



Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church

Sunday, 21 April 2024

Postal Address: PO Box 140 Kiama

Easter 4 Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; Acts 4:5-12; John 10:11-18



As we journey through the season of Easter, the alleluias ringing in our ears, we celebrate the many ways the risen Christ touches our lives.

Worship Times

Worship

Sunday 21 April - Easter 4 - 9.30am at Kiama

followed by Mission Conversations: Part 3 - *What Have We Heard? What Now?*

Sunday 28 April - Easter 5 - 9.30am at Kiama,

5.30pm – Dinner and Conversation at Jamberoo Bowling Club

This Week

Note: There is no Craft or Meditation this week as they break for the school holidays

Wednesday 24 April - Living the Questions at Kiama, 7.30pm-9.00pm

Thank you to the person who washed all the windows in the Gathering Space this week. It is lovely to be able to see through the windows once again. You are a legend!

Coming Up

Service of Closure for Rev Andrew Watts

Rev Watts has given notice to the congregation at Berry of his intention to conclude his placement with them. His next adventure is to provide supply ministry to the congregation in Broome over the tourist season.

A service to mark his closure of ministry with the Berry Congregation will be held on Sunday 5 May at 2pm. All welcome.

Other News

UNITING CHURCH ADULT FELLOWSHIP NSW ACT

ANNUAL GATHERING THURSDAY 23RD MAY

AT SHOALHAVEN CENTRAL UNITING CHURCH

NOWRA WORSHIP CENTRE

Corner Junction and Berry Streets, Nowra

GUEST SPEAKER:

MODERATOR, REV MATA HAVEA HILIAU

MORNING TEA 10:00AM

MORNING SERVICE 10:30AM - 12:00PM

THE OFFERING ON THE DAY WILL
SUPPORT

PASTOR DAVID SHRIMPTON FLYING
PADRE BASED AT BROKEN HILL

Please bring your own lunch

Morning Tea provided

Information: Admin.ip@nswact.uca.org.au





High Tea For Henry - see noticeboard

Hi, my name is Henry James Boothroyd. I was born on 6/10/2022. I was born with congenital femoral deficiency. I will be needing several operations to correct this and they can only be performed overseas. My grandparents, family and friends are having a High Tea fundraiser on Saturday 29 June to raise \$400,000 for my medical expenses. We would love it if you came along to support me!

Special guest entertainment is Penny Hartgerink. Scrumptious afternoon tea, wine, cider, tea and coffee. Auctions, lucky door prizes, raffles. Men are more than welcome to come!

Saturday 29 June, 2pm

At Kiama Baptist Church, 1/3 Brown Street, Kiama

Adults - \$60

High school + *Concession* - \$40

Primary - free

Purchase tickets or donate at:

kiamabaptistchurch.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2202698

Ph: Carol-Ann 0408 029 989

Ph: Tony 0422 105 533

Ph: Margaret 0415 912 612

Email: mtboothroyd9@ozemail.com.au **Worship**

Coming Up



Cake and plant stall for Mother's Day

On **Saturday 11 May**, there will be a cake stall to raise money for the church. If you are able to help organise this, please speak with Kath or Janice. The Presbytery meeting is on that day at a different venue and so Kath, Janice, Diane and Meredith will be elsewhere.

Suicide Prevention Workshop (rescheduled) - save the date - Saturday 1 June, 9am-1pm - registration details to come.

Strategic / Mission Planning

Over the past few months, the Church Council has been considering how we go about planning together as we dream about God's future for us as a community of faith. Towards the end of last year, we agreed that we need to try something a bit differently and to consider how we might listen deeply to the hopes, dreams and needs of our local community, and then how we might work in partnership with others to share the love and life of Christ with our community. But where to start?

Just this last week, I heard a phrase this week that points to the kind of skills we want to refresh – “relational competence” – which, I think, speaks to our ability to engage with people around us in conversation that is more than “small talk”, such as the rainfall and sports results. We need to learn again how to engage deeply with the people around us and to have the confidence to ask deeper questions of ourselves and of others.

