

25<sup>th</sup> December 2022

CHRISTMAS DAY

34 FISHER ST,  
WEST WOLLONGONG

# Keiraview Uniting News



Lk 2:13-14

## Welcome

Morning Worship **9:30am**  
Led by Rev. David Stuart

Evening Worship **6:30pm**  
Led by Rev. David Stuart

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,  
"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

## Thought for Christmas Day - by David Stuart

*"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, for the child conceived in her is through the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save the people from their sins." (Matthew 1:20b-21)*

As I once again read through the gospel accounts of the birth of Jesus, I am also reminded of the challenges faced by Mary and Joseph on their journey. It was not an easy road to walk for them and I am not just talking about the rocky, dusty road they walked to Bethlehem. Mary and Joseph were engaged, promised to each other in marriage, and suddenly they were both confronted with the news that Mary was pregnant. This was complicated by the fact Joseph was not the father, which contravened all sorts of laws and ethics. It was far from an ideal situation and Mary and Joseph had much to deal with and work through in their relationship, both to each other and their community.

One verse stood out to me this year from Matthew 1:20-21, particularly the words from the angel: "Do not be afraid...you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." In the midst of challenging times, the shock, the pain, the confusion, the struggles, God spoke to Joseph, encouraging him to go ahead with his calling, to push through, because there is great hope.

2022 has in many ways been a great year, as we have been able to do many things that we could not over the previous two years of the pandemic. However, there has still been many challenges, pain, confusion, and struggles, and the journey has been a bit of a rocky, dusty road. What I hear God saying to me, to us, in this time is, "Do not be afraid to hope, do not be afraid to move forward, for there is great hope. Remember the promise of love, remember the promise that Jesus has come to save people from their sins."

This Christmas, may you know these words of encouragement, peace, joy, love and hope, and may you share them with your community, friends and family.

### PRAYERS

Pray for those in our congregation, and beyond, who are travelling this Christmas; that they and their loved ones stay safe on the roads and on their holidays.

Pray for the planning of Bible Studies and Outreach programs to meet the needs of our community for 2023.

Pray for the Scripture Union Family Missions taking place in the Illawarra this summer, that everyone involved will remain safe and focused.

Pray for those who are especially vulnerable this Christmas Day: the bereaved, the sick, the lonely, those experiencing homelessness and those at risk of family violence.

### COMING UP AT KEIRAVIEW

Day	Time	Activity
Sun Jan 1	9:30am	<b>New Year's Day worship service</b>
Sun Jan 8	9:30am	<b>Morning Service led by Khairul H</b>
Sun Jan 8	6:30pm	<b>Evening Service led by Laurie and Phil</b>
Fri Jan 13th	Evening	<b>Summer Movie Night (time TBA)</b>
Thurs Feb 9th	7:00pm- 9:00pm	<b>Safe Church Induction Evening</b>
Sat Feb 11th	9:30am- 11:30am	<b>Safe Church Induction Morning</b>

## Contact Us

### MINISTER OF THE WORD

Rev. David Stuart

☎ 4229 2303

minister@keiraview.org

(Day off on Wednesdays)

### CHURCH COUNCIL

Pauline Doyle

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secretary@keiraview.org

### COMMUNITY WORKER

Khairul Hamdan

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### CHURCH/HALL BOOKINGS

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A Fairtrade Faith Community

## From the Safe Church Team

As at 27<sup>th</sup> August 2022

- SPEAK OUT allows you to anonymously raise any concerns you have about our congregation, or any Uniting services or entities. If anything does not feel right to you, SPEAK OUT.

Independent and confidential hotline:  
1800 951 145

### COVID is Still Around

- It is very important that we have good ventilation. If you are the first one at a meeting or gathering, please OPEN the windows.

- Be aware of the symptoms of COVID. If you do have symptoms, do a RAT or get a PCR test. Avoid gatherings and services when you are unwell.

- You are encouraged to wear good quality masks when gathering indoors, particularly when it is difficult to maintain safe distance from others.

Any questions? Talk to the Safe Church Team (Gavin Whittaker, Phil Crawford, or email [safe-church@keiraview.org](mailto:safe-church@keiraview.org))



## Safe Church Induction

Save the dates for Safe Church Volunteer induction sessions:

**Thursday February 9<sup>th</sup> 7:00-9:00pm**

**Saturday February 11<sup>th</sup> 9:30-11:30am**

All volunteers at Keiraview are required to attend one of these sessions.

### An Update from the Armour Family

"We attended what was West Wollongong Uniting Church, which has become Keiraview.

Some of you will remember our daughter Emily who was born with Cystic Fibrosis. Many were praying for her as a baby and upheld our family in prayer even well after our move to Melbourne. The average life expectancy at the time Emily was born with her condition was about 30 years old. She will turn 30 this coming January.

We wanted you to be able to share in our joy that Emily is currently very well and with her husband, Matthew, had twin boys in November. Their names are Reuben and Levi.

We wanted to thank you for being a part of this miracle. The great care she has had along with a huge breakthrough in medication has been amazing. It has largely been the loving and praying friends that we have had along the journey. It has meant so much to us. We have never forgotten the support we were given.

We are so thankful to God for this blessing and send our love and prayers to you at Keiraview."

*Kathy and Wayne Armour*

### January Service Leadership

David will be on holidays from January 2<sup>nd</sup> to January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.

