



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 - March 2015						
Time	March 1 Lent 2	March 8 Lent 3	March 15 Lent 4	March 22 Lent 5	March 29 Palm Sunday	
8.00 am	10am Combined Service Ministry Team Communion Baptism Chinese New Year Celebrations	Rev Evan Laidlaw Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion
9.15 am		Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters Worship Team	Alanee Hearnshaw Worship Team	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters
11.00 am		Rev Neil Peters Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters Alison Clarkson Communion	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters
2.30 pm		-	-	-	Senior Service Alison Clarkson	
4.30 pm		Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	
7.30 pm		Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	
Lectionary	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:23-31 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38	Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22	Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21	Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16	Purple
Liturgical Colour	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple	Purple

FEBRUARY

17 February

11am

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Pancake Day

18 February

7.30pm

Ash Wednesday Service

23 February

Various

Lenten Studies Commence this week

28 February

8.30am -
2pm

Used Book Sale

MARCH

1 March

10am

Combined Service

8 March

12noon

Light Lunch

15 March

12.30pm

Munch with a Bunch Lunch

26 March

10am

Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea at The Hub

26-29 March

Various

Strathdon Art Show

28 March

9.30am

Safe Church Training



Safe Church Training

Glen Waverley Uniting Church

Saturday 28 March 2015

9.30am – 1.30pm

The Uniting Church affirms that all people are made in the image of God.

The Uniting Church commits itself to the care, protection and safety of all people with whom it comes in contact.

As a community of faith, we are committed to providing a safe environment for both children and adults to encounter God, to develop relationships as part of a community and to grow in faith.

Who should attend a Safe Church Workshop?

- ❖ Anyone who is involved in ministry with young people (0-18 years old)
- ❖ People in leadership and pastoral roles within the congregation, such as Elders, Church Council members and Ministers.
- ❖ Anyone interested in learning more about practical ways of making our churches safe places.



Participation in Safe Church Training is a requirement for Safe Church Recognition.

Each participant will receive a comprehensive manual. Topics covered in the workshop will include:

- ❖ Safe Church foundations
- ❖ Protecting vulnerable people
- ❖ Child Protection
- ❖ Duty of care and accountability
- ❖ Understanding and responding to abuse
- ❖ Protective behaviours
- ❖ Safe leadership
- ❖ Safe programs and environments
- ❖ Uniting Church Policy and procedures

Safe Church Workshops are offered across the Synod without cost to church members.

To register for this Workshop go to:

<https://ucavt.goregister.com.au/safechurchtraining2015/registration/glenwaverley/>

For further information please contact the Safe Church Educator Josh Woollett.

Phone: (03) 9340 8810 or email: safechurchtraining@victas.uca.org.au



STRATHDON PANCAKE DAY

Tuesday 17 February 10am to 1pm

Come to the Strathdon Community Centre and enjoy a variety of pancakes.



STRATHDON ART SHOW

26-29 March 2015

Visit our website for all the art show details

www.strathdonartshow.org.au

Join us on opening night Thursday 26 March at 7pm, for Cocktail Party and Presentations, cost \$15. Other days \$8 – visiting hours

Friday 27 March: 9am – 6pm

Saturday 28 March: 10am to 5pm

Sunday 29 March: 12 – 4pm

Guest artists - Lee Machelak, Barbara McManus and Gregory Smith.

Entry forms are available from the website.

Chinese New Year Celebrations

This year as directed by our Vision we have applied to have a stall down Kingsway to celebrate Chinese New Year. We hope to do kids craft activities, face painting and share with the community what Glen Waverley Uniting Church has going on. We will also be opening the church for the book fair and hope to create an inviting space here as well as down the street. Chinese New Year is celebrated on Kingsway on 1st March, and we will be looking for volunteers at our various programs, so please think about helping out on the day.

Alanee Hearnshaw

Urgently Required for Leisure Time

The Leisure Time Coordinator position will be vacant after our AGM in April, and we are very keen to hear from any man or woman from the congregation who has the time and interest in seniors in our wider community to consider this role. Duties may be shared by more than one person. A list of current duties is available.

We have an excellent committee in place, but need one (or two) people who can liaise with local community aged care agencies, families and other referring groups, coordinate the various operational aspects of Leisure Time, and represent Leisure Time within Glen Waverley Uniting Church.

This is a rewarding commitment. Our guests are always appreciative of the efforts made by our volunteers, and rave about the food we provide, and the kindness of our leaders and drivers.

Please contact Margaret Fraser on phone: 9803 7653 (or email: margaret.fraser@optusnet.com.au) if you would like to have a chat about what is involved, or to express your interest. The Leisure Time program is a perfect fit within the new Church Vision. We are keen to see it continue raising GWUC's profile, and provide a loving outreach to the seniors in our local community.

We ask everyone to pray for our guests, and for a new coordinator(s) who will feel called to serve in this way.

Thank you.

