



Glen Waverley

Uniting Church

Welcome

GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centred community that meets God and shares that unconditional love

SUNDAY PREACHING PLAN - February 2018

| Time | February 4 Epiphany 5 | February 11 Transfiguration | February 18 Lent 1 | February 25 Lent 2 - Chinese New Year |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|
| 8.00 am | Ross Mackinnon Communion | Ross Mackinnon Communion | Ross Mackinnon Communion | Rev Neil Peters Communion |
| 9.15 am | Rev Neil Peters Communion | Rev Neil Peters | Rev Neil Peters | Rev Neil Peters Communion |
| 11.00 am | Rev Neil Peters | Rev Neil Peters | Rev Neil Peters Communion | Rev Tom Rose |
| 4.30 pm | Children & Families | Children & Families | Children & Families | Children & Families |
| 5.30 pm | Alanee Hearnshaw | Alanee Hearnshaw | Alanee Hearnshaw | Alanee Hearnshaw |
| Lectionary | Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39 | 2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-6 | Genesis 9:8-17 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15 | Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:23-31 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38 |
| Liturgical Colour | Green | White | Purple | Purple |

February 14 - Ash Wednesday
 Lectionary: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-2; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
 Liturgical Colour: Purple

DECEMBER

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JANUARY

| | | |
|------------|------|------------------|
| 7 January | 10am | Combined Service |
| 14 January | 10am | Combined Service |
| 21 January | 10am | Combined Service |
| 28 January | 10am | Combined Service |

FEBRUARY

| | | |
|-------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| 4 February | 12 noon | Club 2018 |
| 6 February | 10am | The HUB resumes |
| 11 February | 1pm | Light Lunch & Pastoral Workshop |
| 13 February | 11.30am | Pancake Day |





News from The Hub

The Hub will resume on Tuesday 6th February at 10am. You are welcome to drop in for a cuppa and some company. We would love to see you.

Men's Fellowship 2018

The monthly Men's Fellowship is in recess for January, but will recommence in February. Meeting in Room 1, first Tuesday of each month, at 2.00pm.

This time of fellowship is an important event for our men to come together and share some time, listen to an interesting speaker and hear of each others' highs and lows for the month. Concluding with a cuppa and a joke or two.

We feel that this is a worthwhile part of the church program, and look forward to our resuming on Tuesday, February 6th, and encourage our regulars to each bring along a new member to our group.

Wishing all the best for 2018, on behalf of the committee.

Keith West, 9753 3560. Colin King 9560 3147.

Ministry Team Leave

Rev Neil Peters will be away on 28 and 29 December. He will also be on leave from 10 January, returning to work on 29 January.

Alanee Hearnshaw will also be taking leave. She will be away from 27 December and will return to work on 10 January.

If you need to speak to a minister during this time please feel free to contact Di Paterson or the Church Office.

Morning Tea Roster 2018

If you are willing to assist with Morning Tea in 2018, please add your name to the sheet on the office counter. If you are already on the roster you do not need to add your name. Enquiries to Rewa Feenaghty

Book Sale - 3 March, 2018

Next year, we will again be holding a used book sale to raise money for the Church. Please put aside books you have read to donate to the sale and save the date in your diary. Helpers on the afternoon of March 2, and on the day, would be very much appreciated.

For further information, contact Sue Morgan on 9560 8024.

Autumn 2018 Getaway - 15 to 20 March, 2018.

Our Autumn 2018 Getaway will be to Warragul Gardens Holiday Park from 15th to 20th March 2018. Please call the park directly on 5623 2707 for bookings. Book early to avoid disappointment!

Car Parking Information

Please be aware that vehicles offloading passengers at the no standing area at the front of the church will continue to incur a \$160 fine from Monash Council.

Uniting Voices Choir

On Sunday, 17 December the Uniting Voices Choir under the direction of Elwyn Pederson and Barbara Hurst, led the congregation in its annual Carols and Lessons worship service. I particularly enjoyed two pieces, *The Magnificat* and *We Three Kings* that had a bolero rhythm.

There has always been a strong tradition of singing praises in worship from the early biblical times of singing the Psalms, the chants of the religious orders, Hymns, negro spirituals and modern songwriters.

Within our congregation we have been blessed by the gifts of our choir leaders. I remember Annette Baines leading a wonderful worship service through the combined choirs of our congregation one Easter, that moved me to tears. We were also blessed with the gifts of Iris Pederick for many years. Most recently, Uniting Voices have excelled under the guidance of Barbara Hurst and Elwyn Pederson.

