

3rd December 2023

1st Sunday of Advent

34 FISHER ST,
WEST WOLLONGONG

Keiraview Uniting News



Contact Us

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A Fairtrade Faith Community

1 Co 1:8-9

He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into fellowship with his son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Welcome

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

Evening Worship **6:00pm**
Led by the Whole Congregation

The Sheep and the Shepherd

As the new Church Year begins and we enter the Advent season once again, the Lectionary offers us a challenge to reflect carefully on our lives and our response to God's presence and activity in our lives and our world. Both Isaiah and the Psalm for this week offer a plea for God to come to rescue and restore God's people, with repentance as a strong element of this plea. The people have landed in trouble because of turning away from God, and now they long to be turned back and healed. In the New Testament this theme is developed and connected with the coming of Christ to a troubled world. The passage from Mark's Gospel – which certainly relates to the war which arose from the Jewish uprising of 66AD – gives an apocalyptic picture of a world in turmoil to which Christ comes, and from which God's people are rescued, not so much as an escape from the struggle as an experience of God's presence and protection in the midst of it. In Paul's letter to the Corinthian church, God's blessing and sustaining presence are celebrated as the things that sustain us as we await the hope we have in the coming of Christ's consummated reign. This Advent season starts, then, with a reminder of our hope in Christ, and the assurance of God's presence in our lives, even as we are encouraged to be alert and repentant in order to ensure that we do not miss God when God comes to us.

PRAYERS

Pray for those who are homeless or living in poverty, particularly children, the elderly and those with illness or disability

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

Pray for Doo Ah and her ministry with UOW students on and off campus, and also for the students she serves.

Pray for ourselves and other churches in the Illawarra as we begin Advent.

Pray for various MATS and groups at Keiraview as we begin to wrap up on our 2023 activities and make plans for 2024.

COMING UP AT KEIRAVIEW

Day	Time	Activity
Tues Dec 5th	10:00am- 12:00pm	Eden Playtime
Tues Dec 5th	5:30pm - 7:30pm	Burgers n' Bibles
Thurs Dec 7th	5:00pm - 8:00pm	Keiraview Community Night
Fri Dec 8th	7:00pm- 9:30pm	Regeneration Youth Group
Sat Dec 9th	10:00am	Koorong Christmas Convoy

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. **On hiatus until January 30, 2024**

Burgers n' Bibles: Tuesday evenings, 5:30 - 7:00pm. All adults welcome.

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

2024 Mentoring Program

We are planning the mentor program for next year at the Wollongong West Public School and would like to hear from anyone interested.

In addition to the classroom activities where we interact with the children (under the teachers' direction) the school plans to introduce next year a Magic Monday from 2-3 pm. Here, children will be organised into groups which follow their interests (Science, Nature, Computing, perhaps studying nature in the reserve in the bottom of Fisher St, gardening, etc, etc. Teachers will be leading the groups but mentors would be welcomed to assist.

If anyone is interested in this mission, would you please contact Laurie Aldridge on 0412 356 495. You would need to obtain a police "working with children" check before you could take part.

Koorong Christmas Convoy

There will be a car trip to Koorong Christian Bookstore in West Ryde on Saturday 9th December. We will be having lunch up there as well.

Everyone is eagerly invited to come along for fellowship and a great chance to buy Christian gifts for Christmas, as there are no Koorong stores in the Illawarra

If you are interested in coming along, especially if you can provide a lift or need one, please let Khairul or Danny know, or email Naomi at office@keiraview.org.

Masquerade Ball

We had a very successful evening last Saturday at the Masquerade Ball. In total, we raised \$4,180.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the night such a success, especially Khairul who did a great job with the dancing.

- Robyn and Ross and Lurline.



Christmas at Wesley Community Care

Karen and the volunteers at the Wesley Community Centre are calling for our support toward their annual Christmas lunch for vulnerable members of the community.

If you can donate Christmas-related items such as chocolates, table bon-bons etc (nut free is ideal) this would be greatly appreciated.

Donations can be delivered to the Community Centre at the rear of Wollongong Uniting Church between 8am-12:20pm, Monday to Friday. Alternatively, you can place donations in the marked box in the foyer at Keiraview.

Donations close 10th December.

12 Days of Christmas Challenge

Lynette and Les would like to thank all those who contributed so generously to the Dapto Christmas Hamper, which will be donated toward a family in need this Christmas.



Save the Date: Lay Leaders' Retreat 2024

Are you a dedicated leader within your congregation or faith community? Your commitment is valued, and your community thanks you. You are invited to a Lay Leaders Retreat in February 2024:

Date: Saturday February 3, 2024

Time: 10:00am-3:30pm

Venue: Kiama Uniting Church

Theme: "In Joyful Obedience".

Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Peter Walker, principal of United Theological College

Tea, coffee, juice, morning and afternoon tea provided. Please BYO lunch.

Please RSVP by emailing Naomi at office@keiraview.org or Vi Richardson on admin.ip@nswact.uca.org.au by Thursday January 25, 2024. The earliest you can RSVP is the better for organisers.

Tea Bag Tags

Ros Welsh would like to announce her thanks to all who donated tea bag tags to her, and to let everyone know she has enough donations for now.

There is a notice up on the board (near the bookshelf, across the foyer from the worship hall) with a list of people in the congregation who are collecting small items, for those who would like to help.

ROSTER

10th December 2023

Flowers

Annette Arthur

AV/Streaming

Ian Almond
Rod Doyle

Welcomers

Pat Waller
Pat Robinson

Announcements

Annette Arthur

Elder

Danny Ivanovski

Music

Lurline Butler

Bible Reader

Ken Kirwood

Prayer

Alayne Guerin

Offering Counting

Clive Arthur
Lyn Jones

Morning Tea

Don Townsend
Sue Townsend
Sandy Brisbane
Glenys Johnston

READINGS

DECEMBER 3, 2023

Is 64:1-9
Ps 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Co 1:3-9
Mk 13:24-37



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

Uniting Church core INTEGRITY

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

Please send notices for this news sheet to Naomi Barton
by 5pm Wednesday.
☎ 0401 791 483
notices@keiraview.org