



Keiraview Uniting Church

16th DEC. 2018

ADVENT 3

9:15am Morning Worship

7:00pm Carols Service

Sharing life's journey with faith, hope and love in Christ.

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:4-7

CONTACT US

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FAIRTRADE

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Community

A warm welcome to all worshipping
with Keiraview today.

Morning Worship will be led by Rev. Annette Hawken at FGV. All welcome at morning tea afterwards.

Evening Worship is replaced by the Christmas Celebration led by Rev. Annette Hawken at Wollongong West Public School (WWPS).

THIS WEEK AT KEIRAVIEW

Today **Fair World Cup of Games** from 5pm at WWPS.

Carols Service 7-8pm at WWPS.

Tues. 18th **Bible Study** 8pm TBC. Enq. Scott Morrison 0418 665161

Kids' Club and Good Samarateens are in recess until 2019.

COMING EVENTS (Keiraview)

Christmas Day Service Tues., 25 Dec., at 9am at FGV

Church at the Beach Sun., 30 Dec., evening service at Stuart Park, North Wollongong.

Special Church Meeting Thurs., 24 Jan., at 7:30pm at FGV. More details on back page.

COMING EVENTS (other)

New Year's Eve Worship Night 31 Dec., from 9:30pm (worship begins 10:15pm) at Keiraville International Church, 16-18 Eastern St., Gwynneville. Organised by Keiraville International Church with people from other churches contributing. *Speaker:* Myles Elton, Youth & Young Adults Minister, Figtree Anglican Church. Live streaming of fireworks at midnight.



CHRISTMAS BOWL Standing by men, women and children living through conflict and displacement is, sadly, more important than ever. For the first time in history, there are nearly 60 million

displaced people in the world who need our help. The Christmas Bowl appeal is our way of forging a loving connection between our Christian community here in Australia and people around the world who are experiencing dreadful hardship and suffering.

Envelopes for Christmas Bowl donations are available at church, place them into the Offertory Bowl or go to

<https://www.actforpeace.org.au/Christmas-Bowl>

CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE 2019

Chairperson Pauline Doyle

Secretary Annette Arthur

Treasurer Ross Johnson

Thanks must go to Gavin Whitten for his many years of leadership as Chair of Church Council

of thanksgiving for our teachers, students and children who are finishing the school year this week.

for our upcoming **Christmas Carols** community outreach today.

A Blue Christmas Prayer from Jeff Nelson - Philosophy Over Coffee

Around us, O God, the singing can be heard: 'Joy to the world...let heaven and nature sing.' This season is to be one of hope eases our minds, when peace soothes our hearts, when love warms our souls, and when joy comes each morning.

But there are many who do not feel this joy. Some might try, others have given up trying. 'Where is this joy for us?' they ask. The world has found joy but some feel as if it has passed them by. Our minds are not at ease...we feel too much doubt. Our hearts are not at peace...there is too much to do. Our souls are not warmed...the chill of death is too troubling. Where, O God, can joy be found? We ask this as we come before you in prayer, opening ourselves to the possibility that hope, peace, joy, and love might still come to us.

We pray for the lonely, that they might find comfort in another's touch. We pray for the downtrodden, that they might find relief from their burdens.

We pray for those wrestling with depression, that a light of calm might bring them peace.

We pray for those dealing with stress, that they might find the courage to let go.

We pray for the grief-stricken, that they might experience the newness of life that you bring.

May joy come to the world, O God, and may we grasp some of that. We do not pray for joy that is temporary or fleeting, but a joy that runs deep and sustains us even in moments of despair. We seek this joy in a season that can be less than joyful. O God, hear our prayer.

We wait for Emmanuel, God With Us, to come into our hearts once again. May we experience your love in new ways as we in turn love each other. We pray this in the name of the One who is to come.

Amen

DONATION NEWS Keiraview Uniting Church has made a donation of \$20,000 to the Kiama/Jamberoo Heritage Fund from our Sales Proceeds allocated to the Synod.

24th January 2019 - Special Church Council Meeting

A special Keiraview Church Council meeting will be held at the Administration Centre at Farmborough Grove at 7:30pm on 24/1/19. The meeting will have one agenda item only as per below.

Following the Assembly's decision regarding Same Sex Marriage the Church Council needs to make a decision whether the Keiraview property is available to be used for Same Sex Marriages. The Church Council invites the members of the congregation to attend this meeting to express their views on this matter.



The Social Justice Forum is calling on members of the Uniting Church to provide practical support to people seeking asylum through the **2018 Christmas Voucher Appeal**. Rev. Simon Hansford said *"It arises from our understanding of their worth as human beings made in the image of God; and from our experience of a God who offers hospitality, welcome, refuge and justice to us, and calls us to offer these to others."*

To get involved:

1. Purchase a gift card or voucher to an amount of your choice. It could be a supermarket or department store voucher or even a gift card for a pharmacy, cinema or sports store.
2. Send the voucher/s to: Give Hope Team, PO Box 7137, Silverwater NSW 2128
3. Spread the word about the appeal.

NEXT WEEK ...

Advent 4, 23rd December

Micah 5:2-5a
Psalm 80:1-7
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)



Audio System	Rod Doyle
PC/Slide Show	Colin Gold
Welcomers	Kevin Smyth Thelma Smyth
Announcements	Clive Arthur
Elder	Annette Arthur
Music	Grace Kennedy
Bible Reader	Pat Waller
Prayer	Alayne Guerin
Offering Counting	Ross Johnson Lyn Jones
Morning Tea	Norma Coudrey June Keith Elaine Faulks Pat Judd

The final news sheet for Dec/Jan will cover 23/12 – 26/01, if you have any notices for during this period, please send to notices@keiraview.org or phone Grace Kennedy on 0415 952701, by noon on Fri., 21 December.