



Welcome.

Glen Waverley Uniting Church is a faithful, Christ-centered community that meets God and shares in that unconditional love.



Ministerial Musings

Rev. Neil Peters

Lent - a costly journey

We have now entered the Season of Lent. It is a time for us to remember Jesus' journey toward the cross. On that journey he met many people. He laughed with them, he cried with them, he taught them, and he learned from them. He also ministered to them offering teaching, healing, and hope. But, most of all, he loved them, not just with his words, but with his actions. Jesus taught his followers that they were to love one another as he had loved them. They were to also love the world that Jesus loved.

Lent is a time of quiet reflection. We reflect on our lives, the mistakes we have made, the opportunities we have missed, the people we have ignored.

The Church has also made mistakes. The Church have hidden things that should not have been hidden. We have abused our power and position as a Church. This has meant we have not been a good witness in our community. People have become suspicious of the Church. Attitudes toward the Church have hardened.

We live in a community where the playing conditions are uneven. The rich tend to get richer and the poor poorer. Sometimes our laws and structures do not support justice and equity.

So many people face huge challenges around our world. Whole communities face the impact of war, earthquake, volcano, flooding, cyclone. Some countries have the infrastructure to cope with disasters and some countries do not. Sadly, many people remain trapped in despair and with little hope.

Jesus has told us and shown us what costly discipleship might look like. Jesus has called us to carry forward his ministry and mission. We are to love, and serve and tell the story, over and over again.

That is our challenge, our responsibility and our privilege. The great thing is we engage in this calling together. But we also know we are not alone in another way - for God's Spirit is with us constantly. May we sense and experience God's presence in our lives as we live this twisting, turning journey of life. May we seek to faithfully follow Jesus, step by step.

Let us make the journey of Lent together.



What's On...

Our usual services & events...

- 8am **Contemplative**
incl. Holy Communion
- 9.15am **Interactive (+live broadcast)** *incl. Holy Communion - 1st Sunday of each month*
- 11am **Traditional (+live broadcast)** *incl. Holy Communion - 3rd Sunday of each month*
- 2pm **Indonesian Fellowship on Zoom** (1pm in Winter)
- 5pm **Creative Worship**

MONDAY

- 10.00am **GOMERs**
- 10.00am **Playgroup**
- 10.00am **Craft Group**
- 2.00pm **Leisure Time**
- 8.00pm **Badminton**

TUESDAY

- 10.00am **The Hub**
- 10.00am **Playgroup**
- 2.00pm **Mindful Meditation**
- 4.00pm **Meditation Online**
- 7.30pm **Intercultural Bible Study**
- 7.30pm **Bible Study**

WEDNESDAY

- 7.30am **Prayer Time Online**
- 8.00pm **Free Spirit**

THURSDAY

- 11.15am **English Conversation Class**
- 7.00pm **Online Reflection**
- 8.00pm **Badminton**

FRIDAY

- 9.30am **Choir of Hope**
- 5.30pm/7.00pm **Uthies/Youth**

Please note: not all events are held each week - please contact the church office for details.

GWUC Westpac Bank Account

Uniting Church Glen Waverley
BSB: 033 052
Account Number: 92 2198

Getting to know...

Rev. Hoon You

The Uniting Church in Glen Waverley is delighted to welcome Rev Hoon You who has accepted the call for a 6 month period with the priorities: 1. Building up our intercultural ministry; 2. Leading worship and 3. Training congregational leadership.

Hoon comes with a deep personal spirituality and faith, a range of ministry placement experiences including rural, urban and university chaplaincy, collaborative work in teams and committees, and participation in leadership roles for mission development and strategic planning.

Hoon and his wife Hee-Seung (Hannah) Kook have three children: Joon (20), Sarah (15) and Isaac (9).

Over the six months he is with us, Hoon will spend three weeks each month at our church and one week back with his family in Tasmania.



Intercultural Bible Study

1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month

2 sessions to choose from: 1.30 pm or 7.30pm

Zoom also available at 7.30pm session
Sign up sheet available on office counter

Kingsway Magazine is a regular magazine of Glen Waverley Uniting Church. It is designed to provide a voice for the church community to share activities, thoughts, celebrations, stories and the faith journey, and will present to the church community the quiet achievers and achievements in the life of our church. "Kingsway" has a multi-generational, multi-cultural and missional focus and is designed to build community, lift the spirit and strengthen our faith. If you have an item, article or notice that you think will be just right for "Kingsway", please contact Joanne Boldiston (office@gwuc.org.au) or David Fraser (davidfraser60@gmail.com).



