



Ministerial Musings

Pastor Di Paterson

Welcome.

GWUC is a faithful, Christ-centered community that meets God and shares in that unconditional love.

Happy New Year to you all and welcome to what we hope will be a new beginning for the world. When we think about Christmas and New Year we usually think about light. Christmas lights and the light of the star that led the Wise Men and, of course, the amazing fireworks that light up the New Year sky. Last year, just before Christmas there was a phenomenon that happened in the night sky. Jupiter and Saturn were in line which caused, what astronomers described as, the Christmas Star. It is believed that it was this phenomenon, this "Star" that led the Wise Men on a journey to find a new born King. This phenomenon only happens every 800 or so years. Unfortunately, we in Melbourne, couldn't see the phenomenon, due to heavy cloud, but in places where the sky was clear, the phenomena was amazing, and there are many photos on the internet, showing this amazing happening. Do you like to look at the night sky? When you do what do you see? Yes, the moon, and



we have had a very bright moon in the early New Year, and many, many stars. It is always great to look at the night sky away from the city lights, there seems to be billions more stars and, you can even see the satellites travelling across the sky. Many times, at the end of a day's hiking, I have laid on my back and looked at the night sky, to spot the satellites but also wonder at the huge expanse of stars that make up our galaxy. All stars are balls of gas that burn from the inside and give off light and heat. The sun is the closest star to earth so we see its light and also feel its heat. The Bible tells us that Jesus, who was born to offer God's love to the world, is described as the light of the world. The light that came to shine the light of God's love into a world that was living in the darkness of uncertainty. With the coming of 2021 we were hoping that Covid-19 might go away but,

unfortunately, we are still living in the darkness of uncertainty.

When we come into a relationship with Jesus, the light of the world, the light of His love and grace shines in us and that love lights us from the inside. It gives us energy and allows others to see God's love which shines from the inside and spreads the light of God's love out into the world. So, like a star we burn with the light of Jesus which gives us warmth and energy from the inside out.

The next time you look at the night sky and see the stars, think of how they burn from the inside and how God's love can do the same thing for each one of us. Just remember Jesus is the light of the world, so let's go out and Shine for Jesus!

Di Paterson

WHAT'S ON

Monday

- 10am GOMERs
- 7.30pm Bible Study - Zoom (susan_karoly@hotmail.com)
- 8pm Badminton/Table Tennis

Tuesday

- 2pm Mindful Meditation - Zoom (susan_karoly@hotmail.com)

Wednesday

- 8pm Free Spirit

Thursday

- 10am 'Zoom Cuppa Call' with Neil (revneilpeters@gmail.com)
- 8pm Badminton/Table Tennis

Friday

Uthies/Youth - Returning Soon!

Sunday

- 10am Worship - Live Broadcast www.gwuc.org.au/live

Book Sale

1000s of Secondhand Books

二手書出售

Glen Waverley Uniting Church

cnr Kingsway & Bogong Ave, Glen Waverley

Saturday
27 February
8:30am-4:00pm

Donations of books welcome
from February 22

Covid restrictions may result in
cancellation. Please check at
www.gwuc.org.au



Proceeds to support the work of Glen Waverley Uniting Church

Welcome to *Kingsway* Magazine

"Kingsway" is a bi-monthly magazine of Glen Waverley Uniting Church.

"Kingsway" is designed to provide a voice for the church community to share activities, thoughts, celebrations, stories and the faith journey.

It will present to the church community the quiet achievers and achievements in the life of our church.

"Kingsway" has a multi-generational, multi-cultural and missional focus and is designed to build community, lift the spirit and strengthen our faith.

If you have an item, article or notice that you think will be just right for "Kingsway", please contact Joanne Boldiston (office@gwuc.org.au) or David Fraser (davidfraser60@gmail.com).

The closing date for submissions for the April/May edition is
Wednesday 17 March 2021.

Challenge

Try to tick off the following in the next two months...

