



Glen Waverley

Uniting Church

SUNDAY PREACHING PLAN - September 2015						
Time	September 6 Pentecost 15	September 13 Pentecost 16	September 20 Pentecost 17	September 27		
8.00 am	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Ross Mackinnon Communion	Julie Hall Ross Mackinnon - Communion	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Alanee Hearnshaw	Rev Neil Peters Communion
9.15 am	Rev Neil Peters Communion	Rev Neil Peters Rev Paul Bartlett	Rev Neil Peters Worship Team	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw
11.00 am	Julie Hall	Rev Neil Peters Rev Paul Bartlett	Rev Neil Peters Communion	School Holidays	School Holidays	School Holidays
4.30 pm	Children & Families	Children & Families	School Holidays	School Holidays	School Holidays	School Holidays
7.00 pm	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw	Alanee Hearnshaw
Lectionary	Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Psalm 125 James 2:1-10 Mark 7:24-37	Proverbs 1:20-33 Psalm 19 James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38	Proverbs 31:10-31 Psalm 1 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50		
Liturgical Colour	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green

Welcome

GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centred community that meets God and shares that unconditional love: meet_god@anytime.with.us

AUGUST

9 August	<i>All services</i>	Material Aid Offering for GWUC Welfare
9 August	<i>All services</i>	Nominations for Church Council announced
9 August	<i>12.30pm</i>	Hub Volunteers Lunch & Meeting
21 August	<i>10am</i>	Seminar for Seniors
23 August	<i>All services</i>	Church Council Elections
23 August	<i>1.30pm</i>	Cross Cultural Ministry Seminar
26 August	<i>2.30pm</i>	Inclusive Community Meeting
30 August	<i>10am</i>	Combined Service followed by Congregational Meeting

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

6 September	<i>2pm</i>	Music Showcase & Fundraiser
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CROSS CULTURAL MINISTRY SEMINAR

GLEN WAVERLEY
UNITING
CHURCH

AUGUST 23
1.30-4PM

INCLUDING
AFTERNOON TEA

PRESENTER
REV HOON YOU

CURRENTLY MINISTER AT PORT
MELBOURNE.

Previously engaged in cross cultural Ministry at Monash Uniting Church. Hoon has given a lot of thought to cross cultural ministry.

ALL
WELCOME

TWO TOPICS LOOKING AT
MULTICULTURALISM
AND PARADIGM
CHANGE FOR CROSS-
CULTURAL
RELATIONSHIP BUILDING.

AS WE SEEK TO GROW
OUR MINISTRY IN LINE
WITH OUR VISION THIS IS
A TIMELY SEMINAR.

The Christian Church in the World

Ramadan - A time of Jihad and of Seeking:

The last ten days of Ramadan (7 - 17 July) are days of particular striving, Qur'an recitation and soaring Islamic zeal. Jihadists will expend their pent-up frustration and zeal in jihad for the sake of Allah. Christians are at risk of Ramadan violence and jihad. Pray particularly for Christians in Israel, where ISIS has threatened to kill Christians who have not fled by the end of Ramadan; in Nigeria where Boko Haram is escalating attacks; in Somalia and Kenya, where al-Shabaab has vowed to kill 'disbelievers' during Ramadan; and in Syria, where jihadist offensives on multiple fronts put Christians at risk of genocide. Monday 13 July is the 26th of Ramadan. On that 'Night of Power' Muslims will seek divine favour and revelation. Please pray that Muslims seeking God will find him.

ISIS Threatens Christians in Jerusalem:

Arabic leaflets have appeared in Jerusalem, purportedly issued by an ISIS-aligned group, telling Christians they must flee Jerusalem by the end of Ramadan (18 July) - otherwise they will be slaughtered. The threat comes as ISIS and Hamas engage in a struggle for the allegiance of Palestinian Muslims. Religious tensions are rising across Israel and Christians are being attacked by Jewish ultra-nationalists and radicalised Muslims, leaving some wondering if Christians have a future in Israel. The Israeli government has condemned the violence against Christians as 'an attack on us all' and affirmed Israel's commitment to religious liberty and rule of law. The ISIS threat against Christians could prove a serious challenge, especially if it extends to Gaza, with no Israeli security presence. Please pray for Israel and its Christians.

From Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin

A thought, taken from "With Love to the World" (July) ...

"Oh, Lord, as we want to be followers of Jesus Christ, help us to accept our calling and to use it to build up the whole body of Christ and to be agents of peace and unity, in family and community."

The Hub Volunteers' Lunch and Meeting - Sunday 9 August

There will be a lunch and meeting for all Hub volunteers, and anyone interested in The Hub, on Sunday 9th August, 12.30pm in the fellowship area. Come along with your ideas and suggestions for The Hub. Please bring a small plate of food to share.

Seniors' Morning Tea at The Hub - date for your diary

This special morning tea will be held at The Hub on Thursday 29th October, 10am - 12noon.

Family and friends are all welcome to attend this morning tea as we thank our seniors for all they do in our community.

Craft and Sewing for the Church Fete

We need craft and sewing items to stock the craft stall at the church fete in October. If you are able to help by doing some sewing or craft work, please contact Laurel Muir 9560 1518, Lynne Boyer 9790 0582 or Judith Greenwood 9803 8373.

Seminar for Seniors - Friday 21 August

The next Seminar for Seniors will be held from 10am until 3pm on Friday 21 August.

You will hear speakers on:

- understanding your pension in relation to moving to a retirement village or into care.
- services for seniors through Monash Council
- Homeshare Program run by LifeAssist (UnitingCare Community Options)

Watch the Seniors Noticeboard for more information.

Cross Cultural Ministry Seminar

You may have been following the controversy over the booing of the indigenous AFL footballer, Adam Goodes. Or been concerned about the violent protests occasioned by the rise of Reclaim Australia groups.

Or wondered about the xenophobia that sees refugees to our shores being turned back or sent off to what are basically prison camps, along with uncaring and indifferent approaches to the suffering of women and children.

Has Australia lost its way? Are we no longer the nation of the "fair go"? Have we made great strides in the 50s and 60s in becoming a multicultural nation, only to see the vision fall to pieces in recent times?

You may be interested to hear the Rev Hoon You's approach to multiculturalism, and how he sees the potential for a church like Glen Waverley Uniting Church to become a catalyst for re-establishing a true multicultural society.

Come to a seminar on Sunday afternoon 23 August, 1.30 pm to 4pm, to hear how Rev. Hoon views the necessary paradigm shift in order to build more effective cross cultural relationships.

Bible Study 2015

Faith Development Missional Group invite you to take part in a challenging Bible Study during the second half of 2015.

This will be taken from the New Seasons Study and will comprise six parts. The study asks us the following:

- Who is God calling us to become in this new season of the Uniting Church?
- What is it that God is trying to do in sending Jesus?
- What sort of leadership skills are needed to achieve a large scale change in your faith community's life?

"New Seasons" returns to the Scriptures to find new ways to communicate God's Good News.

We seek volunteers to lead several small groups over six study sessions during the latter part of 2015 or early 2016. The study can be viewed at <http://www.listeningpost.victas.uca.org.au/a-new-season>

If you are interested in being a small group leader please contact the Church Office on 9560 3580.

Asante Adventures

AND THE EVEREST 2015 TEAM INVITE YOU TO THE

SUNDAY AFTERNOON MUSIC SHOWCASE & FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6th 2PM
GLEN WAVERLEY UNITING CHURCH

Cnr Kingsway and Bogong Avenue, Glen Waverley VIC 3150

ENTRY BY DONATION

(Suggested donation: Adults \$15, Concession \$10)

Followed by a light afternoon tea

Featuring:

- A selection of solo piano pieces performed by Jacob Davey
- Ensemble Goldentree
- Georgia and Sasha Thompson
- Other special guest artists



In September 2015, a team of inspired fundraisers will head to Nepal to trek to Everest base camp. Asante Adventures participants will be raising money for 3 not-for-profit organisations, all of whom work tirelessly to empower members of their local communities:

- Mission in Action, Kenya
- Suluhisho, Kenya
- Amari Community Development, Uganda

For more information

Contact Jacob Davey:

jacobdavey92@gmail.com

0421 929 603

www.asanteadventures.com

Supported by



THANK YOU IN ADVANCE,
ASANTE ADVENTURES

GWUC Outreach Committee Material Aid Offering for the work of Welfare

On 9 August you are invited to contribute non-perishable food and cleaning materials to be stored by the Welfare committee to subsequently assist with what we are already able to contribute to those in need.

