

# Weekly Newsletter

# Barwon Heads, Ocean Grove, Uniting Church in Australia

# Sunday December 17th 2017

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

SERVICES TODAY

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

9.00am Barwon Heads

9.00am Barwon Heads

NO SERVICE TODAY

The Reverend Doctor Jong Soo Park

Carols Service, Community Hall 6.30pm

10.30am Ocean Grove

10.30.00am Ocean Grove

The Reverend Doctor Jong Soo Park

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Family Carol Service

"A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols" Sunday December 24th 7.30pm Ocean Grove Uniting Church

#### LECTIONARY READINGS

THIS WEEK (Advent 3) Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 or Luke 1: 46b—55, 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24, John 1: 6-8, 19-28

NEXT WEEK (Advent 4) 2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16 Luke 1: 46b -55 or Psalm 89: 1-4, Romans 16: 25-27, Luke 1: 26-38

#### **KEY VERSE**

"The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world"

John 1: 9

#### **BARWON HEADS NEWS**

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER ITEMS:** Please ring or send directly to Dianne Sapwell before 8.30am Friday each week. Email oguc107@gmail.com 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.

**COMMUNITY CAROLS** The Combined Churches of Barwon Heads present the annual Christmas Carols evening in the Community Hall **tonight** - **December the 17th at 6.30pm.** Our church band will provide the music for this wonderful event with the Barwon Heads Chorale leading the singing.

CHRISTMAS BOWL appeal envelopes are in the pews and your support is invited so that the Christmas Bowl can help people threatened by conflict and disaster all over the world. Last year our Congregation sent \$2780 to the appeal (which included the gold coin entry to the Community Christmas Carols, the Christmas Day offering at church as well as personal contributions from individual members) towards the Australia —wide total of more than \$2 million raised by Congregations of member of Churches of the National Council of Churches in Australia. With so many crisis situations around the world the need is greater than ever. Please remember the Christmas Bowl as you plan your Christmas spending.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS: Thank you to all who contributed in cash or by tinned and packaged foods for Christmas Hampers for people in need in the Geelong region. All food items, including those purchased through our IGA points were delivered by Be Smith who is a volunteer with Uniting. IGA were very generous with discounts, enabling us to get extra value for our points. Thanks too to Greg and Helen Carruthers who made arrangements with IGA. Now we start earning points towards next year's Christmas Hampers by presenting our Uniting Church IGA key tag every time we shop at Barwon Heads IGA. If you need a replacement or extra key tag, ask Margaret Parry (5254 3208) for one.

**Our Ladies friendship Group** enjoyed a wonderful Christmas service last Wednesday, our final meeting for this year. We had a great attendance, and were entertained by the Bellarine Community Choir, who sang many beautiful carols. As always, we were moved by another of jean Murray's delightful sermons. We presented thank you gifts to Jean, the Choir, Marjory (our pianist) and to Merilyn for all the work she puts into organizing this group. We then moved to the hall for a sumptuous afternoon tea and to socialise.

All welcome to morning tea in the Church Hall after the service.

Uniting Christmas Cards for sale in the foyer of the Ocean Grove Church Each pack of 10 cards is only \$9.00 Uniting is the community services arm of the Uniting Church in Victoria and Tasmania

#### ADVENT STUDY "STORY PATCH 2"

Wednesday December the 20th Alan Cover—"My Story of my faith journey"

7.00pm Ocean Grove Uniting Church

#### CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

### **Sunday December the 24th**

9.00am Barwon Heads 10.30am Ocean Grove 7.30pm Ocean Grove "A festival of Nine Lessons and carols

## **Monday December the 25th**

9.00am Barwon Heads 9.00am Ocean Grove

### **ANNUAL LEAVE**

Jong Soo and his family will be on Annual leave from Tuesday January the 2nd until Tuesday January the 16th 2018.

If you have an Pastoral needs or concerns please speak to either a Church Council member or Elder your Congregation.

#### **OCEAN GROVE NEWS**

**RETIRING OFFERING:** For the months of November and December we will be supporting the Christmas Bowl Appeal.

**PRAYER CONTACT:** If you would like our prayer team to pray for you or others (with their permission) please contact Helen Baum on 5255 1487.

FRIDAY COFFEE AND CHAT: Please note that the Friday Coffee and Chat will be in recess for the holidays and will resume on Friday February the 2nd 2018

**LOAVES AND FISHES PANTRY**: to help stock our pantry it would be helpful to receive <u>TINS</u> of soup, tuna and packets of pasta (not spaghetti) and rice. Thank you for continuing support of the Food Pantry, it helps provide a number of people in our Ocean Grove Community with food security.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2017 WILL BE ACCPTED ANY TIME YOU HAVE THEM READY!! Please ensure that you have your Annual Reports in by the 14th of January 2018.

BOOK AND PAINTING SALE: Setting up Wednesday January the 10th, selling days Thursday 11th, Friday 12th and Saturday the 13th of January 2018. Please write these dates on your new calendars and endeavor to make some time to help either with the setting up or the selling. The sale will be open from 10.00am—4.00pm each day and a roster will be set up for you to write your name on. Remember that even if you can only spare an hour on a couple of days it all helps.

#### **CHOIR HUMOUR:**

"Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get"

"Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again", giving obvious pleasure to the Congregation"

""Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones."