

Carpentaria Remote Bush Chaplaincy provides chaplaincy services to the remote communities of north-west outback Queensland.

Based out of Weipa, this role connects the chaplain with communities, cattle stations in the patrol region, providing pastoral care and support to individuals and families including all religious services and practical support as applicable.

Please submit an expression of interest to Secretary of Placements Committee placements@ucaqld.com.au by COB Monday 17th August 2026.

For further information please contact Rev Christy Allen, Presbytery Minister, presmincoastal@ucacarpentaria.com.au

You will find the position description below.



Placement Description

Placement Title:	Kennedy Bush Chaplaincy
Service Area:	Cape York and Southern Carpentaria Gulf
Placement Status:	Full Time
Location:	Weipa
Stipend Details:	Refer to the Ministry Agent Payments Notice on the The Hub updated 1 st January each year
Next Review Date:	July 2027

The Church:

The Uniting Church in Australia (the Church) is a large uniquely Australian Christian denomination in Australia with heritage from historical reformed evangelical denominations. In Queensland, the Uniting Church has around 250 congregations and has schools, colleges and large community services (such as UnitingCare Queensland and Wesley Mission Queensland).

The Uniting Church is multicultural, committed to reconciliation with First Peoples, calls for reconciliation across its communities and aims to use its people and property resources wisely and in the furtherance of God's mission in the world.

Within the ministry of the whole Church, Jesus Christ calls men and women to proclamation of the gospel in word and deed through a call to ministry. This calling is exercised by preaching and presiding at the celebration of the sacraments and witnessing in the community of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Duties of a Minister (See Para 3, Constitution)

2.2.1 (a) Within the ministry of the whole Church, Jesus Christ calls men and women to proclamation of the gospel in word and deed through the ministry of the Word and the ministry of Deacon. This calling is exercised by:

- (i) preaching of the Word;
 - (ii) presiding at the celebration of the sacraments;
 - (iii) providing for other persons to preside at worship and/or preach within the pastoral charge in which the Minister is in placement;
 - (iv) witnessing in the community to the gospel of Jesus Christ;
 - (v) guiding and instructing the members of the Church and equipping them for their ministry in the community;
 - (vi) nurturing candidates for baptism and confirmation;
 - (vii) pastoral oversight and counsel wherever needed;
 - (viii) serving in the community, especially among those who are hurt, dis-advantaged, oppressed or marginalized;
 - (ix) careful attention to administrative responsibilities;
 - (x) due observance of the discipline of the Church;
 - (xi) the enhancement of the Minister's own gifts for the work of ministry;
 - (xii) pioneering new expressions of the gospel and encouraging effective ways of fulfilling the mission of the Church.
- (b) Every Minister shall participate fully and regularly in the public worship of God and the mission and fellowship of the Congregation with which the Minister is enrolled (See Reg. 2.9.3).
- (c) Every Minister shall report annually to the Presbytery with which the Minister is enrolled on the ways in which the duties of a Minister as prescribed in Regulations 2.2.1(a) and (b) are being exercised.

Placement Purpose:

The purpose of this placement is to provide chaplaincy services to the remote communities of Cape York and Southern Carpentaria Gulf.

Key Responsibilities:

Chaplaincy services to the communities, cattle stations in the patrol region, providing pastoral care and support to individuals and families including all religious services and practical support as applicable.

1. Pastoral oversight and religious services in Weipa.
2. Financial Management of the Bush Chaplain funds and reporting of such to key stakeholders.
3. Work within the policies and procedures of the Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod including the [Safe Ministry with Children Policy](#), and the provisions of the Workplace Health and Safety and other relevant legislation including reporting hazards/incidents, support for injured workers and full participation in return to work plans.
4. Undertake other ministry duties as and when directed within the capabilities of the incumbent.

Reporting Relationships:

This placement reports to : Queensland Synod Bush Chaplaincy Committee (primarily) Carpentaria Presbytery and Frontier Services

Key internal relationships: St Lukes Uniting Church Weipa

- Appointing Body/Presbytery for matters of faith and discipline
Carpentaria Presbytery
- Frontier Services – Quarterly reporting of activities and financial acquittal of funds

Placement Selection Criteria:

1. Qualifications:
 - 1.1 Bush Chaplains may be Ministers of the Word, Deacons or Pastors of the Uniting Church in Australia with a basic understanding of community development principles.
2. Experience and Skills:
 - 2.1 Mature self-starters, capable of planning, initiating and developing their work without close supervision;
 - 2.2 Able to set goals and honestly evaluate progress;
 - 2.3 Capable of sustaining themselves beyond the normal structural supports for ministry found in a congregation;
 - 2.4 Able to reflect biblically and theologically within the bush chaplaincy context;
 - 2.5 Good listeners who can help others to reflect upon the issues impacting on their lives;
 - 2.6 Able to see themselves as part of a wider team and make appropriate referrals;
 - 2.7 As far as practical work collegially with other ministers of the Uniting Church, staff of Frontier Services;
 - 2.8 Able to take a stance in divided communities which will further both justice and reconciliation;
 - 2.9 Be open to understanding and working with the context of the local culture as far as possible;
 - 2.10 Be committed to working ecumenically in the light of the ecumenical commitments of the Uniting Church;
 - 2.11 A capacity to develop and maintain relationships in ways that reflect the high value placed on relationships by indigenous communities.
 - 2.12 Undertake regular recording of income and expenses, reconciling and reporting of financial transactions associated with the Bush Chaplain finances. Help is available from the Presbytery treasurer.
 - 2.13 Commitment to working within the purpose and values of the Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod and adhering to the policies, organisational requirements and processes

Additional Requirements:

- Current Drivers Licence - Presentation of a current Drivers Licence must be made before your appointment to the position can be confirmed.
- Working with Children Clearance Card (BCB - Blue Card) - All adults who work with people under 18 years in QLD in regulated employment are required to undergo a "Working with Children Check" under the screening provisions of the Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act. While not in an employment relationship, for the purposes of legislative compliance, presentation of a current Suitability Card must be made before the placement to be confirmed.
- This position is for the exercise of the duties of ordained ministry of the Uniting Church in Australia. Preference will in the first case be given to appropriately qualified Ministers of the Word or Deacons. A lay person may be appointed to the role subject to successful completion of [core competency](#) requirements for the ministry of pastor in the Uniting Church in Australia. The successful applicant will be required to comply with the Which can be found on the Huband access regular professional supervision.
- This is an approved placement of the Uniting Church in Australia and the ministerial stipend and allowance provisions will apply.
- The placement involves working days, nights and weekends as agreed between ministry agent and appointing body, as well as attendance at Presbytery meetings, Presbytery Minister retreats and attendance at Synod in Session.

- The successful applicant must be eligible to legally work in Australia and proof of eligibility may be requested.

Authorised by:



Rev Linda Hanson

Associate General Secretary

Date: 13/07/2026