We are hopeful that a good portion of our congregation will engage in this process and learning, and we are conscious of not imposing too much on people’s availability for “extra commitments”. So, we are going to hold 3 sessions after church on Sundays for no more than 2 hours at a time (say, 11.30am-1.30pm) and we will serve a simple lunch. Please put these dates in your diary now:

- Sunday 21 April - What have we heard?



Find out how public actions can be a part of a broader push to shift climate policies and move us towards a safer, more equitable future. We will focus on understanding the current political system, what needs to change and how we as a faith-based community, concerned about care for people and the planet, can contribute to that. Topics will range from issues facing rural communities, how catastrophic climate change magnifies social disadvantage, the importance of youth climate action, how to have effective climate conversations, Pacific climate impacts and solidarity and more! It will also be a chance to get informed and involved in our climate advocacy strategy in the lead up to the next Federal Election (this year or next!) - aiming to keep strong climate action on the agenda regardless of the outcome. Your feedback and active involvement will be vital.

The conference will be held at Uniting Centre for Ministry for those who can attend personally, but all keynote sessions will be streamed for online participants. For the first time, there will be dedicated workshops for both face to face and online attendees. This is to provide fuller participation for our online community.

Save your seat for the conference through the following link

– https://events.humanitix.com/ucan-conference?mc_cid=8158c61fb1&mc_eid=48bbd1acfe

Possible sale of the Irvine Street Manse

Over the last few months, the Property and Finance Committee and subsequently, the Church Council, have been discussing whether it is time to sell the Irvine Street Manse and replace it with a newer residence requiring less maintenance. The current manse is large and about 45 years old and there have been a string of repairs and ongoing maintenance issues in the last year. We have done some homework and received an appraisal from a Real Estate Agent, and we now believe it is time to find a slightly smaller residence that will have fewer maintenance issues. The rules of the church have changed around the size a manse needs to be and as long as we provide a residence for our minister it is up to the minister to decide whether or not to live in it. The current manse is rented out to a third party as Kath has her own home. If you have any questions or suggestions, please speak to anyone on the Property and Finance Committee or to Janice Freeston.

From the Church Council

At the meeting of the Church Council on 9 April 24 we considered the two reports from the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) on the Life and Witness of the Congregation and the Vitality of Kath's ministry at Kiama Jamberoo. You may remember filling out a survey one Sunday morning after the service to assist in this process and then a few weeks later a team of 3 attended worship and chatted with various individuals and groups afterwards. Both reports were overwhelmingly positive about how the congregation is travelling and about our facilities and the property maintenance. The reports noted that there is energy in the congregation, people feel welcomed, accepted and connected. The Presbytery team acknowledged that Kath brings a positive influence not only to the congregation but to the wider community and ecumenically. Kath's preaching and worship leading is open, well prepared and theologically helpful. Our Pastoral Care team are well organized and diligent.

There were a number of recommendations from both reports which the Church Council has discussed and will respond to over the coming months. We are delighted that Kath's call to this congregation has been affirmed and we look forward to continuing to grow in our faith together and to having a positive influence on the Kiama Jamberoo community as we share God's love for all people.

Also, from the Church Council

In the coming weeks, we will be replacing the roof tiles on Uniting House with light grey cement tiles. The current roof is leaking badly as the red tiles are brittle and crumbling. The solar panels will be removed and replaced with new ones. The fascia and guttering is also being replaced. This will be financed by the "Advanced Offering" program we have been advertising in this newsletter over previous weeks. Thank you so much to the very generous participants in this program who have agreed to make a contribution to the congregation in this way. Once again, we will need to be patient with trades people on site, particularly using the car park.

HOLY LAND

Religious leaders issue resounding call for permanent ceasefire

Uniting Church President Rev Sharon Hollis, three Uniting Church Moderators and several other senior UCA leaders are among 106 signatories to an Open Letter calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

Signed by religious leaders across the country, the letter urges parliamentarians to advocate for an end to military support for all parties, the immediate and secure flow of aid into Gaza, and the return of hostages held by Hamas and Israel.

