

Website: www.pioneervalleyunitingchurch.org.au

Email: wallies3113@bigpond.com or **dmcoxwell@bigpond.com**

If you have an enquiry, please phone one of the Elders

Morelle Coxwell 0448 111 265: Beth Higham 0428 583 158:
Bruce Kerr 07 4966 6924: Colleen Brown 07 4954 5470

Church Council: Morelle Coxwell (Chairperson):
Michelle Wallin (Secretary): Kerith Noy (Treasurer)





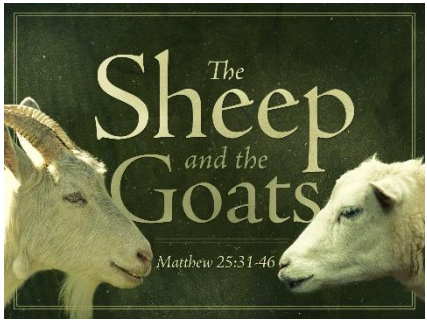
8.00am Every Sunday
St Andrew's UCA
Bold Street
WALKERSTON

9.00am Every Sunday
The Valley UCA
Victoria St
MIRANI

EUNGELLA

No Services at present

Welcome, we are glad you have joined us in Worship. You are invited to stay for morning tea following the Service.



Selected Reading: Matthew 25:31–46

Theme: Reign of vulnerability

Discipleship Thought: On this Reign of Christ Sunday, Jesus centres us on the Vital importance of tangible actions of love extended to those who are vulnerable. The parable affirms that Jesus himself meets us in the guise of those who are hungry, naked, or imprisoned in whatever form as well as those who to us seem strange. We are invited to look with respect (literally, to look again) – beyond the surface that we might perceive with our hearts a

glimpse of that which is of God.

Amidst the gloom of our day, we might ask: Where can we find God in this world? This passage invites us to see God all around us. God sitting next to us on the bus. God lying in a hospital bed. God weeping and in need of comfort. Each person we encounter is potentially a transformative gift, an open door to a surprising communion. We may also find ourselves experiencing compassionate presence and solidarity from those who dare to take seriously that God reigns through vulnerability.

Prayer: How beautiful, how breathtaking, is your love for us, O Christ.

You joined your life to the fullness of our humanity and summon us to see each other with sacred dignity.

We celebrate the life of solidarity, compassion and communion that you are bringing to bear through tangible actions of love which we receive and in which we might participate.

We are humbled.

We are grateful, O Christ. Amen..

Words for Worship CCLi 386034



Pray for….all members of our Parish and our Church Families. This week we pray for Glen, Kerith & Families, Adam, Wade, Donna & Family, Alan, Elspeth, Gerry & Family, Craig and Hugh, Wade, Nicole, Matthew and Kelsey.

….God's Comfort and Healing to enfold our congregation members, friends and family who are experiencing health issues at this time…Frank, Glen, Madison, Melanie, John S, John, Ian & Lynn, Beth and Gwen.

….individuals and families who are feeling sad and lonely, the homeless and for those who have lost their employment and income.

….Ian and Lynns' Missionary Work and for missionaries all over the world.

….new families to join our Congregations.

….people all over the world who are experiencing natural disasters.

….families who have farewelled loved ones this past week.

….safe travel for parish members who are travelling.

….the people of Calen, that they may be encouraged to gather together and Worship God in their local Church.

….Christians who live in countries where their lives are not safe and they need to secretly worship in church houses and are persecuted for their faith. Pray these believers will be able to worship together without fear.

….the Congregations and Ministry Teams of our local Uniting Churches - **St Paul's, Armitage, Calen, Iona West, Northside, Proserpine and Sarina.**

….all students as they prepare for their final assessments for 2026.

….Teachers, Relief Teachers, Teacher's Aides, Students, RI Teachers and

School Chaplains.

….family and friends who are travelling and the members of Presbytery who will be travelling home from this weekends services and meetings.

….soldiers at war, aid workers, their families, and all who are affected by the devastation of war.

….those who are being affected by the ever-increasing violence in our community, across our nation and around the world.

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

….Scripture Union Queensland, Mackay Street Chaplaincy and RI Teachers and the Gideons International Local Group.

