

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 - September 2014						
Time	September 7 Pentecost 13	September 14 Pentecost 14	September 21 Pentecost 15	September 28 Pentecost 16		
8.00 am	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Alanee Hearnshaw	
9.15 am	Belinda Clear Alison Clarkson Communion	Rev Evan Laidlaw		Alanee Hearnshaw		
11.00 am	Rev Bill Morgan Chris Owen	Two-way with Beeac Neil Peters (at Beeac) Alison Clarkson (at Glen Waverley)	Heather Hon Rev Dr Warren Bartlett Communion	Rev Neil Peters Alanee Hearnshaw		
4.30 pm	Belinda Clear	Belinda Clear	Family Activity	School Holidays		
7.00 pm	Youth & Young Adults	Youth & Young Adults	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw		
Lectionary	Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20	Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 114 <i>or</i> Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35	Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32		
Liturgical Colour	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green

AUGUST

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**1 August -
2 September**

Alison Clarkson on leave - Ministry to be coordinated by Elwyn Pedersen during this time.

18-19 August *All day*

Cross Cultural Ministry & Mission Retreat at Templestowe

20 August *1pm*

Religious Pluralism Seminar at CTM

23 August *8.30am*

Church Spring Clean

24 August *2pm*

Free Spirit Concert at Boronia UCA

24 August *2.30pm*

Seniors Service Hymn Festival

28 August *10am*

The Hub Muffin Morning

31 August *10am*

Combined Worship followed by Congregational Meeting and Lunch



Many thanks ...

To the Glen Waverley Uniting Church Community,
Thank you for your love, prayers and condolences. Your friendship and support means a great deal and has helped ease the pain of losing my sister.

Your card and prayerful support over the past few months has been very much appreciated. Judy's Pastor at the Life Church in Bernie was thrilled to know our church had had Judy, Jim and family on our prayer list.

Regards,
Jenny Vass.

Fund Raiser Extraordinaire!

Many of you will know that Cliff Baker co-ordinates the fund-raisers for Red Cross Calling in Monash. Cliff recruits volunteers from many places, and particularly students from some of the secondary schools in the area, who responded magnificently.

This year Monash was the fourth highest fund-raiser in Australia and Cliff was the second highest fund-raiser in Victoria and as instrumental in raising \$41,252.30. Amazing!
Congratulations Cliff.

Congregational Meeting - Advance Notice

Following the 10am combined worship on Sunday 31 August, there will be a new format Congregational meeting. This will be followed by an Inclusive Community lunch.

Key issues to be discussed are the approval for the COP funding for 2014, a six-month finance summary, and a presentation for the Outreach Community on their 2014 successes, their current plans and what they hope they will do in 2015. There will also be a report on the Future Planning for GWUC. Please diarise this date and time. The new format will be shorter and opportunity for conversation will occur. If you would like to see the Agenda, or obtain a copy of the previous minutes, please contact the office. The minutes for the last meeting can also be found at <http://wiki.gwuc.org.au/gwuc/CongMeetingMinutes20140406>

Further information from Warren Greenwood 9803 8373.

Lunchtime Seminar: Dr Sharada Sugirtharajah on: Mohandas Gandhi and John Hick and Religious Pluralism

WHEN:

Wednesday 20 August 2014 @ 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

WHERE:

Centre for Theology & Ministry
29 College Crescent
University of Melbourne, Parkville VIC 3052

CONTACT:

Phone: 03 9340 8800
E-mail: info@ctm.uca.edu.au

In the present-day multicultural context, religious pluralism continues to be a contentious issue. This paper focuses on two eminent thinkers whose perspectives on religious pluralism have attracted much attention: Mohandas K. Gandhi (1869–1948), known to the world for his nonviolent campaign against British rule, and John Hick (1922–2012), a renowned British philosopher of religion and theologian. My primary aim is to identify and explore significant correspondences in their thinking on religious pluralism, rather than engaging with the contentious debate their positions on religious pluralism have ignited in Western Christian theological discourse. Situating them in their respective contexts, this paper attempts to draw attention to concurrences in their notion of religion, concept of Truth/Real, and approach to conflicting truth-claims.



