



## Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church

Sunday, 28 April 2024

Postal Address: PO Box 140 Kiama

Easter 5 Acts 8:26-40 Ps 22:25-31 1 Jn 4:7-21 Jn 15:1-8 W



*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 28 April** - 9.30am at Kiama

5.30pm - Dinner and Conversation at Jamberoo Bowling Club

**Sunday 5 May** - 9.30am at Kiama

2.00pm - Closure of Ministry Service for Rev Andrew Watts,  
Berry Uniting Church

#### This Week

**Monday 29 April** - Craft resumes at Kiama, 9.00am-11.30am

**Wednesday - 1 May** - Meditation at Kiama, 4.00pm-5.00pm

Living the Questions at Kiama, 7.30pm-9.00pm

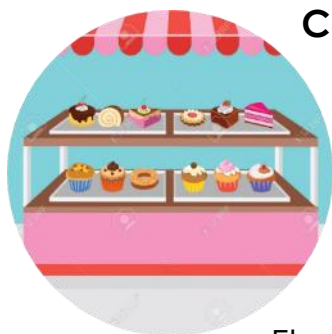
**Thursday 2 May** - Adult Fellowship at Kiama, 9.30am

Reading the Gospels Side-by-Side - online (see details  
below)

**Friday 3 May** - Move Beyond Coal and ARRCC action in Nowra - 10am outside the office of Fiona Phillips MP

[https://www.movebeyondcoal.com/rise\\_up](https://www.movebeyondcoal.com/rise_up)

### Coming Up



### Cake and plant stall for Mother's Day

Mother's Day Stall is **Saturday, 11th May**, in the church grounds. Your help is needed as this is a church fund raiser. Your contributions of cakes, biscuits, slices, preserves, plants, craft and suitable gift items would be greatly appreciated.

Flowers sell well. Suitable flowers for bouquets can be brought to the church on the Friday for Rhonda to make posies and bouquets.

**Early Saturday help is needed to set up tables etc. from 8am.**

Saleable goods can be left in the church kitchen fridge beforehand.

**Please price your items and write ingredients and signature on baked goods.**

Our stall is a great time of fellowship and chatting with folk from the public.

Thank you - Glenice 🙏

### 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.



**uniting  
church**  
Illawarra  
Presbytery

**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](mailto:Admin.ip@nswact.uca.org.au)

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



### **Suicide Prevention Workshop**

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

### **Mission to Seafarers - Sea Sunday**

A service to recognise and pray for the work of the Mission to Seafarers.

**Location: St Michael's Anglican Cathedral, Wollongong**

**Date: Sunday, July 14, 2024**

**Time:** 2pm with refreshments to follow in the hall



At the Mission to Seafarers in Port Kembla, we have the wonderful privilege of serving the many men and women who come into our port every day. They are a part of the nearly two million seafarers working on 100,000 ships around the world. They are usually away from their homes and families for three quarters of every year, working in lonely, isolated, challenging and sometimes dangerous situations. We may not all realise that they are there, but without them, 99% of our global trade would stop. Our Mission, which has operated faithfully in Port Kembla for more than 80 years, is part of a global network, caring for the welfare of those who are arguably the most essential workers on the planet.

In order to keep the lives of our seafarers in the forefront of our thoughts and prayers, continuing our determination to share the love of Jesus with them, we celebrate SEA SUNDAY. Every year, on the second Sunday in July, all over the world, Christians who care about seafarers get together to worship God for his goodness in Christ and bring the seafarers to him in prayer.

### **News**

#### **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.



### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** (Report by Judith Barton)

Judith reported that after some apprehension, the celebration of World Day of Prayer had gone seamlessly with some encouraging reports of local observances.

Judith emphasised that World Day of Prayer was a Global movement, and this was illustrated when a member of the NSW State Committee this year had been on a cruise on the Queen Mary where she organized for an observance.

At St Stephen's Macquarie Street Sydney, there were displays of Craft, Food etc from Palestine and a representative of the Bible Society had also provided a display of Bibles. One of the clients of the Early Bird Café, an aboriginal lady was present and Judith described her absolute joy when the Bible Society representative gifted her with a Bible in an Aboriginal language translation.

### **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**

#### **ANZAC PRAYER**



Loving God, who desires peace for all people, we pause to prayerfully, respectfully and thankfully remember the contribution made by men and women during wars and conflicts, and while training for battle.

We think of the many people killed in action, those who were wounded and those who suffered in body, mind and spirit long after they returned home.

We remember relatives and members of each community who made a sacrifice of their lives that we might live in peace and freedom.

Gracious God, teach us to develop new ways of resolving conflict in our homes, schools, communities and between nations.

We pray that you would bless all who live in Australia, those whose ancestors were custodians of this land, those born here and those who chose to make it their home.

This we pray in Jesus' name, who also gave his life for others. *Amen*

## May Roster

Date	Day	Leader	Comments	Readings	Musicians	Reader	Prayer	Stewards/Counters	M/T
05-May-24	Easter 6	Kath		Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17	Phillip	G Richardson	Meredith	B/S Booth BB/HC	J Harvey
12-May-24	Easter 7 / Ascension	Janice	Mothers' Day Communion	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19	Kathy	Susan B	Maurice	I Yabsley/ J Lambert RC/DB	V Mason
19-May-24	Pentecost	Kath		Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek 37:1-14 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:22-27 or Acts John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15	Val	Tania	Zoe	A/M Broad TMcB/JP	R Back
26-May-24	Trinity	Kath	Jamberoo Communion	Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17	Phillip	Geoff/Pam	Michele	Geoff RB/RC	Jamberoo



**Minister:** Rev Kath Merrifield 0409 650 118  
[revkath@ozemail.com.au](mailto:revkath@ozemail.com.au)

**Pastoral Convenor:** Rhonda Back 0400 980 977  
[homeunit71@gmail.com](mailto:homeunit71@gmail.com)

**Email for general inquiries:** [kiamaunitingchurch@outlook.com](mailto:kiamaunitingchurch@outlook.com)

**Email for Newsletter articles:** [kiamauc.notices@gmail.com](mailto:kiamauc.notices@gmail.com)

**Website:** [kiama-jamberoo.unitingchurch.org.au](http://kiama-jamberoo.unitingchurch.org.au)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/kiamajamberoo.unitingchurch](http://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