

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 - June 2015						
Time	June 7 Pentecost 2	June 14 Pentecost 3	June 21 Pentecost 4	June 28 UCA Anniversary		
8.00 am	Alison Clarkson Communion	Rev Brace Bateman Communion	Peter Baker Alison Clarkson - Communion	10am Combined Service Anniversary	Baptism	Red
9.15 am	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters Alanee Hearnshaw	Worship Team		Luncheon	
11.00 am	Rev Neil Peters Alison Clarkson	Rev Neil Peters	Alison Clarkson - Communion Heather Hon			
4.30pm	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families			
7.00 pm	State Youth Games	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw			
Lectionary	1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15) Psalm 138 2 Corinthians 4:13-51 Mark 3:20-35	1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 Psalm 20 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17 Mark 4: 26-34	1 Samuel 17:(1a,4-11, 19-23), 32-49 or 1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16 Psalm 9:9-20 or Psalm 133 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41	2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 Mark 5:21-43		
Liturgical Colour	Green	Green	Green			

MAY

MAY		DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
3 May	12noon	Club 2015
5 May	11am	UCAF Annual Fundraising Luncheon
7 May	7pm	Beyond Blue Joining Hands Project
10 May	All services	Material Aid Offering
17 May	11am	Morning Tea with Ecumenical Visitors
	12noon	Munch with a Bunch Lunch
19 May	6pm	Pax Christi Victoria Event
23 May	2pm	Colours of May Piano Concert
	7.30pm	Anatoly Dokumentov Plays Tchaikovsky
24 May	9.15 & 11am	Guest Preacher Rev Dr Sunny Chen
	12.30pm	Light Lunch
	6.30pm	Colours of May Piano Concert
28 May	10am	Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub





Glen Waverley Uniting Church & The Body Shop at The Glen

are hosting



ALL donations to the Cancer Council
Come along, bring your family and friends
enjoy morning tea together and

support the Cancer Council

ALL WELCOME

Where : Glen Waverley Uniting Church
cnr Bogong Ave & Kingsway

When : Thursday 28th May 2015

Time : 10.00 am to 12.00 noon

Please add your name to the list on the office counter if
you are planning to attend.



Lions Club of Wheelers Hill



BEYOND BLUE – JOINING HANDS PROJECT

FREE Community Awareness Program
organised by the Lions Club of Wheelers Hill

Guest Speaker

Peter McCall OAM
Beyond Blue Ambassador

will share his experiences of
dealing with anxiety and
depression



7 May 2015 7.00pm to 9.00pm

South 1 Lecture Theatre

43 Rain Forest Walk (prev. South Ring Road)

MONASH UNIVERSITY Wellington Road Clayton

(Melway Map 575 – Building 64)

*Around 3 Million Australians live with depression and anxiety.
Now or in the future this could touch you or someone you love.
Learn to understand depression and anxiety now.*

Register attendance: John Odgers 9803 8335 SMS: 0420 523 882
email: jaodgers@bigpond.net.au



ANATOLY DOKUMENTOV

**PLAYS
TCHAIKOVSKY**

**Saturday 23 May
7.30 pm**

**High Street Road Uniting Church
482 High Street Road Mt Waverley
Tickets: \$30 / \$20 conc / \$15 child**

www.trybooking.com/GSWK

**Enquiries/Bookings: 98022241 or 95699178
Email: dcjackson@bigpond.com**

Sponsored by



Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub

This special morning tea will be held on Thursday 28th May, 10am till 12noon.

Staff from The Body Shop will be joining us again in this community event, as together we support the Cancer Council Victoria.

All donations will be given to the Cancer Council Victoria.

Advance Notice - Sunday 24 May

The Seniors' Service scheduled for Sunday 24 May has been cancelled.

Rev Dr Sunny Chen will be the guest preacher at 9.15am and 11am services on that day. Please take this opportunity to come and hear Sunny, an inspiring speaker who led bible study at the last UCA Synod meeting.

