

Glen Waverley

Uniting Church

Welcome

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

SUNDAY PREACHING PLAN - December 2018

		December 16 Advent 3			December 23 Advent 4			December 30 Christmas 1		
Time		Susan Karoly Rev Neil Peters Communion			10am Combined Worship Service Baptism Ministry Team			10am Combined Worship Service Rev Neil Peters		
8.00 am		Rev Neil Peters Communion			9 Lessons and Carols Uniting Voices			No Indonesian Service		
9.15 am		Rev Neil Peters Communion			Indonesian Service			No Indonesian Service		
11.00 am		Children & Families			Children & Families			No Indonesian Service		
1.00 pm		Alance Hearnshaw			Alance Hearnshaw			No Indonesian Service		
4.30 pm		Malachi 3:1-4 Luke 1:68-79 Phil 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6			Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Phil 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18			1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Psa Im 148 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52		
5.30 pm		Purple			Purple			Purple		
Lectionary		Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36			Purple			Purple		
Liturgical Colour		Purple			Purple			Purple		

NOVEMBER

4 November 12 noon
8-13 November all day
19-21 November 10am-12noon

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Club 2018
Getaways at Healesville
Children's Nativity Photos at The Hub

DECEMBER

2 December 10am
2 December 5pm
6 December 10am-12noon
10 December 10.30am
11 December 8pm
16 December 2.30pm
24 December 5.30 & 11pm
25 December 8.30 & 10am

Combined Worship & Christmas lunch
Indonesian Christmas Service & dinner
Hub Christmas Morning Tea
Leisure Time Break-up
Remembrance Service
Seniors Carol Service
Christmas Eve Services
Christmas Day Services



Rev Bill Morgan - still ministering at 103 (preaching 18 November)



Rev Bill Morgan celebrated his birthday, 103 years young, on 23rd October. Bill is a much loved and respected member of Glen Waverley Uniting Church. Bill was ordained 73 years ago in the Presbyterian Church and still has a passion for his life calling to exercise ministry. Bill has a passion for leading worship and preaching, takes seriously the responsibility of presiding at the sacraments, and to this day, often by phone now, offers a well received pastoral ministry. Bill has a great interest in the church and a caring concern for the future of the church.

Rev Neil Peters has invited Bill to preach at the 11 am service at Glen Waverley on Sunday 18th November where Neil and Bill will jointly preside at Holy Communion.

Both Bill and Neil are very much looking forward to sharing this service together.

Celebrating Ordination Milestones

At the 10am service on Sunday 2 December we will have the opportunity to acknowledge 50 years of ordination for Rev Evan Laidlaw. Over 50 years Evan's preaching, leadership of worship, pastoral care, Bible study and community engagement have touched thousands of lives. At the service we will hear some brief reflections from Evan and we will give thanks to God for 50 years of ordination and his long service in ministry.

Also, at the same service, we will mark 25 years of ordination for Rev Neil Peters.

The Christian Church in the World

Pressure on Church mounting in China: The ruling Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is working to rein in the Church. Unregistered fellowships are being forcibly closed. In China's north-west Gansu Province, summer camps have been closed down and Catholic priests dismissed. In Henan Province churches have been raided, believers arrested and Christians forced to sign letters of commitment, promising not to join Christianity but to follow the CCP. In Beijing, the city's seven largest house churches have been forced to relocate, a process the authorities hope will result in closures. Across the country, churches are being forced to take down their crosses and replace them with Chinese flags. Some churches have been forced to sing nationalistic songs during services and display images of Chinese President Xi Jinping. Please pray for China and its Church.

In India, 271 Christians face criminal charges: On 5 September police in Uttar Pradesh, indicted 271 members of the 7000-member church in Bhulandih Village. The charge was that the Christians go out after Sunday and Tuesday prayers and spread misinformation about Hinduism while luring people to become Christian through fraudulent and even criminal means. This allegation was made by a Hindu nationalist group that works to prevent conversions to Christianity and Islam while facilitating "re-conversions" to Hinduism. A subsequent police investigation found no evidence of fraudulent conversions. However, after weeks of pressure from Hindu nationalists, which included constant violent harassment of the church, a court ordered the charge to proceed. The believers therefore remain accused of procuring conversion by fraudulent means and hurting religious feelings under India's Criminal Code. Please pray for India and its Christians.

From Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

Looking at the Bible - book of Job, he was "upright and blameless and turned away from evil". Everything went very well for Job.

But then it all changes: he loses his property and all his children have died: "a great wind came across the desert and struck the house and the roof collapsed and fell on them; But Job said: 'The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord.'"

Then Job was afflicted with sores and Job says "Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?"

Job maintains his integrity while the Lord God is testing him; testing like silver that is tested by fire for its purity. So the Lord God can test us; but He will never leave us nor forsake us. "Happy are those who take refuge in Him". "His steadfast love endures for ever". Psalm 118

Material Aid Offering - November

Material Aid Offering for November will be to support It's In The Bag.

It's simple. First of all, choose a handbag in good condition that you no longer use. Then, fill it with items that would make a woman feel special, pop in a thoughtful note or Christmas card and show her someone cares.

Ask yourself what would a homeless woman need? Chances are, she needs the same personal care and sanitary items you do. Your handbag can be packed full of useful things and relevant items are those little things you need every day, from your toothbrush to your hairbrush. Because nobody should go without life's little essentials!

If you don't have a bag that's ok, we would love to collect any items. (Shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, sanitary items.)

Thank you!

Indonesian Christmas Worship and Celebration

Everyone is invited to share in this special night to commence at 5 pm on Sunday 2 December. The night will begin with worship (30 mins) then a Celebration of Christmas with various performances (30 mins) and finally an Indonesian dinner. Free Spirit will be singing. There will be traditional song and dance. At the dinner an opportunity to make a donation will be given. This is a wonderful night and our congregation is invited. Please sign up on the sheet outside the office window.

From Glyn Howells, Chair of Church Council

Long Term Planning: Council has begun a process for longer term planning, particularly in terms of ministerial staff. As a first step members of Church Council and the congregation (in pairs) will seek feedback from missional (eg: the Inclusive Community Missional Group), functional (eg: Property Committee) and fellowship groups about their current activities, focussing on what is life-giving and their dreams for the future. The results will be brought to January Church Council. Options will then be drawn up before having an intensive (one or two day?) retreat to work through emerging challenges and possibilities. In the process, with your help, we will also examine our current vision document and check that it remains on track.

Acknowledgement of First Peoples: After approaches to Council by a number of congregation members, Council have been discussing how to acknowledge Australia's First Peoples.

As a consequence, at the Congregational meeting on 20 November, Church Council is seeking affirmation of the following statement:-

In the spirit of reconciliation and solidarity the congregation of Glen Waverley Uniting Church acknowledge that the land on which we gather to praise God is part of the traditional lands of the Wurrundjeri people of the Kulin nation. Across this wide land we recognise the First People's continuing connection to country, water and community, and recognise Elders past, present and emerging.

Council has not yet considered how or where the statement might be presented publicly.



Glen Waverley Uniting Church Christmas Lunch

An invitation to young and old to attend a sit-down Christmas meal together in the hall.

**Sunday 2nd December 2018
12pm to 2pm**

The meal will consist of chicken (1/4 for adults and 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 25th November. Any queries please call the office on 95603580.

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

Glen Waverley Uniting Church Christmas Lunch

Sunday 2nd December 2018 - 12pm to 2pm

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 25th November.

