

# Glen Waverley

## Uniting Church

### Welcome

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

Liturgical Colour	Lectionary	SUNDAY PREACHING PLAN - January 2020		
White	Christmas 2 Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:1-9, 10-18	January 5	10am Rev. Neil Peters Communion	
White	Baptism of Jesus Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17	January 12	10am Rev. Tom Rose	
Green	Epiphany 2 Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1: 29-42	January 19	10am Susan Karoly	
Green	Epiphany 3 Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23	January 26	10am Rev. Neil Peters Back to School Backpack Blessing	

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### December 2019

1 Dec	10am	Combined Worship
	10am	Christmas Tree Display Opens
	12.00pm	GWUC Christmas Lunch
	4.30pm	Indonesian Christmas Service & Dinner
5 Dec	10am	Hub Christmas Morning Tea
8 Dec	2.30pm	Seniors Carol Service
9 Dec	10.15am	Leisure Time Christmas Break Up
10 Dec	8pm	Remembrance Service
15 Dec	11am	Lessons & Carols : Uniting Voices
24 Dec	5.30pm & 11pm	Christmas Eve Services
25 Dec	8.30am & 10am	Christmas Day Services
29 Dec	10am	Combined Worship
31 Dec	11pm	New Year's Eve Service (supper @ 10.30pm)

**Services in January 2020 are at 10am**



## Remembrance Service

Tuesday 10 December at 8pm

A moment of peace  
A time to remember a loved one  
A space to breathe  
A chance to reflect  
An opportunity to pray



You are warmly invited to come along and share  
in a Service of Remembrance  
- a time to remember those who are no longer with us.

Enq: Neil Peters or the Church Office

## Some End of Year Housekeeping...

- Please provide requests for **expense reimbursements** to the church office by Monday 16 December to ensure payment before the end of our financial year.
- **Room bookings** for 2020 are now being entered - contact the church office with your group's Diary Dates.
- Contact the office to book your **Thoughtful Flowers** for 2020.
- **Rosters** are now being prepared by many groups - check the office counter for lists to add your name to!
- Please note: the church office will be **closed** between Christmas and New Year - reopening on 2 January 2020.

*A message from Joanne:*

Thank you to the GWUC Church Family for welcoming me  
into the Office Manager role. I'm having fun!  
Happy Friday! Christmas!!



## **Inclusive Community Report.**

**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 Joanne in the office or Beverly on 0417 359 779. Thanks to the fifteen people who make up the prayer support group.

**Bring and Share Lunch will not meet today as it is the Church Family Lunch.** Our F.I.S.H. GROUPS prepare the food and set up and decorate the tables and the hall.

**Munch with a Bunch** Our Christmas lunch was held on Sunday 24 November. More than 70 people attended and enjoyed a lovely lunch and entertainment from Free Spirit. This was our last Munch with a Bunch function for 2019. We look forward to many happy gatherings next year.

**Light Lunch.** We would like to thank the people who joined us for Light Lunches after the 11am services this year. The lunches have been special times of fellowship. We will begin our Light Lunches again in February, I would also like to thank members of the Inclusive Community committee for catering for the Light Lunches and special occasions such as Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day. They have done a super job.

**Members of Glen Waverley Inter Church Council** have spent some time preparing the board that will display the Christmas message, on the corner of Springvale Road and Waverley Road from about 16th December. (We have two representatives on the Inter Church Council - John Hurst & Jan Clear.) You can look at our Christmas tree display before you look at the board. Look out for it when you are driving down Springvale Road, in December.

**Our next Inclusive Community meeting will be in January 2020.** If you have suggestions for activities, please let us know. We will be preparing our program for 2020 and would welcome any suggestions.

**Seniors' Carol Service** will be held on Sunday 8 December at 2.30pm. Free Spirit will join us and sing their own songs as well as singing carols with us. There will be some readings that tell the Christmas story. We will have afternoon tea together after the service (Christmas cake and shortbread). We look forward to seeing you at this special service.

**Members of the Inclusive Community Committee** *would like to wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas as we celebrate Jesus' birth and Good Health and Happiness in 2020.*  
*Jan Clear.*

## **THE JOY OF GIVING**

At Christmas time many of us enjoy giving gifts to family and friends. It is an expression of appreciation for who they are for us. At Christmas we also remember God's special gift to us of Jesus.

