



Glen Waverley

Uniting Church

Welcome

GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centred community that meets God and shares that unconditional love: meet_god@anytime.with.us

SUNDAY PREACHING PLAN - June 2014						
Time	June 1 Easter 7	June 8 Day of Pentecost	June 15 UC Anniversary	June 22 Pentecost 2	June 29 Pentecost 3	
8.00 am	Alison Clarkson Communion	Rev Evan Laidlaw Communion	10am Combined Service Ministry Team Moderator Present Communion followed by Lunch	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Evan Laidlaw Communion	Green
9.15 am	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters		Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters Belinda Clear	
11.00 am	Rev Neil Peters Ecumenical Visitors	Rev Neil Peters Alison Clarkson	10am Combined Service Ministry Team Moderator Present Communion followed by Lunch	Alanee Hearnshaw Alison Clarkson	Rev Neil Peters	Green
4.30 pm	Belinda Clear	Family Activity		Belinda Clear	Belinda Clear	
7.00 pm	Alanee Hearnshaw	State Youth Games Reflection with Neil Peters	10am Combined Service Ministry Team Moderator Present Communion followed by Lunch	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Green
Lectionary	Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 John 17:1-11	Acts 2:1-12 or Numbers 11:24-30 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21		Genesis 1:1-2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20	Genesis 21:8-21 or Jeremiah 20:7-13 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39	
Liturgical Colour	White	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green

MAY

MAY		DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
4 May	7pm	Monash Ecumenical Choral Service
8 May	3pm - 9pm	Strathdon Community AgeWell Expo
22 May	10am	Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub
25 May	2.30pm	Seniors Service

JUNE

1 June	11am	Ecumenical Visitors
8 June	12.00pm	Light Luncheon after 11am Service
15 June	10am	Combined Anniversary Service with Moderator - followed by Lunch
29 June	12.30pm	Munch with a Bunch Lunch





Glen Waverley Uniting Church & The Body Shop at The Glen are hosting



ALL donations to the Cancer Council

Come along, bring your family and friends
enjoy morning tea together and
support the Cancer Council

**Thursday 22nd May 2014
10.00 am to 12.00 noon**

ALL AGES WELCOME

**Glen Waverley Uniting Church
cnr Bogong Avenue & Kingsway, Glen Waverley**

*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

So much persecution is taking place in all corners of the world. Our prayers are urgently requested.

The Chinese Communist Party and the Cross:-

Wenzhou, in China's eastern Zhejiang Province, is a coastal megacity of some 10 million residents. Known as 'China's Jerusalem', it is home to as many as three million Christians. They include many Christian entrepreneurs. Objecting to the 'conspicuous' nature of large crosses atop many large churches, Zhejiang's Community Party secretary recently demanded that authorities 'rectify' the situation by removing the crosses.

The campaign to de-Christianise landscapes and skylines across Zhenjiang is coming to a head in Wenzhou where a major stand-off is under way at the eight-storey, 1000 square metre Sanjiang church. When the church refused to remove its cross and spires, authorities ordered the church's demolition. Some 5000 local Christians are participating in prayer vigils and sit-ins, day and night, to prevent demolition. Please join them in prayer.

Laotian Christians being Expelled from Village

Lao authorities sent orders expelling five Christian families from Natahall village last December. The expulsion orders were issued because the Christians failed to obey a directive to abandon their 'foreign' faith. Their village elders believe that the Christians, by living out their faith, will anger the ancestral spirits and bring calamity on the village. The Communist regime is pleased to persecute Christians in the name of advancing 'harmony'. Unashamed of the Gospel, the Christian families stood firm, with the result that three more families put their faith in Christ. On 11 March all eight Christian families were mocked publicly and ordered to abandon their faith or face expulsion. They have appealed to the district religious affairs authorities, but to no avail. Please pray for Laos and its Christians.

From Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

Entertainment Books

Entertainment Books are back! In print or as an iPhone or Android app!

At \$65 each, these are packed with 25-50% off or 2-for-1 vouchers for hundreds of restaurants, hotels, attractions, sports and leisure around Melbourne. From a great way to discover new dining places to the key to 5% off your groceries for the year (5% off Wish/Safeway gift cards).

