



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 - May 2016						
Time	May 1 Easter 6	May 8 Easter 7	May 15 Day of Pentecost	May 22 Trinity Sunday	May 29 Pentecost 2	
8.00 am	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Susan Karoly Rev Evan Laidlaw Communion	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Helen Stewart Rev Tom Rose Communion
9.15 am	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters	Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters
11.00 am	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters	Alison Clarkson Rev Neil Peters Communion	Alanee Hearnshaw Ecumenical Visitors	Rev Neil Peters Alison Clarkson	Rev Neil Peters Alison Clarkson
4.30 pm	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families
7.00 pm	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw
Lectionary	Acts 16:9-15 Psalm 67 Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9	Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97 Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 John 17:20-26	Acts 2:1-12 or Genesis 11:1-9 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21 John 14:8-27, (25-27)	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalm 8 Romans 5:1-5 John 16:12-15	1 Kings 18:20-21; (22-29), 30-39 Psalm 96 Galatians 1:1-2 Luke 7:1-10	
Liturgical Colour	White	White	Red	White	White	Green

APRIL

4-8 April	<i>All day</i>
10 April	<i>All day</i>
10 April	<i>2.30pm</i>
16 April	<i>8.30am</i>
18 April	<i>2.20pm</i>
18 April	<i>5pm</i>
24 April	<i>12noon</i>
30 April	<i>8am - 2pm</i>

MAY

3 May	<i>11am</i>
22 May	<i>12noon</i>
26 May	<i>10am</i>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Lions Op Shop for Asylum Seekers
Material Aid Offering
Seniors' Service
Church Working Bee
Leisure Time AGM
COP Applications close
Munch With A Bunch
Walk for Chaplaincy
UCAF Annual Fundraising Luncheon
Outreach BBQ Forum
Australia's biggest morning tea at The Hub





Glen Waverley Uniting Church & The Body Shop at The Glen

are hosting



**Australia's
BIGGEST
MORNING
TEA**

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

ALL WELCOME

Where: Glen Waverley Uniting Church

When: Thursday 26th May 2016

Time: 10 am to 12 noon

*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

Court rulings in China and Egypt shaped to intimidate: China - On 25 February a court sentenced Pastor Bao Guohua of Holy Love Christian Church in Jinhua, Zhejiang, to 14 years prison, his wife Xing Wenxiang to 12 years and their son Bao Chenxing to three years on charges about corruption. Nine church staff were also imprisoned. The family was arrested for protesting against the forced removal of crosses from churches. The same day Christian attorney Zhang Kai appeared on state television 'confessing' to his 'crimes'.

Egypt - On 25 February three teenage Coptic boys received five-year jail sentences for 'contempt of Islam' by mocking the pseudo piety of Islamic State, and a younger teenage Coptic boy involved was sentenced to a youth detention facility. These harsh rulings are shaped to intimidate. Please pray for China and Egypt and their Churches.

Some Assyrian Christians released but many still captive:

Islamic State (IS) has been holding hundreds of Assyrian Christians captive during 2015 in various locations in Syria. IS has executed some of them publicly on TV. However, on 22 February IS released 43 Assyrian captives. The Assyrian International News Agency reports: 'According to the Assyrian Church of the East, there are no more Assyrians from Khabur being held by IS. However, IS is still holding 179 Assyrians it captured from the town of Qaryatain on August 6, 2015.' Let us praise God for the safe return of the 43 captives and pray for the remaining captive Assyrians. Please pray for the Assyrian nation, a Christian refugee nation driven from its homeland. May God protect, preserve and restore the Assyrians. Pray too for the overthrow of Islamic State.

From Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

There is so much suffering and evil in the world, one would almost lose all hope. Let's look at Hymn 555 in "Together in Song", our Hymn book; a song "radiating" Hope.

"Put all your trust in God, in duty's path go on"

"Rest on his unchanging word, who heaven and earth commands"

"God hears your sighs and counts your tears; God shall lift up your head."

Glen Waverley Uniting Church Adult Fellowship

Cnr Bogong Avenue & Kingsway

Invites you to join us at our

Annual Fundraising Luncheon

11am Tuesday 3rd May 2016

Guest Speaker

Mrs Patricia Begg OAM

'The History of High Tea'

Followed by Lunch

Talk & Lunch \$20

Talk only \$10

Tickets available from :

Barbara Thompson, Margaret Duncan & the Church Office



A Letter to the Congregation

Dear Friends,

I have been meditating on the pre-Easter Jesus and the post-Easter Jesus. The pre-Easter Jesus, the "Son of Man", preaching, teaching, filled with the Holy Spirit, passionate about his mission of "The Kingdom of God", showing us the way, courageous to the end as he set his face towards Jerusalem where he was crucified.

