

# 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](mailto:meet_god@anytime.with.us)*

SUNDAY PREACHING PLAN - December 2015						
Time	December 6 Advent 2	December 13 Advent 3	December 20 Advent 4	December 27 Christmas 1		
8.00 am	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Combined 10am Service		
9.15 am	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters Nancye Cottrell	Rev Neil Peters Heather Hon	Rev Neil Peters		
11.00 am	Rev Neil Peters	Iona Christmas Uniting Voices	Rev Neil Peters Alison Clarkson Communion			
2.30 pm	-	Seniors Service Alison Clarkson	-			
4.30 pm	Children & Families	Children & Families	School Holidays			
7.00 pm	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Watch this space!			
Lectionary	Malachi 3:1-4 Luke 1:68-79 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6	Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18	Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:47-55 or Psalm 80:1-7 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)	1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Psalm 148 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52		
Liturgical Colour	Purple	Purple	Purple	White		

Christmas Eve: 24 December (White) 7.30pm - Rev Neil Peters & Nancye Cottrell / 11pm - Alanee Hearnshaw  
 Christmas Day: 25 December (White) 8.30am - Rev Neil Peters, Free Spirit / 10am - Rev Neil Peters & Alison Clarkson

Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

### NOVEMBER

1 November	3.00pm	Afternoon with Julian Burnside
4 November	7.30pm	Campaign for Australian Aid
7 November	10am	Quiet day for reflection
7 November	10am	Fashion Exchange Melbourne
8 November	All services	Material Aid Offering
14 November	9am - 2pm	Hill Top Market - High Street Road UC
23-25 November	10am - 12noon	Nativity Dress-up photos at the Hub
29 November	12noon	Church Christmas Lunch

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### DECEMBER

7 December	10.15am	Leisure Time Christmas Morning Tea
10 December	10am - 12noon	The Hub Christmas Morning Tea





Join us for this special  
Christmas Morning Tea  
欢聚一起 享用早点 共贺圣



**EVERYONE WELCOME**  
欢迎大家参加

Where: **THE HUB**  
**Glen Waverley Uniting Church**  
When: **Thursday 10th December 2015**  
Time: **10 am to 12 noon**

**Donations will be given to needy families  
in our community**

*Please add your name to the list on the Office Counter if you  
are planning to attend. Thank you.*

### The Christian Church in the World

Be awake: the following is amazing and disappointing.

**The UN, Saudi Arabia & International Human Rights:** The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) has appointed Saudi Arabia as the Chair of the 5-member Consultative Group which is tasked with finding candidates to fill human rights posts around the world, investigating for and reporting back to the UNHRC in Geneva. Thus these 'experts' who report on countries such as ucan, or on issues such as religious liberty or "Islamophobia" (for example), will have been approved by Saudi Arabia. Yet Saudi Arabia is one of the world's worst human rights abusers. There is absolutely no religious freedom; public expression of Christianity is forbidden; house churches are banned; apostates are killed. May this episode expose the situation in Saudi Arabia and the shortcomings of the UN. Please pray for the Church in Saudi Arabia.

**The Plight of Assyrian Captives in Syria:** Islamic State (IS) has released two new videos. The first shows three Assyrian Christian men from more than 200 taken captive in north-eastern Hasakah Province in February. After these three are executed, three more appear and kneel behind the dead. They confirm IS is holding 'dozens of us' who will be killed if ransom (estimated at \$10 million) is not paid. The second video shows Assyrian Christians taken captive during the August conquest of Qaryatayn in central Homs Province. They are signing a dhimma contract guaranteeing the Christian's right to life as second-class citizens, provided they pay jizya (protection money) and submit to Islam - refraining from public Christianity, respecting Muslims and Islam. Fahid Khazaal was martyred for refusing to convert or submit. Please pray for Assyrian Christians and for Syria.

*From Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin*

Pray that we all will become more aware of discrimination and stand firm against it in various forms - race, sex, age, creed, class and wealth.

"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective".

James 5:13-20

## Hilltop Market - High Street Road Uniting Church

High Street Road Uniting Church, Mount Waverley, will once again hold their popular Hilltop Market from 9am to 2pm on Saturday 14 November. The market features a large array of stalls, hot and cold food, a number of competitions, entertainment and a Special Kidzone.

Please see the sign on the outside Notice Boards.