….Medical practitioners, nursing staff, emergency service members, first responders at accidents, counsellors and all who care for the people in our community and beyond in times of bereavement and crisis situations.



for….CQ Presbytery Ministers - Rev Scott Ballment and Rev Suzy Sitton, Moderator - Rev Bruce Moore and Uniting Church President - Rev Charissa Suli.

….our families and friends.

….the **freedom** we take for granted in our Country**.**

….Alun and Lesley and their commitment to St Andrew's and Calen Congregations and **Noela** for her commitment to The Valley Congregation. We also pray for congregation members who are 'stepping up' to conduct Worship Services in the Parish.

….the many blessings we receive in our daily lives.

….the friendship our congregations share over morning tea each Sunday.

….the joy children and grandchildren bring to our families.

….the volunteers who give of their time and energy to work with the people in need.

….for the life of the Late Mrs Ethel Reason who was a valued member of St Andrew's Congregation for many years.

….for the **freedom** we take for granted in our Country.

….for the gift of life and the opportunities ahead.

What's Happening!



NEXT SUNDAY, 29th November, 2026 following the Worship Service in The Valley Uniting Church, Mirani.

IONA WEST CHRISTMAS CAROLS SERVICE

Sunday, 29th November, 2026, Brooks Street, West Mackay. Free Sausage Sizzle - 6.30pm Carols and the Christmas Story - 7pm.







FAMILY CHRISTMAS CAROLS WITH CHAPPY

5.30pm

Saturday, 5th December, 2026

CALEN COMMUNITY CHURCH

42 McIntyre Street, Calen

Come and enjoy the Spirit of Christmas
with carol singing and children's story time.
FREE sausage sizzle and snacks after!
See you there!



The final Iona West Men's Breakfast for 2026 is at **7:30am** on **Saturday, 5th December, 2026** at 7 Brooks Street, West Mackay, cost is $5. The December speaker is Bruce Kerr. Bruce is an Elder at the Valley Uniting Church and will share about his faith journey, his travels and how each of us can bring change and goodness in the lives around us. We look forward to welcoming the regulars and any new men that want to join us for breakfast and a chat in a casual atmosphere.
Any queries or to RSVP please contact Anthony and the team.
Email: mensbreakfast@ionawest.org.au



7.00PM - SUNDAY, 6th DECEMBER, 2026

cnr Victoria & Louise Streets, Mirani.

Come and join us in Worship at The Valley Uniting Church, Mirani as we Praise God and Celebrate the Christmas Season with the Turning on of the Christmas Lights Display, the opportunity to watch the Nativity Display in the window, join in the Carol Singing, listen to the Christian Themed Message and stay for Supper afterwards. Please bring a small plate of food to share at Supper after the Service. There will be **NO MORNING SERVICE on Sunday, 6th December, 2026** in The Valley Uniting Church!

Everyone is invited to attend the Holy Trinity Church, Gordon St, Mackay to celebrate their **Centenary Year (1926-2026)**.

Saturday, 12th December, 2026 at 3.00pm. (Please be seated by 2.45pm)

Pipe Organ Recital by Resident Organist Rob Covey and Friends.

Sunday, 13th December, 2026 at 9.00am. (Please be seated by 8.45am)

Eucharist Service – The Right Reverend Dr Keith Joseph – Bishop of North Queensland Presiding.

Sunday, 13th December, 2026 at 5.00pm. (Please be seated by 4.45pm)

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols with **Guest Artist: Graeme Connors**.

For seating purposes: RSVP with Number/s and which occasion/s to: admin@mackayanglicans.org.au by **Monday, 30th November, 2026**

Come along and be part of Local History.



Christmas Eve Service in St. Andrew's UCA, Bold Street, Walkerston – 7.00pm – Lay Preachers: Alun & Lesley Tunnah.

Christmas Day Service, 8.00am in The Valley UCA, cnr Louise & Victoria Streets, Mirani.

There will **NO WORSHIP SERVICES** in the **Pioneer Valley Parish** on **Sunday, 27th December, 2026.**



Lord, as I begin this new day, fill my heart with Your peace. Remove every worry and calm my spirit.

Help me walk into with confidence, trusting Your love and Your presence in all I do. Amen.

