

## **Clearing the Way for Jesus**

The newsletter of the Illawarra Prayer Network links Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa, promotes prayer and facilitates church unity. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of this newsletter is available at [www.5icm.org.au/index\\_files/ipn.html](http://www.5icm.org.au/index_files/ipn.html). Please send prayer requests and feedback to [prayer@5icm.org.au](mailto:prayer@5icm.org.au).  
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### **Prayer**

**1. Samuel John** is a member of **Keiraville International Church** which ministers to international students at the university. Keiraville International Church is a ministry of Figtree Anglican Church in partnership with St John's Anglican Church. Samuel emailed:-

"My prayer request is that God would bring new students to us in the new semester and that many would come to know Him as their personal saviour. There is a real need to reach out to the large international student population at the University of Wollongong, pray that He would raise up others to join us in the ministry as we aim to faithfully proclaim the gospel to them."

**2. Intercede for others.** From my book, [The Prayer Mission](#), on intercessory prayer:-

"When Jesus cleared the temple, he called it God's House of Prayer (Mt 21:13 quoting Isaiah 56:7). He didn't call it a House of Worship, or a Place of Teaching. We the church, the people of God, are God's house of prayer. When we pray, we are doing something that God does himself (Jesus and the Holy Spirit are interceding for us). There are many things that people do that God doesn't do: getting married, having babies, earning a living, and, of course, sin. Prayer is something that God does that we can do too. When we pray, we enjoy communion with God. Prayer is an expression of our faith relationship with God. We need faith to converse with God, to minister to others in his name, and... to intercede for others."

### **News**

**1. Hope Church 2505 (Port Kembla)** launched last week at the Port Kembla Senior Citizen's Centre. The pastor, Emmanuel Bakenga, told the congregation how refugees' think everyone in Australia is happy because we have so much but when he arrived here he found people are dissatisfied with what they have. Last week, Emmanuel representing *Green Connect*, received the Wollongong City Australia Day 2019 Outstanding Community Group Award.

**2. Unanderra Presbyterian Church** held its Thanksgiving and Ceremonial Closing Service on Sunday. A remembrance video shown at the service is available [on Facebook](#).

**3. World Day of Prayer** (Friday 1st March) resources are now available on the [WDP website](#). Please let me know the details of local services for advertising in our Ecumenical Activities' list.

God bless,  
Derek Thompson,  
Illawarra Prayer Network

website: [www.5icm.org.au](http://www.5icm.org.au) | email: [prayer@5icm.org.au](mailto:prayer@5icm.org.au) | phone: 4256 5780 |  

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## ***Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra***

**Wollongong Gospel Choir** Rehearsals – Tuesdays during school terms – all welcome.  
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm at Wollongong Senior Citizens Centre, 192 Gipps Road, Gwynneville  
*Contact:* [John Sandercock](#) 0499 444 151

### **Friday 1st February**

#### **Healing Prayer Service and Mass**

All welcome. Mass will be celebrated for Catholics by Fr George Condookala. Payer for healing by Fr George and Derek Thompson of the Illawarra Prayer Network  
*Details:* 10:30 a.m. Patients Lounge, Level 3, Wollongong Private Hospital.

### **Thursday 7th February**

#### **CMS Illawarra Mission Connection Meeting**

*Speakers:* Adrian and Anita Lovell on Bolivia and Beyond. They are regional directors of MOCLAM, Bolivia.

*Details:* 12:30-2:00 p.m. St Mark's Anglican Church, West Wollongong  
BYO Lunch. Tea/Coffee provided. Please bring your mug/cup

*Contact:* [Bev Defty](#).

### **Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th February**

#### **60th Anniversary Franklin Graham Tour**

The Franklin Graham tour event celebrates 60 years since the Billy Graham Crusade in 1959.

*Details:* 7:30 p.m. Sydney International Convention Centre.

*Contact:* [Langdon Stewart](#)

### **Sunday 24th February**

#### **Kiama HymnSing**

Hymn and chorus singing followed by afternoon tea.

*Details:* 2:00 p.m. Kiama Uniting Church cnr Manning & Bong Bong Sts.

*Contact for song requests:* Reuben (4233 2490) or Gail (4232 1630)

### **Friday 1st March**

#### **World Day of Prayer Services - "Come, everything is ready!"**

Slovenia will be the focus of the prayer services.

### **Saturday 9th March**

#### **Agape Children's Home, Thailand - Support Dinner**

Keiraville Uniting Church are holding this fund-raising dinner for the 2 children they sponsor at the Agape Home in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

*Venue:* 6:00 p.m. Farmborough Grove Retirement Village Admin Centre, 66 Waples Rd, Unanderra.

*Cost:* \$25 for Thai food, Thai dancing, other food and entertainment.

*Tickets and Enquiries:* [Robyn Johnson](#) 0414 307 910. [Download flyer.](#)

See the [Sicm Events page](#) for more events and regular events list.