Dr Sharada Sugirtharajah, Senior Lecturer in Hindu Studies at the Department of Theology and Religion at the University of Birmingham. Sharada taught in India before embarking on her academic career at the University of Birmingham in the mid-1990s. She is an Associate Fellow of the *School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)*. Her research focuses particularly on the issue of representation of Hinduism in orientalist, missionary, colonial and postcolonial discourses. Her research interests also cover women issues, interreligious relations, and diasporic Hinduism. She is the author of *Imagining of Hinduism: A Postcolonial Perspective* (Routledge, 2003), and is currently working on Orientalist and nationalist constructions of Hinduism.

Inclusive Community Report

I can't believe that I am writing this for the August monthly bulletin. July was a busy month in our church family. It has been great to see people meeting together and enjoying times of fellowship.

Munch with a Bunch lunch will be held at the RSL on Sunday 17 August. Letters will be sent out soon.

Light Lunch: There will be a light lunch after the 11am Service on Sunday 10 August. Please join us.

Combined Service and Congregational Meeting: There will be a light lunch after the Combined Service and Congregational Meeting on Sunday 31 August so join us for that too.

Pastoral Partners: As I mentioned last month, we have started the Pastoral Partners program. Pastoral carers are contacting the people in their clusters. We have also appointed cluster leaders for retirement villages. 18 people have volunteered to be pastoral carers and 90 people have been placed in clusters. We also have group pastoral support people and they are doing a great job. Eventually we hope to have all members placed in clusters. We need more volunteers to do this so please think about it. If you need more information please contact Jan on 9803 6820. This is not visiting - it's keeping in touch with people.

Medical Forms: Thanks to those who have filled out medical forms and handed them back to Heather. 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.

Prayer Chain: If you have a prayer request and don't want it placed on the weekly prayer list, we do have a prayer chain. All requests for prayer are kept confidential and are only passed to chain members. We don't need to know why you are requesting prayer, just a name is fine. If you are interested please contact Heather in the Office.

Seniors Service will be held on Sunday 24 August at 2.30pm. (See a notice elsewhere in the bulletin).

Meeting: Our next Inclusive Community meeting will be on Monday 1 September at 10am in the Outer Vestry.

A letter to the Congregation ...

Dear Friends,

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the recent focus sessions. I especially would like to thank Alanee for facilitating each session so effectively. Church Council has met to consider the responses and future directions. As part of the future planning for our congregation Church Council has scheduled an additional meeting to further consider and refine the document. We hope to be able to share the priorities and future directions with the Congregation at the Congregation Meeting on 31 August.

Recently I attended the Faith Group meeting and we discussed prayer. We spoke about the prayer book which is kept in the foyer and noted that the section for listing 'joys' is seldom used. Within our congregation there is much to celebrate. People willingly give of their time to support newcomers to Australia in learning English. The Community Hub offer support, company and friendship or in other words they build relationships. The playgroups also grow relationships as they nurture both parent and child. What I notice is the humble way people generously give of their time in serving others. Please take time to write in the 'joys' section of the prayer book so that others in our faith community can hear and celebrate.

Whilst searching the internet for 'Uniting Church Prayers' I noted that a couple of Uniting Churches in Victoria had web pages with prayers written by members of the congregation. Another church in Queensland has prayers for each day of the week. We have people here at Glen Waverley Uniting who compose beautiful prayers which I believe should be shared with a wider audience. Take time this week to prayerfully consider this suggestion.

In the coming weeks, may you continue to be led by the Spirit of God and to inspire others to respond to the call to Mission, and may you know God's strength and presence.

