



Glen Waverley

Uniting Church

Welcome

GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centred community that meets God and shares that unconditional love

SUNDAY PREACHING PLAN - April 2017

Time	April 2 Lent 5	April 9 Palm Sunday	April 16 Easter Day	April 23 Easter 2	April 30 Easter 3
8.00 am	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	10am Combined Service Communion Ministry Team	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Ross Mackinnon Rev Paul Bartlett Communion
9.15 am	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters		Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters Rev Paul Bartlett
11.00 am	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters		Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters Rev Paul Bartlett
4.30 pm	School Holidays	School Holidays		Children & Families	Children & Families
7.00 pm	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw		Alanee Hearnshaw	Guest Speaker
Lectionary	Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 Matthew 21:1-11	Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35
Liturgical Colour	Purple	Purple	White	White	White

Holy Week Services: Monday 10 April to Wednesday 12 April - 7pm
Maundy Thursday 13 April - 7.30pm with Communion
Good Friday 14 April - 9.15am

MARCH

MARCH		DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
5 March	10am	Combined Service followed by Congregational meeting & lunch
16-21 March	All day	Getaways - Warragul
19 March	2.30pm	Seniors Service
30 March	10am-12noon	Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea

APRIL

2 April	12noon	Club 2017 Lunch
3 April	2.30pm	Leisure Time AGM
14 April	9.15am	Good Friday Combined Service followed by Hot Cross Buns and Cuppa
16 April	10am	Easter Day Combined Service
18 April	10am-12.30pm	Star Making
29 April	8am	Annual Walk-a-thon for Chaplaincy





Hospitality - Understanding - Belonging

HOT CROSS BUN MORNING TEA at THE HUB

Glen Waverley Uniting Church

Thursday 30th March

10am – 12noon

Join us for hot cross buns, tea or coffee



and help support

THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL



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

Church bleeds under Fulani jihad in Nigeria: Security is failing in Kaduna, a volatile Sharia state which straddles Nigeria's ethno-religious "fault-line". On the evening of Sunday 13 November Fulani Muslims besieged and attacked five villages in Kauru Local Government Area in predominantly Christian Southern Kaduna. Armed with guns, knives, machetes and explosives, the Fulani killed 45 mostly women, children and elderly Christian residents while wounding dozens more and displacing thousands. Numerous vehicles and over 120 houses (including eight house-churches) were torched. Frustrated by the endless carnage, Christian leaders have reiterated the call for more security, including the establishment of a military base in Southern Kaduna. The organised ethno-religious cleansing taking place must be seen in the context of classic Islamic jihad. With whole Christian communities eliminated, the Church is bleeding. Please pray for Nigeria and for its Church.

Terror in the Eastern Region of Uganda

On Sunday 15 January some 80 believers were praying together in Katira Church in majority-Muslim Budaka District, Eastern Region, when a mob of some 90 local Muslims attacked, angry about Muslims converting to Christianity. Dozens of believers were beaten and bound and 15 women were raped. Police took two hours to respond - only then did the attackers disperse. The pastor, Moses Mutasa, and eight other church members are missing. The following day Reverend Musa Mukenyeye intervened to ease tensions and maintain peace. He has urged the police to arrest the attackers and bring them to justice. Unfortunately, impunity has long prevailed, which is precisely why persecution has been escalating. Please pray that God will bring healing and comfort to Katira, and justice to the Eastern Region. (Isaiah 30:18b)

from Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

Pray for the United Nations, that they will be a responsible moving force to bring harmony to our chaotic world.

Notice of Meeting - Leisure Time AGM

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 3 April, 2017 at 2.30pm.

Copies of the agenda papers will be available from the Church Office in the week preceding the meeting.

Ken Hutchinson - Secretary

Lenten Studies

The study for 2017 is 'Worship in Light of the Cross', Meditations for Lent, by John Indemark, providing daily individual studies over 6 weeks, leading up to Easter.