A light lunch will be served after 11am service.

News Flash - GWUC supporting Grand Ping Pong inaugural event

Ping-Pong-A-Thon - Nationwide Fundraiser to assist in the prevention of Human Trafficking and sexual exploitation in South-east Asia.

The young people of our church are going to assist with the organisation of this special event.

Members of the congregation are invited to sponsor members of our club for the duration of this 24-hour event. Alternatively, those members who can present themselves to the playing roster for the event will be made most welcome by our duty officers.

This event will be held on Friday 30 October 6pm until 6pm Saturday 31st October 2015 in the GWUC Church Hall. To sponsor either physically or monetarily contact Onn Chin or Andrew Hosking.

For further details to go: www.pingpongathon.com or THE PONG on Facebook.

Letter to the Congregation

Dear Friends,

Thank you for completing the survey about times for services. If you haven't taken the opportunity to complete a survey, please know that we would value your input.

Recently I read an article in "New Times" (the voice of UCA-SA) on a sermon given by Rev Nigel Rogers in Adelaide last October. He asked a tough question: "Can the Uniting Church make a comeback?" He identified two ways UCA can gain strength: "by honestly refreshing our sense of identity and by strengthening the core of who we are". He spoke about "realising that our relationship with God is the defining factor" of the church's identity; not "our buildings, our liturgy, our music or our societal contributions". He spoke about how "drifting apart from our relationship with God can lead to confusion about who we are and why we do things". Nigel examined Paul's words to the Corinthians - "that without love the church has nothing more than meaningless noise". "Consider the impact the Uniting Church could have", he said, if we related with others "with the kind of love Paul identifies in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7". He concluded by saying that "strengthening our identity and core purpose is an achievable goal for people who desire to see the Uniting Church make a comeback".

To summarise what Nigel said, we are called upon to build one another up. If we are to strengthen the core of who we are as church it will be through our daily encounter with Jesus and in our relationships with others. Through prayers, scripture, justice, reconciliation, and worship the community of faith encounters the risen Christ. The Spirit is a work among us reforming, refreshing and renewing our lives.

Grace and Peace -

Helen Stewart - Chair of Church Council

The Christian Church in the World

Pakistani Taliban Targets the Church - On Sunday 15 March Taliban militant targeted two churches - one Protestant, one Catholic - in Youhanabad, the largest Christian community in Lahore, capital of Punjab Province. The churches' own volunteer guards tackled the bombers, giving their lives in the process of saving multitudes. As it is, 17 are dead and more than 70 wounded; 20 critically. The Islamic State-aligned Taliban offshoot, Jamaat-ur-Ahrar, claimed responsibility, saying the bombings were in response to the government's crackdown on Taliban militants in the north-west. Doubtless IS's call in February for Muslims to kill Christians influenced Jamaat-ur-Ahrar's choice of targets. As the struggle between the government and the Taliban intensifies, more terror attacks can be expected. Please pray that Yahweh Sabaoth, the Lord of Hosts, will guard and shield his precious Church in Pakistan.

Situation Critical in Syria - In September 2014 the US government resumed sending weapons to the 'moderate Syrian opposition', including anti-tank missiles critical in al-Qaeda's conquest of Idlib. Turkey and Saudi Arabia are planning a military alliance to aid the 'moderate Syrian opposition'. They believe the US-Iran nuclear deal will empower Iran and regime-change in Damascus must happen now before the window of opportunity closes. Over Easter al-Qaeda forces shelled Christian districts of Aleppo, killing dozens and wounding many more.

Meanwhile, IS has launched offensives in both Aleppo Province (north) and Damascus (south). A coalition of al-Qaeda and IS fighters now controls Yarmouk, a southern suburb of Damascus just 6km from its CBD. The war is escalating markedly at a time when escaping from Syria is virtually impossible. Please pray for Syria's remnant Christians.

From Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

The National Council of Churches Australia recommence this Prayer For Peace in the Middle East.