- Help at least one person per week
- Pray for a stranger
- Write down 100 things you are grateful for
- Memorise scripture
- Volunteer
- Share a story of inspiration



**Welcome to the
Glen Waverley Uniting Church.**

*We also welcome
our broadcast friends at:-
Beeac, Boort, Kerang, Traralgon,
Yarragon, Johnsonville, Bunyip,
Garfield & Longwarry.*



Getting to know...

Tess Jonker & family

Nick and I were both born in Pretoria, South Africa. Nick grew up in Pretoria, where I grew up in a little farming community, Delmas, 60km outside of Pretoria. My Dad had his dental practice there and we moved to Pretoria when I needed to go to High school.



Nick and his family were always part of the Glen Methodist Church and we joined the church soon after moving to Pretoria.

We both attended the University of Pretoria where Nick studied Statistics and I studied Human Resources. We met each other at our church's Bible study and were married in 2007.

We both knew we wanted children and we wanted a safer life for them so when an opportunity to move to Australia came up, we knew we had to take it.

We moved to Melbourne in 2009 with 2 suitcases and a small number of "sentimental" items that arrived 4 months later.

We used the first few years to find our feet, travel, make friends, work, Nick completed his Masters at RMIT and we enjoy our new home. We never regretted moving, even though it was extremely lonely at times.

How did we become members of GWUC?

Connor was born in 2013 and when he turned 1 I was desperate to find a playgroup where he could play and I could meet some new people. That was when I got into contact with the

Glen Waverley Uniting Church. Kaye was one of the first people we met and she welcomed us into the playgroup. Connor enjoyed 2 years at the playgroup where we met Rebecca and her family and many other people and really enjoyed the church community with the annual Christmas photos.

Ava was born in 2016 and we wanted her to be baptised in Melbourne as Connor was baptised in our old church in South Africa.

I spoke to Kaye about joining the Church and soon got into contact with Neil. We joined the Church in January 2017 and Ava was baptised that June.

We have since then become members of the Church, attending the 9:15 service, and met Amanda and Heinrich where a fantastic friendship started.

We are also part of Neil and Lynn's fish group and the children thoroughly enjoy the Cats, Dogs and Mice group. The Glen Waverley Uniting Church has been an amazing community connection for us and we look forward to many more years being members of the Church.

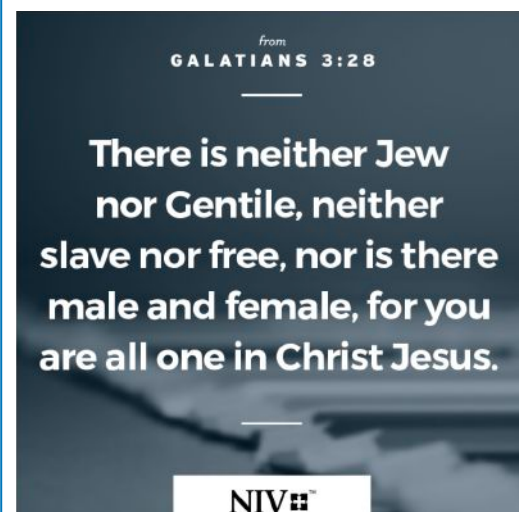
The Uniting Church – Justice & Community Services

The Uniting Churches social justice advocacy work and community welfare services express our belief that God is committed to life now. It is our response to the Bible's call to care for and protect the marginalised and vulnerable. Issues addressed include the environment, the rights and dignity of **asylum seekers**, the treatment and care of prisoners, inadequate gambling legislation, religious intolerance, **multi- and cross-cultural issues**, fair employment practices and much more.

The UCA is also the largest non-government provider of community services in Australia. We achieve this through our community services arm, **UnitingCare**. This is an umbrella of more than 400 agencies, institutions, and parish missions throughout Australia. Areas of service include aged care, children, youth and family, disability, employment, emergency relief, drug and alcohol, youth homelessness and suicide.