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

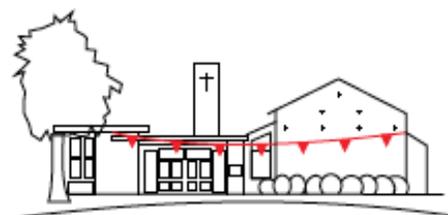
A COMMUNITY EVENT HELD SINCE 1993

HILLTOP MARKET

SATURDAY

17 NOVEMBER 2018

9am - 2pm



CAKES
CRAFT
PLANTS
BOOKS



JEWELLERY
WHITE ELEPHANT
GOURMET FOODS
CHRISTMAS GIFTS



SAUSAGES/BURGERS
FRAMES & PAINTINGS
CLASSIC & ANTIQUE CARS
OAKLEIGH BRASS BAND



In cooperation with St John's and St Luke's Uniting Churches



**High Street Road Uniting Church
Mount Waverley**

482 High St Road Mt Waverley - Cnr Stewart St
Melway 61 G12

*A moment of peace
A time to remember
a loved one
A space to breathe
A chance to reflect
An opportunity to pray*



*You are warmly invited to come along and share
in a Service of Remembrance - a time to
remember those who are no longer with us.*

Tuesday December 11th - 8.00pm

Enq: Neil Peters or the Church Office

Children's Christmas Photos



**Monday 19th November,
Tuesday 20th November,
Wednesday 21st November.**

10am - 12noon.

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 and let your children or grandchildren dress up, be a part of the Christmas story, and have their photo taken. 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 6th December between 10am and 12noon.



Join us for this special Christmas Morning Tea

欢聚一起 享用早点 共贺圣诞



EVERYONE WELCOME
欢迎大家参加

Where: THE HUB

Glen Waverley Uniting Church
Cnr Bogong Avenue & Kingsway

When: Thursday 6th December 2018

Time: 10 am to 12 noon

*Donations welcome for needy families
in our community*

To assist with catering, please add your name to the list on the office counter.

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 onto 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.

Club 2018 will meet as normal today, 4 November.

High Tea and Entertainment was held on Sunday 14 October from 2pm to 4pm. Those who attended really enjoyed the full program of entertainment and the lovely afternoon tea. We are so lucky to have such talented performers and experienced cooks and waitresses, within our congregation.

Special Morning Tea - Sunday 21 October: This was a very special time within our community when we celebrated the results of the fete, worshipped together, enjoyed morning tea and said goodbye to our special friends Julie and Peter, and Jenny and Roger.

Munch with a Bunch: Our Christmas Munch with a Bunch lunch will be held on Sunday 18 November. Invitations have been distributed in the last couple of weeks. Replies are due by 11 November. This will be our last Munch with a Bunch function for the year.

Diary Date - Seniors' Carol Service will be celebrated on Sunday afternoon, 16 December.

We will let you know the date for our next Inclusive Community meeting. If you have suggestions for activities, please let us know so that they can be discussed at our meeting.

Jan Clear.



5th of November 1PM **PUBLIC MEETING**

Free entry

- **ACTIVISM FOR A VIOLENCE FREE SOCIETY.**
- **IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE WOMEN POLITICAL PARTICIPATION.**
- **THE IMPORTANCE OF INTEGRATION IN AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY.**

GUEST SPEAKER: NINA SPRINGLE, MLC for South Eastern Metropolitan and Deputy Leader of the Victorian Greens.

RSVP before the 30th of October via melbourne@shaktiaustralia.org.au
Rosa Benedikt Community Centre, 11-13 Gerda Street, Scoresby



Melbourne South-Eastern Local Group

Come to a talk by famous writer Arnold Zable



Telling the story: the refugee experience: a writer's journey.

When : Tuesday November 20th

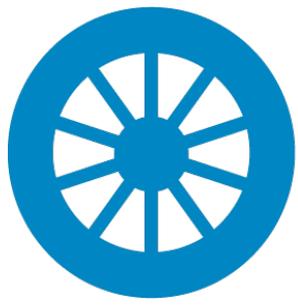
Time : 7.30 pm

St Stephens Anglican Church, 383 High Street Rd. Mt Waverley (Melways 61 D11) There is a car park behind the church and the entrance to the Parish Centre from there.

Drawing on three decades as a writer of fiction and non-fiction, ranging from short story and features, to novels and memoir, and as an advocate and activist, Zable will explore the personal journeys and influences, which have inspired his many stories depicting the refugee experience.