THE HUB in 2023

The Hub is operating on a Tuesday morning 10am - 12pm during the school terms. People from the church and from the wider community are welcome to drop in for a cuppa and a chat.

This year has been very busy so far with an average of 12 visitors each week. One week there were 21 people at The Hub including the Hub Volunteers. There were lots of little conversations taking place, and a busy morning making and serving teas and coffees.

Some visitors who come can only speak a little English and it is good that we have a few Hub volunteers and visitors who can help with translating.

Our visitors always appreciate the way we sit and talk or listen to them, and the hospitality that we offer. They feel at home in our church and are always happy to see us.

You are welcome to call in at The Hub on a Tuesday morning, have some time out in your busy day, and enjoy a cuppa, a biscuit, and a chat. Bring your family or friends. People of all ages are welcome.

We would love to see you.



When: Thursday 30 March, 10am - 12pm

**Where: Glen Waverley Uniting Church
Cnr Bogong Avenue & Kingsway**



Tuesday's at 10am. Drop in for a chat and a cuppa. All welcome!

USING THE CHURCH KITCHEN

It's great to see our church kitchen coming to life again as a hub of hospitality and fellowship. Thank you to all who work in the GWUC kitchen to support our many groups. You do a great job.

The Careful Kitchen Crew (CKC) aims to ensure that we are complying with Monash Council standards and with our own expectations for Food Safety and cleanliness** in the food we prepare and serve at our GWUC kitchen.

Remember that the Fairy Godmother is only a myth, so please clean up after yourself.

Here are a few reminders from CKC for all who use the kitchen, whether for a cuppa, church morning tea or for any other activity. It seems like a long list, but most people are already helping us with this, and we thank them.

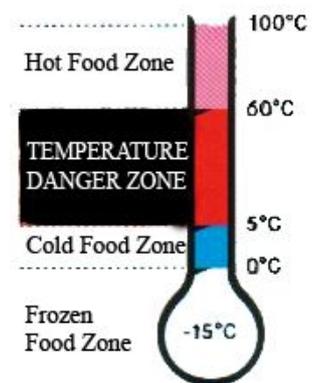
Prior to handling food/crockery

- ✓ Please wash your hands with soap for 20 seconds at the hand-washing sink (behind the kitchen door) and dry with the paper towel provided.
- ✓ Wipe down any benches you will be using with a clean cloth and sanitiser from the cupboard under the double sink.
- ✓ Long-life milk and juice – always label such products with the date of opening. CKC will dispose of all unlabelled or expired items left in the kitchen, as part of our duty of care for a shared facility.
- ✓ Familiarise yourself with what is in the kitchen cupboards and drawers. There are quite a few items which may assist you to do your tasks.
- ✓ The church kitchen is not a meeting room. Please use the fellowship area for socialising.



During food preparation or serving

- ✓ Please be aware of the Temperature Danger Zone and store potentially hazardous foods in the fridge. Food left at room temperature may quickly become unsafe to eat. Hazardous foods must be discarded after 4 hrs in the Temperature Danger Zone. Re-heated food must be heated to 75°. *If in doubt, throw it out.*
- ✓ Use separate chopping boards and utensils for raw and cooked foods.



When you are finished, please leave the kitchen as you would like to find it

- ✓ Leave benches clean and ensure that all items are put away.
- ✓ Use the **dishwasher for all washing up** then empty it and turn it off at the machine and at the wall. Washed items will air-dry quickly and should then be returned to the cupboards. Dishwasher instructions may be found on the wall. If you have just a few mugs, these may be rinsed then left in a dishwasher rack beside the dishwasher for washing later the same day.
- ✓ Take used tea towels home to launder and return to the marked drawer.
- ✓ Take left-overs home. If you do need to leave food in the fridge or freezer, ensure it is covered and labeled with group and date then removed within a few days.
- ✓ The **floor** is to be swept and left clean after all events. A mop is provided in the kitchen.
- ✓ **Empty the kitchen bin** after all events and never leave food in any church bin. Take the liner and contents outside to a red-lid bin, then replace it with a new liner from under the kitchen sink. Place articles for recycling in the Yellow bins outside. N.B. There are RATS outside and we don't want to encourage them to come inside.

** Fun Fact: John Wesley, co-founder of Methodism, may have been the inventor of the phrase "Cleanliness is next to godliness". He often emphasised cleanliness in his preaching. But the principle behind the rule dates back long before the days of Wesley to the worship rituals laid out in the book of Leviticus. These rites were established by Yahweh to show sinners how they could be cleansed from iniquity and reconciled to God. (www.learnreligions.com)



We appreciate your help in all these requests.