His last words were "Father, into your hands I entrust my life." (Luke 23:46). These words can also be found in Psalm 31:1-5. The last words spoken by Jesus were actually a prayer.

But this was not the end. Jesus lives! He was resurrected in the Spirit and is with us now. The post-Easter Jesus continues to be experienced by many of his followers as a divine reality of the present.

Trust in the Lord! I pray that God will fill you with much joy and peace. Then your hope will overflow by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13).

Helen Stewart - Chair of Church Council

Service Recordings

Each week we record both the 9:15am and 11am services and they are posted onto the Glen Waverley Uniting Church website for people to watch and download at any time. Services going back many weeks can be found on our web site.

A number of our country churches use these recordings for worship the following week. We also create a small number of DVD's that are available for circulation around church members who prefer to watch these services on their TV or computer.

In addition we have 3 iPads available from the church office that have the services loaded on them each Monday. So if you are unable to get to worship at any time and you would like to watch any of these services, please contact the church office or Warren Greenwood and we can arrange for a DVD or iPad to be shared with you.

Warren Greenwood - 9803 8373.

Bequest Thanks

We wish to thank the estate of John De Ravin for a generous bequest of which part has enabled us to install ceiling fans in the fellowship and foyer areas. Bequests such as this help us improve the church facilities for current and future members.

Property Committee - March 2016.

Monthly Material Aid Offering - Asylum Seeker Support

From April 4-8 we have a booking for raising funds for asylum seeker support through the Lions Op Shop in Wadham Parade Mount Waverley. We will be looking for donations of household goods (bric-a-brac, kitchenware, toys, linen, bags, storage boxes and some clothing) to sell during that week. If you can assist with any of these items please contact either Andrew Hosking (9560 1981) or Heather Wilkins (9560 1440), or leave your goods (labelled 'For the Op Shop') in the foyer for collection.

Congregational Outreach Projects 2016

We are pleased to announce that Applications for Congregational Outreach Projects for 2016 are now open and will close on Monday 18 April. Application forms and criteria are both available on the wiki at: <http://wiki.gwuc.org.au/gwuc/CopProjects2016>. If you are unable to access a form via the wiki, please feel free to drop into the Church Office. If you have any initial questions regarding Grant Application please feel free to contact Neil Peters.

New Email Address

Church members are advised that Neil Peters has a new email address and you are asked to make this change in your computer. Please now use revneilpeters@gmail.com - Thank you.

LEISURE TIME AGM - 18 April at 2.30pm

Invitation to the Congregation and Volunteers

You are invited to attend the Leisure Time Annual General Meeting
Afternoon tea will be served after the meeting
Under the Constitution all Church members are eligible to attend and cast a vote so come along and participate.

Agenda papers will be available from the Church Office
from 31 March - 16 April 2016

Notice of Meeting

The Annual General Meeting
of the
Glen Waverley Uniting Church
Leisure Time
will be held at the
Glen Waverley Uniting Church
in Room 1
on
Monday 18 April 2016, at 2.30pm.

The Agenda includes:
Annual Report
Audited Annual Accounts
Reappointment of Auditor
TV Presentation about Leisure Time
Election of Committee Members

Ken Hutchinson - Secretary
7 March 2016

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub

Thursday 26th May from 10am - 12noon. All donations will go to the Cancer Council Victoria. Bring your family and friends, and help support the work of the Cancer Council. All welcome.

Inclusive Community Report

We hope that you have enjoyed your Easter break. You may have worshipped here or elsewhere but whatever you did, I hope that you experienced the joy and hope that comes from the Easter message.

Prayer Chain: If you have a prayer request and you don't want it placed in the prayer book, we do have a prayer chain. All requests for prayer are kept confidential and are only passed onto chain 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 or Beverly on 0417 359 779.

Munch with a Bunch: Our next lunch will be different. We are having a spit roast at the church. The cost will be the same as usual. You will receive a notice shortly.

Lunches: We had lunch after the congregational meeting on 6 March and after the 11am service on 13 March. Quite a few people stayed for these lunches and enjoyed times of fellowship. We will let you know when we are having our next light lunch.

Seniors' Service: At 2.30pm on Sunday 10 April followed by afternoon tea. Come and join us.

English Class Bible Study: On Tuesday 15 March we had our special English Class Bible Study. The students were enthusiastic and asked interesting questions. Lynn and I felt very positive about the class and we hope to do some more Bible Study sessions next term.

Newcomers' Kit: We are in the process of preparing newcomers kits - one for people on the day that they come for the first time and one for two or three months later. If you have any suggestions, please talk to Heather or Wendy and they will pass your ideas on to me.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 7 April at 2.30 pm. If you have suggestions for activities, please let us know.

