

Glen Waverley

Uniting Church

Welcome

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

SUNDAY PREACHING PLAN - September 2018						
Time	September 2 Pentecost 15	September 9 Pentecost 16	September 16 Pentecost 17	September 23 Pentecost 18	September 30 Pentecost 19	
8.00 am	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Peter Baker Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion
9.15 am	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters	Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters
11.00 am	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters
4.30 pm	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families
5.30 pm	TBC	TBC	TBC	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw
Lectionary	Song 2:8-13 Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Psalm 125 James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17 Mark 7:24-37	Proverbs 1:20-33 Psalm 19 James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38	Proverbs 31:10-31 Psalm 1 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37	Esther 7:1-6,9-10;9:20-22 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50	
Liturgical Colour	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green

AUGUST

5 August	12noon 2.30pm
15 August	10am-12noon
18 August	from 2pm
25 August	5.15pm

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Club 2018
Free Spirit at Croydon UCA
The Hub Muffin Morning Tea
Bush Dance
Interfaith Gathering

SEPTEMBER

2 September	All day
9 September	2.30pm
21 September	5pm
22 September	TBC

Church Council Elections - Fathers Day
Afternoon with Free Spirit at GWUC
NewView Submissions Due
Moon Festival Community Outreach Event





MUFFIN MORNING

Join us for a variety of
homemade muffins,
tea and freshly brewed coffee
and go home with a recipe or 2
[Recipes will be available for some muffins]



**All donations to research into
Parkinson's Disease**

Where: **THE HUB**
Glen Waverley Uniting Church
cnr Bogong Avenue & Kingsway, Glen Waverley
When: **Wednesday 15th August 2018**
Time: **10am - 12noon**

ALL WELCOME

The Christian Church in the World

Rebels vow to march on Bangui in Central African Republic (CAR)

Since mid-April, at least three Islamic militias have been regrouping in CAR's north-east, mostly in and around the rebel-held front-line town of Kaga Bandoro with the stated aim of launching an attack on the capital, Bangui. On 13 May two French Mirage fighter jets conducted a show of force over Kaga Bandoro hoping to deter the militants. UN peacekeepers and CAR Armed Forces are on high alert, determined to prevent any militia movement southwards towards the capital. On 15-16 May armed Muslims invaded Bambari, shattering a year-long period of UN-supervised peace. Numerous properties, organisations and institutions, including the local church, were looted and sacked; eight people were killed and tens of thousands displaced. Tensions are soaring. Please pray for a breakthrough in CAR and for the suffering Church.

Leaders in Ethiopia and Eritrea have opened the door of peace

Eritrea is one of the world's most dangerous places for Christians; thousands have suffered imprisonment. Its brutal dictator, Isaias Afwerki has long used the pretext of 'the Ethiopian threat' to legitimise his cruel, despotic, totalitarian rule. On 5 June Ethiopia's Prime Minister, Dr Abiy Ahmed (41) - a Protestant Christian convert from Islam - offered to accept the border ruling of 2002 pursuant to peace. Aware that peace with Ethiopia would de-legitimise his dictatorship, Afwerki is treading cautiously. On 26 June an Eritrean delegation arrived in Ethiopia for the first high-level meeting in 20 years. It appears to have been extremely positive. It has since been confirmed that PM Abiy and President Afwerki will meet 'soon'. For the sake of the long-suffering, severely persecuted Eritrean Church, please pray!

From Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

And a thought on Psalm 8 "How Majestic is Your Name in all the earth."

"Lord, there are moments when I just can't get my balance.

When I'm pulled one way, then another,
so many pressures and demands.

And yet I cling to that one truth

that You have made me

only a little lower than a god,

Made in Your image,

The glory, not only of creation

but of Creator."

"The miracle of human life is not that God created us at all, but that He made us great. We are made in His image. Not doormats, but children of God, with talents and abilities to use and develop.

Help us, o God, and guide us in Your way."

Eddie Askew



INVITATION

An inter-faith dialogue

followed by Q and A with the following three speakers
under the theme "Unity in Diversity":

- ❖ Islam Mr. Nuim Khaiyath
- ❖ Buddhism Mr. Gontung Rinpoche
- ❖ Hinduism Mr. Gede Marsaja

Preceded by *an Indonesian dinner*

to
celebrate the 73rd Anniversary of Indonesian
Independence Day

Saturday August 25th 2018

5:15 for 5:30pm

In the main hall

Glen Waverley Uniting Church

Cnr Bogong Avenue and Kingsway

Glen Waverley 3150

**If you would like to join us & we do hope you will, please
make a reservation before 22nd August by:**

Emailing Lucky Kalonta: kalonta@hotmail.com

or contacting:

Glyn Howells 04 3949 0679 (GWUC)

or Geridine Kolonta 04 1953 8833

This event is proudly sponsored by the
Glen Waverley Uniting Church / Indonesian Fellowship
Monash City Council
Indonesian Club Melbourne Inc., Nusantara TV Channel 31, 3WBC
94.1FM, 83.3 Southern FM, Buset Indonesian tabloid

Inclusive Community Report

Prayer Support Group: If you have a prayer request and you 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 Beverly on 0417 359 779. Thanks to the fifteen people who make up the prayer support group.