A COMMUNITY EVENT HELD SINCE 1993

# HILLTOP MARKET

SATURDAY  
14 NOVEMBER 2015  
9am - 2pm

CAKES  
CRAFT  
PLANTS  
BOOKS  
JEWELLERY  
WHITE ELEPHANT  
GOURMET FOODS  
CHRISTMAS GIFTS  
SAUSAGES/BURGERS  
JUMPING CASTLE  
FRAMES & PAINTINGS

LOTS OF FUN!

**High Street Road Uniting Church**  
Mount Waverley  
482 High St Road Mt Waverley - Cnr Stewart St  
Melway 61 G12

## A Letter to the Congregation

Dear Friends,

What a fantastic fete with so many members of the congregation participating in so many ways. Thank you to everyone for your energy and enthusiasm. A special thank you to the organising committee: Murray Lowe, Cliff Baker and Sue Morgan for the outstanding job you have done. We often talk about building community and the fete is an event where there definitely is that sense of community building. Please take the opportunity to personally thank the fete organising committee because it is imperative that they know that we truly appreciate all the time and effort they generously put in to ensure that the fete runs smoothly.

Each Wednesday Neil, Alanee, Judy and I meet in the Sacred Space to pray for our Congregation. As Year 11,12 and University students prepare for upcoming exams please pray for them. Please also remember to pray for the success of the quiet day of reflection on Saturday 7 November at Cornish College.

This year, Church Council has focused on implementing the vision. There have been many aspects including the consideration of a future ministry team make up that aligns with our vision. Earlier in the year Church Council formed a Task Group to consider ideas and to bring some options to Church Council and the Congregation. The current Ministry team were deeply involved and are very supportive of this process. We have already presented some ideas to Convenors of the Missional and Functional groups. During November two focus group meetings have been organised to provide an opportunity for members of Missional and Functional groups to hear our ideas and to provide feedback. Early next year we will be organising more focus groups so we can give more members of the congregation the opportunity to hear ideas and provide feedback.

As we move forward may we do so confidently and faithfully resting in the assurance that God is with us.

Grace and Peace,

Helen Stewart - Chair of Church Council.

campaign for  
*Australian Aid*

# Australian Aid - Monash Forum

An evening to learn more about the difference Australian Aid makes for people in many countries, also some of the dynamics and political issues around it.

Well informed speakers include Anna Burke MP, Mathew Maury CEO of TEAR and a person whose life has been changed by aid.

Questions can be asked and answered in an open discussion. Light supper provided.

## The Details

### Date & Time

Wed 4th November

### Time

7:30pm

### Place

Clayton Church of Christ  
23-25 Burton Avenue  
Melbourne VIC 3000

### RSVP

[bit.ly/monashforum](http://bit.ly/monashforum)



## Another easy way to give to Glen Waverley Uniting Church

Technology impacts our lives in many ways every day. We now have smart phones, smart tablets, smart watches and smart users. The Glen Waverley Uniting Church wants to ensure you have many choices in how you support our work and outreach and we would like to make it easy for you to manage your gift.

We have introduced another way for you to give to us in addition to the Open Plate cash, Direct Credits, regular Envelopes by inviting you to use your phones, tablets or home computers at any time.

Instead of signing up for regular payments you may wish to make a direct deposit for whatever amount you feel you are able to contribute each week or at a time of your choice.

There is no need to complete any documents or forms, and you can do it at any time.

All we ask is that you describe your gift as “offering”, so that our accounts will correctly reflect your gift.

If this type of direct giving is attractive to you, please use ...

**BSB: 033 052**

**Account: 922198**

**Account Name: Uniting Church Glen Waverley**

If you would like to have a card to place into the offering plate during worship as a physical act of your giving, please talk to Heather Hon in the office.

Thank you for your gifts.

Finance Committee.

## North Ringwood Uniting Church - Sixties Music Night!

All are welcome to a fun night at North Ringwood Uniting Church at 7.30pm on Friday 13 November. Join us at 14 Dickson Crescent, North Ringwood, for this fun event which features a live variety radio show, radio quiz, band, video clips and dancing. This is an alcohol free event but you are invited to BYO nibbles and soft drink.

All monies raised will support the Vanuatu Freshwater and Toilet Project in the village of Paunangisu.

For more information please see the notice on the outside notice board, or contact Pam and Lyn McDonald (9560 9798) if you are planning to attend.