He will also reference contemporary challenges, especially the ongoing trauma of offshore detention on Manus Island and Nauru, dedicating his talk to Kurdish Iranian writer and journalist Behrouz Boochani, who is in his 6th year of exile on Manus,

RSVP Beatrice 9561 1587 or email- beatrice.head1@gmail.com



COMMUNITY HUB

Under the “umbrella” of the Community Hub Mission Group are The Hub, Cooee, Leisure Time, the Playgroups, Welfare and Badminton. These six groups led by members of our Congregation share a common purpose. They welcome a variety of people from our local Glen Waverley community to our Church building on a regular basis and help them to feel at home with us.

The Hub - Judith Greenwood: The Hub continues to be a busy place with new people coming most weeks as well as many of our regular visitors. Some days there have been 20 – 25 people chatting away at The HUB. Our HUB visitors and their families really appreciate all that The HUB and our church do to help them. They are happy to help us any way they can.

Christmas activities with The HUB are almost here. Our Children’s Nativity Dress-Up Photos are on 19th, 20th and 21st November between 10am and 12noon. Bring along your children or grandchildren to dress up in nativity costumes and have their photo taken. Our Christmas Morning Tea at The HUB will be on Thursday 6th December, 10am – 12noon.

Many people from the wider community are attending our special morning teas now and some continue to come each time. All donations from this morning will go to our GWUC Welfare. This will be the last morning of The Hub for 2018.

We will be giving GWUC children and children who attend groups at our church our special Christmas colouring-in book, and also parents and grandparents a Christmas card. Christmas cards will also be given to shops in the Kingsway.

Special thanks to The Hub volunteers who continue to help and support our visitors so well that they feel very much at home in our church.

We would love some new HUB volunteers and emergency volunteers next year to help out when people are sick or on holidays. If you would like to help at The Hub once a month, or even once a term, please contact Judith on 9803 8373.

Cooee: This very small group continues to fill a need in our congregation. On Fridays the members eat lunch together and chat before enjoying a game of scrabble. It has been pleasing to note that a couple of visitors from the community have also participated a couple of times.

Leisure Time - Laurel Muir: Leisure Time celebrated 40 years of service to the community on 29th October. This took the form of a brunch with a short “history” of Leisure Time and a visual display of guests both past and present together with photos of outings and activities.

The numbers each week continue to be encouraging - 16 to 18. There was an outing to the Waverley Cinema in September to see the film “Crazy Rich Asians” - enjoyed by all. This was followed by a basket lunch at the theatre. Another outing was held on 22nd October - a lunch at the Dandenong Club.

The format that Leisure Time will take in 2019 continues to be under discussion. More volunteers are needed, and the responses received from current volunteers in the next couple of weeks will determine just how things will proceed.

Playgroups - Bev Richardson: All four playgroups are continuing successfully and happily, although numbers are smaller than in previous years. (This decline in numbers is apparently common to playgroups throughout Glen Waverley.) Mothers and grandmothers continue to appreciate what we offer and feel very much at home in our Church community. New members are continuing to join us. In each session the children love the new play shop in room 3 and everyone enjoys the playground on sunny days. The Tuesday group is planning a visit to Chesterfield Farm in November. It has been decided to hold a combined Christmas party and breakup on the first Monday in December when Santa will visit.

We are again grateful to Geraldine, Judith and the Hub team for arranging to take the nativity dress up photos again this year.

The new Connections Chinese fathers’ playgroup began recently and was very successful. Bev attended to help the Connections team settle in in rooms 2 and 3 and the playground. Thanks to Glyn, a new collection of Chinese story books and games has been purchased for their use.

Badminton - Andrew Hosking: This group continues to flourish, welcoming a good number of energetic people from the local community to our church. The group’s search for a suitable new table continues!

Welfare - Dorothy Lockart: The committee is most appreciative of the support of Church groups such as UCAF and individual congregational members who make regular donations of food and household supplies for distribution to clients. There continues to be a constant demand for assistance from members of the local community who are in need. All contributions are passed on confidentially and carefully to recipients. We thank God for our generous donors and pray for those who find it so difficult to ask for help in hard times.