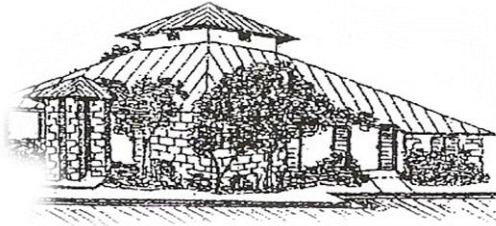


Kirwan Uniting Church



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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

20th September, 2020

<p>Service Time: 8.30am Preacher: Richard Lance Reader: Sheila V-P Service Time: 10.00am Preacher: Richard Lance Reader: Helen Beck</p>

<p>Lectionary readings Pentecost 16 Ex 16: 2-15 Psalm: 105: 1-6: 37-45 Phil 1: 21-30 Mt 20: 1-16</p>

Richard's Ramble

Many of you will have heard of “Virtual Digital Assistants”, like Apple Siri, Google Assist and Amazon’s Alexa. Some of you use one or other of them, I expect. They are voice-activated artificial intelligence programmes built into smart phones and speakers. So for example, when I’m driving and can’t handle my iPhone, I say “Hey Siri”, wait for a response beep to indicate that Siri has heard me, and ask “Call (whoever) mobile” or “Call (whoever) home” or “work”. Or “Hey Siri, navigate to (whatever address)”, and Apple Maps Satnav bursts into action. Or at home or outside, “Hey Siri, what’s the weather forecast for Cardwell tomorrow?” and a charming young Australian man tells me that it’s going to snow. You can choose whom you want to be Siri, girl or boy, Australian, Kiwi, Pom, American. I find the women a bit schoolmarmly, the Aussie chaps are more blokey. At a Trivia Quiz, I can whisper, “Hey Siri, who won the FA Cup Final in 1952?” A

problem is that any phrase which sounds vaguely like “Hey Siri” will spur my cyber mate into action. So “Oh, sorry” to Leisa will get my wrist vibrating while Apple Watch asks “How may I help you?”

Amazon’s Smart Home Speakers incorporate Siri’s counterpart, Alexa. Which is what brought this Ramble topic to mind. It seems that the Church of England’s Morning and Evening Prayer can be summoned from an Amazon speaker by commanding “Alexa, read today’s Morning Prayer”. An Episcopal (US Anglican) priest of my acquaintance complained that when she tried it, all she could coax out of the thing was “I do not understand Moaning Preer”. What did she expect? It’s meant for Tunbridge Wells, not for Texas.

Anyway, we have unlimited access to real, not virtual, assistance. Telepathic, too, trumps Siri and Alexa.

Isaiah 65:24 Before they call, I will answer; while they are still speaking, I will hear. And it doesn’t get it wrong when you say “Sorry” ☺

This Week's Calendar

Mon 21st:	9.30am: Pastoral Care 10.30am: House of Jonah,
Tues 22nd:	9.30am: Craft Cards & Chat 7.00pm: COM meeting

Roster for 27th September, 2020

8.30am Service:

Preacher: Heather Reid

Reader: Sheree Bugden

Greeters: Sheree Bugden

Announcement: Sheree Bugden

Morning Tea: Susan Burton: Anne B-T

Flowers: Narelle Harrison

Roster for 27th September, 2020

10.00am Service

Preacher: Heather Reid

Reader: Chris Reid

Offering: Chris Reid: Wayne Paul

Announcements: Anne Holmes

Morning Tea: Kathy & Andrew Reid

COVID update

Synod has told all churches that a risk waiver, like the one we proposed, is not acceptable. Therefore I will be sending out the vulnerable workers risk assessment form to everyone who is on a roster; electronically to people on the KIT email list and hard copies printed and available at church. We will pre-fill the risk assessment on everyone's behalf. CoM decided that the risk of someone contracting COVID at our church is rare, because there are no cases in the north and we have taken stringent precautions, but the consequence for a vulnerable volunteer (most of us) catching the virus would be severe. This makes our overall risk moderate so we advise everyone over 65 to take precautions to reduce their risk, which I'll identify in the pre-filled out sections of the form. While I have to sign everyone's form, these will be strictly confidential and will be stored securely in the church office, to be available for inspection only if required by the authorities. If cases of the COVID virus reach Townsville and begin to spread in the community our response will very sadly have to be to close the church again and go virtual as before. At this stage – this week - that is very unlikely, so we will continue as we have been meeting. The situation could change quickly, which is why you get an update every week. Keep safe, socially distance and disinfect. Blessings. David K.

World Vision

Just a reminder that, despite COVID, it is that time of year again when we collect the annual sponsorship payment from those who contribute to our 2 World Vision kids. I've been staying away due to the number of people I have to interact with at work, but will be back soon. I'll try to be as COVID safe as I can be! If you want to pay, but are not yet back at church, contact me and I'll come to you. Other options are direct into the bank account, perhaps, or posting a cheque, or perhaps via a friend in the collection plate? We'll make it work!

Sharon 0400 135937

selvins@bigpond.com 47234344

Change, Grief & Loss Programme Course

Salvation Army are conducting this course. Courses will be conducted on following dates:
Tues 29th and Wed 30th September
Tues 27th and Wed 28th October.
Flier on Notice Board if anyone is interested or email jillenne@salvationarmy.org.au for more information.