Bible Verse: Be still in the presence of the Lord and wait patiently for him to act. Psalm 37:7 NLT Strengthen my faith, Lord, by helping me to realise that faith isn't about "not knowing"; it's about "knowing who you know". You are the answer to every question and the solution to every problem. I will trust in You. Amen.



Standing L-R: Bruce Miller, David Jarrott, Dave Anderson, Andrea Olsen, Ron Pearson, Debbie Pearson (Jonelle's Mother), Toni-Maree Dodd, Ian Dodd, Phil Hall, Leanne Hall, Michelle Wallin, Kerith Noy and Rodney Wallin.

Kneeling: L-R: Jeff Stafford, Jonelle Nielsen, Lucas Nielsen, Anthony Nielsen.

The above picture shows the fantastic support Anthony had at the breakfast on Thursday morning from friends and family.

On Thursday morning our Parish was represented by Michelle, Rod, Phil, Leanne and Kerith at the **International Men's Day Breakfast** held in the Windmill Reception Centre. During the morning we heard from Mayor, Greg Williamson, Federal Member from Dawson, Andrew Willcox and viewed a Live Zoom Interview between Jase Attard and Paul Lassig. Paul spoke about the trials and tribulations of leaving home at 15, living in a Youth Hostel, serving in the air force for 16 years and the work he now does, 'helping to instil confidence in young men, helping them to understand how important it is to have the difficult conversations and helping them to speak about the hard moments in their lives'.

There were three finalists in this year's **Shed Happens DGH 2026 Mackay Man of the Year -** Mitch Benson, Anthony Nielsen and Max Lamb. **And the winner was Max Lamb!!** Congratulations Max. Keep up the good work! All nominees were very deserving of their Nomination.

I found this amusing….Rod, Michelle and I sat at a table of nine – four ladies and five men. As the people arrived at the table, we introduced ourselves - Rebecca and Rebekah (both paramedics), Max, Max, Max (three generations), Rod, Michelle, Kerith and the fifth man whose name I didn't catch. But there's more…..the oldest Max went on to say that his father and his grandfather were also named 'MAX'!! This led one of the paramedics saying that the same thing happened in her family, with female members. Six generations had the same name until her brother broke the chain by not naming his daughter the 'family name'. For the life of me I can't think what the name was!



Anthony with Lucas



MP Andrew Willcox, 2026 DGH Man of the Year Max Lamb



Runners Up Mitch Benson and Anthony Nielsen



Leanne Hall (22nd)

Jonelle Nielsen (27th)

Happy Birthday
Kaitlyn Matikainen (25th)



A Little Humour: Timmy didn't want to put his money in the offering plate on Sunday morning, so his mother decided to use some hurried creative reasoning with him.

"You don't want that money, honey," she whispered in his ear. "Quick! Drop it in the plate. It's tainted!"

Horrified, the little boy obeyed.

After a few seconds he whispered, "But, mummy, why was the money tainted? Was it dirty?

"Oh, no dear," she replied. "It's not really dirty. It just 'taint yours', and it 'taint mine', she replied. "It's God's."

Alliance of Christian Religious Education

Supporting local churches with the ministry of Christian Religious Instruction in our local State Schools.

Help Us Bridge the $145K Gap to keep Christian RI Growing in Queensland!

This year, incredible opportunities have opened for Christian Religious Instruction across Queensland. Thanks to the dedicated work of our Regional Development Officers (RDOs) alongside local Christian RI teams, we have recruited and trained 128 new RI Instructors and 24 new RI Coordinators!

With each instructor teaching an average of two classes per week, these new instructors are bringing the teachings of Jesus to over 5000 consented children who did not receive a class before.

However, we face a critical finish line. ACRE is currently facing a funding gap of $145,000 between now and the end of the year to maintain our operational support across the state.

This vital ministry relies almost entirely on the generosity of partners like you. Whether it's $10 a week, a one-off $100 gift, or a major contribution of $1,000 or more, every dollar directly equips instructors and opens classroom doors for children to hear about Jesus.

Will you help us bridge this gap before the year ends?

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today at https://christianri.org.au/donate/. (All gifts over $2 are tax-deductible).

CEO, Ettienne Mc Clintock

Val McGregor thought this was worth passing on: I (Dianne Hobbs) was telling the children (grades1-2) of 'Saul harming Christians'.