Last Sunday Alanee talked about it being not just the Sunday of Christ the King but also "Stir it up Sunday". Jesus certainly stirred things up. He focussed on the poor and vulnerable rather than the comfortable and well off. He challenged the religious leaders and touched the outcast. He invited us to be open to those around us.

If this Christmas you would like to give to support people in need there are a variety of opportunities offered through this congregation and here are some to consider.

**The Empty Christmas Tree.** Food and Gifts for children and adults can be left under the empty Christmas tree to support families known to our Welfare team. Gifts also go to Uniting Broadmeadows. Gifts should be left unwrapped.

**The Christmas Bowl.** Envelopes will be available in December to support the Act for Peace Christmas Bowl Appeal. Funds support overseas work where there is conflict, poverty and natural disasters. This congregation has been a generous supporter of this appeal over many years.

**Uniting Food for Families.** In recent years we have also supported this appeal for food that supports a number of Uniting Agencies. Boxes are in the foyer.

**Bush Fire Appeals.** The Synods of NSW/ACT and Queensland have both launched bushfire relief appeals. Here are the website links.

<https://nswact.uca.org.au/about-us/giving/moderators-appeal/>

<https://ucaqld.com.au/about-us/mission-possible/people-in-crisis/disaster-relief/>

**Uniting World** are having a Giving Day where they have set a goal to raise \$25,000 on Tuesday 3 December to help address poverty around the world.

Attend **the Hub Christmas morning tea** on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec at 10 am and make a donation to support our church welfare team.

You are not expected to support every appeal. There may be some that you feel drawn toward supporting. May you experience the joy of giving.

Neil Peters

## Grill'd in Kingsway supporting GWUC Welfare work.

Grill'd sell a range of burgers and they like to give back to the local community. Each month they have three local community projects.



Customers receive a token and they vote by putting their token in one of three jars representing one of three local community groups. At the end of the month the group with the most tokens receives \$300 and the other two groups \$100 each. In December Glen Waverley Uniting Church Welfare Committee are one of the community groups. So if you feel like a burger, or would like to take grand-kids for a burger, and feel like trying Grill'd, please vote for the GWUC Welfare work. Thank you.

## Emergency Ministry Volunteers

The Victorian Council of Churches supports Emergency Ministry Volunteers to offer a listening ear and compassion in times of crisis. Volunteers are lay or ordained and undergo training to be equipped for this role.

Emergencies can create chaos in people's lives. Emergencies include fires, floods, storms, car accidents, criminal attacks or terrorist attacks. The VCC volunteers are trained and can be called out to be a calm and compassionate presence. The volunteers have the time to talk with and support affected people. Sometimes a listening ear is all that is needed. Sometimes people will be referred on to other support services.

If you would like to know more or if you would like to volunteer then there are information leaflets available from the stewards table. If you would like to speak to someone about this important ministry then Rev Tom Rose will be happy to talk with you.

## December NewView

As we remember the birth of Jesus during Advent, our theme for the December issue will be JOY. What is joy? What things bring joy into your life? How do you express joy? Is it important to celebrate significant events which bring joy? You are invited to write about the matters, large and small, which bring joy into your life.

In addition your reports and photos about events and projects which have taken place in our GWUC community are welcomed, to keep us all informed about our community's happenings, as are anecdotes, poems or longer reflections on our individual journeys of faith.

The closing date for submissions is Monday, December 9. Send by email to [popesr@aapt.net.au](mailto:popesr@aapt.net.au) or hand in to the GWUC office.

## Planned Giving - Direct Debit Offering

This is an alternative to giving in the open plate or by the envelope system.

The advantages of Direct Debit giving are increasingly being recognised by the congregation - these include no need for envelopes or cash, regular deductions are assured and a reduced workload on Finance Stewards

Uethical(Synod) provides the service of Direct Debit offering.

Under the Privacy Act they have decided they are restricted from giving information about givers to their respective congregations. This change in the situation is beyond our control. But we give paramount importance to the protection of individual information.