A key component of our justice work is the UCA's efforts to bring Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians together and to support the Indigenous community generally. Reconciliation, land rights and Indigenous leadership training are just some of the activities in which we are engaged.

<https://assembly.uca.org.au/about/uca>



Just in case you
missed these great
creative moments over
Christmas:



Glen Waverley Uniting Church Christmas Eve Live Worship 7:00pm - 24th December 2020

CHRISTMAS STORY: Click on youtube.com/CHRISTMAS



Spoonville Nativity Scene



INSTALLATION: Click on youtube.com/INSTALLATION

Faith Development Missional Group - BLOGSPOT!

Worship Words is a website which provides resources for people planning worship. Contributors from round the world provide material for this website. Ana Gobledale, a British United Reformed Minister is the Creator-Editor of the website.

The preface to the website says:

What words can help us journey into this new year with joy and anticipation while trudging through systemic racism and a pandemic? How do we articulate our confused feelings balancing doubt and trust, fear and hope?

What words express our yearning for a relationship with the Spirit of Life, God, Eternal One, our un-knowing, and the mystery of what we profess?

What words exclude no one, creating a welcoming embrace to all?

Words matter.

The materials are fresh, thoughtful, accessible, progressive, relevant, faithful, inclusive and welcoming.

Here are a few examples:

Stardust – inspired by Genesis 1 – contributed by Lorraine Steel, USA

As the stars slid down the beams of the universe in its beginning,
they burned with love....

so much so that some became vulnerable and exploded.

Eons later, in free fall toward our planet

many of their parts held us tight,

protecting the life that had begun in them.

As they reached mother Earth they fell into her bosom

where life was nourished by her water and the sun.

Waiting...waiting...waiting...

then, when the time was right,

the music of the water sang us into being,

trusting us to remember from whence we came.

From stardust we have come and to stardust we shall return.

The Way, Truth and Life – Inspired by John 14:6 – contributed by Michael Reiss, UK

You are the Way

Help us to find new ways of Walking

You are the Truth

Help us to find new ways of Talking

You are the Life

Help us to find new ways of Living

You are Love

Help us to find new ways of Loving. Amen.

Prayer, Our hope and future – contributed by Rev Garikai Mufanebadza, Zimbabwe

We ask that when we are tired and weary and longing for rest,
you come and provide for us.

When we cannot find your peace in our country and long for your blessing,
provide for us.

As we join the great circle of prayer with all the saints,
we ask you to come into our lives.

When there seems to be no hope, you are our hope and our future.
Amen.

Ross Mackinnon

Glimpses of the annual retreat to the Strathbogie Ranges

*Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and everyone shall see it. Isaiah 40.5*

Why did some Indonesian cultures already have a deep connection to Biblical stories and themes? In Indonesian culture, how does the diner indicate politely s/he has finished?

Neither the pre-Christmas flurry of work and end of year celebrations, no internet, ODI cricket, injured ankles nor forecast gale force winds ... not even the ghost of Melbourne's ring of steel could deter four fearless travellers from arriving in good spirits at the post COVID first fling of the Swanpool cinema's big opening night. In pouring rain, typical of the north east, they did not linger for the second film or even choc tops, let alone supper. It was the first weekend in December.

Four cars had become one before they set off after work, arriving in time for dinner. Deep in the depths of the distant Lima East valley neither rain nor sunshine, dark looming hills nor unfamiliar bush tracks stopped them. Soon they braved the heat of the slow combustion stove, the irregularity of mud bricks, the unforgiving coldness of slate floors. Simple pancakes, Polish dumplings and finer fare from the far-flung Indonesian archipelago accompanied anecdotes from Poland, Guangzhou, West Papua, Kalimantan, North Sulawesi, Java and



Barwon Heads. Spear fishing and boating misadventures in West Papua, stingrays at Phillip Island, sculpture, white ants, welding, a grandfather who was a blacksmith, family tragedies, an aunt who had a bakery and why some cultures already had a deep

connection to Biblical stories and themes: these were highlights in conversation about hospitality, fire bunkers, citizen's science, ancient aquaculture in south west Victoria, contrasting rice growing cultures in Indonesia and first people's caring for country through fire management.

