

23rd July 2023

8th Week After Pentecost

34 FISHER ST,
WEST WOLLONGONG

Keiraview Uniting News



Psalm 78:2
Mat. 13:35b

Welcome

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

Evening Worship **6:00pm**
Led by David Stuart

"I will open my mouth in parables,
I will utter things hidden since the creation of
the world."

"Be Curious, Not Judgmental."

PRAYERS

Pray for those who are homeless or living in poverty, who are in especial hardship during the colder months

Pray for other churches in the Illawarra Presbytery, especially those in financial strain or who have a lack of able volunteers

Pray for the ongoing growth in Christ of our members as we begin new prayer gatherings, fellowship groups and education courses

Pray for Doo Ah and her ministry with UOW students on and off campus

Pray for the elderly living in residential care, especially the isolated and lonely, and for the workers and volunteers who serve them.

Pray for those who have been bereaved or who are suffering from lasting grief, particularly the friends and family of Ralph Short.

COMING UP AT KEIRAVIEW

Day	Time	Activity
Tues July 25th	10:00am- 12:00pm	Eden Playtime
Tues July 25th	2:30pm - 4:00pm	Funeral – Ralph Short
Thurs July 27th	4:00pm - 5:00pm	Keiraview Community Bible Study
Thurs July 27th	5:00pm - 8:00pm	Keiraview Community Night
Fri July 28th	7:00pm - 9:00pm	Regeneration Youth Group

This is the theme for our service this week in which we again look at one of Jesus' parables, and again links with our ongoing theme of gardening. "Be curious, not judgmental" comes from an episode of the TV show Ted Lasso in which Ted and Rupert bet over a game of darts. We learn that if Rupert had stopped to ask Ted some questions instead of making a quick judgement, he would have learned some very important information. This links well with this week's gospel reading from Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

Jesus begins with the words "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to..." He goes on to tell a story of someone who sows seed in a field and while everyone was sleeping, an enemy of that person came and sowed weeds among the good seed. The wheat and the weeds grow together, which causes disappointment, frustration, and maybe even fear and anger ...but not for the householder. The slaves want to rip out the weeds, but the householder says "No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together..."

What an interesting concept, intentionally allowing the good seed and the weeds to grow together. It is here that I am drawn to the statement of being curious, not judgemental. Often in life we are quick to make judgments, be it in determining what is a weed or in making judgements about people. The reality is, what we think is a weed might actually be a good plant, or a judgement we make about someone might not be correct.

It would serve us well if we were more curious by asking questions, hearing stories, getting to know people, which would allow us to be more discerning. At the end of the passage, we hear Jesus explaining things to the disciples, and in doing so there is a reminder that it is 'Son of Man' who is the one to judge. In other words, it is God through Jesus Christ who will judge...no one else. Perhaps then it is better for us to be curious, not judgemental, allowing all people to grow together, and who knows, we might find that what we thought was a weed is actually a beautiful flower.

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Contact Us

MINISTER OF THE WORD

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(Day off on Wednesdays)

CHURCH COUNCIL

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A Fairtrade Faith Community

From the Safe Church Team

As at 4th June 2023

COVID is Still Around

- Be aware of the symptoms of Covid. If you do have symptoms, please stay home. Avoid gatherings and services if you are unwell.
- Good ventilation is still very important. If you are the first one to a meeting or gathering, please open the windows.
- When gathering indoors, it is still important to maintain a safe distance from others.

Are You a Volunteer at Keiraview?

- Have you filled in your volunteer forms for this year?
- If not, please speak to Pauline or Naomi about what is required.



Bible Studies at Keiraview

KYB Study : Tuesday afternoons 1:00 - 3:00pm. All women are welcome to attend.

Thursday Afternoon Bible Study: Thursday afternoons 4:00 - 5:00pm. All adults welcome.

If you or your teen would like to help start or attend a new small group for study, prayer and fellowship, please contact Naomi at office@keiraview.org to register interest.

Living Our Values – Expressions of Interest

Living Our Values is an orientation to the history, polity and ethos of the Uniting Church.

You'll learn how the Uniting Church came to be, its journey so far, how we make decisions together, how we communicate and nurture one another in our shared Christian fellowship and nurture leadership as a 'Pilgrim People on the Way'.

This course is for anyone who attends a Uniting church, especially those in current or future leadership and anyone who is a current or will be a future member of our church council.

Contact Vi Richardson if you would like to attend Admin.ip@nswact.uca.org.au

Dates and times will be negotiated with those interested in attending.