Two groups will be meeting to share discussion on these studies, in the six weeks starting from Monday 27 February, on Mondays at 7.30pm and an email group.

If you would like to join a group, please add your name to the list outside the Office.

Study booklets at \$20.00 each can be ordered through the Office.

Further information from Alison Clarkson, on behalf of the Faith Development Mission Group.

M&M Club - Thursdays at 2pm

M&M Club (Mahjong and Monopoly) is seeking new members to attend its weekly Thursday meetings from 2pm until 3pm. Various game formats will be made available.

Enquires to the Church Office or Angus Peters (rsapeters@gmail.com)

Asylum Seeker Honey

We are happy to report that due to the hard work of a team of Heather's we have now met Monash Council requirements and are able to continue to sell honey. Please continue to support the Asylum Seeker Community by purchasing honey. If anyone has any spare jars could you please leave these under the honey table for collection.

Many thanks - Heather Wilkins

A Letter to the Congregation

Dear Friends,

Where and how do you experience Christian Community today? Can you define what characteristics mark it as being 'in Christ' or Christian? Christian community is about worship which forms and informs us. Christian community is about faithfulness to God.

'For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not by your own doing; it is the gift of God.' Ephesians 2:8

What spiritual practices help us to continually seek Christ? Spiritual wellbeing is both individual and communal. Which spiritual practices nourish and transform?

Is it worship, prayer, meditation, or in conversations? These practices provide encouragement to strengthen faith. Spiritual practice creates a solid foundation so we are open to receive and cultivate God's grace within us.

With faith our lives are nourished, given meaning and purpose. Faith becomes the core of our lives. Faith is a radical trust in God. Soren Kierkegaard, a nineteenth century philosopher, pens a metaphor, 'Faith as trust is like floating in a deep ocean.'

Take time to consider and explore the gift of faith. Be assured that we are nurtured and encircled by grace.

The gifts of the Spirit enable Christians to do what God calls us to do. The spiritual gifts are listed in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, Ephesians 4:7-13 and Romans 12:3-8. They are special abilities provided by the Holy Spirit to Christians to build up the body of Christ. The question we could pose is 'How can we serve God?' As members of the body of Christ we must serve together in order for the body to be fully functional.

During March Church Councillors will be studying leadership as spiritual exercise.

Questions we will be exploring:

- Which spiritual practices are helpful?
- What helps to nurture us as followers of Christ?

Help us to be attentive to the Spirit.

Helen Stewart - Chair of Church Council

TIME TO START TRAINING for
THE 2nd ANNUAL WALK-A-THON
APRIL 29th, 2017
[STARTS AT 8.00AM]

4 walks of 5km each led by NEIL PETERS
[with a break in between each 5km lap]



Children's events at the church including a small obstacle course and races.

We might even come up with an event for those who use 'walkers'!

Sausage Sizzle

Refreshments

Tea/Coffee

If you are unable to walk come along anyway and share in the fun and cheer the walkers along.

Bring your dog along to share in the walk

Join in and help raise money for School Chaplaincy at Glen Waverley Secondary College, and to support their breakfast program. Also some of the money raised will support Lynn Peters in her SRI teaching at four Primary Schools.

**LET'S MAKE THIS A FUN EVENT
AND GIVE NEIL LOTS OF SUPPORT**

**THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL AGES
TO SHARE TOGETHER.**



Pastoral Care Worker - Di Paterson

Hi, my name is Di Paterson and I am the new Pastoral Care Worker at GWUC, and I am delighted to introduce myself to you all. I have 3 adult children and 4 grandsons. My younger son lives and works in Canada, which is a beautiful place to visit.

