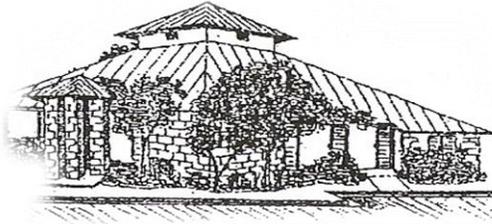


## Kirwan Uniting Church



[kirwanunitingchurch@gmail.com](mailto:kirwanunitingchurch@gmail.com)  
Church Office – 4723 2932  
<https://kirwanunitingchurch.org.au>

Pastor Richard Lance – 0450 835 383  
[rh lance@fastmail.fm](mailto:rh lance@fastmail.fm)

## 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

15<sup>th</sup> November, 2020

**Service Time: 8.30am**  
**Preacher: David Beck**  
**Reader: Bev Blackman**  
**Service Time: 10.00am**  
**Preacher: David Beck**  
**Reader: Helen Beck**

**Lectionary readings Pentecost 24**  
**Jgs 4: 1-7 Psalm: 123**  
**1 Thes 5: 1-11 Mt 25: 14-30**

### *Richard's Ramble*

I shouldn't be sitting here at my Mac, promised the surgeon that I'd take it easy for a couple of weeks. But here I am, resplendent in a turban bandage covering Tuesday's op wound, and unresplendent without a shirt so that my coronary artery bypass "zipper" is displayed for all to see. Except there's only Leisa and the dog to see it. No pics, this is a family pew sheet.

Ah, the dog. Yannie is our German Shepherd and she had a tumour cut out on Tuesday, the same day as my cochlear implant surgery. Poor Leisa had to toggle between the Mater, JCU Vet and working from home. Yannie is at my feet sporting a "cone of shame" to prevent her from licking her wound, and a couple of Leisa's socks to prevent her from scratching it. We make a fine pair.

I know why I look like a knife sharpening block, but Yannie doesn't know why bits of her do. She just knows that her supposed carers took her to a disinfectant-smelling place where she gets jabbed every few months, but this time they went to town on her. If another dog, Farside Cartoon style, were

to ask where her wounds came from, she might answer like the false prophets in Zechariah 13, "I got them in the house of my (supposed) friends". You might have heard that misapplied to Jesus. But no, the chapter makes it clear that Israel was awash with false prophets who ritually self-harmed themselves, a pagan custom. And when God had had enough and threatened drastic punishment, the false prophets said that they were simple shepherds and they had an accident at their mate's house, that's how they got injured.

Zechariah 13 is a sobering chapter of the consequences of falsely claiming to be speaking for God. The US Election has featured some particularly egregious examples of this sin; one or two of our own polities are not purer than the driven snow when it comes to the same hypocrisy. If the chapter ended halfway through verse 9, there wouldn't be much hope for either of our countries. But it doesn't. The second half of the last verse picks up a promise from verse 1, that a fountain has been opened for uncleanness, and that God will say that we are His people and we will say that He is our God. Which brings us back to wounds. That ending promise rests on Isaiah 53:5

But he was pierced for our transgressions,  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,  
and by his wounds we are healed.

### *This Week's Calendar*

**Mon 16th: 9.30am: Pastoral Care**

**10.30am: House of Jonah**

**Tues 17th: 9.30am: Craft: Coffee: Chat**

**Wed 18th: 7.30pm: Bible Study Group**

**Roster for 22nd November, 2020**

**8.30am Service:**

**Preacher:** John Short

**Reader:** Wayne Paul

**Greeters:** TBA

**Announcement:** Sheila v P

**Morning Tea:** John Sands: Greg Fraser

**Flowers:** Dominica Taumalolo

**Roster for 22nd November, 2020**

**10.00am Service**

**Preacher:** John Short

**Reader:** David Beck

**Greeter:** TBA

**Announcements:** Kathy Reid

**Offering:** Trevor Nuss: Andrew Reid

**News from Council of Ministry**

There is no change in the COVID rules, but we need to get everyone who does any food service to complete the food service procedure and sign off on it. We have obtained a short printed version of it which will be out for you to pick up and please return. All food service has to be served by someone, with no buffet or help yourself. Those are the Queensland Government rules.

Thanks to everyone who suggested projects that we need and major things to fix. We are recruiting a group who will get together to specify details and cost these projects, then project manage them. These include a new pathway, new kitchen, repairing rusted beams in the undercover area and replacing taps. Graham is putting an estimate for these things into next year's budget.

There will be a Carol Service at 6pm for a 7pm start on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December, where you are welcome to bring finger food to share beforehand, but remember COVID rules say that it can't be laid out in a buffet.

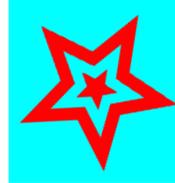
Peter's service on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> will take place as usual and he will let us know what will happen that day – such as a possible barbecue, and carols.

**Christmas Services:** We cannot get more than 50 people inside the church for any service. So, the 2 Christmas services will be on Christmas Eve at 7.30pm and on Christmas Day at 8am. Please attend one or the other. It would be really useful if you can nominate which service you will attend and we may need to do a pre sign up. Most of our visitors will probably come to the 8am service, and we cannot sign them up beforehand, so those of us who are regulars might need to be willing to sit out on the outside areas if our numbers of people go above 50. We will repeat this notice with updates and more information closer to Christmas.

David K

**COVID News**

**STARS FOR OUR STABLE DISPLAY**



As part of our Kirwan Stable on the Streets display we are inviting everyone to contribute a star – If you would like to participate, you might like to make a star, find a star, check your old Christmas decoration box and dig out a star and bring it along to church and put it in the box provided in the foyer.

We will hang our varied collection along the top of the alcove on the street side of the church. You could put your name on the star if you like. This will add to our display sign at the front of the church.

\*\*\*\*\*

