

20<sup>th</sup> December 2020

ADVENT 4

34 FISHER ST,  
WEST WOLLONGONG

# Keiraview Uniting News



## contact us

### MINISTER OF THE WORD

Rev. Dr Les Hewitt

☎ 4260 8655

minister@keiraview.org

### CHURCH COUNCIL

Gavin Whitten

☎ 4229 2303

secretary@keiraview.org

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

youth@keiraview.org

### CHURCH/HALL BOOKINGS

☎ 4203 2618

bookings@keiraview.org

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www.keiraview.org

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A Fairtrade Faith Community

Romans 16:25-27

Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel, the message I proclaim about Jesus Christ, in keeping with the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith.

welcome

Morning Worship **9:30am**  
led by Rev. Dr Les Hewitt

Evening Worship **6:30pm**  
led by Liana Whitten

## Thought for the week

There was once an old Japanese farmer whose property was on a hill-top overlooking the village by the bay. Over the years he had helped and employed many of the local people. This year there had been a particularly good harvest and he had six large stacks of rice piled up on the farm ready for transport. Because it had been a good year for all the local farmers, there was much dancing and celebration in the village.

Suddenly the old farmer became aware that there had been an earth tremor well out to sea. His keen eyes noticed, with horror, that the sea was drawing back from the sand at a rate he had not witnessed before, and he knew that shortly a tsunami would come rushing in and destroy the whole village. The old farmer quickly called for his grandson to bring a flame from the fire in his cottage, and then he hurriedly moved from one precious rice stack to another until a huge blaze covered the hill-top. The people in the village saw the smoke and fire and rushed up the hill to see what terrible thing had happened. As they arrived the old farmer simply stood pointing out to sea. The people turned in time to see the tsunami come crashing in and destroy the whole village. Suddenly they realised that the old farmer had sacrificed everything to save them.

At Christmas time we are reminded again of how God gave everything - even His own son - to save us. He made this great sacrifice for us, once and for all. May you all have a happy and holy Christmas. *Les and Lynette*

### PRAYERS

Pray for Rev. David Stuart, his wife Gillian, and their three children as they prepare for the move to Keiraview.

Pray for planning for 2021, for all activities, and outreach. Pray for all MATs.

Pray for those in our Church Family undergoing tests, and treatment.

Pray for those who have lost loved ones or are lonely this Christmas, and for the Blue Christmas Service at Wesley @7pm on 23/12.

### COMING UP AT KEIRAVIEW

Day	Time	Activity
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>	10:30- 11:15	<b>Advent Bible Study</b>
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>	14:00- 16:00	<b>Gardening @ Church</b>
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>	19:30- 21:00	<b>Mid-Week Advent Bible Study</b>
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>	09:00- 10:00	<b>Christmas Day Worship</b>



## From the Safe Church Team

The Safe Church Team would like to remind the congregation to ensure they maintain the 1.5m physical distancing as far as practical at all times. For those having Morning Tea please ensure you maintain social distancing while getting your cuppa and whilst sitting at the tables. This is one of the best ways to limit the spread of the COVID virus. If you have any questions regarding our COVID Safe Plans or the procedures we have put in place, please speak to the Safe Church Team (Gavin Whitten, Vi Richardson or Pauline Doyle) or email

safe-church@keiraview.org

Church Council met in August and the decision was made to continue onsite worship services and group activities.

We continue to recommend the wearing of masks at worship services as per the NSW Government guidelines.



## Christmas Day Service

The **Keiraview Christmas Day Service** will be at 9am.

Offerings will go to the Christmas Bowl Appeal.

*Please let Gavin, Vi or Pauline know by Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec if you have a group of 3 or more attending church on Christmas Day. We will be putting some additional chairs in the church to accommodate more people and allow family groups to sit together.*

## Rev. David Stuart's Induction Service

David's induction will be held at **14:00 on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January**. Please join us for this important service to welcome David and his family to Keiraview. This will be a combined congregation service.

