



Weekly Newsletter

Barwon Heads, Ocean Grove,
Uniting Church in Australia

Sunday December 23rd 2018

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

SERVICES TODAY

9.00am Barwon Heads
The Reverend Doctor Jong Soo Park

10.30am Ocean Grove
The Reverend Doctor Jong Soo Park

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

9.00am Barwon Heads
Ms. Jean Murray

10.30am Ocean Grove
Ms. Jean Murray

LECTIONARY READINGS

THIS WEEK (Fourth Sunday in Advent)
Micah 5: 2-5a, Luke 1: 46b-55 or Psalm 80: 1-7
Hebrews 10: 5-10, Luke 1: 39-45, (46-55)

NEXT WEEK (First Sunday after Christmas)
1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26 Psalm 148
Colossians 3: 12-17, Luke 2: 41-52

KEY VERSE

**"Restore us, O God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that
we may be saved."**

Psalm 80:7

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.

JANUARY FETE: Our biggest fundraising event is less than two months away. That's right, it's on **Saturday January the 12th at 3.00pm**. Thanks to Ken and Faye McLean who have started the organisational ball rolling. A list of activities/convenors/helpers will be placed in the hall so please write your name where you can help. Family members and friends are always welcome to assist. **Please note the amendment to the date!**

BRAVO! The Carols Service in the BH Community Hall last Sunday evening was a wonderful event with another full house. Our Church band was in tip-top form and the Barwon Heads Chorale was in fine voice. Thank you to everyone who made it happen: it really was a great team effort.

GST PROJECTS: Church Council has approved donations of \$400 each to SecondBite, WellWishers, Kondanani Zambia, and a Cambodian Clean Water Program from money raised this year. We also use these funds to support Leonardus, our World Vision sponsored child. The distribution is less than in previous years due to the absence of the Annual Trivia Night this year but it is planned to return in 2019.

RAFFLE ticket books are available as part of our January Fete Fundraising efforts. Please see Ken MacLean at morning tea. Helpers are also needed for ticket selling in the lead-up to the Fete. Ken or Lydia (0418 547 644) would love to hear from you.

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

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

**Christmas Eve
7.30pm Carol Service at Ocean Grove**

**Christmas Day
9.00am Barwon Heads
9.00am Ocean Grove**

DATES FOR 2019 CALENDARS

Annual Leave for Jong Soo:
Jan 8th– 11th and Jan. 22nd—31st

Book and Painting Sale at Ocean Grove:
Setting up Jan. 9th from 10.00am,
Selling Thursday (10th) and Friday (11th) 10.00am—4.00pm,
Saturday 10.00am—1.00pm and then packing up begins.

Annual Fete at Barwon Heads:
Saturday January 12th 3.00pm

Recycled Treasure Sale at Ocean Grove:
Setting up Friday January 18th from 12noon,
Selling Saturday January the 19th 8.00am—12 noon.

Say good-bye to The Park Family:
Service of Worship Sunday January 20th 10.30am at Ocean Grove
Lunch to follow. Please bring a plate of finger food to share.

A MESSAGE FROM CATHIE BOND (R.A.R. Volunteer)

The "Welcome Place" in Geelong is open every Friday from 2.00pm until 9.00pm. All staff are volunteers. We provide a place where those seeking asylum can come for recreation, friendship and support. We assist with reading and explaining official letters, helping fill in applications for employment or accommodation etc. We have computer access and photocopying, games and activities including art and craft, friends to chat with and also provide practice with English language conversation.

We also provide a communal meal each Friday evening and our asylum-seeker friends help with preparation and cleaning up afterwards. This has helped break down shyness and we all learn about each other's foods and cultures. Lovely friendships have developed between people from many different countries and cultures.

The Welcome Place has now opened a Food Bank where we accept donations of non-perishable food and toiletries, cleaning products and also supermarket store vouchers to enable the purchase of fresh fruit and veggies and protein foods. People access this food bank when they visit the Welcome Place. It is a wonderful resource now and we thank the generous friends in our wider community who support this critical need. Recently we received a large tub of donations from a Geelong Primary school. It contained many clip-lock bags containing essential items and also a personal note from each child who had donated. One of our Asylum-seeker friends, a young single man who is going through a very difficult time, picked out one of the gift bags. He read the note inside, The message said these simple but beautiful words..."You are not alone!" With thanks, dear friends, who ease all our hearts.....

Cathie

OCEAN GROVE NEWS

RETIRING OFFERING: For November and December will be for the Christmas Bowl Appeal. **“Finding joy amidst the drought”** By supporting the Christmas Bowl you are helping mothers in Zimbabwe to become conservation farmers, support their children and harvest joy during their toughest seasons.

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

FRIDAY COFFEE AND CHAT: is now in recess until school resumes in 2019

A REMINDER: if at any time you move furniture from one place to another, would you kindly ensure that it is returned to where you got it from.

IT IS NOT ONLY NEARLY CHRISTMAS it is also nearly the end of the year, and that means time to be thinking about Annual Reports. Why not get this job done before you go into holiday mode!

COMMITMENT PLAN FOR 2019: Please return your plan to the box on the table in the foyer asap. If you have not received one or misplaced your original one Dianne Sapwell will be able to give you a copy. It is important that all members of the Congregation read and prayerfully consider how they can commit to the ongoing work of the church in 2019.

HELPED NEEDED AT THE BOOK AND PAINTING SALE

If you are able to help bring the boxes of books stored in The Taj in to the church hall on Wednesday January the 10th at 10.00am it would be greatly appreciated. Then people are needed to unpack the boxes and display the books so if you can spare any amount of time it would also be appreciated. The actual sale is on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday and we need people to “Take the Money”. A roster will be available for you to put your name on next week. The selling hours are Thursday and Friday 10.00am—4.00pm and Saturday 10.00am—1.00pm. If you are not able to help with the above requests, maybe you can come at 1.00pm on the Saturday and help pack up what is left! Remember many hands make light work!!