Blessings,

Helen Stewart - Chair of Church Council

SENIORS SERVICE

24 August - 2.30pm



HYMN FESTIVAL

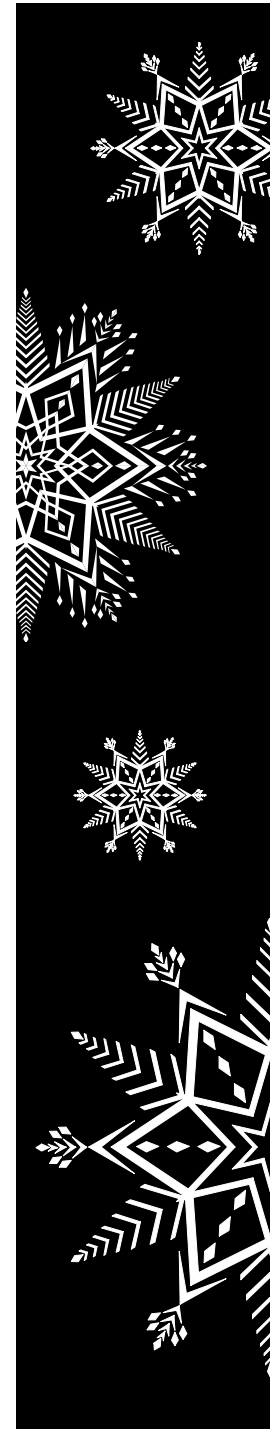
featuring Uniting Voices

Leader: Elwyn Pederson
Organist: Robert Fleming

Come and sing your favourite hymns.
Afternoon tea will be served after the service.

If you would like your favourite hymn included,
please add it to the sheet outside the Office window
before Sunday 17 August.

If you wish to attend, and require transport, please
contact the Office by Wednesday 20 August.



AN IMPORTANT DATE
FOR YOUR DIARY

GWUC ANNUAL FETE
SATURDAY OCTOBER 18

*There will be lots of ways that
YOU can help So keep
watching the Weekly Bulletin!*

*Start your 'spring cleaning' early!
Clean out your garages,
cupboards, bookshelves - and
make sure we have lots of things
to sell.*

If you want to get in early and put your name
down to help please speak to Murray Lowe, Sue
Morgan or Cliff Baker. They will be more than
happy to talk with you!

*Remember: donations always needed for the
Silent Auction which has become a great part of the Fete.*

Murray Lowe	9885 8514
Sue Morgan	9560 8024
Cliff Baker	9802 8990

Kenya - Fundraising for the school fees of Joseph and Moses

Joseph and Moses are two orphaned brothers who are being funded by church members to attend boarding school in Kenya. They are great boys and are doing well at school. This is a life changing opportunity for them. David Fraser is offering to convert records, videos, slides, film negatives or photographic prints to digital form, as a fundraiser to help cover the cost of the school fees of Joseph and Moses.

See details below:

INPUT TYPE	COST
Records (78s, 33s, 45s)	\$2 per record
Videos (VHS - only copyright free)	\$4 per video
Slides (35mm)	30c per slide
Film negatives	30c per negative image
Photographic prints	30c per print

Output on your USB stick (8gb or higher is suggested).

Digital record file (.mp3); Digital video file (.mpeg or .wmv); Digital slide image (.jpeg); Digital film negative image (.jpeg); Digital photo (.jpeg).

All you need to do is provide David with the originals and a USB stick. Contact David Fraser (9803 7653 - sms 01477 939 600 - or email to davidfraser60@optusnet.com.au) to make arrangements.

Cross Cultural Mission and Ministry Retreat - Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 August

The Cross Cultural Mission and Ministry Committee and Unit's 2014 Retreat will be held at the Holy Cross Centre, 207 Serpells Road, Templestowe on Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 August.

The Retreat will look at "Decolonizing the Bible and Christian Theology" and will feature guest speaker RS Sugirtharajah, well known biblical scholar from the UK, where he is Emeritus Professor of Biblical Hermeneutics. The cost is \$165 per person for early bird registrations, or \$185 per person if you register after 1 August.

Please feel free to contact Jan Clear on 9803 6820 for more information, or see Heather in the Office for a brochure.

Ministry to Seniors

Alison Clarkson will be on leave from Tuesday 1 July until Tuesday 2 September, inclusive. Elwyn Pederson has been invited to coordinate this ministry in Alison's absence.

Seniors Service Hymn Festival: Sunday 24 August at 2.30pm

Come and sing your favourite hymns at the next Senior Service which will be a Hymn Festival. All are welcome.

If you would like your favourite hymn included in the service, please add it to the sheet outside the office window before 17 August.

