



GLEN WAVERLEY Uniting Church

Welcome. GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centered community that meets God and shares in that unconditional love. We especially welcome all those who are worshipping with us via our Broadcast Ministry - we are glad you are here!

Sunday 29 March - Lent 5

10am Live Stream Di Paterson
Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Sunday 5 April - Palm Sunday

10am Live Stream Rev. Neil Peters and Alanee Hearnshaw
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 21:1-11

Contact Us...

Ministry Team

Rev. Neil Peters - Minister of the Word - 0417 580 532 - revneilpeters@gmail.com

Alanee Hearnshaw - Youth & Young Adults - 0402 030 342 - alanee.h@gmail.com

Jemma Graham - Children & Families - jemmagrahamm@gmail.com

Di Paterson - Pastoral Care Worker - 0400 961 052 - dpaterson7@bigpond.com

Church Office

Joanne Boldiston - Office Manager

Mon - Fri: 9am - 3.30pm

0434 119 335

office@gwuc.org.au

gwuc.org.au

How to find our Live Broadcast Channel

Services/Event go 'Live' 5 minutes before the start time

Option 1:

1. Open the Internet on your computer, iPad or device
2. Go to the Glen Waverley Uniting Church website - www.gwuc.org.au
3. Click on the **Worship Live Stream** box
4. Move your mouse over the picture of the church and when the arrow in the middle highlights red, click the arrow.

Option 2:

Open YouTube and search for **Glen Waverley Uniting Church** to find our YouTube channel.

We are here for you...

If you need a chat, a phone call, shopping picked up, anything (well almost!) please do not hesitate to contact us. We are only phone call, email, text, WhatsApp or Snapchat away. Please send a message to the office or the ministry team if we can help in any way. We may not be able to help you ourselves, but we might know someone who can.

For worship and pastoral care please email celebrations and prayer concerns to the church office on office@gwuc.org.au.

*Let's remember one another, pray for one another,
and reach out in new ways so that we stay connected.
You may be isolated, but you are not alone...*

GWUC Survey

These are challenging times for everyone, and many of us are feeling pushed to our limits. We're all in this together, and we are all experiencing challenges we have never faced before. It takes time to find our way through things and we are all learning.

As we continually try to connect with our GWUC family we have created a survey which will help us compile a list of members who might be needing a bit more assistance, and those who can offer some. It'll only take a couple of minutes and will help to keep our family closer together.

Click on the link to begin... <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZNB3MZZ>

'Above all, maintain constant love for one another' (1 Peter 4: 8)

Weekly Happenings

Tuesday

10am-12pm Call Neil for a catch up

Pretend you are shaking hands with Neil after a Sunday service - share a laugh or a concern or just ring to say Hi. Neil will be available from 10 till 12 each Tuesday morning.

Wednesday

7am Prayer Broadcast

*Join our live broadcast channel to be led in a short time of prayer each Wednesday morning.
(or you can catch up later on - it will be available on the broadcast channel)*

10am-12pm Call Di for a catch up

*Di can't visit you in person but you can catch up with her on Wednesday mornings
between 10 and 12. Give her a call and say Hi.*

Thursday

7.30pm Evening Reflection Broadcast

*A little bit bible study, and a little bit church service - tune in to our live broadcast channel on
Thursday evenings at 7.30pm for a time of reflection to help you get through the week.
(or you can catch up later on the broadcast channel)*

Friday

12pm-2pm Call Alanee for a catch up

*Alanee would love to catch up with as many people as possible - maybe you could share stories!
Give her a call on Friday's - she'll be around from 12 till 2.*

Sunday

10am Live Broadcast

Join in at 10am each Sunday to view the live broadcast - log in to

www.gwuc.org.au - we would love to see you!

National Church Life Survey

Due to the sudden change in worship arrangements, it has been decided to postpone the National Church Life Survey until later in the year. Thank you to those who have already completed the survey - these forms will be safely stored and submitted at a later date. If you have taken a form to complete these are still being accepted by the church office - pop it in the mail if you wish!

