



Weekly Newsletter

Barwon Heads, Ocean Grove,
Uniting Church in Australia

Sunday December 8th 2019

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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 Robert Thomas

10.30am Ocean Grove
The Reverend Robert Thomas

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

9.00am Barwon Heads
The Reverend Bob Thomas

10.30am Ocean Grove
The Reverend Robert Thomas

LECTIONARY READINGS

THIS WEEK (Advent 2)
Isaiah 11: 1-10, Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19
Romans 15: 4-13, Matthew 3: 1-12

NEXT WEEK (Advent 3)
Isaiah 35: 1-10, Psalm 146: 5-10 or Luke 1: 46b-55
James 5: 7-10, Matthew 1: 18-25

KEY VERSE

"Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvellous deeds"
Psalm 72: 18

BARWON HEADS NEWS

PRAYER CHAIN: If anyone would like to prayer, could you please contact Marilyn Hanson on 0438 398 506, and she will add you to our prayer chain.

THE ANNUAL FETE will be held on **Saturday 11th January 2020.** a list of stalls and activities has been posted in the hall. Please fill in how and when you can help. Family members and friends are welcome to lend a hand in the lead up or on the day. Any questions or ideas, please ring Fete Co-ordinator Lydia Cover on 0418 547 644.

CAROLS SERVICE: The Combined Churches of Barwon Heads will present the Annual Carols Service in the Barwon Heads Community Hall on **Saturday 15th December at 6.30pm**

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS: Thanks to Greg Carruthers who liaised with IGA to convert our Uniting Church "points" into packaged foods for Christmas Hampers to be distributed in the Geelong region, and to Be Smith who delivered them to Uniting at Grovedale Uniting Church along with our personally donated food items.

FOOD LABELS for Cakes and Preserves Stalls along with Food Providers Lists, are available in the church hall until Sunday 22nd December, and then at Church on Sundays, and in the church hall in the days leading up to the church Fete on Saturday January 11th.

HELP REQUIRED: from 10.00am on Sunday the 15th of December help is required to transport chairs and set up in the Community Hall for the Carol Service in the evening. Please contact Sally Hobbs if you are able to help.

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

Our Church Community is grieving with
Paul, Kathy and Sam
following the tragic loss of Ally
on Thursday December the 28th.
Please pray for them and
keep them in your thoughts

BELLARINE TRAINING AND COMMUNITY HUB

Are having our first
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH.

Don't spend Christmas alone! Please come and join us for a 3 course lunch and make some new friends.

Details:

Christmas Day 25/12/2019

Time 12noon—2.30pm

Where 1 John Dory Drive Ocean Grove

RSVP: Essential on 5255 4294

Cost: Free

Volunteers are welcome but need to register prior on 5255 4294

Bicycles For Humanity

A shipping container that can hold 500 bicycles is not quite full and so more bikes are needed.

This will be the last container to be sent to Nambia this year and it is hoped that it can be filled to capacity.

If you have any bikes no longer being used and would like to donate them please phone
Lyn Mulligan on 5255 2638

Office hours for The Reverend Bob Thomas will be on Wednesday instead of the usual Thursday for next week only.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES

Tuesday December the 24th
Parish Carol Service at Ocean Grove
7.30pm

Wednesday December the 25th
9.00am at Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove

Sunday December the 29th
9.00am Barwon Heads, 10.30am Ocean Grove

OCEAN GROVE NEWS

RETIRING OFFERING: For December we will be supporting the Act for Peace Christmas Bowl Appeal.

“Bringing peace to Sri Lankan refugees returning home”

When ethnic violence swept across Sri Lanka, the poorest and most vulnerable families fled to India. With the war now over, many of them wish to return to their homeland to live in peace and freedom, and to help rebuild their nation. Your gifts can help provide skills training and financial assistance, and can support welcome groups that help families to make the return home. Please give today.

PRAYER CONTACT: If you would like our prayer team to pray for you or others (with their permission) call Robin Munro on 4202 0323

SAMMY STAMP: Please save all the stamps from your Christmas mail for Sammy Stamp. They can be placed in the marked box in the church foyer. All stamps need to be trimmed so that they have a border of envelope **3mm or 1/8 inch wide all the way around** to be acceptable for Sammy Stamp sales in Melbourne. Stamps that are heavily cancelled are also unacceptable. If you have difficulty trimming around your stamps please leave them attached to the envelopes and they will be trimmed by members of the UCAF. Please speak to Judy Greer or Joan Billington if you have any queries. Thank you all for your past support of this ongoing UCAF activity.

At the last CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - matter of calling a Minister was discussed at length and the Church Council decided that the following recommendation to the Congregation be put forward on Sunday December the 8th immediately after worship. “The Church Council recommends that Ocean Grove Uniting Church Congregation proceeds to call a full time Minister in co-operation with Barwon Heads. In faith we will pay 60% of the Ministers Stipend.”

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING Thursday December 12th. 4.30PM

GOOD NEWS: David Runia is now our second representative on the Joint Nominating Committee. Thank you David for taking Neil Derrick's place.

ROSTERS: the morning tea roster for January—June 2020 will be prepared next week. If you would like to have your name added or removed from this duty please let Dianne Sapwell know before Friday.