Lord Jesus Christ,
You were born into the chaos of human history.
You lived and died with violence, oppression and the shadow of war
Send your Spirit of Peace to all who live in this moment
and breath new hope for the whole human race.
Turn fear and hatred into trust and understanding,
Change greed and selfishness to generosity and care.
Teach us to love you in every person created in God's image,
And spread the peace, you died and rose again, to bring.
Amen.

Colours of May

A Piano Concert Kaleidoscope

Saturday 23 May 2pm

Sunday 24 May 6.30pm

High Street Road Uniting Church

482 High Street Road Mt Waverley

Tickets: \$30 / \$20 conc / \$15 child

www.trybooking.com/GSVY

Proceeds for this concert go to
"Possible Dreams International", Swaziland, Africa

Enquiries/Bookings: 98022241 or 95699178

Email: dcjackson@bigpond.com

Sponsored by

Bernies Music Land
SHEPPARTON - ALEXANDRIA - NO. 1000, 10000
200 Conventry Road, Ringwood Vic 3115
Tel: 081 942 4122 Fax: 081 942 4127
0.00 N 22 02 32 W 961
your ACME needs please

Inclusive Community Report

Prayer Chain: If you have a prayer request and you don't want it placed in 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.

Seniors' Service on 24 May has been cancelled as we have a guest speaker at 9.15am and 11am (Sunny Chen) and there will be a light lunch following the 11am service. Come and hear Sunny and enjoy lunch and a time of fellowship.

Medical Cards were given out a few weeks ago. If you didn't get a card, there are extra cards on the Stewards' table. If you received a card please make sure that you have filled it out and placed it in your wallet or handbag. These cards will be very useful if we need to contact family members or doctors, in the case of medical emergencies.

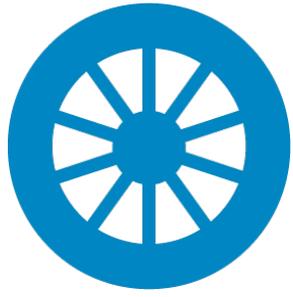
Transport: We are looking at alternate modes of transport for those who are unable to drive to the church for worship and other functions. If you are finding driving difficult, would you please speak to Heather in the office. Thanks to those people who have already passed on information.

Name Tags: Do you need a name tag? There is a list for orders on the office ledge or speak to Heather.

Diary Dates:

- 3 May Club 2015 - Today
- 17 May Morning tea with ecumenical visitors from other churches
Munch with a Bunch at the RSL.
- 14 June Pastoral Partners Workshop (on Sunday after light lunch)
- 28 June Anniversary Sunday. Tickets for Spit Roast lunch will be on sale next Sunday. Adults \$20. Children \$10.
- 31 July Intergenerational dinner and fun night at the Church from 6.30pm until 9pm.

Meeting: Our next Inclusive Community meeting will be on Wednesday 27 May at 2pm in Room 1 at the Church. If you have any ideas or suggestions for functions, please let us know.



COMMUNITY HUB

It is wonderful to walk through Glen Waverley Uniting Church on any day of the week and hear the social hum of fellowship being enjoyed at any one of the varied activities the Community Hub Mission Group offers. If you are looking for extra social contact or would like to volunteer your services contact Geraldine Fleming on 9802 2179 or the specific Group co-ordinator.

Jenny Vass - Secretary - 9874 3701 or rojenvas@bigpond.net.au

Cooee:

Cooee continues to operate on Fridays at lunchtime, and those who attend enjoy the fellowship. Bring your own lunch; a cuppa and biscuits will be provided. Come and make new friends, have a chat and enjoy a few games together. Contact: Geraldine.

Badminton:

Badminton meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at 8pm in the Hall. The number attending varies from 4 to 20! It is a mixed group, older and younger, males and females, church members and non-church members. They all enjoy the fun and fellowship of playing badminton or table tennis together. The best value for \$2 in Glen Waverley. Enquires: Onn Chin on 9884 4061.