Pray for those who will be leading and preaching in his absence. Khairul will be leading the morning service on January 8<sup>th</sup> and Laurie and Phil will be leading a special over-70s-led evening on the 8<sup>th</sup>, the theme of which will be "Waiting for the Last Bus". There will be a community meal with the evening service on the 15<sup>th</sup> January.

### The Swaddled Saviour

The infant Jesus was 'wrapped in bands of cloth' or swaddled. This is such a familiar idea that it is easy to miss its significance. People have swaddled babies for generations. Such swaddling provides protection and helps the child to feel safe and secure.

So why does Luke mention it? Firstly, perhaps as a reference back to King Solomon, 'in swaddling clothes and with constant care I was nurtured' (Wisdom 7:4). But more importantly as a reference forward to the grave clothes, the linen wrappings that the risen Christ breaks and leaves behind at the resurrection. At his birth Jesus becomes bound to the human condition to transform it from within. At his death he breaks those bonds for all of us. We too can therefore take comfort and inspiration in the bands put upon us or in those we take upon ourselves to help free the burdens of others.

UCA Reflections Lectionary 25th December 2022

## Community Christmas Carols

Thank you to everyone who came to the Community Carols service last Sunday. We had a wonderful time eating, singing and worshipping together. Special thanks to the volunteers who helped make it such a great night for the community, especially those who volunteered with setting up and packing away at the end of the evening.



## Eden Playtime: Calling Volunteers

Eden Playtime finished the year on Tuesday 13 with a lovely Christmas party. We will resume in 2023 on January 31.

We meet weekly during school terms, Tuesdays 10am til 12 noon.

All are welcome. Call in for a cappuccino or to pull a few weeds in our veggie garden.

We are looking for some help in 2023. If you have a spare half hour, you may enjoy:

- reading stories
- supervising feeding our worms
- welcoming and marking off names
- providing and/or helping with a simple craft activity

Talk with Jenny Almond.

If you have a bit more time, consider helping:

- in the kitchen
- making espresso coffees
- chatting with our families or playing
- managing or helping with the raised garden beds
- packing away (12 - 13:30) or setting up (8:30 - 9:30)

Talk to Pat Robinson, Bronwyn Wilson, Sue Lattimore, David Stuart or Ian Almond to find out what volunteering at Eden playtime is really like.



### 3 Ways to Save Water this Summer:

Saving water saves money, but it also minimises the amount of additional water resources being taken out of our rivers and aquifers. There are a number of ways to do this, including:

1. Don't over-water your garden
2. Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan instead of running water freely from the tap
3. Upgrade older toilets to water-efficient models
4. Shorten your shower by a minute or two
5. Collect water from your roof to water your garden
6. Don't leave the tap running while you wash your hands or brush your teeth.

For more environmental tips like these, visit [www.yogaweeks.com/eco-friendly-summer/](http://www.yogaweeks.com/eco-friendly-summer/)

### Scripture Union Family Missions - Volunteers Wanted

Scripture Union Family Missions (SUFM) will be held in the Illawarra this summer. See below for details. If you want to volunteer to help out, contact the Missions administrator at Scripture Union NSW (SUNSW), on 9638 9000 or by emailing [missions@sunsw.org.au](mailto:missions@sunsw.org.au).

Location	Address	Dates
Albion Park	Albion Park Anglican Church Terry Street & Russell St, Albion Park	26th Dec, 2022 - 7th Jan, 2023
Bulli	Bulli Beach Tourist Park 1 Farrell Rd, Bulli	26 Dec 2022 – 6 Jan 2023
Corrimal	Corrimal Beach Tourist Park Lake Pde, Corrimal	26 Dec 2022 – 7 Jan 2023
Gerroa	Seven Mile Beach Holiday Park & Discovery Holiday Park 200 & 107 Crooked River Rd, Gerroa	26 Dec 2022 – 5 Jan 2023
Kiama Summerlife	74 Manning St, Kiama	27 Dec 2022 – 6 Jan 2023
Wollongong	Wollongong Surf Leisure Centre 201 Pioneer Road, Fairy Meadow	27 Dec 2022 – 6 Jan 2023



**Speak Out**  
IN CONFIDENCE

Raise any issues, incidents or concerns via our confidential and secure reporting service 'Speak Out'

INDEPENDENT AND CONFIDENTIAL HOTLINE  
**1800 951145**

For more information go to:  
[speakout.uca.org.au](http://speakout.uca.org.au)

Uniting Church of NSW & ACT | **ccore** INTEGRITY

## 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

## ROSTER

1<sup>st</sup> January 2023

### Flowers

Colleen Claydon

### AV/Streaming

Ian Almond  
Clive Arthur

### Welcomers

Colin Gold  
Pat Waller

### Announcements

Bev Ratcliffe

### Elder

Pauline Doyle

### Music

Robyn Bradley

### Bible Reader

Annette Arthur

### Prayer

Darren Kirkwood

### Communion Preparation

Alayne Guerin

### Communion Elder

Alayne Guerin  
Geoff Lattimore

### Offering Counting

Alan Bradley  
Pauline Doyle

### Morning Tea

Sandy Brisbane  
Rod Doyle  
Sue Lattimore  
Geoff Lattimore

## READINGS

### JANUARY 1, 2023

Is 63:7-9  
Ps 148  
Heb 2:10-18  
Mt 2:13-23

Please send notices for this news sheet to Naomi Barton  
by **5pm Wednesday**.

☎ 0401 791 483