

PIONEER VALLEY UNITING CHURCHES

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



20th September, 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

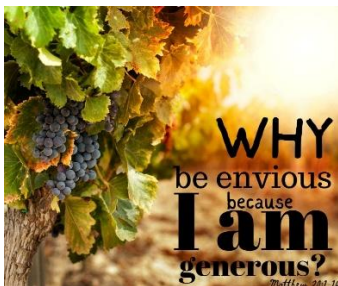
MIRANI

EUNGELLA

No Services at present

EUNGELLA

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



Selected Reading and Theme:

Matthew 20:1–16

Because God is generous

Discipleship Thought: This story, like Jesus' other parables, provokes plenty of debate when heard in a contemporary context. However, basic human responses continue to shine rough.

Labourers were hired on a daily basis from a central location in a village, standard daily

wages were accepted and verbal agreements based on trust and honour. This employer demonstrates a surprising degree of commitment to the unemployed who in turn display commitment to their families as they try to earn enough

money to buy food. Why does the employer offer all the same remuneration, irrespective of hours worked? Why does he send his steward to oversee the payments? What would be our response if we had worked very short hours yet received a day's wage? Or if we had worked hard all day in the hot sun but been paid no more than those recently engaged? Is the employer deceitful or generous? Are the full day workers too self-centred to celebrate the benefit to the whole community when all have enough to feed their families and find well-being? With which character do you have most empathy? What does generosity look like for you?

Prayer: Generous God, thank you for the world in which we live.

Each of us is given a daily share of hours and sunlight, held within rhythms of day and night, the cycles of seasons and years.

We see the abundance of nature and marvel at the fine balance of its ecosystems.

We are moved by the generosity of those who give freely of their time, their energy or their resources.

Thank you for those who work tirelessly for justice in the workplace, for safety and security in our homes and wider community, for human rights in our own country and across the world.

Thank you for all whose commitment to a fairer world inspires, resources and transforms us. Amen.

Words for Worship CCLI 386034



Pray for....all members of our Parish and our Church Families.

This week we pray for the Wicks Families, Marie, Colleen & Barry, Margaret, Christopher, John & Beth and Dianne & Bill.

....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 and Manda.

....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....Betty & Trevor.

....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.

....Teachers, Relief Teachers, Teacher's Aides, Students, RI Teachers and School Chaplains. May they enjoy the school holidays and come back refreshed and ready for Term 3.

....for the 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 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 Minister - Rev Scott Ballment, Qld 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 Congregation and the Calen Congregation 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.

....for the past year we have been praying for twins Hugo and Grayson who were born very premature. The boys are now 1 year old and have ticked off many goals and are doing well. Thank you, Jesus.

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

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

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

....for the time of praise, friendship and catch-ups with past members as we celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the opening of The Valley Church last Sunday.



Almighty God, I pray that You will help me to correct my life to-day that I may know a better way to-morrow; and may I be mindful and try to do right. Grant that I may be patient and kind if I may be sick or in need, and always keep uppermost the faith of deliverance and eternal care. Amen.

What's Happening!!

Save the date: St Paul's UCA Annual Heritage Fete,
24th October, 2026



Thomas Higham (26th)



The Gideons
International
In Australia
THE GIDEONS IS OUR MISSION



You're invited

Faith Fund Event

Providing Bibles For The World

A Dessert and Coffee Evening

The Melaleuca Room	7.00pm
Uniting Church Complex	Friday 16 th October
Fleurs Way, Andergrove	2026

There will be an opportunity to contribute to the provision of scriptures for placement in other lands around the world.

Our guest speaker, Mr Roy Pate, Florida USA, will reveal the working of the Lord's hand during scripture distribution and witnessing in Liberia, Chile, Malaysia, Cote d'Ivoire and Madagascar.

RSVP : 13th October -   David 0408 061 500  mackay@camps.Gideons.org.au



L–R: Yvonne MacDonald, Chris Fyfe, CQ Presbytery Minister – Rev Suzy Sitton, Beth Higham, Thelma Johnston, Morelle Coxwell.

Thank you to Marion Crouther, Morelle Coxwell and Thelma Johnston for their words on the Anniversary Celebrations.

Marion: The Valley Church was full of Joy and Friendship as more than 50 people gathered to celebrate together 30 years of Worship in the current building. There were folk from near and far, from Walkerston and the Valley and those who travelled to be with us. Noela and her family were there and also Allen Soxsmith. Messages came from Rev. Bernie Jarius and Rev Brian Gilbert. Former Elder, Chris Fyfe and her husband, Bruce were in attendance. Chris presented a summary of the planning and work that went into the process of building and the folk involved. Alan and Shirley Rowe travelled from Bundaberg to share in the celebrations and reminisced on Alan's late parents, John and Joyce, long and faithful service here to the Parish. John as an Elder and Joyce as the organist. The Reverend Suzy Sitton ably led us in our worship during which it was great to lift our voices in well-loved but ever true praise of God's continuing presence in our lives. Morelle, Earl, Bruce and the children played their part in showing both the human and spiritual parts needed to build a church on Christ the cornerstone and faithful worship by people past, present and future. Once again, Thelma Johnston did a wonderful job of making and icing the Anniversary cake. It was delicious!

There was laughter, happiness and friendship underlaid with thankfulness to God and a quiet determination to continue worshipping Him into the future. Afterwards as usual, there was time and plenty of good food for folk to share and enjoy old and new friendships.

