



Weekly Newsletter

Barwon Heads, Newington, Ocean Grove,
Uniting Church in Australia

Sunday December 18th 2016

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A warm welcome is extended to all visitors today.
God's richest blessings to you all.

SERVICES TODAY

5.00pm Barwon Heads
Contemporary Service

2.00pm Newington
**Celebration of 150 years of witness
& the Amalgamation with O/Grove**

10.30am Ocean Grove
The Reverend Doctor Jong Soo Park

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

9.00am Barwon Heads
The Reverend Doctor Jong Soo Park

9.00am Ocean Grove
Ms. Jean Murray

LECTIONARY READINGS

THIS WEEK (Advent 4) Isaiah 7: 10-16, Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19,
Romans 1: 1-7, Matthew 1: 18-25

NEXT WEEK (Christmas Day) Isaiah 62: 6-12 or Isaiah 52: 7-10,
Psalm 97 or 98, Titus 3: 4-7 or Hebrews 1: 1-4, (5-12), Luke 2: (1-7), 8-20
John 1: 1-14

KEY VERSE

**“She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,
because he will save his people from their sins”**

Matthew 1: 21

BARWON HEADS NEWS

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER ITEMS: Please ring or send directly to Dianne Sapwell before 8.30am Friday each week. Email oguc@tpg.com.au or phone 5256 2477 and leave a message.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you would like prayer through the week, to activate the prayer chain, please contact Fay on 5254 1763 or 0447 314 377 where you can leave a message and Fay will get back to you.

HELP NEEDED: on Sunday December the 18th from 10.00am. We would appreciate helpers to move chairs, and equipment from the Church and the Senior Citizens Centre to the Community Hall for the Carol Service that evening.

ROSTER TIME AGAIN: Are there any dates from January –April 2017 that you are unavailable for duties? If there is anyone willing to be added to the roster? If so, please let Sally know ASAP sahobbs71@gmail.com Thanks to everyone who volunteers.

OUR LADIES FRIENDSHIP GROUP enjoyed a large gathering for our last meeting this year on Wednesday December the 7th. To celebrate Christmas we sang carols, accompanied by Marjorie. Leanne and Jess entertained us with their beautiful harmonies, and Yoo Mi presented a thoughtful message. We wish to thank all who participated, especially Marilyn for all her work and amazing organisation of these meetings. They are truly appreciated by all our ladies and we look forward to continuing in February 2017

**All welcome to morning tea
in the church hall after the service.**

*Members of the Newington Congregation
Warmly invite everyone to their
Final Church Service on
Sunday December the 18th at 2.00pm.
The Moderator, The Reverend Sharon Hollis
will be the Preacher.
The service will be followed by afternoon tea.*

ADVENT STUDY: "Story Patch"

Listening to our members' sharing on their particular vocation or ministry, celebrating the season of Advent together and preparing our hearts and minds for the birth of Jesus Christ.

Wednesday evening 7.00pm at Ocean Grove Uniting Church for approximately one hour.

Welcoming and lighting of Christmas candles
Singing along Sharing stories and meditating the season of Advent
Holy Communion Praying for others and blessings.

December 21st-Ian Cover,
his broadcasting career on "Couldabeen Champions"

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve Parish Service 7.30pm Ocean Grove
Christmas Day 9.00am
at both Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE AT
OCEAN GROVE UNITING CHURCH AND
THE DOVE OPPORTUNITY SHOP.**

Last Saturday Queenscliff Rural Australians for Refugees had a Garage Sale at the home of Lyn Mulligan and it was wonderful success. With the help of many for the publicity, setting up and being on duty at the sale, and the cleaning up at the end of the day over \$1500.00 was raised. The proceeds will be shared amongst various groups and to help assist a young disabled asylum-seeker who is a gifted artist and who hopes to be an entrant in next years "Archibald Prize" On the noticeboard at the entrance of the hall at Ocean grove there is a photo of Bomans' work titled "Old Afghani at the end of a day's work.

CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL

This year, the focus of the Christmas Bowl appeal is on hard working farmers in Zimbabwe who are struggling to raise enough food for their families after years of catastrophic drought. Just like farming families in Australia, they are proud of the many generations of expertise they hold, but season after season of failed rains have brought many to the edge of starvation. The gifts you so generously give for the Christmas Bowl appeal will go towards helping change people's lives.

"Let all that you do be done in love" 1 Corinthians 16:14

OCEAN GROVE NEWS

RETIRING OFFERING: For November & December we will be supporting the Act for Peace Christmas Bowl Appeal. Please see the notice below and on the inside page for more information.

PRAYER CONTACT: If you would like our prayer team to pray for you or others (with their permission) please contact Carol Lascelles on 5256 3034 from December the 17th until January the 2nd. Thank you Carol.

FRIDAY COFFEE AND CHAT Drop in for a tea/coffee, biscuit or two, a chat and always a good laugh. Stay for 5 minutes or an hour if you like. All are welcome. **Please note that next Friday (December the 16th) will be the last gathering for this year. Coffee and Chat will resume on Friday the 3rd of February 2017**

LOAVES AND FISHES PANTRY : If you are wondering how you might support the work of our food pantry tins of crushed tomatoes, sweet corn kernels and baked beans would be greatly appreciated by the many people who come seeking our assistance.

JAM JARS NEEDED: yes Helen Baum is once again accepting jars for her delicious varieties of jam. They can be of any size, but it would be appreciated if you take the labels of and ensure that the jars and lids are clean.

CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL ENVELOPES have been distributed, but there are some near the retiring offering bowl. Please use the envelope to make your donation to this worthy appeal. You may return your envelope either through the Offering Bowl on any Sunday or leave in the Retiring Offering Bowl in the foyer of the Church. The appeal will run until the 31st of December.

ANNUAL REPORTS: It would be appreciated if all members of the Congregation who are responsible for preparing an Annual Report could make a start on them asap. The reports need to be handed into the Office by the middle of January at the latest. This will allow enough time for them to be printed and distributed before the next Congregational Meeting in early February.

PEWTER FISH PIN: Ralph Scott has been able to buy one from "On a wing and a Prayer" (phone 5221 4451) for \$5.95. The store is currently out of stock but will order more if there is serious interest. Take the time to see Ralph's pin if you are interested.