The Hub:

The Hub has had a very busy first few months this year as more people from the wider community come into our church for some company and a cuppa, to make new friends or to practise speaking English in an informal way. Some days there have been 12 visitors at The Hub, and that makes it a very busy time for our Hub Volunteers. Amanda, one of our regular Hub visitors, came to our Easter Services and brought her family.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub will be held on Thursday 28 May, 10am till 12noon. Staff from The Body Shop will be working with us in the community event. All donations will go to the Cancer Council.

Material Aid Offering for May

Outreach Group has introduced a material aid offering to our worship services on the second Sunday of each month.

Next week, 10 May, will be our Material Aid Offering.

This month's material aid offering will be collecting for our local high schools wellbeing department. This will help the wellbeing program to offer comfort and support to students in varying ways.

Items that would assist are:-

Deodorant (for boys and girls)

Muesli bars

Two minute noodles (in tubs, for lunches)

Pocket packed tissues

Small individual packs of mints, tic-tacs, mentos etc

Stationery, pens, highlighters etc

Individually packed fruit drinks

Thank you for your support.

Youth Group.

Opportunities to House Sit

Louise, a member of Free Spirit and a mature single woman is currently between homes and is seeking house sitting opportunities over Winter. She is looking to house sit, rather than mind pets, in the Eastern Suburbs for two to three months, commencing end of May 2015 / early June 2015.

She is a non-smoker, can look after plants, mail etc rather than cats (allergic unfortunately). If you know of anyone seeking a house sitter please SMS or call Louise on 0413 018 343, speak to her in person at Glen Waverley Uniting Church, or email on louise.edgoose@bigpond.com

Kenya Again - 2015

Many of you will have seen our items for sale as a fundraiser for Cherish Exchange Foundation over the last few Sundays. We are still selling these items however they will no longer be on display at the Church. Please contact us directly if you would like to purchase any or even view them.

If you would like to assist directly in these Projects you can provide donations directly to us (or into our Cherish Bank Account – see either of us for the BSB and Account No.).

We are also collecting children's clothes, ages 3 – 12 in good clean condition to give to the needy children.

It's only a month now until we leave for Kenya on the 1st June and we are nowhere near our targets of \$11,000 for the yearly Food Program or the \$5,500 for the Chicken Project.

Lyn & Pam McDonald

H: 9560 9798 M: 0407 040 939 E: lynmcd@chariot.com.au

Pax Christi Victoria - Invitation to a Special Evening

Pax Christi Victoria is an international Christian peace movement. They are warmly inviting people to a special evening to discuss one of the defining issues of our time.

Topic: Terrorism and the 'war on terror'. What they mean for Australia.

Date: Tuesday 19 May, 2015.

Time: 6pm to 9pm

Place: Ildara Centre, rear 30 Stanhope Street, Malvern.

Finger food will be provided. If you would like more information about the evening or Pax Christi Victoria please see the Faith Development Noticeboard.

Letter rack

Please make sure that you check the letter rack to see if there are any items that belong to you.

The letter rack is getting full and posting out items is expensive.

Many thanks for your assistance with this.

If you want to know more about The Hub, or become a Hub Volunteer, welcoming and offering hospitality to the people in our church and the wider community, or help at our special morning teas, please contact Judith on 9803 8373.

Leisure Time:

The AGM of Leisure Time was held on 13th April, 2015 and was quite well attended. 2014 was the 36th year of Leisure Time, quite a record and thanks were expressed to all volunteers who make the running of Leisure Time possible.

This was Margaret Fraser's last AGM as Co-ordinator. As no-one has come forward to take over this position, all committee members have taken on various aspects of the role. This situation will be reviewed in October 2015.

Rebecca Seiber and her colleague Joyce from Uniting Care – Life Assist spoke of the work this organisation does with vulnerable and disadvantaged people together with family members and carers.

At the close of the meeting Cliff Baker gave a short summary of the work Margaret has done over 6 years. Flowers were presented to her as a thank you. Rev Neil Peters pronounced the benediction and afternoon tea followed.