In view of this, they require a consent form which allows them to advise our congregation with details of your giving. This includes new givers, any change in amount and cancellation of the giving.

It is this information which enables our committee to provide you with a half yearly letter advising the amount of deductions received.

Should you wish to talk through or clarify the issue, please feel free to contact Ken Hutchinson (Recorder) 9884 4002 or Ian McMillan (Convenor) 9511 56013

Giving Recording Committee

Ian McMillan, Ken Hutchinson and Robert O'Brien

It takes a special person to be so generous & kind.  
Dedicated hearts like yours are not easy to find,  
Without you, our community just wouldn't be,  
So please come & join us at our Celebration Morning Tea!

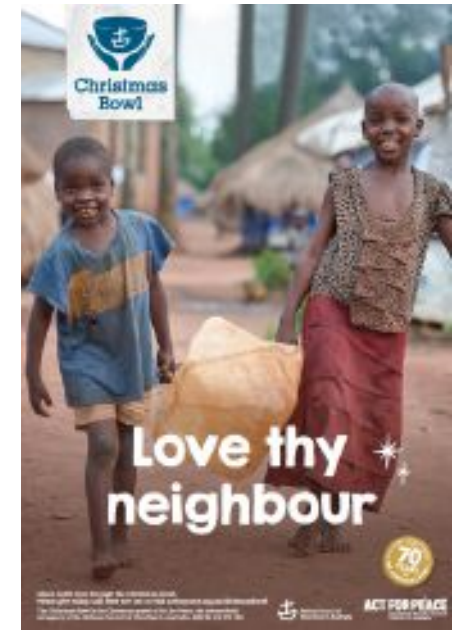


### Friends of Glenallen Morning Tea

Tuesday 10 December at 10.30am  
Glenallen School, 7 Allen Street, Glen Waverley

RSVP to Glenallen Office by Monday 2  
December on 9561 1966 or  
[glenallen.sch@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:glenallen.sch@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
Please let us know of any dietary requirements.

## Christmas Bowl



### Food For Families. Shopping list

- Pasta, rice and noodles
- Flour, polenta and couscous
- Tinned tomatoes, pasta sauces
- Beans, chickpeas and lentils
- Tinned tuna, salmon and ham
- Soups, curries and vegetables
- Baby food, nappies and formula
- Spreads - e.g. Jam, Vegemite
- Long life milk and cheese
- Tea, coffee, Milo and sugar
- Stir fry sauces and soy sauce
- Coconut milk and coconut cream
- Breakfast cereal and muesli bars
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Shampoo, conditioner and soap

#### Please remember to:

- ✔ Give undamaged, packaged items
- ✔ Check the expiry date
- ✔ Make sure food is sealed
- ✔ Make sure the label is visible
- ✔ Get friends and family involved
- ✔ Share on social media
- ✔ Check drop off locations

**Uniting**

On Christmas Day 1949, an Australian Reverend named Frank Byatt placed an empty bowl of remembrance on the table before him. Frank urged his guests to reflect on their good fortunes and encouraged them to do something selfless for people around the world who were suffering as a result of World War II.

This Christmas, we invite you to place a bowl on your table as a sign of remembrance of our brothers and sisters around the world in urgent need.

Envelopes for Christmas Bowl Donations are available on the stewards' table in the foyer.

GLEN WAVERLEY UNITING CHURCH  
CORNER BOGONG AVENUE & KINGSWAY



# Christmas Morning Tea

欢聚一起 享用早点 共贺圣诞

THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER 2019

10AM TO 12PM

EVERYONE WELCOME

欢迎大家参加

BOOKINGS: PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON THE LIST  
ON THE OFFICE COUNTER OR CALL 9560 3580

*Donations welcome for needy  
families in our community*

## INVITATION to LEISURE TIME Volunteers

*Our Christmas Break-up is on  
Monday 9th December 2019*



*All Leisure Time volunteers are cordially invited to join  
with guests and the committee in the Church Hall at*

*10.15am for morning tea*

*after which we will move into the church for our  
entertainment at 11.15am.*

*You may also wish to share in our  
Christmas Service  
in the hall at 1.30-2pm on the same day*

*(RSVP not required)*