



No. 380, 10/8/21

Clearing the Way for Jesus

The newsletter of *Five Islands Christian Ministries* links Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa to promote church unity. Printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF files of the newsletter may be downloaded from www.5icm.org.au/index_files/ctwfj.html. Please send news items, prayer requests and comments to admin@5icm.org.au.
Distribution of this edition: 3,614

Prayer

1. With churches unable to meet and personal ministry restricted, our community, whether they know it or not, needs Christians to take up the matter of Covid-19 restrictions with our God. Humanity cannot just trust in its own devices to deal with a pandemic. We have a God who would like to hear from his children. He wants to be involved in our lives. Let us call upon our heavenly Father to end this pandemic. He has the power to do this.

Illawarra Church News

1. **Rev. Annette Hawken**, aged 49, formerly of Albion Park, died on 3rd August. She was the senior minister at **Keiraview Uniting Church** from 2014 to 2020 when she left for the Riverina. Due to Covid restrictions, a private service for Annette will be held on Friday, 13th of August 2021 at 1pm. Family and friends are invited to watch her service via a link located on: funeralannouncement.com.au
2. **Awaken Church Wollongong Central** announced that due to delays with approvals and signing of contracts, they were not able to open in their new location at Ellen St until sometime in August. Covid changed that to online Services.
3. **Catholic Bishop Brian Mascord** has announced that the **new Lumen Christi Parish Wollongong** will commence from 1st January 2022. It will comprise the parishes of St Francis Xavier Wollongong, St John Vianney Fairy Meadow, Mater Dolorosa Balgownie and St Brigid's Gwynneville.
4. **Canon Sandy Grant**, who has been the senior minister of St Michael's Cathedral Wollongong since 2004, has been appointed as Dean of St Andrew's Cathedral Sydney where he will commence ministry in December.
5. The present NSW Government's [Covid-19 requirements](#) prevent us from leaving our homes without a reasonable excuse. So, churches in Wollongong and Shellharbour will not be able to meet this month. In Kiama, the restrictions are more lenient ([see here](#)).

5icm News

1. **Wollongong Gospel Choir's** performance at Albion Park Community Church's Christmas-in-July event was cancelled. They will perform when it is safe to rehearse together and perform again. Please check their [Facebook group](#) for details.
2. **Albion Park Community Church**, due to Covid-19 restrictions postponed **Capt. Robyn Black** of **Tarrawanna Salvation Army Corp** as guest speaker until Saturday 11th September, but may have to postpone again.

- 3. Gary Hetherington** has found a way to minister online by being involved in church services and prayer meetings via Zoom. Last week he preached to Grace Gospel Church, which is in Sudan, Africa.
- 4.** The next issue of the monthly ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **14th Sept**. Please email me any items for the next newsletter prior to that date.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,

Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc.
A registered charity.

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Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Wollongong Gospel Choir – When allowed, Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays during school term times.

7:00 pm. at Wollongong Senior Citizens Centre, 192 Gipps Road, Gwynneville.

Contact: [John Sandercock](mailto:John.Sandercock@5icm.org.au) 0499 444 151

Saturday 21st August

[Wollongong Women's Conference 2021](#) (Cancelled)

Friday 3rd September (now a one-day conference)

National Grandparent Conference - Leaving a Living Legacy (Online)

Speaker: Josh McDowell and others by video link.

Venue: 9am-9pm online from Figtree Anglican Church

Cost: \$20 per person, \$160 for small group registration (may be in different locations), \$300 for small group up to 20 people. Conference packs will be mailed to a single address.

Register by 4/9/21: online at figtree.church/events or phone 4272 1322.

Thursday 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th October

Men's Bootcamp - In Gear, not just Coasting (Note: new dates)

Hosted by Northern Illawarra Combined Churches Men's Group

Venue: 7:30 p.m. Ryan's Hotel, 138 Phillip St, Thirroul

Cost: Week 1 \$15 includes pizza; Weeks 2, 3, 4 \$10 towards Water Works Charity.

Saturday 16th October (Note: second change of date)

Walking Between Worlds Workshop

Learn how to offer better support for LGBTI+ people and do less harm.

Speaker: Anthony Venn-Brown OAM.

Venue: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Central Church, 4 Fitzwilliam St, Port Kembla

Cost: \$30 per person (includes morning tea)

[Download flyer..](#)

See the [5icm Events page](#) for more events and the **Regular Events** list.