Playgroups:

Playgroups recommenced after the two week Easter/School holidays break with a fairly quiet but very pleasant start to term 2. We have welcomed five new families.

We have also been pleased to welcome a number of grandparents who are visiting from China and are delighted to see their little grandchildren enjoying playgroup.

We were very pleased to welcome Julie Hall who was able to spend the whole morning with us chatting to mothers and playing with the children.

Again, a big vote of appreciation to our wonderful team of dedicated leaders. Also, a special thank you to the Property Committee for our new fence.

Kaye Mackinnon - Coordinator - GWUC Playgroups

Parking at Glen Waverley Uniting Church

When our current Glen Waverley Uniting Church was built around 22 years ago, the local residents of Southdown Avenue partitioned Monash Council to prevent us from demolishing the old houses at 15 Southdown and 17 Southdown (two of our current manses) and turning that area into expanded car park. Monash Council agreed with the residents and amended our building permit to allow us to only have the small parking area we currently use, and that two of the places had to be for disabled drivers.

As the shopping precinct has changed around us, the pressure on our car park has increased. As more of our members need to drive to worship and are involved in a variety of events at the church during the week, the car park is over subscribed, and as we live out our mission and expand our many community focused activities, we find the car park is unable to cope with this increased demand. We are limited to our 36 places. If we increase the number of disabled spots, we have to go back to Monash Council for a permit as disabled spots will reduce our total number of spaces by 1 for every 3 new disabled places.

Property Committee have looked at many options to try and assist, but in the end, the conclusion is that if we wish to be inclusive to all our members, to be welcoming to the wider community and provide safe facilities for all our users, we have to rely on everyone being kind and considerate.

One of the more popular suggestions from members is to install a controlled automated access barrier of some kind. Apart from the expense, which is considerable, the reason this will not work at Glen Waverley (and it may at other churches) is around who is to be granted access. Let me give you some choices:-

- Only those over 70? We have more than 60 people in that category so they will not all get a spot.
- Only those with disabled stickers? We have more than 40 people in the congregation alone who can produce a parking permit.
- Only those attending an event? We regularly have more than one event running at any one time.
- Only the volunteers attending an event? We often have 10 or more volunteers at some events, so the guests would not be able to park.
- Only church members (this is a regular suggestion)? What level of membership will entitle you to park? Ordained, Baptised? Confirmed? Do you have to be Uniting Church only?

I could give you an endless list of difficult scenarios to consider, and that is the problem.

Next we are being told that hirers should not get parking. They do not get guaranteed parking. It is first come first served. And we need to remember that the hirers contribute over \$50,000 each year towards our congregation costs of the building. This means that the property costs of light, heating, water and operating costs are fully covered by the rentals. 100% of your offerings go to outreach, ministry and support. So, if their meeting is at 10am and yours is at 11am, the car park will be full.

Yes we have a problem with Restaurant, Theatre and Library parking persons, for which we have no options other than applying to council to have the vehicle towed away, or to set a process of fines. This is what the Church of Christ do in the multi-story car park for their designated spots. This is also hard to police, as we need to know who the cars belong to in the first place if we do not want to fine members. We know that many members use our car park for private activities and this does not help parking demands for church programs.

The simple fact is that no matter what process you suggest, Property can find reasons why it is unenforceable if we wish to continue to have a vision of being in the community. So what is the solution???

Good grace, common courtesy, understanding and planning.

- If you see someone who is clearly not using the car park for the purpose we have, by all means ask them to leave, carefully.
- If you see someone who has parked badly and blocked two spots, if you know who they are, ask them to correct their parking.
- If you are wanting a spot, then plan accordingly.

But in the main, the only solution is to be considerate. Use it if you really need to, park over the road in the multi-story car park if you can. Do not attend one worship time and then leave your car there while you do other things. Be aware of those around you who may need access more than you. Above all, we should consider the needs of others not just ourselves.

Property Committee - Warren Greenwood Chair