Ministry Team Movements in September

Ministers, Deacons, Youth Workers and Pastors in the Uniting Church have a responsibility to support the wider work of the Uniting Church. This is affirmed in the service of induction.

Neil has the privilege of being Chair of the Synod Selection Committee for ordained ministry. As Chair of this Committee, Neil is required to chair the annual Selection Conference held over the first weekend in September each year. This is an important work on behalf of the Synod.

The Synod meeting will be held September 19-23 and this is an important meeting to hear reports and make decisions on behalf of the Synod. This year Neil, Belinda and Alison will be attending along with Judy Lowe and Aaron Blakemore. Synod now meets Sunday morning as worship is Friday night. This is during school holidays and Alane will be away with the youth leaders and young people at their camp.

Alane also has a great opportunity to attend the Uniting Women conference in Sydney.

While members of the ministry team are away doing other significant work it does give the opportunity for other members of the congregation to step up, be nurtured and guided in using their gifts in leading worship and preaching. We want to encourage the people of God to use their gifts in serving the church.

Neil Peters on behalf of the Ministry Team.



MUFFIN MORNING

Join us for a variety of homemade muffins,
tea and freshly brewed coffee



Where: **Glen Waverley Uniting Church**
cnr Bogong Ave & Kingsway

When: **Thursday 28th August 2014**

Time: **10.00 am to 12.00 noon**

ALL WELCOME

Please add your name to the list on the Office Counter if you
are planning to attend. Thank you.

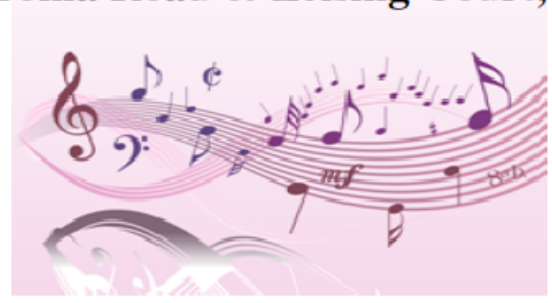
BORONIA ROAD UNITING CHURCH

Presents

AN AFTERNOON WITH FREE SPIRIT

Sunday 24th August 2014
2:00pm

Cnr Boronia Road & Zeising Court, Boronia



The Free Spirit Choir from Glen Waverley Uniting
Church wish to share their love of music and singing with
you. Join us for some beautiful contemporary music, jazz
and gospel and allow us to fill you with the joy of song!

Directed and accompanied by Deb Leigh

**Admission by donation of \$15.00 including
Afternoon Tea**

Further enquiries: please ring Max Thomson - ph 9752 6475

Free Spirit - 2014 Concerts

This year, Free Spirit is presenting two fund-raising concerts to support mission in our community beyond Glen Waverley. It would be great if some Glen Waverley Community could come and enjoy the fun, as Free Spirit spreads its wings and presents music that covers more styles than normally seen in worship.

The first concert is on Sunday August 24th at 2pm at Boronia Uniting Church (corner Boronia Road and Zeising Court, Boronia). The second concert is on Sunday September 14 at 2pm at the Colac Uniting Church, Hesse Street, Colac.

For more information, contact any Free Spirit member.

NewView Deadline

Since our Church Council and Missional Groups are currently considering future directions and emphases for our church at Glen Waverley, the theme for the next issue of NewView will be 'Vision'. What dreams do we have for our future? Do our aspirations include possibilities for all of our diverse community? How do we grow our faith, recognising all our different life experiences, understandings and positions? Where and how should we be concentrating our spiritual, social, physical and financial efforts? How do we select our priorities? How do we resolve conflicting or competing priorities? What other questions are raised by forward planning?

The closing date for your submissions is Monday, September 15. Your reflections, stories, reviews, reports, questions, and anecdotes about our church community's life are invited (even if they do not directly relate to the theme). Queries to Robin Pope (9560 7021 or popesr@aapt.net.au)

Spring Clean - Your Help Needed!

Saturday August 23 from 8.30am until 12noon we need your help to clean and dust the church complex in readiness for the fete and Summer.

The key tasks will be dusting ledges, window sills and worship furniture, cleaning windows and doors, and cleaning light fittings to get rid of moths etc.