Canned soups, meals, baked beans etc; breakfast cereals (especially Weetbix); long life milk, tea, coffee and Milo; and biscuits all 'go down well'. Soap, tooth paste and brushes, toilet paper and washing powders are also appreciated.

Established in 2003, the GWUC Welfare Committee continues to operate discretely within the Church. The purpose of the committee is underpinned by the mission of GWUC and is within the Community Hub Missional Group.

Following an assessment, we provide practical, spiritual and emotional support to those in our church and within the wider community who seek our support.

Some recipients self-refer, others are referred by members of our congregation or local agencies.

Primarily our focus is on day to day living expenses and general independent living of individuals and families. Those we see are encouraged to access existing community agencies and resources, including those within our church.

Dorothy Lockhart (9802 8461)

On behalf of the Welfare Committee

Accommodation

A young Sri Lankan couple are looking for a fully furnished room to rent in Glen Waverley or Mount Waverley, preferably with an attached bathroom. The room needs to be close to a train station and shops. If you have a room available, please sms Tee on 0458 760 330.



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

Mr Dan Wootton
Moderator
130 Little Collins St
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

T +61 3 9251 5216
F +61 3 9650 7019

Dan.wootton@victas.uca.org.au

1 July 2015

Dear Friends,

I am writing to advise you that as from 1 August 2015, the Uniting Church will withdraw as a supporting Church of ACCESS Ministries in Victoria. This decision has been conveyed to the CEO of ACCESS Ministries and its supporting churches.

This decision, made by the Standing Committee at its meeting held on 24 June, comes after more than three years of extensive consultation with groups including ACCESS Ministries, Department of Education and Training and Uniting Church religious instructors.

At the Synod meeting in September 2014, five specific concerns were identified. A request was made to ACCESS Ministries to respond to those concerns by 31 May 2015. The Standing Committee evaluated the responses received and resolved that they did not adequately address the issues raised by the Synod.

The decision that has been made is a significant one and the Standing Committee has given thanks to God for the many UCA members who have served as members, on the Council and on the Board of ACCESS Ministries. Acknowledgement has also been made of the foundational relationship established by predecessors of the UCA in guiding the development of ACCESS Ministries over many decades.

Individuals or congregations who wish to continue to volunteer with ACCESS certainly may continue to do so. Your ministry is valuable. The decision of the Standing Committee does not affect those who choose to contribute to local Special Religious Instruction programs.

The Synod has created an information page that outlines the background to this decision.

I have also recorded a message to all UCA members.

This can be found at victas.uca.org.au/access.

Kind regards,

Dan Wootton
Moderator

A Letter to the Congregation

Dear Friends,

The UCA Synod of Victoria and Tasmania website has information about the Major Strategic Review (MSR) which is being undertaken at present. The MSR is a prayerful, interactive, reflective and participative process tasked with advising the Church in Victoria and Tasmania on vision, plans and sustainability into the future. The MSR has engaged with councils, agencies and institutions across the Church to explore the broad issues and opportunities facing the Church now and into the future.

Recently the MSR invited representatives of our congregation to engage with them in discussions. Our church was identified as having particular gifts to offer into this conversation. Rev Neil Peters and five other of our members met with three members of the MSR and we presented our 'Organic Vision' which was developed last year. Three representatives from our congregation were invited to attend an information session to be held in August. The consolidated learnings will be shared. Response and feedback from this information session will help inform the final proposals to be incorporated into the December MSR report.