We climbed the hill to visit Shaun the local sculptor, stone mason, builder, welder, orchardist and apiarist; we came away with warm hearts and blue gum and kunzia honey. Then it was work time. The other side of summer we look forward to a good crop of feijoas now that many hands have made light work of netting the flowering bushes before the resident bower birds got amongst them. We had shared fellowship in many ways and finally in a sunny break overlooking the brimming creek, we shared our concerns for people and situations near and far, prayed in turn, sang and worshipped together amid a chorus of frogs... glimpses of the annual retreat to the Strathbogie Ranges.

Glyn Howells

TOP 50 HYMNS

In 2013 Songs of Praise conducted a nationwide survey. Tens of thousands of people voted for their favourite. From a list of one hundred hymns, here are their top 50:

1. How Great Thou Art
2. In Christ Alone
3. Be Still, For The Presence Of The Lord
4. Dear Lord And Father Of Mankind
5. Here I Am, Lord (I, The Lord Of Sea And Sky)
6. And Can It Be
7. Abide With Me
8. Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehova
9. Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace
10. The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, Is Ended
11. Jerusalem
12. Great Is Thy Faithfulness
13. Shine Jesus Shine
14. Love Divine, All Love Excelling
15. Be Thou My Vision
16. Amazing Grace
17. I Vow To Thee My Country
18. When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
19. What A Friend We have In Jesus
20. Thine Be The Glory
21. To God Be The Glory
22. Praise, My Soul, The King Of Heaven
23. Be Still, My Soul
24. How Deep The Father's Love For Us
25. Will Your Anchor Hold In The Storms Of Life
26. Psalm 23 (by Stuart Townsend)
27. O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go
28. Lord, For The Years
29. Lord Of All Hopefulness
30. The Servant King
31. O Jesus, I Have Promised
32. Blessed Assurance
33. All Things Bright And Beautiful
34. The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want
35. King Of Kings, Majesty
36. Just As I Am
37. Beauty For Brokenness
38. Lord Of The Dance
39. There Is A Redeemer
40. My Song Is Love Unknown
41. My Jesus, My Saviour
42. Eternal Father, Strong To Save
43. Here I Am To Worship (Light Of The World)
44. Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
45. Angel-Voices Ever Singing
46. How Great Is Our God
47. Before The Throne Of God
48. Here Is Love, Vast As The Ocean
49. Morning Has Broken
50. The King Of Love My Shepherd Is

www.bbc.co.uk/the-uks-top-100-hymns

Update - Audio Visual Setup in our Worship Area

Our audio visual setup started with a small screen mounted above the organ 33 years ago, eventually moving to a ceiling mounted Data Projector and large wall screen around 15 years ago.

We have had great value and service from this equipment and more recently, with our online worship capabilities that it has also supported.

Since 2015/16, Property and the Broadcast team developed a 3 stage plan to upgrade all the church equipment to digital as and when possible. Digital allows greater flexibility, quality of sound and picture as well as longevity of service.

Current technology has all moved to digital and so sourcing replacement parts or expanding our existing system has become difficult and expensive.

Stage 1 Convert some of the broadcast capability and the hearing loops to digital (completed in 2017) Thanks to a generous bequest. Installing diversified audio controls that deliver a flexible recording capability (completed 2019).

Stage 2 Part 1 (Early 2020) Convert the Data Projector and screen to multiple large screen LED TVs, wall mounted, removing the need for frequent hoists to change globes, clean filters and servicing that gives quality viewing and longevity of features.

We cannot afford to do this upgrade in one go, so during lockdown we started by adding one large screen (86inch) TV to the south wall above the choir and organ.

Stage 2 Part 2 (Late 2020/Early 2021) Install the second LED TV above the band area and replace the screen, removing the need for the roof mounted data projector.