A Letter to the Congregation

Dear Friends,

A new year presents fresh opportunities to open the doors to new experiences. In reading 'Experiencing Jesus' by Gerald Collins I noted this passage:

"But our Scriptures edge us consistently towards the future where our surprising God is constantly preparing new things for us. We all live our lives between the old and the new, but the deepest pull must be towards the new."

Throughout this year may each one of us feel both nourished and nurtured by seeking the leading of Christ and belonging to a faith community.

Last week I had the opportunity to attend the first Leisure Time meeting for the year. The meeting opened with the links between the Glen Waverley Uniting Church Vision and what Leisure Time is offering. By responding to the Spirit and offering loving service Leisure Time fits perfectly with the Vision. It was wonderful to hear people speak about the passion they bring to participating in Leisure Time. Church Council wants to highlight the urgent need for a volunteer for the role of Leisure Time Coordinator. In April the present Leisure Time Coordinator retires so please give careful consideration to discern if you would be available to fill this role.

Church Council has already met in January and has plans to meet again twice in February. The first Congregation meeting is scheduled for March. Church Council looks forward to working with the Ministry Team, Mission Groups and Functional Groups in 2015. Please remember that new volunteers would be most welcome to join these groups.

"Lord, as we seek you, help us to find you, so that we can stretch mind and heart to take in the enormity of your grace and power."

May Christ lead us in the year ahead.

Helen Stewart - Chair of Church Council

Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea at The Hub

Staff from The Body Shop at The Glen will be joining us for this special morning tea on Tuesday 26 March, 10am to 12noon. Come and enjoy a cuppa and a hot cross bun. Bring your family and friends. All ages welcome. All donations will go to The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

Judith Greenwood - The Hub

Exciting News - A Student on Placement

Late last year the Uniting Church Theological College approached Neil about supervising a candidate for the ordained ministry doing a field placement at Glen Waverley Uniting Church. After careful thought, Neil consulted with other members of the ministry team and the church council who were prepared for a candidate to do field work at this church. Neil has supervised a candidate doing a field placement previously.

The student will receive a variety of ministry experiences in the congregation including leading worship, preaching and pastoral care under Neil's supervision. She will work 10 hours a week, not paid, as part of her training and equipping for ministry. It is a great opportunity and responsibility that we have as a congregation to help prepare this candidate for ministry in the church. She will commence the field placement some time in March and go through till October/November. I will release a name as soon as I have permission to do so. We will have to establish a lay consultative group to support the candidate.

Neil Peters

Being a Welcoming Church each Sunday

One of the things that is so important for me and I think for any church is to be a welcoming and open community. People need to feel welcome and wanted from the very first Sunday they come. We have a greeting person at the exterior door, stewards at the entry to worship and a welcome table team. Along with these people I think we all need to do our part in making people feel welcome. Keep an eye out for people you don't know in the area you are sitting and then have the courage to speak to them after the service. If you find someone who is new then introduce them to someone else or take them to the 'welcome table' or invite them to have tea/coffee with you. Think about how you would like to be made feel welcome, and offer that same sort of welcome to others.

The church, I believe, should be the most welcoming and accepting community that people come across. Being a welcoming and accepting community is vital if we want to grow our congregation, if we want to reach out to others, and if we want to continue to build a sense of community. We all need to play our part for this to happen.

Neil Peters

Inclusive Community Report - February 2015

Prayer Chain:

If you have a prayer request and don't want it placed on the weekly prayer list, 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 are interested please contact Heather in the Office.

Pastoral Partners Workshop:

On Wednesday 28 January we had a workshop for our pastoral partners and other interested people. Seventeen people attended and this was very encouraging. Our topic for the day was Pastoral Care and Hospitality. We talked about the positive aspects of Hospitality in films and TV shows that we have seen and then looked at examples of Hospitality in the New Testament. We concluded the learning session by talking about the positive aspects of Pastoral Care and Hospitality in our church. We had afternoon tea together at the end of the session. We plan to hold another workshop after Easter so watch out for notices about that and we would encourage you to attend.

Pancake Day:

Is on Tuesday 17 February. We will be selling pancakes from about 11am here at Glen Waverley Uniting Church. Pancakes will be \$2 each. The Community Hub will provide tea and coffee. Please come and enjoy a time of fellowship as well as supporting Uniting Care.

Dates for your Diary:

Munch with a Bunch - Our first lunch will be at the RSL on Sunday 15 March at 12.30pm. We will be sending out invitations in the next few weeks.

Intergenerational Night - We plan to have an Intergenerational night in the first part of year year. When we have settled on a date, we will advertise it in the bulletin.

Light Lunch - We will provide a light lunch after the 11am service on Sunday 8 February.

Combined Service - 1 March - We will have a special morning tea after this service.

Meeting:

Our next Inclusive Community meeting will be on Thursday 5 March at 2.30pm at the Church. If you have any ideas or suggestions for functions in 2015, please let us know and we may be able to add them to our calendar for the year.