A full listing of the vouchers is available at:

<http://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/>, including a searchable map.

This is a great opportunity to support the work of the church and save some money at the same time. This year there is the option to buy an electronic version of the book on your smart-phone, saving you from having to remember to carry the book with you.

Pre-orders are now open (books available on April 6th) online at:

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/189g572> (home delivery available), at the table in the foyer between services, from the office during the week or by getting in contact with Kaye Morgan on 0403451390 /kayemorgan7@gmail.com.

Fete Waffle Sales

We have a group of people keen to make and sell waffles at the Fete in October, but they lack a waffle iron to cook them. If anyone has a waffle iron that they are prepared to lend for this purpose, please contact the Church Office or one of the Morgan family.

French Tutoring

Hello, my name is Janice. I am a native French speaker from Mauritius and am available weekdays until 4pm, weekends negotiable, to tutor French, both written and conversational for all ages including VCE.

Contact me on 0468959970 for further details.

Land for Kerry Children's Bible Ministry, Kenya

If you would like to help, please contact Lyn McDonald on 9560 9798 or via email lynmcd@chariot.com.au

Do You Care?

Here is a marvellous opportunity to make contact with asylum seekers in detention and to show them that not all Australians support the current policy regarding their treatment. It is sponsored by Julian Burnside AO QC, barrister and human rights advocate.

Julian Burnside writes:

Will you write to an asylum seeker on Manus Island or Nauru and let them know, we have not forgotten them and we care?

How to do it:

Write a letter, but don't direct it to a specific person. Say who you are, so the recipient won't wonder whether you're acting for the government. Tell them something about yourself. Let them know that not all Australians are hostile to them. Be sensitive to their circumstances. Encourage them to write back to you.

Send the letter to:

Julian Burnside
205 William Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Remember to enclose a self-addressed envelope (no stamp).

Mr Burnside will post your letter (with your self-addressed envelope) to a specific asylum seeker on Manus Island or Nauru. He will explain the letter-writing campaign and include some writing paper and your self-addressed envelope so the recipient of your letter can reply.

When you receive a reply, keep writing to that person. If you want, you can ask them for the names of other people you can write to.

People of various countries are being detained on Nauru and Manus Island, including Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq and Sri Lanka. Please advise if you would prefer to write to someone of a particular nationality or if you have a preference for which detention centre your letter should go.

If you don't know how to get started, there are copies of a 'model letter' which you can adapt for your own first letter. Pick one up from outside the office window. If you would like to join a letter writing club with others from GWUC who start a correspondence, fill in the form outside the office window.

If you have a computer, you can access this information yourself at:- <https://www.getup.org.au/letters-to-asylumseekers>

Robin Pope (9561 7021)

Monash Ecumenical Choral Service - 4 May at 7pm

Free Spirit and Uniting Voices are both taking part in this annual service, held this year at St. Stephen's & St. Mary's Anglican Church, Mount Waverley, at 7pm. The service includes some congregational singing. All welcome.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub - Thursday 22 May

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub, with all donations going to the Cancer Council, will be held on Thursday 22 May from 10am till 12noon.

Ministry to Seniors

Seniors Service: Sunday 25 May 2.30pm Seniors' Service, including Communion, led by Alison Clarkson and Jan Clear. Afternoon tea will be served after the service. If you require transport please contact the Church Office by Wednesday 21 May.

Seminar for Seniors: Planned for Saturday 31 May. Unfortunately this seminar will be postponed until September, due to unavailability of speakers. Watch the Seniors' Noticeboard for details.

Prayer Requests (formerly Prayer Chain)

Several members of the congregation have committed to pray for anyone who wants to be remembered in prayer. If you have any joys or concerns you would like to be included in the prayers, please contact Beverly McGlead on 0417 359 779 or the Church Office on 9560 3580.

If you would like to be a prayer partner with this group, please let Beverly know.

This opportunity for prayers is in addition to the Prayer Book used each Sunday.

