



Glen Waverley

Uniting Church

Welcome

GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centred community that meets God and shares that unconditional love: meet_god@anytime.with.us

SUNDAY PREACHING PLAN - April 2016							
Time	April 3 Easter 2	April 10 Easter 3	April 17 Easter 4	April 24 Easter 5			
8.00 am	Alison Clarkson Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters Communion
9.15 am	Rev Asiri Pereira Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters Worship Team	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw
11.00 am	Rev Neil Peters Rev Asiri Pereira	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw
2.30 pm	-	Alison Clarkson Senior Service	-	-	-	-	-
4.30 pm	School Holidays	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families
7.00 pm	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw
Lectionary	Acts 5:27-32 Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150 Revelations 1:4-8 John 20:19-31	Acts 9:1-6, (7-20) Psalm 30 Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19	Acts 9:36-43 Psalm 23 Revelation 7:9-17 John 10:22-30	Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21:1-6 John 12:31-35			
Liturgical Colour	White	White	White	White	White	White	White

MARCH

6 March	10am
7 March	5pm
17 March	10am
17-22 March	All day
21 March	7.30pm
22 March	7.30pm
23 March	7.30pm
24 March	8pm
25 March	9.15am
27 March	10am

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

6 March	10am	Combined Service followed by Congregational Meeting and lunch
7 March	5pm	NewView Submissions Close
17 March	10am	Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea
17-22 March	All day	Getaway at Queenscliff
21 March	7.30pm	Lenten Study Shared Community Meal
22 March	7.30pm	Holy Week Service
23 March	7.30pm	Holy Week Service
24 March	8pm	Maundy Thursday Service
25 March	9.15am	Good Friday Combined Service followed by Hot Cross Buns and Cuppa
27 March	10am	Easter Day Combined Service

APRIL

4-8 April	All day	Lions Op Shop for Asylum Seekers
18 April	2.20pm	Leisure Time AGM





HOT CROSS BUN MORNING TEA at THE HUB

Join us for hot cross buns, tea or coffee



**to help raise funds for
THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL**



**Where: Glen Waverley Uniting Church
cnr Bogong Ave & Kingsway**

When: Thursday 17th March 2016

Time: 10 am to 12 noon

Please add your name to the list on the Office
Counter if you are planning to attend.
Everyone is welcome!

The Christian Church in the World (cont ...)

A new Cultural Revolution in China?: This year is the 50th anniversary of Chairman Mao's Cultural Revolution and it seems there is now a new cultural revolution. Not only is President Xi purging the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) of all opposition, he is reviving Maoist ideology and strengthening CCP control over everything, including the Church. President Xi's campaign to force the Church into the service of the CCP is focused at present on the southern coastal province of Zhejiang. For the first time since Mao's Cultural Revolution of 1966-1977 the CCP is targeting official, CCP-approved churches. In recent weeks two of Zhejiang's most senior registered pastors have been imprisoned, essentially for criticising CCP policy and resisting CCP orders. The situation in China is extremely serious. Please pray for China and its Church.

From Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

May I share this Prayer with you.

A Prayer at the Beginning of the Day.

O God,
We find ourselves at the beginning of another day.
We do not know what it will bring.
Please, help us to be ready for whatever it may be.

If we are to stand up, help us to stand bravely.
If we are to sit still, help us to sit quietly.
If we are to lie low, help us to do it patiently.
If I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly.

Please, free my thinking and feelings,
and the thinking and feelings of others,
from all forms of self-will, self-centredness,
dishonesty and deception.
Along with my brothers and sisters,
We need this freedom to make choices,
according to your desires.
Send your Spirit to inspire us in time of doubt and indecision,
so that together, we can walk along your path.
Amen.

Used in a Justice and International Mission Convention of the UCA

Asylum Seeker Support

The Asylum Seeker Support Group would like to thank the congregation for their donations towards the support of asylum seekers living lawfully in the community while awaiting an outcome to their application for permanent residency. During 2015 we were able to assist with over 150 items of food, 30 household cleaning agents, 46 items of bedlinen, 20 items of bath linen, 287 items of clothing, and 41 sundry items. There is a continued need for these contributions. The labelled boxes in the foyer (under the library shelves) tell you what the specific needs are (particularly in food lines), so check them out and remember them when you go shopping! Items contributed are given to the Dandenong Asylum Seeker Centre, and to the Asylum Seeker Project run by our Uniting Church agency, Lentara.

