

# Glen Waverley

## Uniting Church

### Welcome

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

#### SUNDAY PREACHING PLAN - May 2018

Time	May 6 Easter 6	May 13 Easter 7	May 20 Pentecost	May 27 Trinity Sunday
8.00 am	Rev Fred Waine Communion	Susan Karoly Peter Baker Communion	Peter Baker Communion	Rev Neil Peters Communion
9.15 am	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters	Alanee Hearnshaw
11.00 am	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Alanee Hearnshaw
4.30 pm	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families	Children & Families
5.30 pm	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw
Lectionary	Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19	Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15	Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17
Liturgical Colour	White	White	Red	White

#### APRIL

1 April	10am
1 April	3pm
16 April	2.30pm
22 April	2.30pm
28 April	8am

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Easter Sunday Combined service
Easter Family Fun Afternoon
Leisure Time AGM
Seniors Service and afternoon tea
Annual Walk-a-thon for Chaplaincy

#### MAY

20 May	12 noon	Munch With A Bunch
24 May	10am	Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub





## Glen Waverley Uniting Church will be hosting



**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**  
**cnr Bogong Ave & Kingsway**

When: **Thursday 24th May 2018**

Time: **10 am to 12 noon**

To assist with catering, could you please add your name to the list on the office counter if you are planning to attend.

### The Christian Church in the World

#### A step in the right direction for North Korea

The 8 March announcement that US President Trump has agreed to meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un rocked the world. Understandably, observers are cautious; some deeply sceptical; others derisive. Many are pessimistic, insisting we have seen all this before. Yet, in reality, the strategic situation today is entirely different and the persons involved - North Korea's Kim Jong-un, USA's President Trump and South Korea's President Moon Jae-in, are all new and are beginning, not ending, their terms. Detente could pave the way for the slow but sure transformation of North Korea. It could also draw North Korea out from the shadow of Communist China and into the sphere of predominantly Christian South Korea, Russia and the USA. Good news indeed for the Church in North Korea. Please pray!

#### High cost of faith in Uganda's Muslim-dominated region

Uganda's population is 85 percent Christian, with a Christian president and a secular constitution that guarantees religious freedom. However, persecution with impunity is becoming prevalent in the Muslim-dominated Eastern Region. Muabi Abudallah put his faith in Christ on 20 January and within 24 hours had lost everything. On Christmas Day a Muslim neighbour attempted to poison the Madina family, which she held in contempt for leaving Islam for Christianity. In October 2015 Sheikh Mulangira Ibrahim had a dramatic conversion experience and within hours had lost everything; Muslims are still trying to kill him today. Islamists are exploiting Uganda's decentralisation and following Sharia principles locally. The persecution is enabled by systemic corruption. Without radical reform, the situation can only get worse. Please pray for Uganda, her politicians, and her Church.

*from Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin*

1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

"Lord, may we encourage one another, giving and sharing as You prompted us to do. Always seek to do good to one another and to all."

## Lord, Send Your Light and Truth to Lead Us

Alanee Hearnshaw (Ministry to Families, Youth and Young Adults is to represent GWUC at Asian Ecumenical Youth Assembly (AEYA) Manado, North Sulawesi, Indonesia, 6th to 13th April 2018.

The assembly of 500 youth from churches in East Asia, South East Asia and the South Pacific focuses on the theme 'Lord, Send Your Light and Truth to Lead Us' (<http://cca.org.hk/home/news-and-events/cca-initiates-asian-ecumenical-youth-assembly-aeya/>). It is organised locally by Gereja Masehi Injili Minahasa (GMIM) and the Communion of Churches in Indonesia (PGI) and initiated by the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) of which The Uniting Church in Australia is a member church.

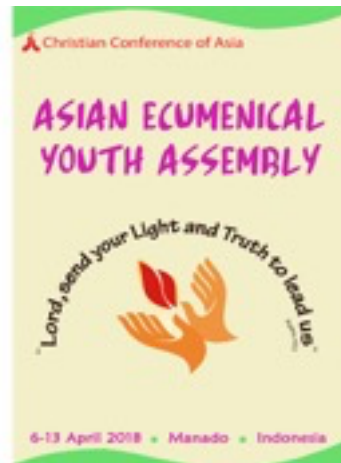
Last year GWUC had a visit from the pastor and leaders from GMIM in Manado, our sister church in North Sulawesi. They were hosted by congregation members and studied our programs like playgroups and the Hub as well as participating in worship. You may remember they have seven choirs! GMIM have invited GWUC to make a return visit in August this year. Church Council has asked Alanee to spend a few days with the local church after the conference.

According to CCA "... the AEYA will aim at engaging youth from across Asia in an ecumenical platform to express their views on a wide range of emerging Asian issues, and examine, reflect and unpack the underlying concerns faced by young people in a fast changing Asia."

You may remember Lucky Kalonta's briefing to the recent Congregational Meeting where he spoke about our Indonesian congregation and alluded to there being 116, 000 Indonesians in Melbourne, most of whom are Christians. He added that of Indonesia's population of 240 million about 10% (24 million) are Christians. In North Sulawesi about 90% of the population are Christian.