It was with great sadness that I heard that thus far, a replacement Choir leader and/or accompanist in a voluntary capacity has not been found to lead the Uniting Voices Choir, and therefore without such guidance, Uniting Voices will not be able to continue as part of worship. To me, that would be denying an important aspect of worship, and an expression of my spiritual relationship with God. The word has always been considered the most important part of worship, but I can remember the times when we had liturgical dance led by Jay Robinson, and banners that reflected the liturgical year. When our congregation can no longer support the spiritual arts through gifted members of the congregation, we find ourselves at a crossroad of either diminishing the richness of worship or consider including a paid position within our Ministry Team. Without the arts of singing and music, another ancient expression of worship that continues to develop my spiritual relationship with God will be lost.

Susan Karoly

Devotions at Aged Care Facilities

This has been an important outreach over many years. In 2018 we will be losing some of our helpers. If you would like to join our team once a month as a leader of a short devotion or as a pianist, please speak to me.

Alison Clarkson

Office Matters

A reminder that the office will be closed for the two weeks after Christmas.

The office will re-open on Monday 8 January and remain open from 9.30am to 3pm each day until Friday 19 January. Normal office hours will resume after this time.

Dementia and Pastoral Care - Sunday 11 February

All are welcome to attend this workshop at 1pm, following a light lunch.

When: Sunday 11 February from 1pm until 3pm.

Where: In one of the Church meeting rooms.

Presenters: Di Paterson and Jan Clear.

We will explore different forms of dementia - names, causes, signs and symptoms and how we, as a church community, can care for those with dementia and their families.

Please join us. Enquiries to the Church Office 9560 3580.

Call for a Uniting Voices Choir Leader and Accompanist

Uniting Voices Choir has been fortunate to have Elwyn Pederson and Barbara Hurst sharing the conducting over a period of many years. We have also been fortunate to have the long-term skills of Noela Bartlett, as one of our Accompanists; but change is in the wind: Elwyn is moving interstate, Barbara is reducing her conducting commitment and Noela has retired. Uniting Voices are most grateful to each of these ladies for sharing their excellent gifts.

Unfortunately, Uniting Voices Choir will cease to exist unless we can find a Choir Leader and Accompanist. As a Choir, we love to sing, enjoy the fellowship with each other and be part of Sunday worship.

If you are able to share your gift of conducting or accompanying (on piano or organ), or if you know of someone who may be interested in answering this call, please contact Herb Fleming on 0407 516 827.

Whom should you marry?

I once asked my mother whether a woman should marry “a good man” or “a good man with prospects”. In her time of course, women like Mum were rarely out in the workforce earning money after they married.

She answered, “You should marry a good man”.

I asked her why.

My mother was not one to argue a case. She said simply that her father was a good man, although he had no great prospects. He had served an apprenticeship as a barber.

So I thought about the life of the grandfather I never knew. And maybe in many wonderful ways her father, my grandmother and my mother were blessed through the Great War, through the Depression and into a more prosperous time.

In this competitive pressured age of conspicuous consumption, long working hours, lack of wage growth, exorbitant house prices, massive mortgages, negative gearing and retirees and pensioners making do on fixed incomes, many would no doubt see the question as a ‘no brainer’ (what a strange term). Indeed an acquaintance recently described a colleague as having “married well” because of the wealth and property of her new spouse.

So what do you think?

Should one marry a good person or a good person with prospects?

Or is it simply the wrong question?

As Christians in Glen Waverley how do we witness to what we hold to be true? Recently, Rev. Neil Peters spoke about earning the right to discuss faith with others faced with the old injunction to never discuss politics or religion. You can see Neil’s sermon about sharing our faith on the podcast of the 9:15 am service on the GWUC website: 17/12/2017.



A Blessing for you *

Go in love, live in love.
Go well, live well,
for the love of God
goes with you wherever you go,
now and for evermore.
Amen

(*from Knox Church, Dunedin, New Zealand)

Glyn Howells - Chair of Church Council

Around the traps ...

At Gomers (Grumpy Old Men in Early Retirement): “I’ve got to really know people I’ve previously only said hello to after church. From these good souls you can find out many things and probably get almost anything done”. (There were about 40 men and women at GOMERS in Jells Park before Christmas and we stood up and sang “We wish you a merry Christmas” in the middle of Madeleine’s restaurant – with gusto.

Chiropractor to Rev Neil Peters: “Neil you might not believe it, but you are the only patient that I talk about religion with”.

There is a spirit ...

There is a spirit which I feel that delights to do no evil, nor to revenge any wrong, but delights to endure all things, in hope to enjoy its own in the end. Its hope is to outlive all wrath and contention, and to weary out all exaltation and cruelty, or whatever is of a nature contrary to itself. It sees to the end of all temptations. As it bears no evil in itself, so it conceives none in thought to any other. If it be betrayed, it bears it, for its ground and spring is the mercies and forgiveness of God. Its crown is meekness, its life is everlasting love unfeigned; it takes its kingdom with entreaty and not with contention, and keeps it by lowliness of mind. In God alone it can rejoice, though none else regard it, or can own its life... [James Nayler*, an early Quaker 1660]

**You can read his story and the complete text on the web*