



Glen Waverley Uniting Church

An Unexpected Experience



Welcome

GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centered community that meets God and shares in that unconditional love. We welcome all those who are worshipping with us here in the church or via our Broadcast Ministry - we are glad you are here!



If you are new or visiting our church, look out for the people wearing sunflower brooches. They are part of our welcoming team, and would love to have a chat and get to know you! Also, don't forget to fill in a 'Welcome' card so that we can stay in contact.

Sunday 10 December - Advent 2

8am	Contemplative <i>incl. Holy Communion</i>	Rev. Neil Peters
9.15am	Interactive (+live broadcast)	Rev. Chris Waddell
11am	Traditional (+live broadcast)	Rev. Neil Peters
4pm	Multicultural Christmas Worship & Celebration	

Isaiah 40: 1-11; Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3: 8-15a; Mark 1: 1-8

Sunday 17 December - Advent 3

10am Nativity Worship & Service of Release for Rev. Neil Peters

All are invited to come along dressed as Mary, Joseph, shepherds, wise people, angels or stars and be a part of the Christmas Story. Some dress ups will be available on the day.

Following the service, a luncheon celebrating Neil's retirement will be held in the hall.

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Luke 1: 46b-55; 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24; John 1: 6-8, 19-28



Giving

Please scan the QR-Code to contribute to the ministry and outreach of our Church. We appreciate your support.

SCAN ME

Indonesian Fellowship on Zoom:

Meeting code: 980 1882 3667
(passcode: 773026) or [click here](#) to log in.

Multicultural Christmas Worship & Celebration

A Multicultural Christmas worship, celebration and dinner will be held at GWUC TODAY (Sunday 10th December) commencing at 4pm. The program will include worship at 4pm, celebration performances at around 5pm and dinner at 6.30pm. Come and experience worship led by various members representing some of the wonderful cultural diversity of our congregation. This will be a special evening and all are warmly invited.



Remembrance Service

Tuesday 12th December - 8pm

You are invited to participate in a special Service of Remembrance for those who have lost loved ones. The service will be held in the church on Tuesday 12 December 2023 at 8.00pm. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. *Go to www.gwuc.org.au/live to watch the service online.*

Remembrance Service

**12 December 2023
at 8pm**

Light refreshments will be served following the service

Go to www.gwuc.org.au/live to watch the live stream

A graphic for the Remembrance Service featuring a lit candle in a brass holder against a dark blue background with bokeh lights. The text is overlaid on the image.

Christmas Cards

Christmas Cards are **now available** from the church office. All proceeds support the work of Uniting (Share).

YOU ARE INVITED!

You are warmly invited to share in the "Release of Ties" Service & Retirement Celebration for Rev. Neil Peters on **Sunday 17 December at 10am.**



Following the service, a celebration luncheon will be held in the hall. **Please put your name on the list on the office counter to attend the luncheon.** All will be welcome.

Pages are available from the stewards table if you would like to contribute to a **"Memories & Greetings Book"** for Neil and Lynn. *Please return pages to the church office by Friday 15 December.*

Monetary contributions towards a gift are also being received. These can be given to Joanne (church office) or Rev. Chris Waddell, or deposited into the church bank account - please use code "Neil Retire". BSB 033-052 Account 92 2198.

Advent Postcards - Walkers Needed

We would like to promote our Advent Services by delivering postcards to houses in the area around the church. If you can help to letterbox-drop the postcards by Friday 15 December, please take a bundle of the postcards (about 200), with an instructions sheet and a delivery area map, from the church office counter. We need 9 people. Your help would be much appreciated.



A postcard for an Advent service at Glen Waverley Uniting Church. The card features a red ribbon at the top, a drawing of a nativity scene on the left, and a drawing of a baby in a manger on the right. The text is as follows:

Glen Waverley Uniting Church

Join us for a
Cocoa & Carols Service

December 24, 2023

10:30pm-11:00pm Hot Chocolate	11:00pm-12:00am Church service
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Join us for an informal and interactive service where we reflect on the true meaning of Christmas as it is celebrated all over the world

GWUC Christmas Lunch Thank You.

Thank you to all those who helped at our Christmas Lunch either before or on the day. 98 people enjoyed a delicious Christmas Lunch together. After paying the expenses for the lunch we are able to give \$607.80 to GWUC Welfare to use for needy families at Christmas.

Empty Christmas Tree

Our tree is now in the foyer and waiting for your donations of toys, gifts, non-perishable food. Please DO NOT WRAP your gifts. Our gifts are given to Lentara UnitingCare at Broadmeadows and also to some families within our local community. Last Sunday for gifts is December 17th.



Christmas Bowl

This congregation is a strong supporter of the Christmas Bowl appeal, and as is our usual practice at Glen Waverley UC, all Open Plate offering received at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services will be donated to the Christmas Bowl appeal. Online donations can be made via their website using the link [Christmas-Bowl-GWUC](https://christmas-bowl-gwuc.org.au). If you prefer to donate using the Christmas Bowl Envelopes, these are now available from the steward's table, and they can be placed in the offering plate or left in the church letterbox to be sent on to the Christmas Bowl Appeal.

Second Sunday of Advent



Bringing Peace to refugees in Ethiopia

Sara* fled to Ethiopia from Yemen eight years ago with her four children. In Addis Ababa refugees are at risk of severe exploitation, with little access to education, medical care, or basics like food. Through Act for Peace's partner, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission, you can help provide refugees with medical and psychological care, as well as livelihoods training, giving people like Sara the chance to build secure futures for their families. **Please give today.**

*Name changed for safety reasons



CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international humanitarian agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

An Unexpected Experience

Join us here this Christmas

17 December

10am Nativity Worship

24 December

Christmas Eve Services @ 10am, 7pm & 11pm

25 December

Christmas Day Services @ 8.30am & 10am

31 December

11pm New Year's Eve Service

Services in January 10am each Sunday

go to www.gwuc.org.au/live to watch online



Save the Date!

Book Sale

Saturday, February 24, 2024

8:30am-4pm

We would love you to be part of this event. The summer holidays is a great time to sort through those books you no longer need. We will be setting up on Friday 23, packing up on Sunday 25, and would appreciate your donations of books and your help over those 3 days.



What's On...

MONDAY 11 DECEMBER

10.00am **GOMERS** Fellowship

8.00pm **Badminton** Hall

TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER

2.00pm **Mindful Meditation** Zoom

8.00pm **Service of Remembrance** Church

WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER

8.00pm **Free Spirit** Church/Rm 1

THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER

8.00pm **Badminton** Hall

MONDAY 18 DECEMBER

10.00am **GOMERS** Fellowship

8.00pm **Badminton** Hall

TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER

2.00pm **Mindful Meditation** Zoom

WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER

7.00am **Prayer Time** www.gwuc.org.au

8.00pm **Free Spirit** Church/Rm 1

THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER

8.00pm **Badminton** Hall

Contact Us:

Ministry Team

Rev. Neil Peters - Minister of the Word
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Rev. Chris Waddell - Minister of the Word
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Di Paterson - Pastoral Care Worker
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dpaterson7@bigpond.com

Church Office

Joanne Boldiston - Office Manager
Mon - Fri: 9am - 3.30pm

9560 3580 / 0434 119 335

Emails: office@gwuc.org.au or

minteamandoffice@gwuc.org.au

Website: gwuc.org.au

GWUC Westpac Bank Account Details:

Account Name: Uniting Church Glen Waverley BSB: 033 052 Account Number: 92 2198