Church Council believes that we are blessed to be able to send Alanee to participate, learn and contribute to the ecumenical youth conference while also strengthening our links with our sister church in Indonesia. Please join us in praying for Alanee as she takes on this extra venture on our behalf.

Glyn Howells  
Chairperson  
Glen Waverley Uniting Church



## Accommodation Required

A lady (friend of Lois Maynard) requires accommodation (house or unit) from early June 2018 for 3 to 6 months. A house-sitting opportunity may also suit. If you are able to assist please contact the Office on 9560 3580.

## Material Aid Offering - Share the Dignity - 8 April

There are over 85,000 women that need help this year.

Due to homelessness, poverty or escaping domestic violence, women in crisis are forced to use makeshift sanitary items.

Share the Dignity provides FREE sanitary items to everyone in need, affording them the dignity that many of us take for granted. Your generous donations of sanitary items will make a real difference to people in need.

## Mt Waverley Chadstone UCA Cluster Homelessness Committee Concert - 29 April 3pm

The Committee is presenting a concert at St John's Uniting Church Mt Waverley on Sunday 29 April, 3-5pm. Proceeds are for the work of The Voices of Frankston, a choir conducted by the leader of the Choir of Hard Knocks, based in Frankston. Conchord, the excellent Sri Lankan singers led by Maheshini Perera, will also be performing. Afternoon tea will be served.

## Service for Seniors

You are invited to join us on  
Sunday 22 April 2018 at 2.30pm

### 'Remembering the Anzacs'

Leader: Alison Clarkson

Speaker: Heather Hon

All are welcome

Afternoon tea will be served after the Service

If you require transport please contact the  
Office (9560 3580) by Wednesday 18 April

## Reflecting on Faith

Recently Alanee asked me to talk about my faith journey at what I can only call the 5:30 pm *children, teenager, young adult and seniors'* service. Let me share some of these ideas.

### My Favourite Bible verse:

#### Romans 8:38-39 King James Version (KJV)

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### What's your 'favourite' theological idea?

I am struck by the fact that the Book of Exodus was written before Genesis. God came to the Hebrew people in their history and delivered them from 400 years of suffering as slaves in Egypt. Yahweh was the ultimate power in the universe because he overcame the power of the apparently over-powering god-king, the Pharaoh. The later stories of creation in Genesis to me are expressions of the idea of this all powerful God who made heaven and earth. God, the ultimate reality of the universe, is known through fellowship, through serving others, through worship, in the breaking of bread, through forgiving others, through history and through creation.

### Why do you wear this red, yellow and black friendship band and how does it relate to faith?

Every year my younger daughter makes me a new friendship band with colours representing Australia's First Peoples and the land.

- The red represents the land
- The black stands for people of the land
- The yellow stands for the sun

A deeper meaning is found in the confessional and reconciling



### Preamble to the Constitution of the Uniting Church in Australia (truncated and edited)

“.. the Church believes .... that God is calling it to continually seek a renewal of its life as a community of First Peoples and of Second Peoples from many lands, and as part of that

to RECOGNISE THAT

1. When the churches that formed the Uniting Church arrived in Australia as part of the process of colonisation they entered a land that had been created and sustained by the Triune God they knew in Jesus Christ.
2. Through this land God had nurtured and sustained the First Peoples of this country, the Aboriginal and Islander peoples, who continue to understand themselves to be the traditional owners and custodians

## Notice of Meeting - Leisure Time AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Glen Waverley Uniting Church Leisure Time will be held in Room 1 on Monday 16 April 2018, at 2.30pm.

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 the week before the meeting.

Ken Hutchinson - Secretary

## Inclusive Community Report.

**HAPPY EASTER:** I hope that you have been able to worship here or elsewhere during the Easter break.

**PRAYER SUPPORT GROUP:** If you have a prayer request and you don't want it placed in the prayer book, we do have a prayer support group. All requests for prayer are kept confidential and are only passed on to group 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, during office hours, or Beverly on 0417 359 779.

CLUB 2018 will NOT be meeting today.

A LIGHT LUNCH was held on Sunday 11 March, after the 11am service. We were delighted that 40 people joined us. April's Light Lunch will be next Sunday, 8 April. Food is provided so just come to the fellowship area after the 11am service.

**MEDICAL FORMS:** If you submitted a medical form last year and you want to update your details now, please let me know and I will give you a new form to fill out. If I do not hear from you, I will presume that your details are unchanged.

**SENIORS' SERVICE:** Sunday 22 April at 2.30pm. There will be afternoon tea after the service.

**OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:** Neil's Walkathon will be held in the morning on Saturday 28 April. Sign up sheets are now in the foyer for walkers and sponsors.

**OUR NEXT INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY MEETING** will be held on Thursday 26 April at 10.30am. If you have suggestions for activities, please let us know.

Jan Clear

## Support for Asylum Seekers

Outer Eastern Asylum Seeker Support Network (OEASSN) has been invited to operate the Mt Waverley Lions Club Opportunity Shop for two weeks in May to raise urgently-needed funds for our support of asylum seekers. To do this we need to stock the store with a range of saleable items. Donated goods must be clean and ready for display.