Combined Service, Congregational Meeting and Lunch: I would like to thank everyone who helped to make last Sunday morning a success - Neil and Lynn for providing the delicious surprise dessert, sandwich makers, people who set up baskets of food and cleaned up after the meeting, those who ran the dishwasher and put away clean dishes, people who set up furniture on Saturday and put away furniture after the meeting and mopped the floors. It was a great team effort.

Club 2018 will meet as normal today.

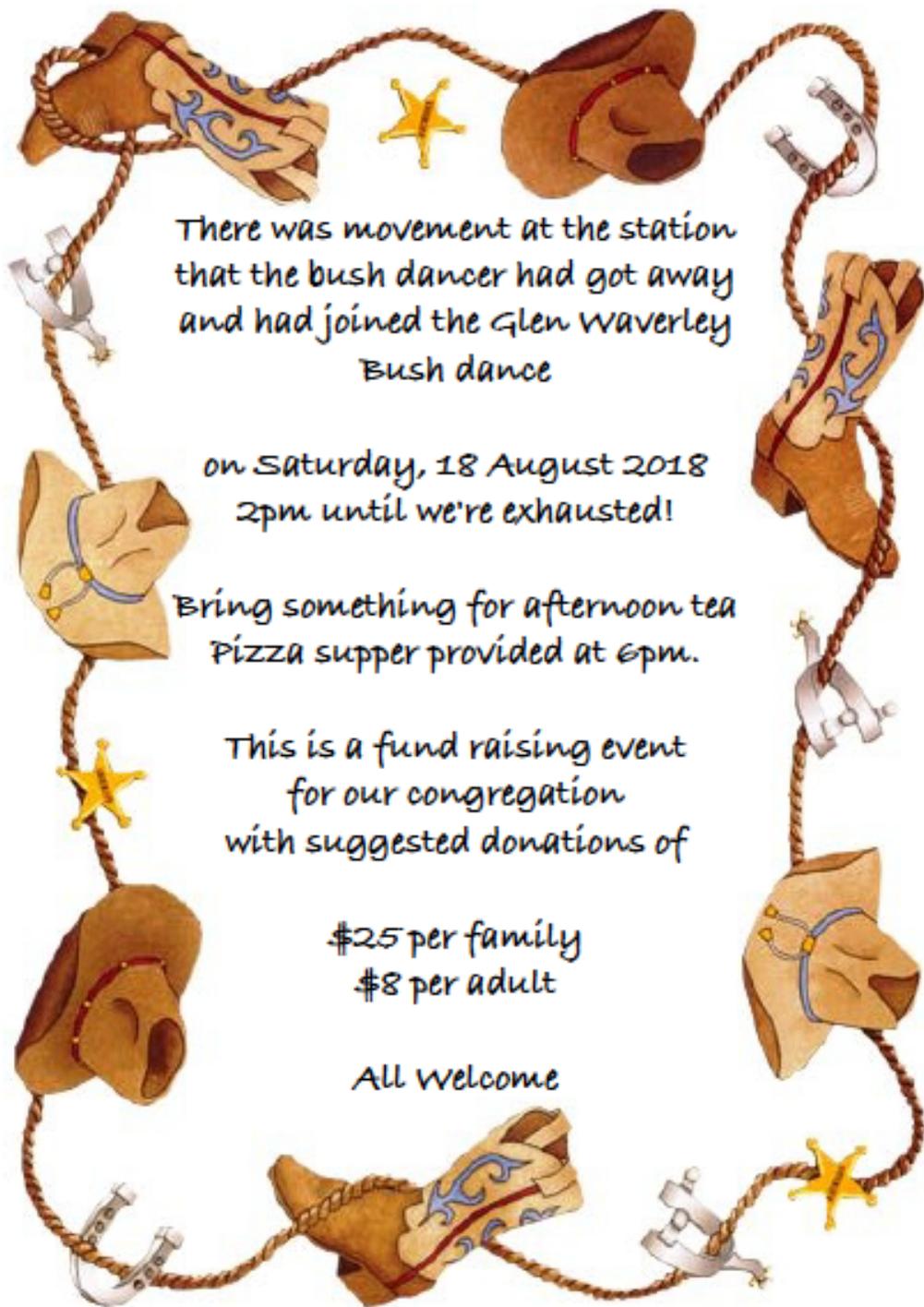
Light Lunch: There will be a light lunch on Sunday 12 August. Please join us after the 11am Service for this time of fellowship.