Updating Keiraview's Directory

The Church Council has been asked to update the Keiraview directory, as the current directory is now a few years old. To ensure this is done correctly and abide by our Privacy Policy, we need to get everyone's written agreement to have their contact details included in the directory. The directory will only be made available to regular members of our congregation.

In the next week or two you will receive a printed letter, or an email, and you will be asked to check your contact details and then sign the letter to confirm your agreement for your details to be included in the Keiraview Directory.

If you have any questions please speak to Pauline or Naomi.

New Prayer Gatherings

Some new and exciting things happening within our congregation, beginning with two monthly prayer times.

One will be held on a Sunday morning before the service from **8:45am to 9:15am on the 1st Sunday of the month, beginning 6th August 2023**. This will be a time of pastoral prayer held in the meeting room and is open to anyone who would like to pray intentionally for others and the congregation, especially those with a passion for pastoral care and the gift of prayer and intercession.

The other will be on a Thursday morning from **9:30am to 10:30am on the first Thursday each month, beginning on 3rd August 2023**. This will be a time of prayer for who we are as a church, focussing on God's mission, and how we can live that out as Keiraview. This is open to all who would like to pray for the growth of Keiraview, especially those with a passion for sharing in God's mission through our ministry to our community and those with the gift of prayer and evangelism.

New Fellowship Group

The Nurture & Fellowship MAT would like to invite people to mark the following dates in their diary for a new fellowship group (name TBA) at Keiraview on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 10:30 am to noon. The new group will be held on the following Tuesdays - 22 August, 26 September, 24 October and 28 November.

More information will follow.

Questions: "Be Curious, Not Judgmental"

Having read the piece on the front page from David about this week's reading, here are some questions you may wish to consider when looking at this week's gospel reading:

- 1) When gardening, have I ever tried to pull out a weed and in doing so hurt or damaged a good flower? How might this relate to the way I treat others?
- 2) Have I ever made a judgment about someone that I later released was incorrect/unfair/not true?
- 3) What would it take for me to be curious and not judgemental?
- 4) How can I be like the Psalmist who wrote "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23-24)
- 5) How do I really feel about allowing weeds to grow with the wheat...or the good with the bad?

Spend some time in prayer about these things.

Funeral for Ralph Short

It is with sadness that we announce the death of Ralph Short last week. He was a longstanding member of Keiraview Uniting church and will be greatly missed.

Ralph's funeral will be held at the Keiraview church at 2:30pm this Tuesday, July 25th. All who knew and loved Ralph are welcome to attend.

Wesley Community Centre Needs Our Help!

The Wesley Community Centre is urgently in need of any non-perishable items for food parcels and in making meals on site for the needy.

All money donations are tax deductible and should be payable to UCA Wollongong Mission Benevolent Service. Direct deposits may be made into their account: UCA Mission Benevolent Service, BSB 634 634, Account Number 100 031 140, or by cheque posted to PO Box 244, Wollongong 2520

Any donations may be delivered to their centre Monday-Friday between 9am-1pm or by arrangement. Every donation makes a difference, no matter regardless of size.

Walking Together: Tickets On Sale

The Synod of NSW and the ACT, in collaboration with the United Theological College, Uniting Mission and Education, and Newtown Mission, is pleased to host the second First Peoples' Theological Conference: *Walking Together: A Voice to Parliament*, are now on sale!

This year the conference takes place on Saturday 12 August at Newtown Mission from 9:30am-12:30pm. All are welcome at Newtown Mission, or access is also available online for those who can't make it in-person.

The conference will discuss the Voice to Parliament and upcoming referendum.

Please email mission@nswact.uca.org.au if you have any questions or for more details, or contact Naomi at office@keiraview.org for a link to buy tickets online.

ROSTER

30th July 2023

Flowers

Annette Arthur

AV/Streaming

Kath Hamdan
Khairul Hamdan

Welcomers

Sandy Brisbane
Pat Robinson

Announcements

Bev Ratcliffe

Elder

Pauline Doyle

Music

Kerryn Morrison

Bible Reader

Pat Waller

Prayer

Alayne Guerin

Offering Counting

Clive Arthur
Ross Johnson

Morning Tea

Ian Almond
Jenny Almond
Annette Arthur
Rod Doyle

READINGS

JULY 23 2023

Gn 28:10-19a

Ps 139:1-12, 23-24

Ro 8:12-25

Mt 13:24-30; 36-43

Please send notices for this news sheet to Naomi Barton

by 5pm Wednesday.

☎ 0401 791 483

notices@keiraview.org

ELECTRONIC GIVING

If you would prefer to send an electronic bank deposit as offertory, the details are:

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



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