



A caring community with Christ

Nominations for Church Council March 2024

Sally Ashton

Dr Sally Ashton has been a member of Elanora Uniting Church for the past 11 years and during that time participated in Sunday services by reading scripture, greeting at the door and serving morning tea. She meets regularly for bible study fellowship and hosts a group in her home. Last April, Sally was co-opted as Secretary for Church Council and has been taking the minutes since then. She has worked as a lecturer and teacher in universities and Christian schools for over 32 years and has a heart for values-based Christian education. Since retiring at the end of 2023, she recently joined one of Elanora's outreach communities in the Carpenters' Workshop and is thrilled to learn how to craft a bread board and tool box using a variety of woodworking tools and machines. Sally is keen to see Elanora Uniting Church grow and prosper in God's future plans for our congregation.

Debra Freeman (Deb)

I was born in Roma, western Queensland, in 1957 and baptised into the Methodist Church. I lived on a property near Hodgson and attended Sunday School at Hodgson, run by the Salvation Army. When I moved into Roma, I attended the Methodist Church/ Uniting Church. In 1983 I moved to Kingaroy where I attended the Uniting Church. My 2 sons were baptised there, and I helped out with the Sunday School and the Church office, preparing the weekly Newsletter. Just before leaving Kingaroy, I became a Confirmed Member of the Uniting Church. In 1985 my family moved to Toowoomba where I attended Rangeville Uniting Church (and where I completed the 2 Bethel Series), Scots Uniting Church (until it closed) and then Russell St Uniting Church. Due to personal circumstances, I did not attend Church for around 10 years, but recommenced worshipping at St Stephens Church prior to leaving Toowoomba in 2018. When I moved to Tweed Heads, I joined the Coolangatta Uniting Church, until it was taken over by Newlife Robina in 2020. I prefer the more traditional style of Church Service, and I believe God has led me to Elanora (the week before we all went into Covid lockdown in March 2020). I hope and pray that I am able to contribute to this Church community, that I felt so welcomed into.

Michele Lake

I have been a member of this congregation since 2007. During that time, I have been involved in the life of this church. Previously I have held the positions of Church Treasurer, Committee member Leisuretime, Assistant Treasurer Leisuretime, Assistant Class Co- Coordinator Leisuretime, Trading Table Co-ordinator Adult Fellowship, Treasurer and Acting Chairperson Cooinda. I have been on Church Council previously, and filled the role of Acting Church Council Chairperson for several months. For the past 4 years, I have not actively been involved in positions within the church as I was led to refresh/ deepen my faith. This year I joined the committee of Leisuretime, as Assistant Treasurer, a refreshed Michele. I always enjoyed my time on Church Council, representing the congregation.

Liz Mahon

My spiritual journey has been a series of peaks and valleys. I was fortunate to grow up in a Christian household, attending Sunday School and services at Bexhill Uniting Church in northern NSW. My parents were involved in church activities, from the Sunday School superintendent and Ladies Fellowship to mowing the lawns on the church property. However, when I left home for university, I also moved away from my faith. It wasn't until I started a family that I felt drawn back to church, wanting my children to know about God. Over time, I became more involved, serving in various roles such as the data team, Church Council, and Kid's Club. I've also felt a stronger connection to God, sensing His guidance in my life. I am constantly learning and growing in my faith, and I believe that we can all deepen our relationship with God within the supportive Christian community at Elanora UC.