Munch with a Bunch letters have been sent out in the last couple of weeks. This lunch will be held on Sunday 19 August at 12.30pm. Replies are due by next Sunday 12 August.

On 25 August our **Indonesian friends** will be having a special evening. Watch out for details in the bulletin and put the date in your diary.

Our next Inclusive Community Meeting: we will advertise the date later. If you have suggestions for activities please let us know so that they can be discussed at our meeting.

Jan Clear



There was movement at the station
that the bush dancer had got away
and had joined the Glen Waverley
Bush dance

on Saturday, 18 August 2018
2pm until we're exhausted!

Bring something for afternoon tea
Pizza supper provided at 6pm.

This is a fund raising event
for our congregation
with suggested donations of

\$25 per family
\$8 per adult

All welcome

(interview continued ... 4)

And you wrestle with and share deep stories together, but sometimes the mat is damaged but you weave it and you put it back together. That was the real take away message and my experience of the Assembly because it was a heavy assembly and some of the issues that we were looking at were issues that people held really strong views for. Just seeing that commitment to all be sitting equally on a mat and to wrestle it out together was pretty powerful.

Q. That's an amazing point to end: thank you.

Monthly Material Aid - Uplift Socks Oddsock

The date for Monthly Material Aid in August will be Sunday 12 August.

Collecting new and odd socks. In a population of 800,000 five hundred Fijians had amputations in 2013 due to diabetes. Socks keep wound dressings in place and clean.

We have trouble getting new socks donated, but we reckon odd socks will be easy to harvest. We've all got them, and if Uplift get them all together, we will have lots of viable pairs.

For more information you can check the website:

http://www.upliftbras.org/drop_off_bras.html - (changed from bras to socks as they have heaps of bras)

(interview continued ... 3)

We did have a number of international guests... that was interesting to hear what those people were thinking about...and many of them were wrestling with the consensus model and issues because that was quite new to a number of them. It was interesting to hear those voices whose experience was positive and not dissimilar to my experience in North Sulawesi as well where people are all struggling with church in the 21st century and church no longer being in the centre of all the decision making in community life or struggling to find its voice...

Q. Did you feel that the UCA is in touch with cutting edge issues in the region?

... I feel quite proud that the UCA wanted to make a statement on domestic violence and that one of the comments was that sometimes religion, including our own Christian faith has been used as a way to allow domestic violence. It doesn't make it right, but we acknowledge that sometimes the whole submission idea is that you must submit, you can't leave... So to acknowledge that in a statement is really strong and powerful but where does that statement go? Who picks that up and how do you communicate that?...we do have our agencies...

Q. What about the ages and the backgrounds of the delegates...what did that tell you about the Uniting Church in Australia?

Assembly was ... in my memory...like there were pockets of diversity in terms of people from different ethnicities and cultures but probably predominantly it reflected more of an Anglo Celtic Australian background...maybe there were more men?...there was a strong youth/ younger contingent and that had been encouraged and it's part of the Assembly stuff that you do to have a strong representation of young people to allow them to learn how assembly works. Obviously like any big meeting like that there's lots to learn and to understand about how you might ever get the courage to go to the mic and make a statement...so there's definitely a process for younger people.

Q. Were there any take away messages or insights to apply or share with GWUC?

Yea... from the Bible studies; the Bible studies at Assembly were just fantastic...they talked about the Tongan and Fijian and Samoan, I think way of *telanoa*: it's the idea that you put out your mat (and we've got one on the wall of our church from Tonga) and you invite people onto the mat. The process of *telanoa* is that you share deep stories in life together. Then they chatted about how not only do you sit on the mat .. and enter into each other's world but ... you also have times when you need to repair the mat. And you can't do that by yourself: it's a community process to weave the mat together. It was such a good visual picture of how the Uniting Church is so committed to trying to work...on an even playing field, like this lovely mat that **everyone** is welcome to sit on and the whole point is that you offer some hospitality on the mat and hospitality is offered back to you.

Save the Date ... Spring 2018 Getaway

Our 2018 Spring Getaway will be to Healesville from 8 to 13 November.

