

# Lent Event church resources

## Week 2: Sunday 1st March

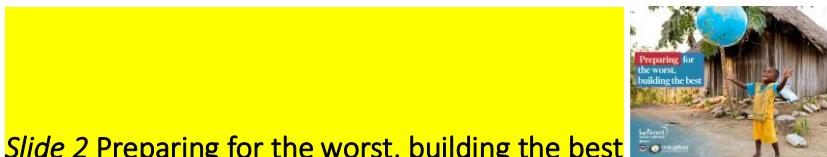
### Notes for Lent Event Church presenter

*Please feel free to re-word or summarise these notes. They're designed to be used alongside the Powerpoint presentation. Not all content is on the slides – the presenter notes contain extra information.*

*Yellow highlights are presenter notes – large text is for reading.*



Welcome to our second week together learning how God is at work on the front lines of climate change, and the part we can play to support the work of our global brothers and sisters in Christ.



This week we're featuring UnitingWorld's Disaster Preparation work:



Australia is one of the world's wealthiest countries. We're generally well prepared for natural disasters, and we have strong systems to help people recover.

Even so, disasters are frightening.

Many of us know people still struggling to recover from the long term impact of fire, flood or drought.



*Slide 4 Our neighbours*

For our neighbours in Vanuatu and other developing countries, disasters are not only happening more often — they hit much harder. People have far fewer resources to prepare, respond or rebuild.

Homes are often very basic and emergency services are limited.

There are few services to help with emotional or psychological recovery and resilience.

Rebuilding after a disaster can take years, with little government or social support available.



*Slide 4 Churches at work*

UnitingWorld's partner, the Presbyterian Church in Vanuatu, has congregations in almost every community across the nation. Last year disaster preparedness workshops reached more than 1300 people on the island of Tanna.

People learned how to identify high-risk areas, plan escape routes, protect homes, set up evacuation centres and care for their most vulnerable neighbours.

When a cyclone threatened early last year, church leaders sent early warnings and communities acted immediately. Their response saved lives and homes.

**Slide 5**

**Powerful investment**

Every dollar used to help prepare BEFORE a disaster hits can save up to \$7 in recovery costs.

UnitingWorld has been training people in disaster preparation and chaplaincy work for more than a decade across the Pacific, Asia and Africa.

UnitingWorld says thank you for helping save lives.



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Disaster preparation is a powerful investment. Did you know that every dollar used to help communities prepare BEFORE a disaster happens can save up to seven dollars in emergency response and recovery later?

For more than a decade, UnitingWorld has been supporting disaster preparedness and chaplaincy training through church partners across the Pacific, Asia and Africa.

Because churches are trusted, local and already present, they can respond quickly and effectively.

And it's only possible because of the generosity of Uniting Church "big brothers and sisters."

For that support, UnitingWorld and their partners send us a heartfelt thank you on behalf of all the communities they serve.

**Slide 6**

We're supporting our global family in Christ through Lent Event in 2026.

[www.lentevent.com.au](http://www.lentevent.com.au)

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Find out more about Lent Event at the website shown. There are also brochures available [if you have some – tell them where to find them]



Slide 7

Let's pray together

Pray with us for our brothers and sisters in Vanuatu and around the world.



Slide 8

Leader:

God of Australia, God of the Pacific,  
we are joined as communities who face storms, floods, and heat  
We know what it means for disaster to come suddenly,  
to feel vulnerable  
and yet held by the strength of others.

Congregation:

When we feel small before wind and water,  
be our calm.  
Remind us that we don't face these moments alone,  
but as people connected across oceans and neighbourhoods.



Slide 9

Leader:

We give thanks for leaders in Churches in the Pacific, Asia and Africa

who teach safer ways to prepare—  
raising strong shelters, planning evacuation routes,  
and sharing knowledge that saves lives.

**Congregation:**

Bless those who walk alongside communities,  
helping resilience grow.  
May their work be a refuge  
when storms begin to rise.



**Leader:**  
For families who practise, plan, and look out for each other,  
and for churches that open their doors in times of need—  
we give thanks.

**Together:**  
Help us learn from their courage and cooperation.  
Build in us the same readiness  
to show up, share resources, and care for our neighbours.  
Amen.

**Leader:**

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and for Churches that open their doors in times of need—  
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**Together:**

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