Christian Ecumenical Celebration - Sunday 1 June

Wanted! 8 visitors to represent Glen Waverley Uniting Church on Christian Unity Ecumenical Celebration Sunday, 1 June 2014; 2 visitors to each of 4 churches, including Glen Waverley Uniting Church.

If you are interested, please add your name to the list on the Office counter. Further information from Alison Clarkson.

A Letter to the Congregation

Dear Friends,

I would like to begin this letter by thanking the ministry team and all those involved in Lenten studies, Holy Week reflections on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. A great deal of planning, preparation and thoughtful reflection was involved.

Church Council met on Tuesday evening May 22nd. We were spiritually led in devotions by Peter Baker who chose the scripture passage from John 20:1-18. In our discussion we successfully trialled the Mutual Invitation Method which is outlined in Eric Law's book 'The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb.' It involves a simple process within a group setting where all are encouraged to speak.

Some of the Church Councillors have read Rosemary Dewerse's book 'Breaking Calabashes: Becoming an Intercultural Community.' You might ask the question 'What is meant by 'intercultural'? Rosemary Dewerse defines intercultural as: 'A community where all people are genuinely valued for who they are and what they have to offer and where emphasis is on building relationships of mutual respect and care between everyone.' I suggest that GWUC would do well to study and adopt Rosemary's ideas.

Church Council have just completed a Code of Conduct for both Church Council and Congregation. Soon this will be presented to Missional Group and Functional Group Conveners and displayed in different areas of the Church. The team within Church Council have been diligent in preparing this code and we acknowledge the work that has gone into designing it.

Conveners of Missional and Functional Groups have been invited to meet with Church Council on 27th May to further explore Vision and Mission. By the next Congregation meeting Church Council hopes to be able to update the Congregation on the 'Future Planning' Church Council has been focusing on.

What we are assured of is that God is with us: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We who believe are his people. He dwells in us and with us. He is 'with us' as a Church. He is 'with us' as believing individuals.

Blessings to you all.

Helen Stewart - Chair of Church Council.

Conversation English Tutor Training Courses

Below are the dates for the next Conversation English Tutor Training courses. These will be running at Syndal Baptist Church and are open to all. The courses run for 4 weeks and each weekly session is 2 1/2 hours.

Monday Tutor Training

26 May, 2 June, 16 June and 23 June. There will be no class on 9 June as it is Queen's Birthday weekend. Times: 1pm to 3.30pm.

Friday Tutor Training

18 July, 25 July, 1 August and 8 August. Times: 9.30am to 12noon.

If you are interested please feel free to contact Cheryl Gardner (YWCA Encore Facilitator) on either 0415 958 142 or cherylmgardner01@mail.com

Strathdon Community - Thursday 8 May

Older and wiser - financially, spiritually, physically and mentally. Come to our free information expo at Uniting AgeWell, Strathdon Community, 17 Jolimont Road, Forest Hill. Thursday 8 May, 3-9pm.

Navigating aged care services and gaining access can be difficult and confusing. At Uniting AgeWell we understand this. You will hear legal, financial and health experts discuss:

- Making Your Way through the Aged Care Maze
- Powers of Attorney
- Making Your Will
- Electronic Health Records
- Advance Care Planning
- Be Active Your Way

Information booths - display suite for viewing - street parking available - disabled access provided - light refreshments will be served.

Enquiries: 9845 3111 or email MMcGrath@unitingagewell.org

Inclusive Community Report

Prayer Chain: See the notice elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Enquiries: Heather in the Church Office.

Munch with a Bunch: Forty-two people enjoyed lunch at the RSL last Sunday 27 April. It was good to see some people who hadn't attended one of our lunches before. Our next Munch with a Bunch lunch will be on Sunday 29 June at the RSL.

Pastoral Partners: As mentioned in last month's bulletin, we had our last Pastoral Partners' training session on Sunday 16 March. We are preparing a letter to send to those who attended the sessions and others who have been recommended by the Ministry Team asking them if they are happy to be Pastoral Partners. Once we have some volunteers we will begin forming clusters. Initially we will place people who have requested a pastoral contact person (and we have been unable to provide one) and newcomers in clusters. We hope to publish some literature about Pastoral Partners to remind you about the important features.