We will be staying at Gateway Lifestyle Holiday Park, 322 Don Road, Healesville.

You can contact the park directly on 5962 4398 if you wish to make a booking. For more information please feel free to contact Joanne Boldiston on 0438 413 964.

Inclusive Community Submission

On Sunday 2 September there will be a Congregational Meeting to elect Church Council Members. At this meeting, you will also be asked to approve the Inclusive Community Committee submission that was put to the July meeting of Church Council. This submission asked for \$3,000 from the Endowment Fund to buy a larger freezer to put in the kitchen, in place of the bar freezer that is there at present. (This will require some renovations in the kitchen.) A withdrawal from the Endowment Fund requires approval from Church Council (already received) and the congregation. You will be given more information about the submission prior to the meeting.

Jan Clear

Empty Beeac Premium Bags

Please return any emptied Beeac Premium bags to the church (put them beside the recycle bins) so we can prepare for this year's fete.

Ordering will be available shortly.

Thank you - Warren Greenwood. 0403 028 948.

Enjoy an afternoon with
Free Spirit
**as they sing contemporary,
sacred & secular music,
jazz & comedy**

A Spirit For All Seasons



Sunday 9th September 2018
2:30pm

Glen Waverley Uniting Church
corner Kingsway & Bogong Avenue, Glen Waverley 3150

Admission \$25.00 / \$20.00 concession
includes Afternoon Tea

Tickets available from Church Office 03 9560 3580
or Vida 0411 246 254

Proceeds support our Church Programme & Activities

(interview continued ... 2)

Q. That's impressive. Were there any individuals whom you met who left a lasting impression on you, without necessarily naming them?

The dedication that some people had who had maybe been to 3 or 4 assemblies ...to putting in the energy and the effort to be on top of all the reports and to be part of some of the sub committees; people on the assembly standing committee ...that was pretty impressive.

Also I really appreciated being amongst people from different places. So I remember when some of the environmental stuff was being discussed, over lunch having a discussion with someone who was just sharing about rural and farming life in Australia. And how the environmental impact of the statement that was being brought out did not perhaps reflect rural farmers because some of the farming community--and I've got family who are farmers, so I believe this to be quite true -- are very environmental in some of the ways they operate. So it's a little bit funny for them to read a statement from the city ...telling them how to be like environmental. So some of those conversations I thought were awesome because they reminded me that it's really important to make statements and to be pro things and to want advocacy..., but it's also important to remember that there are always people who are already doing this stuff. There are also people who are really affected. For example, to say that mining is bad might be something that many people agree with, but in communities where mining is their source of income and livelihood it's not as easy as that... so holding those tensions together...really stood out.

Q. How did your visit to north Sulawesi earlier in the year affect your view of the Assembly and the issues it dealt with?

...there are a couple of ways that it shaped my view. One way was sometimes people were getting up and saying ecumenical voices don't believe in this and this and this. For instance, with the marriage issue, one of the thought processes and debates was if we say we are pro marriage equality, as a church community, that means our ecumenical brothers and sisters won't want to be a part of our faith, or our unity any more; maybe they won't ever want to unify and if the Uniting Church is wanting to become a unified body of Christ...with whatever denominations might want to join us, then that's going to make that gap even bigger.

Q. Are you speaking within Australia about other denominations or are you thinking internationally?

Well they were kind of saying both. They were saying our international partners are more conservative...and won't want anything to do with us if this is the way we go forward....But my experience in the Asian Ecumenical Youth Assembly was actually the opposite. Everyone was struggling with these kinds of issues and everyone was struggling with how to be an accepting church community to all people including LBTGI+Q people...

Interview with Alanee Hearnshaw about the 15th Assembly of the UCA by Glyn Howells

Q. As I understand it was your first Assembly: was there anything about the experience overall that struck you in particular?

I think because it was my first Assembly it was quite interesting to see the wider church with people not just from the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania who may have similar opinions on things ... or are more in the know maybe. It was really amazing to see the breadth and diversity from all around Australia with people coming together with their passion for the Uniting Church.

Q. Were there any issues that you felt were particularly significant?

I think I found myself mentioning to people when they asked about assembly that from my perspective it was a heavy assembly. And I did chat to someone who had been to a lot of assemblies. I asked are they usually like this? And they said "no". So that was relief and that was because we looked at the issues of domestic violence that is going on in Australia and there was a report and a statement put before the assembly on that. And that was the first order of business. Then we had the report from the Royal Commission which is also really heavy. And then ...we were looking at the definition of marriage within the Uniting Church and that's a really heavy decision for people as well. Then there was a small proposal that ended up being quite a large discussion ... about voluntary assisted dying because of the new legislation in Victoria....