I come to you with a varied work background. I was an Integration Aide for 17 years prior to going into ministry. In the past 11 years, I have had the pleasure of doing supply at Endeavour Hills UC, serving as a Pastor in the Chelsea Parish for 9 years and currently I am doing supply as a Pastor at Black Rock UC. I am passionate about my

faith and enjoy sharing my joy in the relationship I have with the God of love and grace. I enjoy connecting with people and having the opportunity to share in their journeys. I am also the Lay Preacher Rep on the Synod Lay Preachers Association.

My other passions include Bushwalking - I am a member of the Bushrangers Bushwalking Club - an all-women's club. I am a member of the Emmaus Movement and I have been an Assistant Spiritual Director and Spiritual Director on the Women's Walks.

I have been a Girl Guide for most of my life and I have been a leader in all of the sections and a Guide leader trainer. Currently I am a resource leader and I have run a number of on site faith activities and served as Chaplain at International Guide camps, I am a member of the 2 Trefoil Guilds and I am also the Guide Rep on the World Day of Prayer Victorian Committee. I love Walking on the beach or in the bush anywhere especially with friends, spending time with my family, gardening and drawing.

Due to my work at Black Rock, I will not be able to catch you on a Sunday morning, but I hope to meet many of you at some of the activities during the week and perhaps at some of the evening services or if I drop in to see you. I am looking forward to getting to know you in the coming months.

Assembly Appeal for Rebuilding the Church at Mapoon

The Church Council has given permission to highlight this Assembly Appeal. The purpose is to raise funds to construct a new church for the Aboriginal community in Mapoon. Mapoon is on Cape York Peninsula. There is a sad story behind this appeal and Aaron Blakemore who was at the last UCA Assembly briefly tells the story below. You can also see a video clip on the UCA Assembly website. assembly.uca.org.au

"The Uniting Church has had a long relationship with the community of Mapoon and its traditional land owners. In short, the Presbyterian church began a mission in Mapoon in the early 1890's however both the church & the local government didn't listen to locals when they chose to close and burn down Mapoon including the church in the 1950's for aluminium mining. After 25 years of forced resettlement, the people of Mapoon began to return to their land & former town. In 1990 former UCA President Sir Ronald Wilson apologised to the Mapoon community for the UCA predecessor church's failure to do more to stop such a flagrant human rights abuse. Today the community of Mapoon is growing and in deep need of a central location for their church community. The UCA and the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) are in a committed covenantal relationship providing support to one another. By the UCA supporting the Mapoon appeal we are fulfilling our national covenant with the first peoples of Australia. On a personal note as a member of the 14th National Assembly of the UCA, I formed a friendship with a young adult leader from Mapoon. She described to me her desire to see the church built soon, as she wants to be able to honour her elders who lived through the burning of their church. She wants to give them the joy and hope of seeing a church built on the original site for the stability and future of the church in Mapoon."

Donations can be left at the office or placed in an envelope in the offering plate marked "Mapoon".

An opportunity not to miss - Church and the Future

St Luke's Mount Waverley are inviting our members to come and hear and engage with Associate Professor John Flett from Pilgrim Theological College at the CTM where he was appointed to teach Missiology.

St Luke's write "We are all aware that the life of local congregations is not what it was when many of us joined the church. We struggle to understand the reasons for this, wonder what the future holds for our and neighbouring congregations and the implications for how we are currently operating."

John will help us think through such issues and more. John is a gifted communicator and presenter and well worth hearing. (Ask Heather Hon about John).

When: Saturday 25 March - 10am to 4pm

Where: St Luke's Uniting Church
(cnr Essex and Park Roads, Mt Waverley).

Bring your own lunch. A cuppa is provided.

Neil is attending and would like some company from this congregation if we are to get the most out of this opportunity.

Invitation to Inter-Faith Dialogue

The Melbourne Indonesian Club invite members of Glen Waverley Uniting Church to an inter faith dialogue on the topic of "Love Thy Neighbour".

When: Saturday 11 March - 5.45pm for 6pm start.

Where: Community Hall, Zee Cheng Khor Moral Uplifting Society
16-26 Audsley Street, Clayton South.