If you can spare the morning (or one hour) we would love to see you.

Call Warren Greenwood for further information on 9803 8373.



COMMUNITY HUB

The Hub

The Hub applied to Monash Council for a grant for the first time. We are very pleased to announce that we have been successful in receiving a Monash Council Community Strengthening Grant of \$425 to purchase a new portable, weatherproof, outdoor sign, to help advertise The Hub to the community.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub in May was a happy and well attended event with around 150 people from the church and local community. A group of about 50 people came as a result of advertising in the local paper. A wonderful amount of \$772.45 was given in donations to the Cancer Council.

Our annual Muffin Morning at The Hub will be held on Thursday 28 August, 10am to 12noon. Any donations will go to the Share Appeal (see separate notice).

We are very happy to welcome three new volunteers to The Hub this term, and we thank them for volunteering to help. To all our Hub volunteers, thank you for continuing to welcome and show hospitality to all who come into our church. Our relationships with people who come regularly are certainly growing.

A lunch and meeting for all Hub volunteers will be held on Sunday 21st September at 12.30pm at the Church. Please bring a small plate of food to share.

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.

If you would like to know more about The Hub, or if you would like to help in any way, please contact Judith on 9803 8737.

Judith Greenwood - Coordinator.

Cooee

The people who meet for Cooee on a Friday continue to enjoy the company, support and friendship they receive, and look forward to this time together each week.

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

Leisure Time

Our guests are happy and, as always, greatly appreciative of the care and hospitality that GWUC offers through Leisure Time. Approximately 15 guests from a guest list of 19 attend each Monday. We still have some vacancies. Our one and only male guest, John De Ravin, would love to be joined by some other men!

Our weekly program continues to be of interest to all. This year we added three new activities - Chinese cookery demonstration, Monash Aires concert and Monash Librarian for Seniors, all of which drew positive responses. About once every eight weeks we take the guests on an outing. This year we have visited the RSPCA animal shelter, Morning Melodies at the RSL, and the bistro at Lynbrook Hotel. In August we will enjoy a movie and lunch at Pinewood Theatre. For some of our guests these are their only outings, and we are pleased that we can provide this opportunity for them.



Chinese cooking demonstration with Jenny Pai - three delicious samples for all.

Leisure Time (ctd)

The Leisure Time Committee is delighted to announce that we were successful in obtaining a Monash Council Community Grant of \$2,550 for the 2014/15 financial year. This will substantially fund our Outings Program and the Christmas Party, enabling our guests to enjoy these treats at affordable costs.

Informal pastoral care of Leisure Time guests and their families is provided when needed. Three of our volunteers recently attended the funeral of Joan Carver who had been a Leisure Time guest since 2006. Her family expressed their gratitude for Leisure Time's part in Joan's twilight years, and told us how disappointed she was when she was no longer able to attend. Some time ago, Joan generously made a donation to Leisure Time which was used to purchase another wheelchair for use at GWUC. Wheelchairs are essential items for our Leisure Time outings, given the limited mobility of some guests, but the wheelchairs are also for use by anyone at GWUC who may need them on the premises.

Leisure Time is totally dependent on the amazingly faithful group of volunteers, most of whom help on a monthly basis. Some of these volunteers have been helping since Leisure Time started in 1978! A huge thank you to them all. If anyone else would like to join this happy band, please speak to Margaret or any of the Committee Members.

Margaret Fraser - Coordinator.

Playgroups

All four groups are off to a happy start this term, and enquiries for places are pouring in. We currently have about fourteen families on our waiting list! It has been a joy to welcome grandparents (many of whom are visiting from overseas), and several dads who have been attending as carers for little ones. Two of our mothers have been congratulated on the birth of new babies.

Our busy leaders have arranged a great variety of craft activities suitable for little people to enjoy with their mothers. On the few wet mornings we have played energetic ball games in the hall. The parachute has also proved very popular. We will be receiving a small number of eggs in an incubator at the beginning of August, and over a week we will be excited to see them hatch into cute little chickens.

Once again we are most appreciative of the enthusiasm, skills and dedication of our wonderful team of leaders.

Kaye Mackinnon - Coordinator.