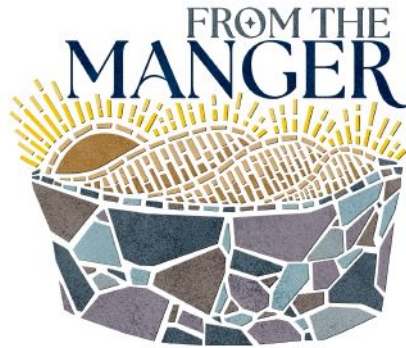




*Hope
Peace
Joy
Love*



Sunday 29 December

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!

Sunday 29 December - Christmas 1

10am Worship (+live broadcast)

Rev. Ian Ferguson / Rev. Chris Waddell

Tuesday 31 December - New Year's Eve

11pm Worship (*no live broadcast*)

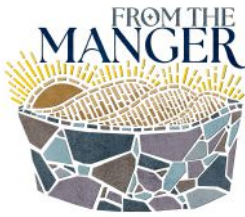
Rev. Chris Waddell

Services in January 10am each Sunday



If you are new or visiting our church, look out for the people wearing yellow flower 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.

2024 Christmas Exhibition - Christmas Traditions from Around the World



...on now in Room 1 until the end of December. See the painted nativity scene of Jesus in the Manger. Read how the Christmas Celebration has developed and spread throughout the world. Add your family experiences of Christmas. Help to make the paper chain longer! All are welcome!

Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre - Emergency Appeal

Recently, a fire occurred at the Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre in Brunswick destroying some of the facilities and many of the resources used to help the community. Thankfully, no one was injured, but the fire caused considerable disruption to the service, which will be impacted for at least the next several months. Uniting are asking for urgent monetary gifts to enable the ASWC to continue to serve the community over the coming Christmas period. Your donations will pay for food vouchers, enable people to be supported at alternative sites, and will provide essential funds for them to effectively coordinate services into the new year.

Go to <https://www.unitingvictas.org.au/donation-form-aswc-emergency-appeal/> to learn more.

GWUC also support the Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre through our sales of honey, and this year through our COP Funds from the 2024 Fete.

A promotional poster for a "Back to School & Backpack Blessing" event. The background is a dark green color. On the left side, there is an illustration of a purple backpack filled with school supplies, including a yellow notebook, a blue pencil case, a red calculator, and various colored pencils and pens. In the top right corner, there is a circular logo for "GWUC PRETTY GOOD". The main text is in large, white, bold, sans-serif font: "BACK TO SCHOOL & BACKPACK BLESSING". Below this, the date and time are written in a bright green, bold, sans-serif font: "Sunday 2 February 10am Service". At the bottom, there is white text: "Students & Educational Staff You are invited to bring along your backpacks, briefcases, tote bags or tool belts for a special blessing to begin the new school year surrounded in prayer." Below that, it says "Special take home Blessing Tags will show you You are Loved!". At the very bottom, there is a decorative border of 15 small hearts in various shades of purple and white.

Glen Waverley Uniting Church
Book Sale
Used books for adults and kids
**Saturday
1 March
8:30am-4pm**
Donations of books welcomed
from Feb 24

Hall Floor Resurfacing

The church hall will be closed from Thursday 2nd January until Thursday 16th January for resurfacing of the floor. During that period the hall will be **completely out-of-bounds** for **ALL** access. All doors to the hall will be locked and must not be opened under any circumstances. By extension, this means the storerooms at the back of the hall (**Store B** and **Store C**) will be completely inaccessible. All groups/persons who may need to use items that are presently in those two storerooms during that fortnight, please contact Michael Boldiston (0408 338 893) to arrange for those items to be placed in Store A ahead of 2nd January. Access to Store A will be through the roller door **only**.

Cleaning and Mowing Roster

We have a small team of dedicated volunteers who clean the church facilities and mow the lawns on a regular basis. Many of these people have been on the roster for many years. If you have the time to help out a few times a year for a couple of hours on a weekend (times are flexible), please add your name to the sign up sheet outside the Church Office and/or contact Fairlie Mackinnon at f.mackinnon@bigpond.com. The Church provides all the cleaning equipment. I am happy to answer any questions you may have. All volunteers are welcome. *Fairlie Mackinnon (Property Committee)*



Foreign Currency Donations - Extension to collection date

Thank you to all for the generous response from the congregation. The final date for donations of foreign currency has been extended to the 31st December 2024.

Please deposit any coins or notes with the office or in the collection container at the front of the office. Please contact George Abraham 0413 431 888 if you have any queries.

What's On in 2025...

GOMERs - 10am each Monday morning

Badminton & Table Tennis - Monday's & Thursday's from 20th January - after the hall resurfacing is complete!

Sunday Squad - during 10am worship from 2nd February

The Hub & Playgroup - Tuesdays @ 10am from 4th February

Youth Group - Friday's @ 7pm from 7th February

Also returning in 2025: English Conversation Classes, UCAF, Choir of Hope, Leisure Time, Craft Group, Mindful Meditation and more...

2025 Dates for Your Diary!

- 2 Feb** Backpack Blessing
- 9 Feb** Lunar New Year & Lantern Fest: Year of the Snake
- 1 Mar** Annual Book Sale
- 9 Mar** Musical Matinee & light lunch
- 3 Apr** Hot Cross Bun M.Tea @ The Hub
- 22 May** Aust. Biggest M.Tea @ The Hub
- 21 Aug** Muffin Morning Tea @ The Hub
- 18 Oct** Annual Grand Fete!
- 30 Oct** Seniors Morning Tea @ The Hub
- 30 Nov** Annual Christmas Lunch
- 4 Dec** Christmas M.Tea @ The Hub

Annual Leave & Office Hours

Ian Ferguson & Chris Waddell will be on annual leave from Monday 6th January until Friday 17 January. Please contact Di Paterson 0400 961 052 for any pastoral care matters.

The church office will be closed on Friday 27 December and then from 6 January, reopening 28 January. During this time, messages and emails will be monitored, so please email office@gwuc.org.au or leave a message at 9560 3580 if you have any queries.

Contact Us:

Ministry Team

Rev. Ian Ferguson - Minister of the Word
0438 547 842 - iferguson@gwuc.org.au

Rev. Chris Waddell - Minister of the Word
0418 373 065 - chris.waddell.gwuc@gmail.com

Di Paterson - Pastoral Care Worker
0400 961 052 - dpaterson7@bigpond.com

Church Office

Joanne Boldiston - Office Manager

Mon - Fri: 9am - 3.30pm
9560 3580

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