The Christian Church in the World

Pray for Sudan and its Church: Christian activist Talahon Ratta, a member of the Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church, was arrested on 14 December 2015. Detained without charge, reportedly he has been questioned extensively about his relationship with a foreign missionary, although Christians suspect he was targeted because he protested against government persecution of the Khartoum Bahri Evangelical Church. On 18 December 2015 authorities from the National Intelligence and Security Services arrested Rev Kowa Shamaal at his home in Khartoum Bahri and Rev Hassan Abdelrahim at his home in Omdurman. Shamaal is the head of mission at the Sudan Church of Christ (SCOC) and Abbedlrahim is vice-moderator. Both had objected to government demolitions of SCOC church properties. Kowa Shamaal has been conditionally released but Hassan Abdelrahim remains detained. Please pray for Sudan and its Church.

A Letter to the Congregation

Dear Friends,

Mark 12.36: 'Abba! Father!' The cry of the Spirit

These words reflect feeling, awareness of the love and the reliability of God. These words are words of the Spirit. There is a strengthening of courage which is required to go forward and face the future in the knowledge of the graciousness and nearness of God.

As we read this passage from Mark we imagine Jesus falling to the ground and praying. He prays alone and then returns to find his disciples asleep. His message is clear.

Mark 14.38: 'Stay awake and pray for strength against temptation. The Spirit wants to do what is right, but the body is weak.'

During Lent and Easter we are reminded of the pain and the joy. We experience the sorrow and sadness of the crucifixion. Yet, we also feel uplifted as we read of the resurrection. In the midst of pain there is the hope of joy.

Over Lent and Easter Christians reflect upon new life and hope which is represented by Christ's resurrection. At a personal level Easter can be seen as a time for renewing and deepening faith.

May we discover a deep sense of joy and peace. Be assured that God's Spirit surrounds us and we live with the reassurance of God's sustaining presence.

Helen Stewart - Chair of Church Council



Getaway [get-a-wei] noun

1. place for relaxing, away from home. 2. a short holiday.

Hello to all!

The 'Getaways' are members of our congregation who enjoy a relaxed time away together in caravans and cabins – **ALL** are invited to join them.

The next getaway will be to Queenscliff from 17th to 22nd March, 2016.

We will be staying at the **Big4 Beacon Resort** (www.beaconresort.com.au) and we would be delighted if you are able to join us. There is limited availability of cabins but they do have plenty of sites available. Please call the park directly on 1800 351 152 to make your booking. Don't forget to quote "The Getaways" when you book.

If you are not able to stay overnight - how about visiting just for the day? Our numbers usually swell on the Saturday and we will again be having a Shared Meal in the evening (19th March) – more details to follow...

Please let us know if you are planning on coming to visit for the day or if you will be staying overnight - we would love to see you!

Come when you can - leave when you must...

Happy Camping

Joanne.

For catering purposes, please RSVP to j.boldiston@bigpond.com if you will at the Shared Meal on Saturday evening.

LEISURE TIME AGM - 18 April at 2.30pm

Invitation to the Congregation and Volunteers

You are invited to attend the Leisure Time Annual General Meeting
Afternoon tea will be served after the meeting
Under the Constitution all Church members are eligible to attend and cast a vote so come along and participate.
Agenda papers will be available from the Church Office from 31 March - 16 April 2016

Notice of Meeting

The Annual General Meeting
of the
Glen Waverley Uniting Church
Leisure Time
will be held at the
Glen Waverley Uniting Church
in Room 1
on
Monday 18 April 2016, at 2.30pm.

The Agenda includes:
Annual Report
Audited Annual Accounts
Reappointment of Auditor
TV Presentation about Leisure Time
Election of Committee Members

Ken Hutchison - Secretary
7 March 2016

Inclusive Community Report

Prayer Chain - If you have a prayer request and you don't want it placed in the prayer book, we do have a prayer chain. All requests for prayer are kept confidential and are only passed onto chain members. We don't need to know why you are requesting prayer, just a name is fine. If you need more information, contact Heather or Wendy in the office, during office hours or Beverly on 0417 359 779.

Munch with a Bunch - Our first lunch was held at the RSL on Sunday 14 February. There were about forty people in attendance and they enjoyed a lovely lunch and a great time of fellowship.

Lunch - Our next lunch will be after the Combined Service and Congregational meeting on Sunday 6 March. Please join us.

Light Lunch - There will be a light lunch, provided by our committee, following the 11am service on Sunday 13 March. Come and join us. This is always a great time of fellowship.