Jan Clear

Walk for Chaplaincy - Saturday 30 April

The Community Outreach Missional Group and the Church Council have accepted an offer from Neil Peters to walk 20 kilometres, the distance from Glen Waverley to the Melbourne CBD, seeking sponsorship from church members and others, to assist Glen Waverley Uniting Church meet its \$2500 fundraising commitment toward the Glen Waverley Secondary College Chaplaincy Program.

The walk will be held on Saturday 30 April 2016 commencing at 8am. The walk will consist of 4 laps commencing at GWUC along Bogong Avenue, Myrtle Street, Coleman Parade, Blackburn Road, Waverley Road, Springvale Road and Kingsway to the church.

Others are welcome to walk a lap or part of a lap with Neil, or encourage Neil during his break times at the church.

8am - 9.05am	Lap 1
9.05am - 9.25am	Break at GWUC
9.25am - 10.30am	Lap 2
10.30am - 11am	Break at GWUC
11am - 12.15pm	Lap 3
12.15pm - 12.45pm	Break at GWUC
12.45pm - 2pm	Lap 4
2pm	Recovery

The sponsorship money raised will be set aside in the church account for meeting this church's commitment to GWSC Chaplaincy. If this happens to be a big success then anything raised over \$2500 will be used to support our church's involvement in the school breakfast program which starts next term.

Donations can be given to Neil or placed in an envelope marked school chaplaincy and placed in the offering plate. Please ask if you would like a receipt.

Community Outreach Missional Group

Invitation to Seniors' Service - Sunday 10 April at 2.30pm

You are invited to share Worship and Communion with us on Sunday 10 April at 2.30pm. The theme of the service is "The Pilgrimage of Life". Afternoon tea will be served after the service.

If you require transport, please contact the Church Office on 9560 3580 by Wednesday 6 April.

Alison Clarkson

Family Fun Event on Easter Sunday

Some from our church decided it was a great opportunity to celebrate both Easter and Neighbour day with a family Fun Event on Easter Sunday at 4pm on our church lawns. We advertised in our playgroups, at the English class, at The Hub and within the congregation through our Easter Letter. We delivered a flier to 200 homes immediately around the church.

We planned, we prayed, we waited. Would anyone come? Come they did. Families from church, from playgroup and from the community came to enjoy the fun of these family activities. We hired a jumping castle as an attraction. We held an Easter Egg hunt distributing over 400 Easter Eggs, there was a craft table, a colouring competition, egg and spoon races, sack races, and other games and fun things to try.

There was a real buzz about the place. It is hard to estimate a moving crowd but there would have had to be 100 - 140 people participate. There was much conversation and some took the opportunity to have a look inside at the church. In gentle ways the Easter message was shared and connections were made with the wider community.

I want to thank all those who helped on the day and those who helped in the preparations prior to the day. There was enthusiasm to do it again. I am sure there were others like me who went home tired, but happy.

Neil Peters - On behalf of the organisers.

Material Aid Offering - Sunday 10 April

On Sunday 10 April you are invited to contribute non-perishable food and cleaning materials, to be stored by the Welfare Committee, to subsequently assist with what we are already able to contribute to those in need.

Items such as canned soups, meals, baked beans etc; breakfast cereals (especially Weet-Bix); long life milk, tea, coffee and Milo; and biscuits all "go down well".

Soap, toothpaste and brushes, toilet paper and washing powders are also appreciated.

Dorothy Lockhart - Welfare Committee 9802 8461

A New Thing for GWUC - Would you be interested?

"Alzheimer's and Spirituality" is the topic for a Conversation that will begin soon. Would you be interested in coming along?

It will be led by a member of our congregation, Rev Brace Bateman, a retired minister of the Uniting Church. You may remember him from his serving us recently when there were vacancies in our Ministry Team.

Brace has recently been diagnosed as having Alzheimer's Disease. He has learned that 10% of the Australian population have Alzheimer's.

He is naming this discussion "Alzheimer's and Spirituality" as together the group will consider what resources the Christian faith has to help with Alzheimer's.

All are invited. And especially people who have Alzheimer's, their families, and carers, and any and all who would like to know more about Alzheimer's.

Brace, himself, is rejoicing in how Christian spirituality is greatly assisting him with his diagnosis.

There will be four sessions, on four Monday mornings at 10am in the Church, repeated on four Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in Room 1.

Sessions are commencing the week of 9 May. Please ring the Church Office on 9560 3580 if you want to indicate your interest and which time is better for you.

Of course you are also welcome to phone Brace on 9807 3941.