A message from the Outreach Missional Group

Due to the impact of COVID-19, we have decided to postpone the application process for the 2020 Congregation Outreach Projects until further notice. Any queries please contact Fairlie Mackinnon f.mackinnon@bigpond.com

NewView expanded

Our next issue of *NewView* will deal with our topic of **loyalty** but also be expanded to include your stories/photos/meditations/poems concerning the current coronavirus, including:

- how you are facing the coronavirus restrictions
- what tips you have for coping
- what ideas you have for how we might safely help each other, and our neighbours
- how you are keeping relationships going
- useful meditative/devotional reading

The deadline is next Friday 3 April.

Please submit content to

popesr@aapt.net.au

This issue will be sent electronically but some paper copies will also be printed for distribution to those unable to access the issue online.

April Monthly Bulletin items...

Inclusive Community Report

When I wrote this report at the end of February, we certainly didn't know about the coronavirus and how our lives would be changed. Although we can't meet at the church for services, I hope that you were able to watch the live streaming of our services last Sunday and will continue to do so. Alanee and Joanne have suggested that we have coffee chats with our friends from church, the people we sit near during services and at morning tea. We need to make an effort for us all to stay connected, at this time.

Prayer. 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 Joanne in the office on 0434 119 335 or Beverly on 0417 359 779. You can also let Joanne know about special prayer requests that you want included in the prayers, during our live streaming broadcasts.

Medical Forms. It is a good time to check that you have a card in your wallet or purse that gives your medical details and names and numbers of those who should be contacted in an emergency. Please put one in now when it isn't needed. If you have filled out a medical form at church it is locked away in the safe.

Bring and Share, Munch with a Bunch, Light Lunches and Neil's **Walkathon** - we look forward to meeting together again when this pandemic is over.

Pancake Day for 2020 was held on Tuesday 25 February, at our church. Many people from our own church family and the wider community enjoyed pancakes and coffee. We raised \$320 which we forwarded to Uniting Care to use in needy situations.

The Way of the Cross at Central Reserve on Good Friday the 10 April has been cancelled. Our Easter celebrations will be different this year but this event as well as other Easter traditions will return in 2021. The Glen Waverley Inter Church Council has also cancelled the Ecumenical Visitors Sunday on 24 May. In previous years, we have sent visitors to other churches in our area and visitors from other churches have come to us. We look forward to this event next year.

The next meeting of the Inclusive Community Committee will meet by email on Tuesday 21 April.

Keep safe and stay connected. *Jan Clear.*

The Christian Church in the World

SUDAN'S DANGEROUS AND FRAGILE PATH OF CHANGE

On 9 March Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok (64) survived an assassination attempt. PM Hamdok leads Sudan's transitional government tasked with leading the country to democracy. In August 2019 a Coptic Christian woman (a judge) was appointed to the Sovereign Council. In September, and again in November, the new Minister for Religious Affairs publicly advocated for religious freedom, lamented past persecution of Christians, promised justice and invited Sudanese Jews to return and reclaim their citizenship. Christmas Day was declared a national public holiday and on 25 December senior government officials attended services across Khartoum. On 9 March a draft bill was tabled that will repeal the death penalty for apostasy (leaving Islam). However, resistance is growing: from al-Bashir loyalists, Islamic fundamentalists, a divided military and security sector and Sudan's Deep State. Please pray.

from Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

'BLASPHEMY' AND MURDER IN PAKISTAN

Twenty-five Christians are in prison for blasphemy, six with death sentences. They include Shafqat and his wife, Shagufta. On 8 April the Christian couple will have their appeal heard by the Lahore Court of Appeal. Sentenced to death in 2014, the court found them guilty of sending blasphemous texts to an Islamic cleric, even though their 'confession' was extracted under torture and both are illiterate. Catholic lawyer, Khalil Tahir Sandhu, will present the appeal. On 28 February 2020, Christian farm labourer, Salem Masih (22), died in Lahore's General Hospital after being beaten and tortured by Muslims who accused the 'filthy Christian' of 'polluting' a well. Outraged Pakistanis have been using the hashtag #JusticeForSaleemMasih to speak out against the incident and protest the abuse of Pakistan's religious minorities. Please pray.

from Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

A prayer:

Lord, we remember the needy people of this world
whom Jesus came to save;
We pray for the end of war and terrorism in your torn world;
We pray for the hungry, homeless and diseased.
- Bring them your compassion and justice, Lord.
And give us the will and capacity
To embody our prayers
In compassionate and courageous deeds;
Fill us with the joy of Christ.

Bruce Prewer