Pancake Day was held on Tuesday 9 February. Thank you to those who helped or bought a pancake. I am very pleased to tell you that we sent \$388 to the organisers.

English Class - Bible Study - On Tuesday the 15 March at 11.15 we will have a special English class that will look at a Bible passage. The leaders will help the participants to read the passage and will explain any difficult words and have a short discussion. Pamphlets were distributed at the Chinese New Year festivities, in the show bags so we hope that there will be some people who are interested.

We would like to run this class once a fortnight next term. Enquiries Church Office-9560 3580.

Our next committee meeting will be on Monday 7 March at 10.30 am. If you have suggestions for activities, please let us know.

Jan Clear

NewView March 2016

Our next issue of *NewView*, with the theme of readiness, will be distributed just before Easter, when we are remembering the path Jesus took and his readiness for what lay ahead. How significant is readiness in our own lives? Can we prepare ourselves for the future or should we just 'go with the flow'? Is 'readiness' an illusion? Is 'discernment' a type of readiness? What happens when our preparations go awry? If you have any thoughts or experiences to share relevant to the theme, start writing now!

Additionally your reports, photos, anecdotes of recent activities are necessary to keep us all informed about the work and life of our large church community, whether related to the theme or not! Accompanying photos are also welcomed.

Submit your contributions of up to 1000 words to the church office, or email to popesr@aapt.net.au by Monday, March 7. Any queries? Ring Robin Pope on phone 9561 7021.

Hot Cross Buns on Good Friday

Following the 9.15am Service on Good Friday, 25 March, Hot Cross Buns and a cuppa will be available in the hall. Please bring some Hot Cross Buns to share.

Monthly Material Aid Offering - Asylum Seeker Support

From April 4-8 we have a booking for raising funds for asylum seeker support through the Lions Op Shop in Wadham Parade Mount Waverley. We will be looking for donations of household goods (bric-a-brac, kitchenware, toys, linen, bags, storage boxes and some clothing) to sell during that week. If you can assist with any of these items please contact Andrew Hosking (9560 1981) or Heather Wilkins (9560 1440), or leave your goods (labelled 'For the Op Shop') in the foyer for collections.



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

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24 February 2015

Dear friends,

Many of you will be aware of the devastation and tragic loss of life caused by Cyclone Winston, which hit Fiji on Saturday 20 February. Reports to date indicate that 29 people are confirmed dead, and around 14,000 people are sheltering in evacuation centers. Whole villages have been destroyed, particularly on the island of Koro where a relief and assessment ship is being deployed.

The Uniting Church has long been committed to assisting those in need, especially during times of crisis. I urge you to consider ways you and your church community may be able to assist in the relief and support effort and to keep those affected in your thoughts and prayers. Please consider contributing what you can, to stand beside our neighbours and to offer the practical support they desperately need at this time.

Share has set up an appeal with donations supporting UnitingWorld's partner, the Methodist Church in Fiji. The Methodist Church is the largest denomination in the country, covering an extensive network across 55 districts. President Rev Tevita Bainivanua has opened all church buildings for emergency shelter and has directed ministers throughout the country to assess and report on the extent of the damage.

According to UnitingWorld staff member Rev Dr Cliff Bird, who is on the ground in the capital of Suva, destruction has been "widespread and very bad."

"The Lau group of islands, Koro Island, villages on Vanua Levu and their township Savusavu have been hit very badly. Hundreds of homes have been lost, infrastructure damaged, farms, vegetable gardens, livelihoods destroyed. Water and power supply to many areas are still down," he said.

Donations will be forwarded to UnitingWorld and used to support the Methodist Church's relief efforts, including re-establishing healthcare and schools, replanting crops and livelihoods and 'building back better' to safeguard communities against future cyclones.

You can support the cyclone relief efforts through Share by sending a cheque or money order to:
Share Fiji Cyclone Appeal
PO Box 24154
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Alternatively, you can call 1800 668 426 or donate online at www.shareappeal.org.au

Please pray for these communities and for the relief and aid workers assisting on the ground.

With kind regards,

Dan Wootton
Moderator



Photo: ABC News

Our friends in Fiji are suffering widespread destruction in the aftermath of Cyclone Winston, which hit on Saturday 20th February.

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- re-establishing healthcare and schools
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To donate, please complete the form below and return to PO Box 24154, Melbourne VIC 3001, call 1800 668 426 or visit www.shareappeal.org.au

Donation Slips are available on the Stewards Table.