

A. Prayer Points

Those struggling with COVID-19 related unemployment, mental or relational health at this time;

- i. Those with other chronic or unseen health issues;
- ii. David Baker as he leaves as moderator of the Uniting Church's Qld Synod after six years and assumes a position with Queensland Churches Together;
- iii. Andrew Gunton, the moderator elect, and the significant challenges he will face;
- iv. Rain for those parts of Australia which have gone without for quite some time now, especially with summer approaching;
- v. Volunteers at places where volunteering is still going ahead (eg Lifeline);
- vi. Vacant school chaplaincy positions (see advert);
- vii. Philipa Core as she commences teaching RI over the next couple of weeks;
- viii. Jim has been told Hemraj has returned to NSW and to family. Thank God for the time he spent with us in Emerald, and pray for a smooth and social resettlement there;
- ix. Jean Wienert (Clermont) has lost her husband Ron, and Monika Rowlings (Emerald) has lost her husband Jeff (ex Avalon). Please uphold those grieving; and
- x. Those travelling or on leave, especially as school holidays are upon us.

B. A Table of Some Coming Events

Date	Activity	Leader	Subject	Sermon Text	Notes
Fri 2 Oct	Prayer meeting, 11.30 am				COVID-19 Stage 3 Face to face activity
Sun 4 Oct	Public worship and communion, 10.00 am	Jim	Psalm Prayer & Praise II	Psalm 19	COVID-19 Stage 3 Face to face activity
	Fellowship lunch	No guest speaker			COVID-19 Stage 3 Face to face activity
Fri 9 Oct	Prayer meeting, 11.30 am				COVID-19 Stage 3 Face to face activity
Sun 11 Oct	Public worship, 10.00 am	Jim	Psalm Prayer & Praise III	Psalm 137	COVID-19 Stage 3 Face to face activity
Fri 16 Oct	Prayer meeting, 11.30 am				COVID-19 Stage 3 Face to face activity
Sun 18 Oct		Public worship and communion, 10.00 am		Doug (tbc)	COVID-19 Stage 3 Face to face activity

C. Livestreaming and Technology Upgrades

Emerald Uniting Church will go to air at our regular time of worship, 10.00 am on Sunday. The service will not be pre-recorded but will be "live" from the church at 10.00 am – as one would view a football or netball match. The link is <https://youtu.be/pHr5jUUxIVs>

Those who watch online have noted and commented on a marked step up in the quality of what we have been doing week by week. This is due in part to the kind donation of a new wall mounted camera and steps forward in sound capture. Thank you to those who made the donation and those who have worked hard to master the technologies involved in live streaming. We have also purchased a new computer which links by cable to the internet and drives the data projection and videos in church. Doug has been instrumental in making this purchase and providing installation. Thanks again, Doug. In a year where COVID-19 has made initiatives and outreach difficult, our steps into the digital world have been one very bright light.

D. Fellowship Lunch Sunday 4th October

We are planning our next fellowship lunch after worship on Sunday 4th October. We have no guest speaker scheduled for that lunch. The sharing of food that day will not be permitted, and it is preferable to meet outdoors. Personal picnic or other type lunches should still be acceptable, so at this stage we will go with that.

E. Fellowship Lunches 1st and 29th November

Your W&PC elders wrestled with what more we can do in our communal life and outreach as a church at their meeting last month. Current COVID-19 restrictions make any sort of large-scale physical gathering of people difficult. We are doing almost as much as we can while under this present regime. But worship and fellowship lunches do afford us an opportunity to do a bit more together, so to that end we have plans for the tail of 2020.

- i. The fellowship lunch on 1st November will be a regular lunch, where we hope to have a guest speaker.
- ii. The fellowship lunch scheduled for the first Sunday in December (6th) has been moved forward a week, to 29th November. That is a Sunday our young people will be leading worship. It will be a thanksgiving service for God's goodness to church and wider community during the trials of 2020. We will follow that up with a picnic lunch and a farewell to the Triple J's (Josh, Jude and Joseph). Fiona Stevens hopes to be available that Sunday to share something about her work as a young Legacy ambassador in Queensland.
- iii. The next church council meeting will make a decision about Walk through Bethlehem. Please pray for wisdom for church councillors as they engage with this matter.

F. Jim's Annual Leave and the Preaching Roster

18 Oct	Public worship, communion	Doug (tbc)	Doug (tbc)	Jim on annual leave
25 Oct	Public worship	Iola	Iola	Jim on annual leave
1 Nov	Public worship, communion	Jenny (tbc)	Jenny (tbc)	Jim on annual leave
	Fellowship lunch		Maree (tbc)	
8 Nov	Public worship	Elize	Elize	Presbytery
15 Nov	Public worship, communion	Jim	Jim	
	Clermont/Capella Sunday	Tony	Tony	Subject to confirmation from Clermont. Jim will visit in February

Jim will be absent for over a month during October and November on annual leave and at presbytery. The table above details who will be filling in for him during that period. Michael will also be away for part of that time. He will live in the manse when not away and can provide guidance for those who may need the services of the church.

G. COVID-19 Safe Industry (Places of Worship) Plan

The Queensland Government has released a new COVID Safe Industry Plan for Places of Worship and an updated Restrictions on Businesses, Activities and Undertakings Direction. The plan for places of worship is now mandatory throughout Queensland. It is essentially the plan we adopted and have been following since we resumed public face to face worship on 21st June. Please take the opportunity to follow the link and check the latest rules, especially if you're a door steward and/or a COVID warden.

https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0033/134799/covid-safe-industry-plan-places-of-worship.pdf?nocache-v2