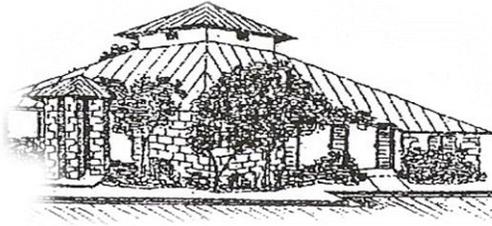


Kirwan Uniting Church



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KEEPING IN TOUCH

WELCOME! *We welcome all visitors with us today, and pray your time with us will be a blessed one.*

Kirwan's Mission Statement

To be a people of God led by the Holy Spirit to practise and spread the love of Jesus Christ in the world

19th July 2020, 2020

Service Times: 8.30am and 10.30am

Lectionary readings	Pentecost 7
Gen 28: 10-19a	Psm: 139: 1-12:23-24
Rom 8: 12-25	Mt 13: 24-30:36-43

Richard's Ramble

As I write this, it has been twelve years to the day since I became an Australian Citizen. I came here in 1995, but was travelling extensively internationally on business for the first few years, and just didn't get round to applying for citizenship. One Permanent Resident Visa after another seemed enough, especially when they made my passport look mysterious by being issued in Washington and Pretoria. I think I've told you the story about the eventual application process, but here it is again anyway: Johnny Howard instituted a test for applicants, with the questions slanted to what he imagined made for a good citizen, that is, that they were glued to Fox Sports. So I dutifully swotted, and turned up for my interview in Adelaide Street, Brisbane, armed with the knowledge that Don Bradman had poisoned Phar Lap and that Wally Lewis had invented pavlova (or was it Vegemite?) The queue outside the Dept of Immigration offices stretched back almost to Central Station, but a sharp-eyed security guard spotted that I was older and less casually-dressed (those were the

days) than the backpacker visa-extension-seeking crowd, and led me inside to a cubicle where a bored-looking public servant glanced cursorily at my UK passport with its smorgasbord of stamps, shifted her gaze to her computer, eyed me up and down, and pronounced, "OK, yer accepted". I replied, "Aren't you going to ask me any questions?" "Nah", she said, "You'll be right." And a month later, off I trotted to City Hall for Lord Mayor Campbell Newman to do the deed. Leisa looked on from the balcony upstairs and cried when we sang, "I am, you are, we are Australian". Perhaps a teeny tear crept out of my own eye.

Ephesians 2: ... remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

This Week's Calendar

Mon 20th 9.30am Pastoral Care
Wed 22nd 7.30pm: Bible Study

MINI GOLF Tuesday August 5th @



10.a.m. Kings Road

If you would like to join us please let Sheila know a.s.a.p.

From Council of Ministry – Moving forward with COVID rules

We have opted in to the Industry COVID safe plan for places of worship because this allows us to meet with up to 50 people at each service or meeting. However, there are many pages of rules that we have to follow to comply with the plan. Greg has adapted these to our church and congregation. While there is no immediate risk in North Queensland at the moment, this could change very quickly so please do the right thing.

- If you feel unwell, or are nervous about being out amongst others, please stay home for your safety and that of others.
- **When we come together please try to keep one and a half metres away from the nearest person.** This can be difficult for those of us who are hard of hearing or naturally hug, so please make allowances for others.
- **Every surface that is touched by us must be disinfected after use or before it is used next.** We need people to do this after every service, Sunday School, morning tea and each group meeting at the church. Sue Fraser is beginning to put rosters together again over the next month, so please volunteer for any duties, including the new disinfecting role, and let Sue, or me, know. Remember we will need helpers like greeters for each service, so it may be a good idea to commit regularly to the 8.30 or 10.30 service.

- **We are required by law to sign in to every service and meeting.**
- **We are restarting morning teas between 9.30 and 10.15 each Sunday so you can catch up with folk who go to the other service.** However, the rules do not allow self service or unwrapped food. Therefore, a couple of people need to volunteer each week to serve drinks and hand out pre-wrapped food, which we are buying out of church funds. Someone needs to volunteer to serve teas each week and a couple more folk to wash up.
- **The disinfectant is quite strong so we need fans on and windows open to circulate the air.** It's a good idea to bring a cardigan or jacket while mornings are still cold.
- **We are supposed to do a risk assessment and devise a safety plan for every vulnerable volunteer.** We are avoiding doing this on the grounds that it invades your privacy. However, in doing any tasks or volunteering at church we please ask you to think through your own strategy for minimising any risk to yourself and ask each of you to take precautions that are best for your own situation.

Apart from all these rules we mostly rely on trusting and caring for one another.

David K on behalf of CoM