For queries or to receive more information please contact the *Careful Kitchen Crew*, Yan Emms, Margaret Fraser, Lynne Boyer, Deb Graham, Kaye Morgan, Anjana (Anna) Remson

Monash Positive Ageing Expo 30 October 2022



GWUC stalls at Community Events...



2023 Lunar New Year Celebrations in Kingsway 5 February 2023



Food Support for Asylum Seekers

For many years our congregation has generously supported David Spitteler's work with asylum seekers in our community through donations of clothing, household linen, food etc. David voluntarily provided a much-needed outlet in Dandenong for 25 years. In July last year The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (established in Footscray) opened a new centre in Dandenong, so David has now concluded his work there, but the needs of those who are on temporary visas, with no government support, continue. Since very few applications for permanent residency have been processed over the last years, there are currently about 31,000 people on temporary visas in Australia, awaiting a determination on their status and living 'in limbo', unable to plan a future for themselves.



Recently Barbara Chamberlain and I visited the new ASRC in Dandenong and were shown over their facility at 205 Thomas St. It provides a wide range of support, including employment services, special courses for employment skills, language classes, a legal clinic and a well-organised food bank. Due to space restrictions they are unable to store material goods (such as clothing and household linen), so they have chosen to restrict themselves to the most basic requirement : food. We would like to continue our support of asylum seekers by donations to their food bank, which is used by clients who have no other means of support and rely entirely on them to feed their families.

We are therefore restoring the use of the donation boxes in the foyer, to collect items for the ASRC Dandenong Foodbank. In the past, quite a few members of our congregation have made it their practice to include items for asylum seekers when they do their weekly shopping, and then drop them into the boxes in the foyer when next they visit the church buildings. We encourage you to take up the habit!

It is important to spend our resources wisely, so ASRC have provided the following list of the most-needed food and groceries:

Tuna in oil, 400g; Olive oil (750 ml); raw unsalted nuts (almonds, walnuts, cashews); small bottles of honey; dried fruit (apricots, dates); tahini; small packs of cumin, turmeric, chilli, garam masala, curry powder; tomato paste; toothbrushes and toothpaste; laundry powder (max 1 kg).

As in the past, we will empty the boxes regularly and deliver the food to the ASRC. Any clothing and linen should now be placed in the collection bins in the church carpark, for the use of Broadmeadows Uniting Church services. Furniture items can be offered to Eastern Emergency Relief (Ph 9874 8433) who will distribute them to those in dire need.

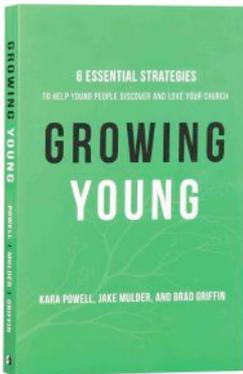
Any questions? Contact Robin Pope 0403 746 940

Refugee Resource Hub
Powered by the ASRC

Badminton is returning to
Thursday nights from
9th March
\$3 per night
Come along for a fun
evening - Beginner to
Advanced
Table Tennis also available.

A close-up photograph of a badminton racket with a blue frame and white strings, and a white shuttlecock with black feathers, set against a teal background.

Badminton
Monday &
Thursday
8pm to 10pm
No bookings
required



Growing Young

by Kara Powell, Jake Mulder, and Brad Griffin, 2016, ISBN 978-0-8010-1925-8

"Some - perhaps more than half - of those who drift from the church end up rejoining the faith community, generally when they get married and have children."

(Growing Young, p18, Jeffrey J. Arnett)

"The only future worth having includes everyone." (Pope Francis, 2017)

"During our visit to a multigenerational church, nearly every teenager and emerging adult talked about Arthur. Arthur had recently been to their basketball game, dance recital, or some other activity. When interviewed Arthur, a grandfather in his seventies, he expressed the joy he feels by making sure young people know they matter." (Growing Young, p69)

"I love my church. I think it is amazing. Everybody knows each other and we all care about each other. It's not, like, compartmentalised between generations or between different types of people. It is just like a big family." - Katie, age 20 (Growing Young, p163)

"This is a changing church, and we're part of a changing world. I've learned that I need to be big enough to change with it." - Hank, age 76 (Growing Young, p271)

Key leadership (Growing Young, p58)

Keychain leadership: Very aware of the keys they hold, they are constantly opening doors for some while training and entrusting others who are ready for their own set of keys. People can point to this leader as the reason they serve in the church today. (Budding Keychain leaders need someone to teach them to acquire and learn to use the set of keys, to entrust them with the keys and yes, forgive them and continue to instill confidence even after a few mistakes are made.)