To just replace the existing Data Projector with a digital option would cost an unacceptable \$9,000 to \$10,000 and still require us to borrow a hoist to service it regularly.

The LED TV's are designed to last for 8 to 10 years. Something the Data Projectors could never offer us. So, as we come out of lockdown you will see the new TV screens, with the significantly clearer technology, on our worship centre walls.

Although no longer suitable for the worship centre, the data projector will not be wasted, as we will be able to use it in other areas of the complex (at ground level where easily serviced) for meetings and other functions.

These new digital screen TV's are amazing and are now being installed in almost all new churches. Data Projectors are no longer first choice because they are too expensive and have too much maintenance requirements.

Our challenge then is our transition, not the technology.

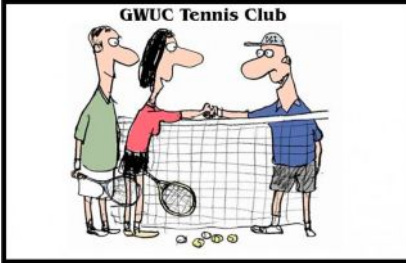


Stage 3 Replace the remaining audio setup (cabling, sound mixer and microphones) with modern digital equipment to give us another 20 years. Everything we have been doing over the past 5 years has been moving towards this same overall plan. If resources become available earlier, through a bequest, donation or subsidy, then the final stage may happen earlier.

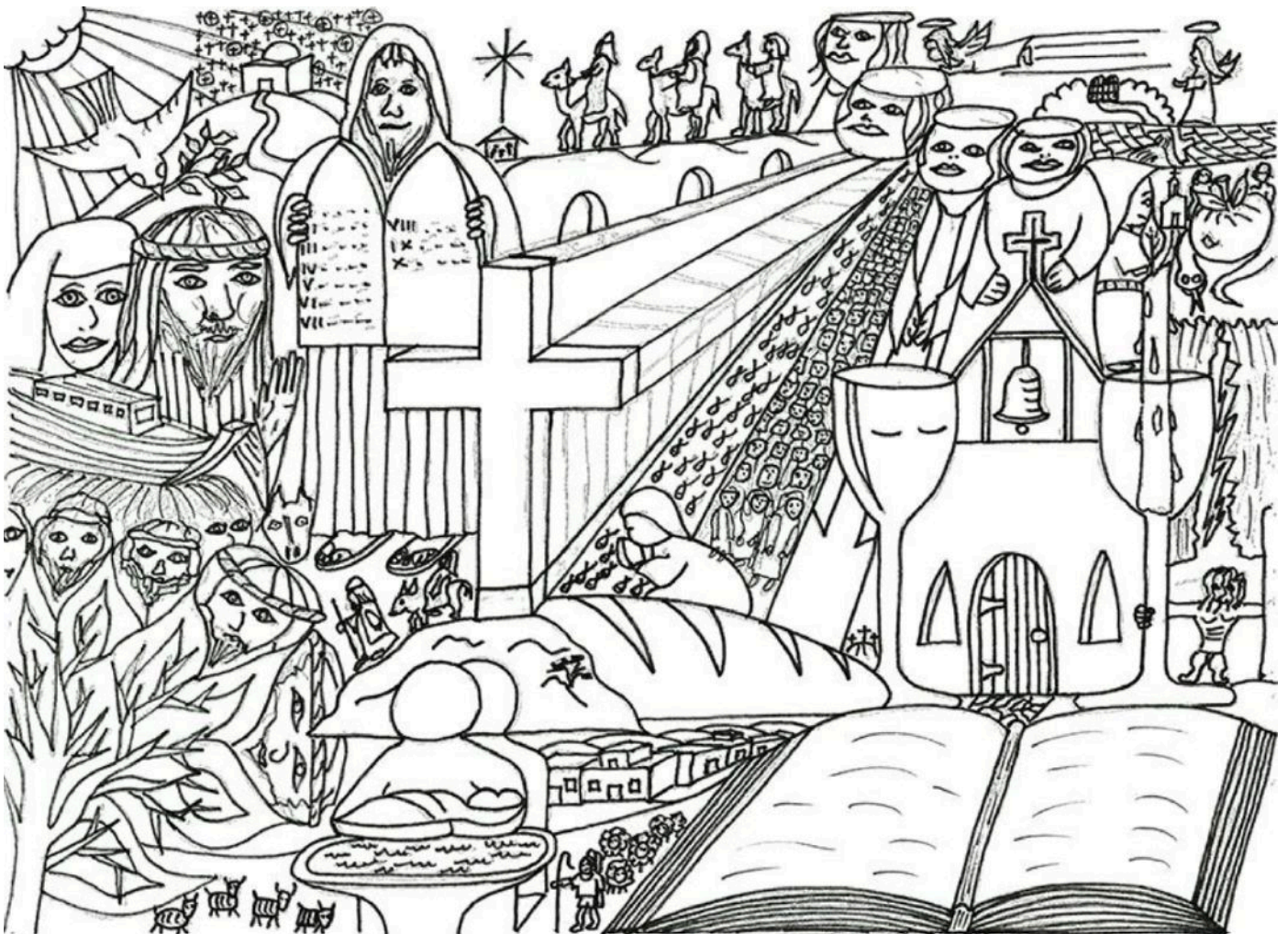
*Warren Greenwood
Chairperson - Property Committee*