[Please note there will be no morning or evening service on that day]

## Keiraview Market Day

**SAVE THE DATE! Saturday 6th March** for a Market Day to raise the funds to sponsor our 2 young people at Agape children's Home in Thailand.

We had to cancel the planed Market Day last March due to the COVID-19 virus. Please keep the date and think about how you can help in this one.

Contact Robyn Johnson if you would like to help.

## Singing at Services

New COVID Safe guidelines advise that congregational singing is now permitted as long as mask coverings are used.



## Newsletter Recess

The 27<sup>th</sup> December newsletter will be the last for this year and will be in recess for 4 weeks. Please ensure that you send any articles or notices for the duration 27/12/2020 – 24/01/2021 **by 26<sup>th</sup> December** to [notices@keiraview.org](mailto:notices@keiraview.org)

## RETREAT YOURSELF COMING TO KEIRAVIEW IN JANUARY

Encourage your emerging gens to take up Keiraview's invitation for a night of cooking and a day of connection.

Starting Friday night 15 Jan @ 18:30 with a Friday Night Cook-Off (connecting via zoom with 7 other UCA kitchens cooking the same dish). If you can't make it to Keiraview, join from home and follow along (recipes provided).

10am Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Jan kicks off with a zoom gathered worship and study, then connect with others at Keiraview to discuss how we encounter God personally, locally, within our church and wider community, as we grow as disciples.

Contact Khairul Hamdan [khairul@keiraview.org](mailto:khairul@keiraview.org)

Follow along at home by registering at [nswact.uca.org.au/Ry21](https://nswact.uca.org.au/Ry21)

Coordinated by the Pulse team – *growing vital Christian communities where emerging generations thrive.*

## Growing Young Survey

Dear Friends,

Keiraview Church Council has decided to do an independent, whole church survey based on the 'Growing Young' book.

The address for the survey is below:

<https://www.oursurvey.church/KeiraviewUnitingChurch>

We believe the survey is very important and relevant. We ask you to complete the survey online **by the end of January 2021**. If you are unable to complete the survey online, one of us will be able to sit and enter information with you, or we could explore paper based options.

The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete. We are leaving the survey open for a 6 week period, so you can complete it anytime you choose up to the end of January 2021.

The results will be collected and will provide valuable information about our church family at Keiraview and will form a key part of our strategy for the future. It will also be great information for our new minister, David Stuart, to work from as he comes into and becomes part of Keiraview.

In addition, we have spare copies of the Growing Young book in paper form if anyone would like to read it. The book is also available online and in spoken form via Audible for the vision impaired, or those that prefer audio books.

Thanks,

Keiraview Church Council.



## ROSTER

27<sup>th</sup> DEC 2020

### Flowers

Robyn Johnson

### AV/Streaming

Ian Almond  
Clive Arthur

### Welcomers

Pat Robinson  
Pat Judd

### Announcements

Annette Arthur

### Elder

Pauline Doyle

### Music

Grace Kennedy

### Bible Reader

Pat Waller

### Prayer

Darren Kirwood

### Offering Counting

Clive Arthur  
Pauline Doyle

### Morning Tea

Rod Doyle  
Robyn Johnston  
Allan Kew  
Pat Waller

## READINGS

### CHRISTMAS 1

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalms 148

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40

Please send notices for this news sheet to Grace/John

**by noon Wednesday.**

☎ 0415 952701

[notices@keiraview.org](mailto:notices@keiraview.org)

### Fourth Sunday of Advent



## Finding strength in love after fleeing Syria

Life was already tough for Syrian refugees living in Jordan. And now, the economic crisis unfolding as a result of the coronavirus has made the situation even worse. This Christmas your gifts will help refugees in Jordan to stay safe through the pandemic. Your kindness will translate into lifesaving food rations, hygiene kits and medical care. What a wonderful way to share God's love. **Please give today.**



Christmas Bowl

CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: [actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl](http://actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl)

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

## ELECTRONIC GIVING

**Banking Details** If you prefer to do an electronic bank deposit as offertory, the details are:

Keiraview Uniting Church, BSB: 634 634, Account #: 100017747