



Report from Mary Burnett Presbytery

Context

The Mary Burnett Presbytery runs from the Glasshouse Mountains to Bundaberg and out to Gayndah and Mundubbera down to Kingaroy and Nanango. This represents a mix of congregations from large regional to small rural. Our primary call is to be salt, yeast and light in God's world in the name of Christ. Our mission as a presbytery is to be a prayerful, listening church, organised for mission. We are geographically organised around eight collaborative areas.

Ministry/congregational life data

Area covered (sq/kms)	58,000	No. of pastors (Stream A)	7
Population	589,000	No. of pastors (Stream B)	4
No. of congregations recognised as such by Presbytery	38	No. of lay ministry teams	1
Faith communities	2	Placements No. of congregational placements FTE	F/T: 13 P/T: 14
Ecumenical communities	-	No. of non-congregational placements FTE	F/T: 1 P/T: 6
No. of 'cluster' arrangements	11	No. of joint placements FTE (i.e. ministry agents, support staff, total number of people)	F/T: 2 P/T: -

Total weekly worship attendance across Presbytery	1900	Presbytery staffing FTE (i.e. ministry agents, support staff, total number of people)	1.4
Percentage of congregations in the Presbytery with Sunday children's and youth ministry with over 15 average attendance	5%		

Report

The Presbytery continues to encourage congregations with respect to the *Together on the way, enriching community* Vision 2020 goals, believing that lasting change takes time, stability and an ongoing commitment of resources and people.

We are continuing to support congregations around the discernment of the mission of God in their local area, understanding that each congregation will have different priorities because their communities are different.

These congregations are making significant contributions in their communities, both corporately and individually. In this way, they are truly being salt, yeast and light as faithful people doing their utmost with what they have.

Key achievements/initiatives

The Presbytery has been pleased to gift to the wider church the development of *Safe People/Safe Environment* documents, being an integrated approach to Workplace Health and Safety and Childsafe Church.

We have been proactive in the development of an Alexandra Park reference group with the aim of developing a mission plan for Alexandra Park.

The Presbytery has provided seed funding to assist the folk at Rainbow Beach to explore different models of being church to a diverse and transient population.

Kawana Waters and Buderim are jointly exploring the possibilities of a church plant in the Brightwater area.

The Isis and Central Burnett congregations have developed a resource-sharing ministry to assist the folk in Central Burnett who are currently without a minister in placement.

Work is progressing exploring the options for the formation of a faith community at Alexandra Park.

Challenges/risks as we progress

In late 2015 we were the first of the presbyteries to engage in a renewed approach to presbytery consultations with Spirited Consulting. We are currently following through on the recommendations from this process around the encouragement of lay involvement, the election of office bearers and adopting a shared language.

Issues to be addressed

The biggest issue we face is a persistent desire to focus on what we do not have, rather than to celebrate what we do have.

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