Key-lending leaders: Often take keys off the keychain and letting others borrow them temporarily, they make sure the keys are returned quickly.

Key-hoarding leaders: Always holding the keys and refusing to give others access, they run the show.

Key-less leaders: Often young and inexperienced, without much authority or access. Full of potential and passion as they begin their leadership journey.

Copies of Growing Young are available to borrow from the church library.

2021 Census Data

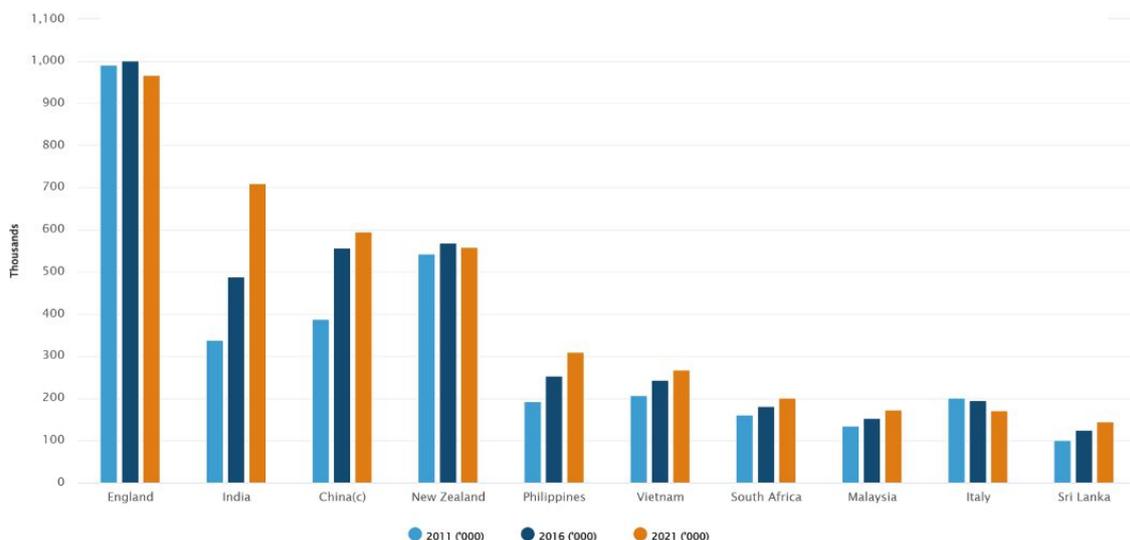
Census religion data shows a characteristic of Australia that has changed significantly over the past two decades.

Christianity: 2016 - 52.1% 2021 - 43.9%

No Religion: 2016 - 30.1% 2021 - 38.9%

While Christianity remains the most common religion in Australia, the 2021 Census found numbers had dropped, while the number of people who recorded 'no religion' had increased.

Graph 1.3 Australia's overseas-born population by country of birth — top 10 (a)(b)



a. Top 10 countries of birth for overseas-born as at 30 June 2021.
 b. Population estimates for 2021 are preliminary. See Revision status in the methodology page.
 c. Excludes SARs and Taiwan.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australia's Population by Country of Birth 2021

Ministry Team



Rev. Neil Peters

Minister of the Word

0417 580 532

revneilpeters@gmail.com



Rev. Hoon You

Minister of the Word

0403 369 781

hoonyou@gmail.com



Di Paterson

Pastoral Care Worker

0400 961 052

dpaterson7@bigpond.com



Gemma Graham

Children & Families

jemmagrahamm@gmail.com



Joanne Boldiston

Office Manager

9560 3580 or 0434 119 335

office@gwuc.org.au

Ministry Team & Office Email

minteamandoffice@gwuc.org.au

IMPORTANT EVENT

Saturday 29 April 2023

First lap leaves at 8am

WALKATHON

As this will be Neil's final walkathon, we would love to make it part of the events for Neil's retirement...so, even if you are not joining the walk, come along to share in a Family BBQ lunch at 12.45pm (\$2 per person)

Sponsor Neil (or someone else) per lap or make a donation.

Sponsorship forms available soon.



All money raised supports the work of Glen Waverley Uniting Church, as well as funding GWUC's Welfare Coordinator Position.

Let's make this the best one yet!

大節日
Festival Besar
பெரிய திருவிழா
විශාල උත්සවය

Grand Fete

Saturday
21 October
8:30am -
2:00pm

Proudly supporting the outreach projects of Glen Waverley Uniting Church