Relax

in 2021 by joining in the fun at one of these GWUC social gatherings. Please contact the church office for more details.



For you to colour in...





Click
here...

*Let's get lost.
I know the way. I've been
there before!*

[Attack of the Cute](#)

[Super Cook](#)

[Giphy](#)

[Zoom Quilt](#)

[MapCrunch](#)

[Star Atlas](#)

[This Is Sand](#)

[Neon Flames](#)

[Six Biblical Mysteries](#)

[Major Characters of the Old
Testament](#)

[Bible Atlas](#)

[Comforting Bible Verses](#)

[Top 20 Most Frequently Asked Bible
Questions](#)

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY - YEAR B

February 7	February 14	February 17	February 21	February 28	March 7
<i>Epiphany 5 (Green)</i>	<i>Transfiguration of Jesus (White)</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday (Purple)</i>	<i>Lent 1 (Purple)</i>	<i>Lent 2 (Purple)</i>	<i>Lent 3 (Purple)</i>
Isaiah 40:21-31	2 Kings 2:1-12	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12	Genesis 9:8-17	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Exodus 20:1-17
Psalms 147:1-11, 20c	Psalms 50:1-6	Psalms 51:1-17	Psalms 25:1-10	Psalms 22:23-31	Psalms 19
1 Corinthians 9: 16-23	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	2 Corinthians 5:20b- 6:10	1 Peter 3:18-22	Romans 4:13-25	1 Corinthians 1: 18-25
Mark 1:29-39	Mark 9:2-9	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	Mark 1:9-15	Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9	John 2:13-22

March 14	March 21	March 28	March 29	March 30	March 31
<i>Lent 4 (Purple)</i>	<i>Lent 5 (Purple)</i>	<i>Palm Sunday (Purple)</i>	<i>Monday in Holy Week (Purple)</i>	<i>Tuesday in Holy Week (Purple)</i>	<i>Wednesday in Holy Week (Purple)</i>
Numbers 21:4-9	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Isaiah 42:1-9	Isaiah 49:1-7	Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalms 107: 1-3, 17-22	Psalms 51:1-12 or Psalms 119:9-16	Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29	Psalms 36:5-11	Psalms 71:1-14	Psalms 70
Ephesians 2:1-10	Hebrews 5:5-10	Philippians 2:5-11	Hebrews 9:11-15	1 Corinthians 1: 18-31	Hebrews 12:1-3
John 3:14-21	John 12:20-33	Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16	John 12:1-11	John 12:20-36	John 13:21-32

*People never
stop writing
books...*

Ecclesiastes 12:12

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