

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. Please send prayer requests and feedback to prayer@5icm.org.au.
Distribution of this edition: 3,571

Prayer

1. Rev. Stephen Semenchuck, the senior minister of **Dapto Anglican Church**, died on Sunday 12th May. Please remember his family and church in prayer. Tony Willis, Assistant to the Anglican Bishop of Wollongong added:

"Pray for his wife Leigh-anne and family as well as the broader church community as they grieve his death, but in the sure hope of God's promise of resurrection."

2. [National Reconciliation Week \(27/5-3/6/19\)](#) is about fostering relationships between the broader community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Pray over this as it relates to our area. The Wollongong Catholic Education website says "It is a time for our CEDOW school communities to honour and learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and to explore how each of us can join the reconciliation journey." Remember in prayer the only aboriginal church in the Illawarra, Waringarri Aboriginal Fellowship, which meets at Kemblawarra Community Hall.

3. [Five Islands Christian Ministries](#) is a charitable organisation of ecumenical ministries in the Illawarra for their mutual encouragement and support. The mid-year meeting is on Monday 3rd June. Pray that this group will continue to build unity amongst Christians from different churches. The week of Prayer for Christian Unity commences on 2nd June and leading up to Pentecost Sunday. For details and resources see the [National Council of Churches in Australia](#).

News

1. The members of the [Illawarra Christians](#) group on Facebook thought it would be good if they actually met each other "in the flesh". Members of the **Illawarra Prayer Network** also might like to meet other members. So, the date is set for this **Saturday 25th May at Stuart Park, George Hanley Dr, North Wollongong** from about noon. **Mykl Carlton** has volunteered to wear bright orange so we can easily find him and then introduce ourselves to each other.

2. The **National Day of Thanks** is on **Saturday 25th May**. The [NDOT website](#) asks the question "What is so hard about unity?" If you are in Wollongong, why not go to Stuart Park and say thanks to the Christians you pray with through the prayer network and share with through the Facebook Illawarra Christians group.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
Illawarra Prayer Network

website: www.5icm.org.au | email: prayer@5icm.org.au | phone: 4256 5780 |   Tweet

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This message was sent to !*EMAIL*!

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](mailto:John.Sandercock@wollongonggospelchoir.org.au) 0499 444 151

[Illawarra Prayer Breakfast](#) - Friday 24th May

[National Day of Thanks](#) - Saturday 25th May

A day for all Australians to pause as a nation and say thank you to God and to each other.

National Sorry Day - Sunday 26th May

Reconciliation Day - Monday 27th May

Ascension Day - Thursday 30th May

Origins Education Meetings - Thursday 30th May

Trevor Holt is holding an introductory meeting to explore biblical creation and evolutionary models of origins. Thereafter the meetings will be monthly.

Details: 7:30 p.m. C3 Church Thirroul, 345 Lawrence Hargrave Dr.

RSVP: [Trevor Holt](mailto:Trevor.Holt@originsmeetings.org.au) mobile: 0401 198 140. [Download flyer](#).

Grandparents Conference 2019 - Saturday 1st June

Speakers: Ian Barnett, Mike Raiter, Jo-Anne Berthelsen, Baz McGrath, Tim Hanna, Colin Buchanan. Go to [FAC website](#) for more details and brochure.

Details: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Figtree Anglican Church, 4-10 Gibson Rd.

Cost: \$35 per person or \$60 per couple.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - Sunday 2nd to Sunday 9th June

The theme for the week of prayer in 2019, "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue ..." is inspired by Deuteronomy 16:18-20. The [resources](#) for the week have been prepared by members of various churches in Indonesia.

Sicm Mid-Year Meeting - Monday 3rd June

This is not a business meeting, but an opportunity for member ministries to talk about what they are doing and to encourage one another. All welcome.

Venue: 1 O'Gorman St, Albion Park

RSVP: [Derek Thompson](mailto:Derek.Thompson@sicm.org.au) 4256 5780

Pentecost - Sunday 9th June

South Coast Mental Health Discovery Day - Saturday 15th June

Hosted by C3 Church Shellharbour with clinical psychologist Krystiyna Kidson.

Venue: Albion Park Bowling Club, 32-52 Taylor Rd, Albion Park

Cost: \$19.50 Tickets from www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=475812

Contact: Ps Jason Kent jasonkent@c3churchshellharbour.com.au

Gong Men's Day - Saturday 15th June

Speaker: Sam Chan on knowing and sharing the gospel.

Venue: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Dapto Anglican Church, Moombara St

Cost: \$40 (\$30 concession) includes lunch. Book through <https://gongmensday.org/>

Taizé Prayer - Trinity Sunday 16th June

Ecumenical Service using Taizé prayer and songs. [Download flyer](#).

Venue: 6:00 p.m. St Paul's Catholic Church, 251 Tongarra Rd, Albion Park.

BWCB Trivia Night with silent auction - Saturday 22nd June

Fundraiser for northern Illawarra school Scripture Teachers.

Details: starts 7:00 p.m. See [BWCB webpage](#) or [Facebook page](#).

Peter Shurley in Concert - Saturday 22nd June

Fund raiser for "Hope & Future Foundation". [Download flyer](#)

Details: 7:30 p.m. Port Kembla Baptist Church, cnr Cowper St & Illawarra Rd, Port Kembla.

Cost: free entry, a love offering will be taken. Contact: [Gordon Barr](mailto:Gordon.Barr@portkemblabaptist.org.au) 0404 828 680

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