Top of the list is

- bric-a-brac: items such as vases, jewellery, ornaments, china, glassware etc

Also accepted:

- undamaged cooking dishes and general kitchen-ware. If a set, the set must be complete
- high quality clothing
- general clothing which must be clean and in good repair
- books in good condition
- children's toys, clean and reusable
- unscratched fully operational CDs, DVDs and video tapes
- other items such as handbags, hats, baskets etc

Please note the shop will **not** accept electrical items; underwear and socks unless brand new; text books, encyclopaedias, magazines; cots or port-a-cots; or any items for infants that involve a harness and must comply with Australian Safety Standards.

Donations can be placed in the marked box in the foyer until April 21.

Queries? Ask Heather Wilkins (ph 9560 1440), Andrew Hosking (ph 0415 477 894) or Robin Pope (ph 9563 3648).

We will also need help to staff the shop for the two weeks. Volunteers are asked to help for about three and a half hours, morning or afternoon. We were very grateful for assistance last year and hope you will be inspired to sign up for this year! The roster is outside the office.

## Asylum Seeker Honey Jars needed

Thank you to all who support Asylum Seekers by purchasing honey. We are especially after the large empty glass jars to be returned for re-filling. (Larger than the "\$8" or 400g size).

(meaning 'sovereign' in the languages of the First Peoples) of these lands and waters since time immemorial.

3. The First Peoples had already encountered the Creator God before the arrival of the colonisers; the Spirit was already in the land revealing God to the people through law, custom and ceremony. The same love and grace that was finally and fully revealed in Jesus Christ sustained the First Peoples and gave them particular insights into God's ways...

Please read the full Preamble at: <https://assembly.uca.org.au/resources/covenanting/item/668-the-revised-preamble>

## Anything else you'd like to share about faith or walking in the spirit?

"This is the first week of the Christian season of Lent, a time of prayer, fasting and moderation as we travel with Jesus towards Easter. It is also the first week of the Chinese Lunar New Year that has little to do with fasting and a lot to do with feasting. In Glen Waverley we live at the intersection of diverse cultures and stories."

## Postscript:

Recently Alanee, Dietrich and I went to a day conference on Cultural Intelligence which was outlined as follows: "As our churches and communities become more culturally diverse, the more important it is to develop our Cultural Intelligence and build our awareness and skills in effectively relating to each other." This of course is what our Hub, Playgroup and English teacher volunteers not to forget the asylum seeker support group, badminton, table tennis and so many of GWUC's groups and activities are doing every week. This is partly what our Inclusive Community, Communications and Missional groups work on. This is how GWUC members have been able to flourish and work together over the years given our diverse backgrounds, histories and denominations. This is one element of the work of the ministry team and of the ministry of Dietrich Cheung in faith formation and cross-cultural ministry. One of the conference panellists, Meewon Yang, a multi-cultural consultant of 25 years experience working for the Baptist Union and Brunswick Baptist Church, spoke of the joy and difficulties of living two cultures. She added that the tension between cultures comes from God: it is a chance to grow together. At the 1pm worship services in the small chapel we are growing together with our Indonesian congregation; they welcome us with "Happy Sunday"; they embrace us in fellowship and their gift of food; together we sing, pray and hear the sermon in English as well as Indonesian. Like the other worship services we glimpse Christian faith that is deep, rich and embedded in culture.

**I invite you all, when you have time, to pay a visit to a service -8am, 9:15am, 11am, 1pm or 5:30pm—that you've never been to before.**

Glyn Howells  
Chairperson  
Glen Waverley Uniting Church

# lets go walking

**Saturday**  
**April 28**

**Glen Waverley Uniting Church 3rd ANNUAL WALK-A-THON**

**More opportunity for more walkers this year - shorter laps [about 30 minutes duration - and NO Blackburn Road hill!]**

**DON'T MISS OUT! SIGN UP TODAY** - to join NEIL on one [or all] of the laps. *Details of the walk can be found on the WALK-A-THON board in the foyer.*

**BECOME A SPONSOR      MAKE A DONATION**

Join in and help raise money for School Chaplaincy at Glen Waverley Secondary College, and to support their breakfast program. Also some of the money raised will support Lynn Peters in her SRI teaching at Primary Schools.

**LET'S MAKE THIS A FUN EVENT  
AND GIVE NEIL LOTS OF SUPPORT**

**THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL AGES  
TO SHARE TOGETHER**

Tea/Coffee/Refreshments  
all morning.

**SHARE IN A DELICIOUS MORNING  
TEA WITH THE WALKERS  
AT 10.00-10.30**

Even if you are not walking, come along and support the walkers and cheer them on.

**YOUR DONATION CAN BE  
GIVEN TO NEIL PETERS,  
FAYE WAGON OR LEFT AT THE  
CHURCH OFFICE. *Thank You.***

Lunch will be available for those walking. Please add your name to the list if you will be requiring lunch.



***at the end!!***