The Christian speaker is Rev Neil Peters and there will be speakers representing Islam, Buddhism, the Zee Cheng Khor Moral Uplifting Society. They will be followed by questions and answers. An Indonesian dinner will be provided prior to the dialogue.

You need to reserve a place by 8 March. To do this, SMS 0417 352 755 or email kalonta@hotmail.com. Parking is available at the back and front of the building and on the street. We are asked not to park in the Bingo premises.

Inclusive Community Report

Prayer Support Group: If you have a prayer request and don't want it placed in the prayer book, we do have a prayer support group. All requests for prayer are kept confidential and are only passed on to group 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 Jan on 0419 589 175.

Club 2017 members will join us for lunch today after the Congregational meeting. The group will meet as normal in April.

A **Light Lunch** will be held on Sunday 12 March, after the 11am Service. Food will be provided. Join us in the fellowship area.

Star Making Day: We will have another star making session on Tuesday 18 April (after Easter) from 10.20 to about 12.30. Hub Volunteers will help us and morning tea will be served. We hope that you can join us.

Newcomers: Many new people have come to worship with us recently. Welcome. We are very pleased to have you joining us. We are planning a function for new people so please make sure that we have your details. We want to send you an invitation.

New Arrival: We are pleased to announce the safe arrival of Ali Malcolme, son of Callum and Zee and brother to Talina and Valentina.

Munch With A Bunch was held in the hall on Sunday 19 February. Fifty-two people enjoyed lunch prepared and served by Jo and Matthew.

English Classes: The new class for those who don't speak any English began this week. This class will be held on Wednesdays at 2pm. Our other class (for those with more English) is at 11.15am on Thursdays in Room 4.

Pancake Day for 2017: A huge thank you to all who helped on Pancake Day - cooking, serving, making tea or coffee, socialising, setting up and preparing mixture. It was certainly a team effort. I will let you know how much we raised for UnitingCare during our service this morning.

Our next Inclusive Community Meeting will be held on Tuesday 21 March at 10am. If you have suggestions for activities please let us know.

Jan Clear

Getaway [get-a-wei] noun

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

YOU ARE INVITED...

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

For our next Getaway we will be going to Warragul and staying at

Warragul Gardens Holiday Park

([www.http://warragulcaravanpark.com.au](http://warragulcaravanpark.com.au)).

16th to 21st March 2017.

We would be delighted if you are able to join us for the day on Saturday 18th March. Come for lunch (BYO), explore the region in the afternoon or sit around at camp and chat, then stay for a shared meal in the evening (bookings required). Please RSVP to j.boldiston@bigpond.com if you will be joining us.

Of course if you are able to stay for a whole weekend – we would love to see you! Please call the park directly on 5923 2707 to check availability.

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

Happy Camping

Joanne Boldiston

j.boldiston@bigpond.com

0438 413 964

BYO chairs, craft, crosswords,
conversation
& comfortable walking shoes!

Advance Notice: Our Spring 2017 Getaway will be at Marysville from 16th to 21st November 2017 - staying at Marysville Caravan Park. Please call the park directly on 5963 3247 for bookings.

GLEN WAVERLEY UNITING CHURCH MINISTRY TO SENIORS



You are invited to share
Worship and Holy Communion with us on

Sunday 19 March 2017 at 2.30pm

‘New Beginnings’

Leader: Alison Clarkson
Speaker: Di Paterson

The service will include commissioning of
Di Paterson as Pastoral Care Worker

All are welcome

Afternoon tea will be served after the Service

If you require transport contact the Office by Wednesday 15 March

Material Aid Offering (March 12) Supporting Glen Waverley Uniting Church Welfare Work

The Glen Waverley Uniting Church Welfare team have a constant demand for assistance with food and household items. The Material Aid offering this month will support this important work on behalf of the congregation.