Nominations for the election of Elders (who will also be Church Council members) close on 2 August. The retiring Elders / Councillors have been discerning whether they wish to be renominated for another term. We hope that other members of our congregation have been discerning their options also. As Christians we believe that God helps us to discern. Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:21: "Examine everything carefully." Discernment according to St Ignatius Loyola is the wisdom that enables us to distinguish between feelings, ideas and motives that are from the Holy Spirit and those that aren't. Discernment means finding the way God is leading us. By becoming contemplative in action we will become attuned to our inner life as we seek to bring God's love to those we meet and the circumstances we encounter.

Grace and Peace

Helen Stewart - Chair of Church Council



COMMUNITY HUB

Despite the cooler months, the various Hub activities are still attracting people coming in from the street to enjoy the fellowship offered in Playgroup, The Hub and other social programs. Volunteers are the reason these programs succeed and we thank you for your ongoing outreach in this way. If you would like to join any of the following programs contact Geraldine Fleming on 9802 2179, or the specific Group co-ordinator.

Jenny Vass - Secretary 9874 3701 or rojenvas@bigpond.net.au

The Hub: In July, Hub visitors and volunteers, GWUC friends and people from the wider community celebrated our 6th Birthday with a special Morning Tea. It was a wonderful morning of conversation and fellowship together. Donations of \$162 were received and given to Motor Neurone Disease Victoria.

Our next special morning tea will be our Seniors Morning Tea on Thursday 29 October, 10am - 12noon. All donations from this morning tea will be given for research into Motor Neurone Disease.

There will be a lunch and meeting for all Hub volunteers, and anyone interested in The Hub, on Sunday 9 August at 12.30pm in the fellowship area. Please bring a small plate of food to share.

At the moment we have about 12 visitors who regularly attend The Hub who have a real sense of belonging, and feel very much at home in our church community. If you would like to be involved in the Hub as a volunteer, emergency volunteer, or help at our special morning teas, please contact Judith.

Our Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at The Hub in May was very successful and donations totalling \$640.15 were given to the Cancer Council Victoria.

Judith has attended meetings with Monash Council PALS representatives for the planning of the Monash Seniors' Festival in October this year. The Hub and Leisure Time will both participate in a pop-up booth in Glen Waverley on Wednesday 16 September to advertise events during the month of October for Seniors' week.

Contact Judith Greenwood (9803 8373) for details.

Inclusive Community Report

Prayer Chain:

If you have a prayer request and don't want it placed on the weekly prayer list, we do have a prayer chain. All requests for prayer are kept confidential and are only passed on to chain members. We don't need to know why you are requesting prayer, just a name is fine. If you are interested please contact Heather in the office, during office hours, or Beverly on 0417 359 779.

Friday 31 July - Intergenerational Dinner and Fun Night at the Church:

We hope that you enjoyed our special night together - it was good to see people conversing with others they did not know. The Candy Man was so clever - How did he do those tricks?

Many thanks to people who helped to set up, cook our hamburgers and sausages, prepare salads and sweets and clean up afterwards. It was a team effort and you all helped to make it a successful night.

Lunches:

Munch with a Bunch was held at the RSL on Sunday 12 July. About 50 people attended and enjoyed lunch together.

Combined Service:

Don't forget the Combined Service on Sunday 30 August.

The Light Lunch:

After the 11am service which was to be held on Sunday 9 August has been cancelled as many people will be attending the Hub lunch.

Meeting:

Our next Inclusive Community meeting will be on Wednesday 26 August at 2.30pm in Room 1 at the Church. If you have any ideas or suggestions for functions, please let us know.

Ministry to Seniors

Alison Clarkson will be overseas from Sunday 30 August until Tuesday 3 November inclusive. In her absence Elwyn Pederson will be coordinating the Ministry to Seniors, with assistance from Jan Clear.



Seminar for Seniors - Community, Care, Companionship Friday 21 August from 10am to 3pm

Speakers from:

Centrelink - Understanding your pension in relation to moving into a retirement village or into care.

Monash Council - Services for seniors; PALS programme.

LifeAssist (UnitingCare Community Options) - Homeshare programme.

Cost: \$10 including morning tea, lunch and showbag.