Q. What lasting impression of the UCA did you come away with because you mentioned that you saw the breadth and the diversity? Where did that leave you feeling about the wider church?

I felt really... I'm not sure what the right word is...whether it's "impressed" or "warm" ... but that's using silly "card language". I was really impressed by the way that as a governing body Assembly were really happy to struggle and wrestle with the differences of opinion and the diversity...That even though some of those conversations were actually quite hard people really wanted to honour what other people's opinions were and where they were coming from. People understood the idea that we are a people that are on the way together; so that you cannot really walk along together if our constitution is that we are a pilgrim people on a journey; you can't really stop being on that journey just because you disagree. So seeing the consensus kind of majority and the consensus decisions and people kind of going "Well, this is my opinion, but I understand that this is not where everyone else is at. So I'm actually happy for the decision to be made but I'm going to sit over here and hope that I understand it later". So there was some real graciousness in that and some real commitment in wrestling with those things together.

September Issue of NewView

Our last theme of change brought some thoughtful responses and the challenge to think about how we should respond to change. Consequently the next issue will examine **community**, as a follow-up to change.

What kind of community do we envisage in the future for Glen Waverley Uniting Church? What values should we aspire to? What are our dreams for it?

What are the challenges of building a community? What changes do you think we will have to accommodate? How will we deal with the possibility of changes that see the demise of much-loved traditions or practices? Will these changes have an impact on our faith? How would we cope with that?

Your thoughts on these matters are invited, together with reports, anecdotes, photos, reviews of activities that have occurred in our community, and any other material relevant to our individual faith journeys in this community. Please send to popesr@aapt.net.au or hand in to the office by Friday, September 21.

St John's HymnFest - Sunday 16 September at 2.30pm

There will be a 'HymnFest' at St John's Uniting Church in Mount Waverley (37-43 Virginia Street) on Sunday 16 September at 2.30pm. As well as contributions from the choir and the opportunity for everyone to join in some favourite hymns, those able to attend will be blessed by the voices of the Canterbury Tongan Men's Choir. All are welcome to join us and afternoon tea will be provided afterward.

Free Spirit Music Afternoons

Free Spirit would like to invite you to an afternoon of music on the following dates:-

5 August @ 2.30pm at Croydon Uniting Church

- Ticket price to be confirmed

9 September @ 2.30pm at Glen Waverley Uniting Church

- Tickets \$25 Adult / \$20 Concession

We would love to see you there.

Church Council Election 2018

A ballot for election of Church Councillors will be held on **Sunday 2 September, 2018.**

A single purpose congregation meeting is called for that day, encompassing all the services of worship, to enable persons attending any of the worship services to vote.

This is to ensure the maximum possible participation by our congregation.

The Uniting Church in Australia regulations indicate that a vote can only be held at a Congregational Meeting and that absentee and postal voting is not permitted.

Ballot papers will ONLY be handed out at those services. They will not be available at other times during the day.

Nominees receiving the support of a majority of those participating in the ballot will be declared to be elected.

In accordance with the congregational decision of July 2013, all Church Councillors will be elected as Elders as well as Councillors.

Nomination Forms

These will be available on **Sunday 22 July 2018** and at any time after that date from the office or office counter **until Sunday 12 August 2018** when nominations will close. Everyone in the congregation is encouraged to carefully consider accepting nomination and to make nominations.

Each nomination requires:-

- a Proposer and Seconder
- a Nominee
- signatures of Proposer, Seconder and Nominee
- the Nominee is requested to provide some personal information to assist our decision-making.

Nominations close on Sunday 12 August, 2018.

The nomination forms may be returned to the Church Office until the end of that date.

Candidates can obtain from the office a copy of the duties of a Church Councillor as recorded in the Uniting Church in Australia regulations, or by accessing the Uniting Church in Australia web site, or by talking to any Church Council member. This is also available via -

<http://wiki.gwuc.org.au/gwuc/ExpectationsOfCouncilMembers>

Information about what the Church Council does is available at:

<http://wiki.gwuc.org.au/gwuc/ExpectationsOfCouncilMembers>

Nominations

Nominations will be announced in the week of **12 August, 2018.**

Retiring Councillors

The following councillors have completed their term of appointment, and are all eligible for re-nomination (although some may not wish to renominate).

- Glyn Howells, Ben Krieger, David Morgan, Gael O'Brien.

Election Result

The successful candidates will be announced during the week following the election.

Any questions relating to the voting procedures can be directed to John Snare or the Church Office.

John Snare
Chairperson of Congregation
Glen Waverley Uniting Church