I asked them what a Christian was.

Blank looks.

I told them I was a Christian!

A hand shot up.

"Someone old"!!!

SHINE - Seeking Him in Everything

WHO ARE THE KING'S REAL FRIENDS? [Jerusalem] — When he taught the people in Jerusalem, Jesus told them to remember to obey the king. The people

already had two kings. There was King Herod, who ruled their country. People didn't like Herod because he was so cruel.

There was also the emperor in Rome. But people Jesus' country didn't like the Romans because they kept the people from being free and made them pay a lot of taxes.

Jesus said there is a king more important than Herod or the emperor. In fact, the real king is more important than any king in the world — or any president or ruler.

The real king is God, and his Son, Jesus. Both of them have thrones in heaven.

When the world ends we will all stand where the King of heaven can see all of us. He will tell us if we were his friends while we were living day by day. The king's friends help the people whom the king loves. These people are hungry and cold and need our help right now. Read Matthew 25:31-46

SermonSuite.com CCLi 386034

Hidden Message. Use the code below to complete the hidden message. Take the letters that match the numbers under the blanks and fill in the words.

4	18	9	6	1	14	13	10	5	2	17	12	8
U	G	O	H	W	E	H	B	G	E	N	T	T
3	21	11	7	16	23	25	20	15	24	22	19	26
O	R	E	T	I	E	D	F	K	N	I	S	S

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	ST ANDREW'S UCA WALKERSTON				THE VALLEY UCA MIRANI			
Date	***Preacher***	***Bible Reader***	***Prayers***	***Laptop***	***Preacher***	***Bible Reader***	***Prayers***	***Laptop***
22/11	Phil	Leanne	Kerith	Kathryn	Morelle	Dianne	Marion	Thelma
29/11	Alun & Lesley	Michelle	Michelle	Kathryn	Manda	Thelma	Morelle	Au
6/12	Alun & Lesley HC	Kathryn	Kerith	Kathryn	**NO MORNING SERVICE 7.00PM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SERVICE**			
					Noela	Youth	Morelle	Bruce
13/12	Kerith	Neil	Michelle	Kathryn	Au	Elspeth	Marion	Thelma
20/12	Alun & Lesley	Colleen	Kerith	Kathryn	Noela	Dianne	Au	Gerry
24/12	**CHRISTMAS EVE**							
	Alun & Lesley	Kathryn	Michelle	Kathryn				
25/12	**CHRISTMAS DAY**				**CHRISTMAS DAY**			
	NO WORSHIP SERVICE				Phil Hall	Elspeth	Bruce	Bruce
27/12	**NO WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE PARISH**							
Please pray 'The Lord's Prayer' at the end of the Prayer for Others except on Holy Communion Sundays								

Electronic Banking Details – *UCA Pioneer Valley – ANZ Bank – BSB: 014-010: Account No:* 2115 57247

Containers for Change – The Parish's Registered Number is **C10195946.** Or alternatively, collect the cash and drop it into the offering plate.

Newsletter: Kerith Noy: **Mobile**: 0400 799 731
email: glen.kerithnoy78@gmail.com or P O Box 346, Walkerston Q 4751

KYB (Know Your Bible) – Every Thursday 1.30pm, The Valley UCA, Mirani.

Lectionary Readings:

22nd November - Christ the King Sunday - Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24: Psalm 100: Ephesian 1:15-23: Matthew 25:31-46
29th November - Advent 1 - Isaiah 64:1-9: Psalm 80:1-7,17-19: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9: Mark 13:24-37
6th December - Advent 2 - Isaiah 40:1-11: Psalm 85:1-2,8-13: 2 Peter 3:8-15a: Mark 1:1-8
13th December - Advent 3 - Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11: Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24: John 1:6-8,19-28
20th December – Advent 4 - 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16: Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4,19-26: Romans 16:25-27: Luke 1:26-38
24th December - Nativity 1 - Isaiah 9:2-7: Psalm 96: Timothy 2:11-14: Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)
Nativity 2 - Isaiah 62:6-12: Psalm 97: Timothy 3:4-7: Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20
Nativity 3 - Isaiah 52:7-10: Psalm 98: Hebrews 1:1-4,(5-12): John 1:1-14

ANSWER: "We ought to be the King's Friends"