"The war is inflicting immense pain and suffering on Israeli and Palestinian communities across the globe, including Australia," said Rev Hollis.

"It's vital that our politicians show courage and wisdom by uniting to calm community tensions and call for a permanent end to the horror unfolding in Gaza."

Uniting Church Moderators Rev David Fotheringham (Vic/Tas), Rev Bruce Moore (Qld) and Rev Peter Morel (SA) also signed onto the letter, alongside other senior leaders from UCA agencies and theological colleges.

The Uniting Church Assembly has been calling for an immediate ceasefire and the urgent protection of civilians since war broke out in October. We will continue to pray and advocate as our hearts ache and cry out for a just peace in the land of Jesus' birth.

Can You Help?

Pews for Sale: Church Council and the Property Committee have agreed to sell the longer of the red cedar pews at Jamberoo and to replace them with chairs. We will retain the 4 or so shorter pews and a couple of longer pews; the rest are up for grabs - so we are offering them first to you and to anyone you may know before we advertise them more widely. **They are \$400 each, ono,** and you will need to arrange pick-up. If you are interested, please speak to Meredith or one of the Property Committee.



Bay and Basin Food Pantry

The number of households accessing the Food Pantry at the Uniting Church in St Georges Basin continues to grow. It fluctuates from week to week, but we are assisting between 35 and 40 households regularly. Rental amounts increased in the area about 6 months ago and people are finding the cost of living is putting a huge amount of stress on them. The large supermarkets have also reduced the amount of assistance they are giving to the Pantry each week. However, we continue to see God at work through this ministry. A tough older fellow recently said: "You are the first people who have ever been nice to me."

PRAYER

LET US PRAY



We praise and thank you, O God for giving shape and meaning to the ancient image of yourself as Shepherd through the person of Jesus Christ. In him your compassion has been revealed in the human face of love. Through Christ's persistence, even to death - in seeking and saving the lost - your goodness and mercy has been abundantly experienced. His ongoing life continues to guide us and lead us in paths of righteousness. Amen.

Focus Families

Margaret and John CARMICHAEL
Edna CHITTICK
Jan CHUDLEIGH
Robyn and Ray CLARK
Meg CLIFFORD
Ruth COLE



Minister: Rev Kath Merrifield 0409 650 118
revkath@ozemail.com.au

Pastoral Convenor: Rhonda Back 0400 980 977
homeunit71@gmail.com

Email for general inquiries: kiamaunitingchurch@outlook.com

Email for Newsletter articles: kiamauc.notices@gmail.com

Website: kiama-jamberoo.unitingchurch.org.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/kiamajamberoo.unitingchurch

Donations welcome to either:
Kiama UC - Jamberoo Building Fund Account:
BSB 634 634 A/c No. 100079849

Kiama UC Transaction Manager Account
BSB 634 634 A/c No. 100018657

April Roster

Date	Day	Leader	Comments	Readings	Musicians	Reader	Prayer	Stewards/ Counters	M/T
07-Apr-24	Easter 2	Kath	<i>Daylight saving ends</i>	Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1 - 2:2 John 20: 19-31	Val	Pam W	Julia	J Lambert/ G Ricardson <i>BB/HC</i>	<u>A</u> Ambrose
14-Apr-24	Easter 3	Kath	Communion	Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48	Kathy	Geoff	Tania	R/J <u>Szulerowski</u> <i>RC/DB</i>	S Booth
21-Apr-24	Easter 4	Meredith		Acts 4:5-12 Psalm 23 1 John 3:16-24 John 10:11-18	Val	Jessica Sz	Rhonda	Wendy/Tom <u>TMcB/JP</u>	V Milas
28-Apr-24	Easter 5	Kath		Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8	Phillip	Helen L	Zoe	R/D Back <i>RB/RC</i>	J Parker