# Fashion EXCHANGE MELBOURNE

**SWAP, LEARN AND BUY  
TO PLAY YOUR PART IN  
MAKING FASHION FREE  
FROM HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

FASHION EXCHANGE = BRING CLOTHES TO SWAP.  
FOR EVERY ITEM YOU BRING YOU WILL RECEIVE A  
TOKEN TO CHOOSE AN ITEM

AND MUCH MORE...  
LISTEN TO INSPIRING SPEAKERS,  
SEE A FASHION SHOW,  
VIEW THE STOP THE TRAFFIK DOCUMENTARY  
(SUMANGAL: THE UNTOLD STORIES),  
AND PURCHASE MORE FROM ETHICAL  
FASHION SUPPLIERS.

**7 NOV 2015 / 10AM-2PM**

**GLEN WAVERLEY UNITING CHURCH  
CNR BOGONG AVE & KINGSWAY, GLEN WAVERLEY**

**FASHIONEXCHANGE-MEL.EVENTBRITE.COM.AU**

**PRE-REGISTER: \$10 ENTRY  
AT THE DOOR: \$15 ENTRY**



NOT FOR SALE

STOP THE TRAFFIK.  
PEOPLE SHOULDN'T BE BOUGHT & SOLD



## Campaign for Australian Aid

I recently attended a meeting where representatives of 19 local churches were in attendance. It was a meeting under the banner of Campaign for Australian Aid which is a joint initiative of Make Poverty History, The Micah Challenge and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and represents a group of people who believe Australia can and should do more to end extreme poverty around the world. Many groups have joined the campaign including the Uniting Church Justice and International Mission Unit of our Synod.

The Campaign wants Australia to work towards keeping its international commitments of aid representing 0.7% of Gross National Income by 2030 as a means of meeting agreed goals. We have currently declined to 0.25% of GNI. We want aid to be well targeted toward addressing poverty with a high level of accountability.

About 40 people attended the meeting from 19 different churches and while not all held the same view, we did resolve to hold a forum to raise the issue of Australian Aid and to educate people and to encourage dialogue on this important matter. We have invited politicians to attend and address the meeting and a CEO of an Aid agency. We are still finalising the forum arrangements but it will be held on Wednesday 4 November. Look out for more details including time and location.

Rev Neil Peters

## Partnership Update from the Ministry Team

At the last Congregational meeting Neil briefly outlined some of the possibilities that were emerging where this congregation might be able to establish a partnership with a local organisation. We felt it was time to offer a further update and share some possibilities where you might like to consider being involved.

This week Neil and Nancye met with the principal of **Glenallen School** for a tour of the school and conversation about a possible involvement in the school from our church. This followed the appeal that the church held to support Jye who needed an upgrade to his wheelchair and his mother could not afford her contribution. We were able to raise the whole of the \$2437 that was required as a contribution from the family. I had written to the principal and asked him to convey to the family that we wanted them to know that there were people in the community who cared about them and their situation. The school and family know this gift is coming from Glen Waverley Uniting Church. So to all those who contributed we and the school say a huge "thank you".

The principal offered the following ways that our church could be involved:

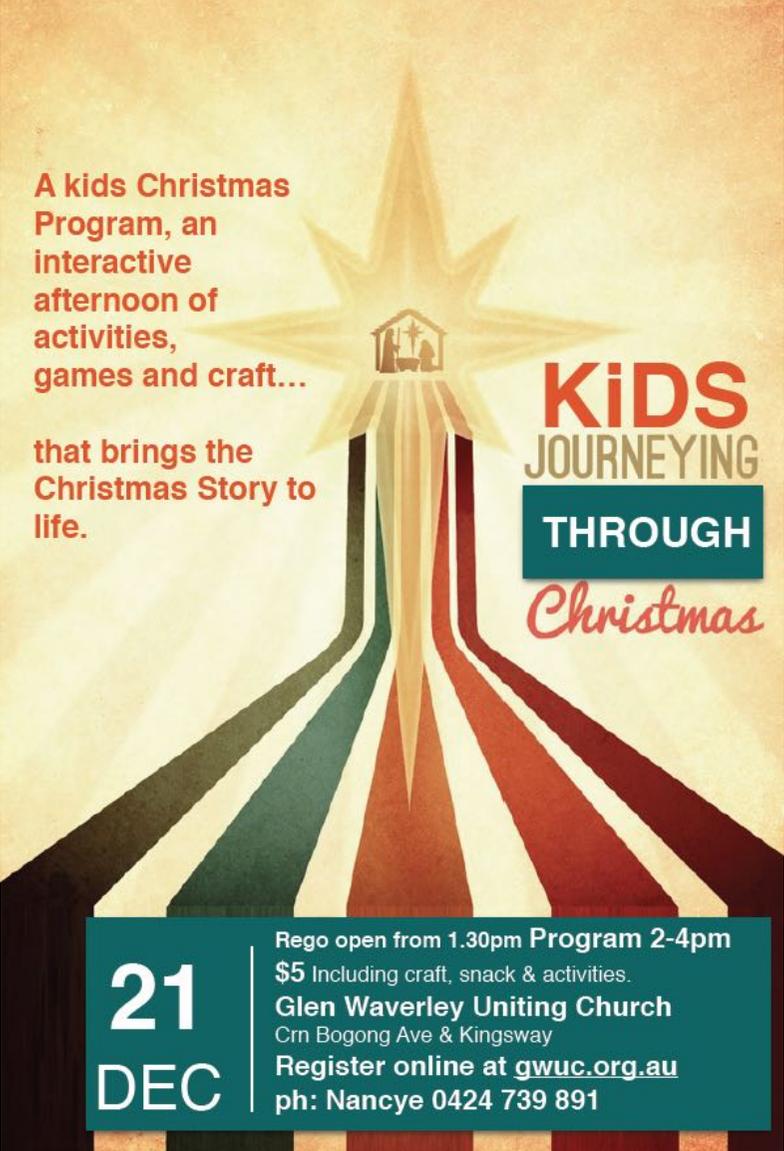
1. The school holds 4 working bees a year. They rely on community support for these. They do not expect the parents to be involved because they cannot easily leave their child with a significant disability. So maybe we could get a team together to attend 2 working bees a year. A recent working bee worked on gardens and cleaning windows.
2. There are opportunities to volunteer time in the school class rooms eg assisting in the art room. This requires a Working with Children Check and compulsory attendance at a workshop on procedures.
3. There might be an occasional request for financial support of a project.
4. The Principal offered to speak at our church.

**Glen Waverley Secondary School** have invited our support in two areas beginning next year. As the school lost government funding of their chaplaincy position they have invited churches to offer financial support.

The school has also asked our church to re-establish the breakfast program at the school next year and to run it jointly with the Chaplaincy and Well Being departments. This will require a team of people to cook, serve, and to slowly build relationships with students. This is a great opportunity to connect with a local school.

## New Kids Christmas Outreach Program!

We are holding a new Kids Christmas Outreach Program this year on Monday 21 December from 2-4pm and are looking for volunteers of all ages to help us. From welcomers, crafters, handymen & handywomen, to prepare some wood work craft. We'd love to have your help. Please contact Nancye for more information on specific roles. Thank you.



A kids Christmas Program, an interactive afternoon of activities, games and craft...

that brings the Christmas Story to life.

**KIDS**  
JOURNEYING  
**THROUGH**  
*Christmas*

**21**  
**DEC**

Rego open from 1.30pm Program 2-4pm  
\$5 including craft, snack & activities.  
**Glen Waverley Uniting Church**  
Crn Bogong Ave & Kingsway  
Register online at [gwuc.org.au](http://gwuc.org.au)  
ph: Nancye 0424 739 891



# Church Christmas Lunch

An invitation to all members of the Church Family, young and old, to a sit down Christmas meal together in the hall.

**Sunday 29th November 2015  
12pm to 2pm**

The meal will consist of chicken (1/4 for adults an 1/8 for children) with potato, vegetables, gravy, dessert, soft drink, tea or coffee.

Bookings are essential as seating is limited.

Please fill in the form below and return to Judith & Warren Greenwood, Laurel & John Muir, or the church office by Sunday 22nd November. Any queries please call the office on 95603580.

**Cost Adults \$12 & Children (Primary School) \$6**

## Church Christmas Lunch

Sunday 29th November 2015 - 12pm to 2.00pm

Name - .....  
Telephone No. - .....  
No. of Adults - ..... No. of Children - .....  
Any special dietary needs? E.g. vegetarian, gluten free  
.....  
Total money enclosed \$ .....

Please fill in this form and return it with your money to Warren & Judith Greenwood, Laurel & John Muir or the church office by Sunday 22nd November.

Cost Adults \$12 Children (Primary School) \$6.