Jan Clear

Next NewView Issue

The Easter edition of *NewView* will take **Endings** as its theme. It is a significant theme as we reflect, at Easter, on the death of Jesus and the ending of his mortal life. The most significant ending for us all is the ending of life: of those we love, and of our own lives. But our lives are necessarily full of other endings, which occur with successful completions, abandoned practices or forced changes. Sometimes endings herald a new start; at other times they mark the ending of a long-held project. Whatever the reason, endings require an adjustment to our lives. What kind of endings have occurred in your life? What has been their significance and effect on your life? What gave you strength to cope? What difficulties made it harder? Did you have the benefit of assistance, of warning, of forethought or planning? Was there an ending that turned out unexpectedly to also be a beginning? Start thinking about sharing your contributions of stories, anecdotes, reflections, poems, or challenges on our theme.

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!

Submit your contributions of up to 1000 words to the church office, or email to popesr@aapt.net.au by Monday, March 16. Any queries? Ring Robin Pope on phone 9561 7021.

Lenten Studies 2015

Study groups will commence in the week starting Monday 23 February. Details of dates, times and location of groups are on the office counter. If you would like to purchase a hard copy of the study book "Through the Eyes of Love" (\$11) please put your name on the list on the office counter. You can also order an online .pdf version of the book for \$7.50. This can be done through www.mediacom.org.au and by clicking on the 'Visit our eSHOP' tab.

For more information please feel free to contact Alison Clarkson on either phone: 9560 3167 or email: alison@gwuc.org.au

Book Sale

1000s of Secondhand Books



**Glen Waverley
Uniting Church**

cnr Kingsway & Bogong Ave

**Saturday
28 February
8:30am-1:00pm**

Enjoy a Devonshire Tea

Donations of books welcomed from February 23



Proceeds to support the work of Glen Waverley Uniting Church

www.gwuc.org.au



Another year has flown by, another summer holiday has disappeared, and here we are rested, revived and ready to join in another year of fellowship at GWUC.

We are very grateful to Judith Greenwood, who has been our never-tiring coordinator since Community Hub Missional Group was established. She has contributed much in the way of initiatives, attention to detail, and a willingness to go one more step with a smile. Thank you, Judith. Judith will remain co-ordinator of The Hub and I will try to follow her outstanding example as Community Hub Missional Group coordinator. Our thanks to Jenny Vass who is joining us as Secretary. Thank you, Jenny.

Please make sure you read the **Urgently Required** notice elsewhere in this Bulletin. YOU could be just the person we need.

Geraldine Fleming - 9802 2179

Cooee:

If you would like some company on Fridays, come along to Cooee. Cooee is held every Friday from 12noon - 3pm in the fellowship area. Bring your own lunch - a cuppa and biscuits will be provided. After lunch enjoy a game of Scrabble together.

The Hub:

The Hub is a welcoming and friendly place for people of all ages, and is starting again on Tuesday 10 February, 2015.

The Hub operates in the church foyer on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am till 2pm, and Wednesdays 10am till 12noon, during school terms.

On Thursday 26 March, 10am - 12noon, we will be having our annual Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea, with all donations going to The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. Staff from The Body Shop at The Glen will be joining us to help on this day. Come and join us for a cuppa, a biscuit and a chat. Come on your own, or bring family or friends. We would love to see you.

If you would like to know more about The Hub, or if you would like to help in any way, please contact Judith on 9803 8373.

Leisure Time:

Leisure Time guests have been eagerly awaiting the start of Leisure Time on 2nd February. Christmas holidays can be quite a lonely period for some of our guests, who are keen to see their friends again. We are delighted that we have sufficient volunteers to operate our roster for 2015, a great blessing. Thank you to all our faithful volunteers and a welcome to our newest volunteer, Eileen Scott.

If you would like to see what happens at Leisure Time, you are very welcome to pop in any Monday 10.30am - 2pm. New volunteers are always welcome. There is a range of duties, including driving, cooking at home, kitchen help, hosting and leading.

Also, if you know of any seniors who would like regular company and a friendly day out on Mondays, please contact Margaret Fraser 9803 7653 or the church office. Over the years, GWUC has provided this hospitality to hundreds of local seniors, who are very grateful.

We have successfully applied to Monash Council for a grant to subsidise our outings program, so we will be organising six outings during the year at an affordable cost to our guests. This is indeed good news.

One big concern is that our Coordinator position will be vacant after our AGM in April, so we are keen to hear from anyone who has the time and interest in seniors in our wider community to consider this role. See separate item in this Bulletin.

Playgroups:

Our Playgroup sessions (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 10am - 12 noon) start in the week beginning Monday 9 February.

Kaye Mackinnon

Asylum Seeker Donation Bins

During the full year of 2014, the many donations of items into our two bins (in the church foyer) comprised:

- more than 1250 items of clothing / linen / bedding;
- more than 250 items of food / toiletries / others.

Thanks to all who contributed. This is an ongoing need, so please keep these bins in mind; all clothing etc must be in excellent condition. Bags of items should be loosely (rather than tightly) tied.

Geoff Willis