



Last week a Uniting Church Congregation closed their church buildings after discovering unsafe electrical wiring. Sunday morning worship services had to be moved to another location and hall hirers prevented from entering the buildings and this situation will continue until the buildings are certified as electrically safe following remediation work.

Aside from the costs involved in rectifying the electrical issue the congregation will also lose financial income for the duration of the repairs.

Of **more significance** is that continuing to operate from the buildings would have placed **people at risk of electrocution and the buildings at risk of fire.**

**Could this happen to you too?**

Over the years an electrical system can deteriorate and become hazardous and thus dangerous to use.

For this reason, upgrades and /or rewiring are required to keep your congregation and visitors safe from the risk of electric shock or fire.

**Essential works may include: -**

- Complete rewiring
- Switchboard upgrades or thermographic scans
- Power pole replacement
- Lights and/or power points replacement

**It is possible that if any of the items below are occurring at your church, your building and people may be at risk:**

- The building is fitted with single insulated wiring or Indian rubber cables
- The safety switch trips frequently or the absence of a safety switch in your switchboards
- The building was built in the 1970's or earlier
- Socket outlets are over heating

Even if safety switches are installed, if any of the above apply to your buildings, there is no guarantee your building and people are safe.

Regular electrical safety checks are a must for all buildings but even more so for buildings that may fit into the areas listed above.

If you would like to discuss please contact the Health and Safety team at [health.safety@ucaqld.com.au](mailto:health.safety@ucaqld.com.au) –Peter Rose 0419527985 or Christine Przibilla 0439136171 .