Application forms available below the Seniors' Notice Board in the Fellowship Area or from the GWUC Office.

RSVP by Sunday 16 August.

Further information available from Alison Clarkson. Please feel free to invite friends or family members to join us.

Leisure Time: Leisure Time continues to run successfully with very few problems. Numbers over the last few weeks have increased to 14, better than the 8's we were getting a short time back.

Successful outings have been to the R.S.L. for Morning Melodies and lunch and one to Lynbrook Hotel for a smorgasbord lunch. 23 attended this outing including helpers and two bus drivers. The outing to the Village Green on 27th July was a great success.

We need more Kitchen leaders, if you can help in this way contact Laurel Muir (9560 1518) for details.

Playgroups: Thanks to Thelma Nichols and Lyn Peters who assisted during Kaye's absence, and also to the other regular leaders.

Memberships average 16 across the week. They have had several new families coming in off the street making enquiries and attending. Helen Boucher leaves as a leader at the end of the year. Parents and grandparents are very good at helping to pack and tidy up at the conclusion of the session.

Thanks to Property Committee for spreading the soft fall and for fixing the leaking tap.

Coee: Coee is looking for new members. BYO lunch and join in some fellowship and games on Fridays at lunchtime. For more information contact Geraldine Fleming (9802 2179).

Badminton & Table Tennis: Badminton meets on Monday and Thursday evenings at 8pm in the Hall. Table tennis is also available. Enquiries to Onn Chin (9884 4061).

To all Open Plate Givers

The Giving Recording Committee acknowledges with much gratitude gift through the Open Plate for the work of our church and is very much appreciated.

You may like to consider changing to either the envelopes system or the Direct Giving system which allow you to make regular gifts.

The Direct Giving system means no need for envelopes or cash, regular donations are assured and a reduced workload on the Finance Stewards.

Currently we have 209 active pledge contributors - 101 using Direct Giving and 108 through the envelope system.

Should you wish to swap to either of these systems, please contact the Recorder, Ken Hutchinson, on 9884 4002.

Church Council Elections 2015.

A ballot for election of up to 6 Church Councillors will occur on **Sunday 23rd August, 2015.**

A single purpose congregation meeting is called for that day, encompassing all the services of worship, to enable persons attending any of the worship services to vote.

This is to ensure the maximum possible participation by our congregation.

The Uniting Church in Australia regulations indicate that a vote can only be held at a Congregational Meeting and that absentee and postal voting is not permitted.

Ballot papers will ONLY be handed out at those services. They will not be available at other times during the day.

Successful nominees must receive more than 50% of voting congregational support.

In accordance with the congregational decision of July 2013, all Church Councillors will be elected as Elders as well as Councillors.

Nomination Forms

These will be available on **Sunday 19th July 2015** and at anytime after that date from the office or office counter **until Sunday 2nd August 2015** when nominations will close. Everyone in the congregation is encouraged to carefully consider accepting nomination and to make nominations.

Each nomination required:-

- a Proposer and Secunder
- a Nominee
- signatures of Proposer, Secunder and Nominee
- the Nominee is requested to provide some personal information to assist our decision-making.

Nominations close on Sunday 2nd August, 2015.

The nomination forms may be returned to the Church Office until the end of that date.

Candidates can obtain from the office a copy of the duties of a Church Councillor as recorded in the Uniting Church in Australia regulations, or by accessing the Uniting Church in Australia web site, or by talking to any Church Council member.

Nominations

Nominations will be announced in the week of **Sunday 9th August, 2015.**

Retiring Councillors

The following councillors have completed their term of appointment, and are all eligible for re-nomination.

- Helen Stewart
- Herb Fleming
- Jacob Davey
- Judy Lowe
- Katie Haala
- Mark Easton

Belinda Chung has recently resigned from Council. Her place will also be filled at these elections.

Elections Result

The successful candidates will be announced at a **Congregational Meeting to be held on Sunday 30th August, 2015** following our combined 10am worship that day.

Any questions related to the voting procedures can be directed to Warren Greenwood or Rev Neil Peters.

Warren Greenwood - Chairperson
Glen Waverley Uniting Church