Donations could include non-perishables such as breakfast cereals, long life milk, canned fruit, soups, noodle meals, tea, coffee, Milo, biscuits etc.

Also toothpaste and brushes, soap, washing powder etc.

The Outreach Committee and the Welfare team thank you for your support.

Next New View issue

Our next issue of *NewView* will be on April 2, so the deadline for submissions will be Monday March 20. As it leads in to the Easter period our theme for this issue is ‘Seasons of Life’. Your contributions considering this theme are welcomed.

We are an active church and individually we are not able to participate in all of the many events which happen, so consider bringing us up-to-date with reports and/or photos of recent GWUC community events.

Submissions can be handed in to the office, or sent by email to popesr@aapt.net.au by 5pm March 20.

Extracts from Ministry Team Report to Church Council in February

Christmas Event:

After the previous Kids' Christmas event we were keen to again build on our kids Christmas it.

After registration, we gathered for afternoon tea and a fantastic magic show. We then divided the children into two groups based on age and the little ones explored the Christmas story experientially through six story telling tents and by doing craft activities. The older group learned the Christmas story through survivor-like challenges in teams. The feedback we received was good and we had over fifty children attend. Registrations were light on, as usual, until a few days before the event. A huge thank you to all the volunteers; we truly couldn't do it without such a great group of willing and enthusiastic volunteers.

Christmas services:

We hope that the Christmas services went well. We were intentional about the services reflecting all our diverse styles of worship and hope that people engaged in worship. We tried a very interactive service for 7.30pm Christmas Eve with lots of the service reliant on participation; the children participated beyond our expectations.

NCYC Yurora:

The eleven of us that went to NCYC had a great time and really enjoyed the different elements of the trip. It was great to have some of the guys share at a service in January and we hope that more might share in February. The highlights included the multicultural atmosphere, electives and workshops and experiencing community with others from around the nation and overseas.

Chinese New Year:

Came very fast this year and we are again so blessed to have an amazing group of volunteers who see this as their outreach priority. The team again filled hundreds of show bags, got ready hundreds of kids crafts and hosted and crafted the whole day on Sunday. This year we were a little quieter in our tent towards the afternoon (we think due to the rain forecast) which created more space and this year I had many conversations about our church and what we offer for Children & Families. People were very impressed that it was free and that the church wants to celebrate the new year with them and that it was volunteers helping. (I can't wait to see how our community planter would grow and engage these connections even more.)

Children & Families Camp at Anglesea:

We have ten families registered for the whole weekend and a number planning to come up for the day on Saturday. We are really looking forward to the community that will be built as a number of new families are attending. We have a very fluid and interactive time planned and will be worshipping with Trinity Uniting in Anglesea on Sunday morning.

PS: About 40 people attended and it went very well.

Devotions at Aged Care Facilities:

New roster for 2017 started in February. The leaders are Alison Clarkson, Jan Clear, Beverly McGlead, Elwyn Pederson (when available) and Colin King as emergency.

Alanee's Study Leave

Alanee will be away from 5 March until 15 March attending a Youth Ministry conference in North Carolina. She is excited that Felicity Dart, one of our youth leaders, is also attending.

Alanee looks forward to sharing with us when she returns.

STOP PRESS: An Opportunity to Pray

Next Friday the President and other Uniting Church leaders will present before the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse. This will be a very challenging day for our leaders, our church, for those impacted by abuse in our church and its agencies - individuals, their family and friends. Tragically our church has not been immune from child abuse. We need to acknowledge it, apologise, be ready to make restitution and do all we can to ensure it doesn't happen again.

Let's stand with our leaders and with those affected next Friday. On Friday 10th March from 10am to 12noon the church will be open for prayer. We will pray for our leaders on that day, for our church as it responds to the issues raised, for those impacted and for perpetrators. There will be resources for prayer and people available to lead. (Neil is unable to be present but supports the initiative). Consider joining for as long as you want this time of prayer.