Brentwood Secondary School through their chaplain has invited our church to establish a mentoring program at the school next year. This will begin in a small way and has the potential to grow. This will involve mentoring with regard to finding a vocational pathway. Support and training will be provided.

This week a manager from **UnitingCare Harrison** called in to our church. They are working in the area of homelessness and now have a staff worker working one day a week in the Centrelink office in Glen Waverley - just 100 metres from the church. It seems they are wanting to talk about links with our church.

I believe we are in exciting times. Neil would be delighted to receive enquiries and offers or to just have a chat about the above opportunities. Neil Peters on behalf of the Ministry Team.

## Quiet Day for Reflection - Saturday 7 November 2015

We are inviting members of the congregation and their friends to join us at the latest Uniting Church co-educational independent school, Cornish College, to have a quiet day for reflection (yes a new term for a retreat). This day based on the monastic system of prayer, study, meditation and work, will give the opportunity to come together in the beautiful surroundings of the Sustainability Centre at the college.

A leaflet giving more details of the day will be available shortly.  
Susan Karoly - Retreat Coordinator

UNITING CHURCH GLEN WAVERLEY  
LEISURE TIME



INVITATION

*Our Christmas Break-up is on*

*Monday 7 December 2015*

*All Leisure Time volunteers are cordially invited to  
join with guests and the committee in the Church  
hall at*

*10.15am*

*for morning tea after which we will move to the  
church for our entertainment.*

*You may also wish to share in our  
Christmas Service  
On the same day at 1.30-2pm*

**Cleaning and Lawn Mowing Rosters**

We are in desperate need of additional volunteers for the Cleaning and Lawn Mowing Rosters. The Cleaning/Lawn Mowing Roster is assembled with the aim of not requiring anyone to do more than four duties in a year. As is understandable, a number of people, particularly some of the older members, have to withdraw from the roster each year, due to ill health or moving away from the district into retirement villages. We need some of the younger members of the congregation, (under 70), to step in to replace these retiring members, most of whom have spent many years helping. If this does not happen volunteers will have to do more than four duties each year, and this in itself, can lead to fewer volunteers if the task becomes onerous.

So, if you have not put your name down for a tour of duty on the Cleaning/Lawn Mowing Roster, please think carefully about it and ask yourself whether you could spare 3 hours, 4 times a year to help out in this way. Many hands make light work, we are told, so step up and prove it! You may meet up with someone you haven't crossed paths with and start a new and valuable friendship; who knows? The lists are on the office counter, to be completed by mid November so that the rosters can be developed and ready for the new year.

Talk to Herb Fleming (mobile 0407 516 827) if you require any further information.

## Inclusive Community Report

**Sunday 25 October:** What a special day it was last Sunday! In between morning services, we said good-bye to Julie Hall who has worked with us since March (and had become one of us), celebrated Bill Morgan's 100th birthday and enjoyed the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon. Thank you to everyone who worked hard to organise and help with these events.

**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 in the Office, during office hours or Beverly on 0417 359 779.

**Lunch:** We had a light lunch after the 11am service on Sunday 11 October. A small group of people (about thirty) enjoyed lunch and a time of fellowship together.

**November's Light Lunch:** There will be a light lunch after the 11am service on Sunday 8 November. Please join us.

**Diary Date:** Munch with a Bunch. Our Christmas lunch will be held at the RSL on Sunday 20 December.

## Material Aid Offering for November - Sunday 8 November

Last month's material aid offering was a wonderful success raising \$2437 to help Jye's wheelchair to be upgraded.

Virginia, daughter of Rev Julie Ross at High Street Road Uniting Church, volunteers at Broadmeadows Detention Centre on a weekly basis. She is part of a network of people who offer support to asylum seekers in detention.

This group has been supporting 8 women who are pregnant at the Broadmeadows Detention Centre. The women have no access to the basics for their babies who will be born in the early part of next year. There is a need for **new** clothing suitable for new born babies including: bunny rugs, nappies, wipes, singlets, nighties, jackets etc. Mothers will need cool tops suitable for breast feeding. Material can be donated and it will be made into suitable clothing by volunteers.

There are children attending a local school from the Detention Centre. Children at the local school are exchanging the Woolworths Ancient Animals swap cards and the children from the Detention Centre are feeling left out in the school yard. If anyone who has some of these cards that they don't want, these cards can be handed to the church office and will be passed on to help children to participate.