Morelle: What a wonderful joyous service we had to celebrate this special milestone. We give our Lord thanks and praise that we were able to come together and acknowledge the faith and service of all who established our foundation churches in Finch Hatton, Pinnacle, Marian, Mirani and Eungella over a hundred years ago in our valley.

It is thirty years since we stepped out in faith again and built a modern church in Mirani to be a centre hub of worship suitable for future generations.

Rev Suzy Sitton, our Central Queensland Presbytery minister, and her husband Stan travelled up from Yeppoon to conduct the service. She shared greetings and blessings from the wider Uniting Church family. We give thanks that we do have a strong and supportive structure for church unity wherever we live.

Her sermon and prayers were uplifting and thought provoking, emphasizing God works through faithful service and growth through the generations.

The hymns were uplifting; the beautiful singing and wonderful music filled the building with praise and glory to our Lord.

A summary of our church's history, the Power Point put together by Bruce Kerr, messages from past ministers and members, was a time for reminiscing and reflecting on our past. Lots of whispers and murmurs were shared.

We are blessed that our current members all shared to make the service a memorial occasion. Some served in roles through the worship service that may be remembered, such as the bible readings, prayers, messages,

announcements, family address, offering collection, lap top controller and more, but many worked quietly to ensure all came together. Some of these include, coordinating the morning, the maintenance of our building, cleaning, painting, gardening. The one thing that we all enjoyed was morning tea. The preparing and set up don't just happen. The opportunity to catch up, interacting socially, caring and sharing helps to continue to uphold each other in our prayers. We all enjoyed the special decorated cake that talented Thelma Johnson provided for us. It was so delicious.

We cannot forget those who took photos and will record the celebration service. We especially appreciate the fantastic Newsletter that Kerith Noy so diligently collates weekly to ensure we all stay connected.

We are one body with many parts. We rejoice in all God's wonderful works through his people.

Thelma: 30th Anniversary Celebrations of the Opening of the New Valley Church.

On Sunday, 13th September the Valley church welcomed approx. 50 guests and previous ministers to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the opening of the present church.

The service was conducted by presbytery minister Rev. Suzy Sitton. Her theme for the service was Building God's House: Foundation, Labour and Growth.

Morelle presented the children's address assisted by Earl Neilsen as the foreman, Bruce Fyfe as the building inspector and the children as "the labourers" on "Laying a strong foundation" starting with Jesus as the corner stone and then adding the "bricks", the followers of Christ, the missionaries, foundation members, past and present members.

Chris Fyfe took us through the coming together of the Valley church, the work and planning that went into the construction of the new church.

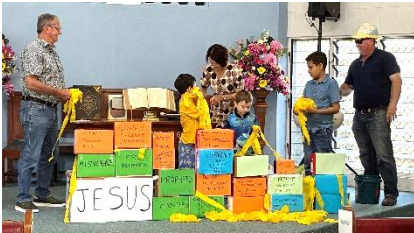
Allen Soxsmith spoke briefly of his ministry in the valley and how he became a follower of Christ.

We also viewed a power point presentation of the activities from previous years up to the present from throughout the valley which was beautifully collated by Bruce Kerr. Thank you Bruce.

It was beautiful to hear so many voices singing the lovely well-known hymns.

After the service morning tea/lunch was served on the veranda where everyone was able to catch up and enjoy the fellowship.





The inscription on the Cake read - Three decades of Faith and Community Together



There is a poster of photos at the front of our churches for you to view. Enjoy!
Photos have been ordered online and will be placed in an album and kept in The Valley Church for future reference.

Beth's Input: Thelma, Morelle, Au and I were having a restorative cup of tea (as you do after these big occasions) and I decided to get my phone from the church. I saw a snake 🐍 poking its head out...I jumped back and Morelle with the aid of a broom, swept it outside but the whip snake was determined to get back inside and persisted in returning to the verandah. The rest of us stood back while Morelle handled the situation and eventually, moved it away. *"Well, how long was it in the church you ask?"* We have no idea!

Motto for Success: Embrace change when it comes your way. You'll be happier riding the wave of change than feeling it come crashing down on you.

A Quick Prayer: Embrace change when it comes your way. You'll be happier riding the wave of change than feeling it come crashing down on you.

A humorous take on Matthew 20:1–16 - The "Fairness Committee" - The early workers might form a committee:

"We demand a recount of hours, a recalculation of wages, and possibly a new landowner."

But the landowner's reply—"Are you envious because I am generous?"—reminds them that God's kingdom doesn't run on human fairness metrics.

ST ANDREW'S UCA WALKERSTON					THE VALLEY UCA MIRANI			
Date	Preacher	Bible Reader	Prayers	Laptop	Preacher	Bible Reader	Prayers	Laptop
20/09	Alun & Lesley HC	Neil	Michelle	Kathryn	Noela	Thelma	Marion	Au
27/09	Phil	Leanne	Kerith	Kathryn	Au	Dianne	Manda	Gerry
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 – Parish Registered Number C10195946.

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:

20th September - Exodus 16:2-15: Psalm 105:1-6,37-45: Philippians 1:21-30:

Matthew 20:1-16

27th September - Exodus 17:1–7: Psalm 78:1–4, 12–16: Philippians 2:1–13:

Matthew 21:23–32

4th October - Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19 or Psalm 80:7-15:

Philippians 3:4b-14: Matthew 21:33-46

11th October - Exodus 32:1-14: Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23: Philippians 4:1-9:

Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus Is Coming!! Are You Ready!