Enquiries: Contact Jan (9803 6820).

Community Fun Night - An Intergenerational Event - Friday 2 May: By the time you read this bulletin, we will have had our Family Fun Night. It was a great night and a good opportunity for people to get to know one another. Thanks to all those who helped in any way, during the afternoon, before the event or during the evening. I would particularly like to thank Faye and Joanne for the catering and Alanee and Belinda for preparing and running the activities.

Morning Tea: Light lunch after the 11am service on 13 April was well received. The next light lunch (after the 11am service) will be on Sunday 8 June. Please join us. Gold coin donation.

Medical Forms: Last year, we asked you to fill out a medical form and hand it to Heather, in the office. Some forms need updating so would you please see Heather in the office or fill out a form, if you have not done so before. Forms are available on the Steward's Table.

Meeting: Our next Inclusive Community meeting will be on Tuesday 27 May at 10.30am in the outer vestry.



COMMUNITY HUB

THE HUB

The Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea at The Hub was a great success and \$420 was raised for The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. People from GWUC and community attended, many commenting about the wonderful atmosphere.

Our next special Morning Tea will be on Thursday 22nd May, 10am-12noon, when we will again be joined by staff from The Body Shop at The Glen, and together host Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub. All donations from this community event will go to the Cancer Council. (See separate notice).

Come and join us at The Hub some time during the week for a cuppa, a biscuit or a chat. We would love to see you.

COOEE

Members of Cooe are happy getting together every Friday sharing and supporting each other as they have lunch together and play scrabble.

If you would like some company on Friday lunchtime, come along to Cooe. Bring your own lunch, a cuppa and biscuits will be provided.

LEISURE TIME

Leisure Time guests continue to enjoy meeting weekly on Mondays in our church. As always, the greetings and the happy conversations are a testament to how they value these supported opportunities to get out of the house and meet with friends.

We have welcomed four new guests this year - Suzanne, Ramila, Panna and Helen, and they are rapidly feeling "at home" with us.

On March 31, we took the guests to the RSPCA in Burwood East, followed by lunch at the Pancake Parlour. This was all a great success. On May 19 we will be going to Morning Melodies and lunch at the Waverley RSL. Outings committee continues to plan interesting and accessible outings which will be appropriate but lots of fun. We have recently applied for another Monash Council grant to help us continue to subsidise the cost of our outings.

The Leisure Time AGM was held on April 7. The meeting was well attended, and those present were kept up to date with the program as well as electing the new committee. All positions were filled by a willing and passionate team. Thanks to Alison Clarkson who set the tone with her introductory devotion and to Neil Peters who attended and led the benediction. The faithful and competent service of David Mair as our honorary treasurer over many years was acknowledged with gratitude. Evelyn Fleming has now graciously accepted this role. Our guest speaker, Jinju Oh, from Community Care at Monash City Council told us about the HACC services available to older citizens and stayed on to meet with the committee afterwards.

PLAYGROUP

Term 1 has been busy and happy for playgroups. The highlight for the term has been the establishment of our fourth group, which meets on Friday mornings. We are grateful to Evan and members of the Friday morning Lectionary Study Group who have most kindly agreed to relocate so that we can use Room 2. All four playgroups are now full, so enrolments are closed until July.

Approximately 20 children are enrolled in each group, with an average attendance this term varying between 14 and 20 children, each attending with parents or other carers. We are always pleased to welcome grandparents who are visiting from interstate and overseas.

As in the past, our team of leaders has been busy and enthusiastic, bringing a wealth of new ideas and activities to be enjoyed by children and parents. We have been very pleased to welcome Lynn Peters who has volunteered to join the Friday group. Her willingness and expertise as a leader are much appreciated.

To the many Community Hub Volunteers who help with our activities - thank you for all that you do each week, and for being a part of this exciting and growing Community Hub Mission Group.

If you would like to know more about any of these groups, or if you would like to help in any way, please contact Judith on 9803 8373.