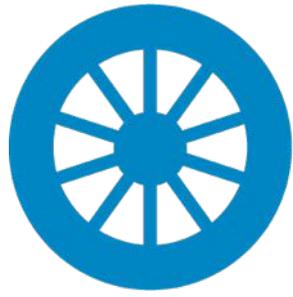
## Children's Christmas Photos

Help your children or grandchildren to remember the real reason we celebrate Christmas - the birth of baby Jesus.

Come along to The Hub at the Glen Waverley Uniting Church on Monday 23 November, Tuesday 24 November or Wednesday 25 November between 10am and 12noon, and let your children or grandchildren dress up, be a part of the Christmas story, and have their photo taken for free.

Dress ups will be available to use for Mary, Joseph, shepherds, wise men or angels.

Photos taken on this day will be available for collection on Thursday 10 December between 10am and 12noon.



# COMMUNITY HUB

As we send in our final report for 2015 it has been very encouraging to hear from several groups that they are seeing people attending The Hub and Playgroups, coming to other activities such as the fete, indicating that they feel a welcoming connection to GWUC.

If you would like to volunteer for any of the following programs contact Geraldine Fleming on 9802 2179; the specific Group co-ordinators or Jenny Vass, Secretary on 9874 3701 - [rojenvas@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rojenvas@bigpond.net.au)

**The Hub:** The Hub continues to be a busy place as people continue to come into our church looking for company, someone to chat with, a cuppa, some time out in their busy day, to meet new friends or to practise speaking in English in an informal way. Visitors to The Hub tell us how much they really appreciate The Hub volunteers and all they do.

Children will be able to have their photo taken for free in Nativity dress-ups at The Hub on Monday 23, Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25 November, 10am - 12noon. Dress ups will be available to use. Photos will be available for collection on Thursday 10 December between 10am and 12noon.

Our special Christmas Morning Tea will be on Thursday 10 December, 10am - 12noon. Come and enjoy this special morning tea together. Bring your family and friends. **All** donations this morning will be given to needy families in our community.

Our connection with Monash Council PALS is becoming stronger as we attend meetings regularly and work together more closely with the PALS staff.

Thank you to The Hub volunteers who have spent so much time at The Hub this year, and done such a great job in offering Hospitality, being Understanding, and helping our visitors to have a sense of Belonging, to feel at home, and be a part of our community here at GWUC.

Our last day for The Hub this year is Thursday 10 December. The Hub will resume on Tuesday 2 February, 2016.

Contact Judith Greenwood (9803 8373) if you would like to know more about The Hub and can assist as a volunteer, an emergency volunteer or help with special morning teas.

**Leisure Time:** Leisure Time has been running successfully since the last report and it is pleasing to see the number of guests increasing (18 last month). A morning tea of scones, jam & cream was shared with members of the public participating in a Mystery Bus tour organised by the Monash City Council, and enjoyed by all.

Christmas lunch preparations are well under way with lunch booked with the caterer.

Other successful and enjoyable outings held have been, including a trip to Pinewood Cinema for a basket lunch and movie.

Contact Laurel Muir (9560 1518) for details.

**Playgroups:** Each week we welcome extended family members who join in activities with the children.

We ended last term with an Indian Feast cooked by our Indian Mums (Wed group).

This term we look forward to a visit to Chesterfield Farm on Nov 17 (Tuesday Group) and to the annual Christmas photos and Santa's visit.

We would welcome the assistance of another 2 leaders for 2016.

Please contact Kaye McKinnon if you can volunteer some time.

**Cooee:** Cooee is a small group enjoying weekly fellowship together.

Contact Geraldine Fleming (9802 2179) if you would like to join them.

**Badminton & Table Tennis:** A Ping-Pong-A-Thon was held at the end of October to raise money and awareness of the abuse of young women and girls. We meet Monday and Thursday evenings at 8pm in the hall. They would welcome new members.

Enquiries: Onn Chin (9884 4061)

**Welfare:** The Welfare Committee continues to benefit from the generosity of our congregation, and local community groups. Following an overwhelming response on the church's Community Outreach Sunday last month, and other monetary and food donations, we now have a food cupboard from which we continue to draw towards the needs of those seeking our help. We have also been able to financially assist disadvantaged young people participating in community and school activities that were beyond their respective family budgets.

Gifts, Vouchers and Donated Hampers will be distributed leading up to Christmas.