



No. 381, 14/9/21

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. Over 4.6 million people worldwide have died from Coronavirus to date, 1,091 in Australia. There are many Covid-19 prayer suggestions on the Internet. Here is one produced by Tearfund last year. It is inspired by Psalm 46 and prayed by Tearfund staff from around the world. Join in prayer with them on [Youtube here](#).

Illawarra Church News

1. We welcome **Ps Jonathan Prince** to the Illawarra. He is the new senior minister at **NewDay Church**, Farmborough Heights.
2. **Salt Church**, in Wollongong, is planting **Village Church** in Bulli with **Ps Tim Canosa** as senior minister.
3. With the departure of Sandy Grant to the position of Dean of St Andrews Cathedral from 8th November, **Archdeacon Anthony Douglas** will become the acting senior minister of St Michael's Cathedral, Wollongong.
4. **Ps Grant Wilson**, senior minister of **Kiama Baptist Church**, had a bicycle accident last month and was air lifted to Royal North Shore Hospital for surgery on a spinal injury. He is expected to walk again but his recovery will take many months.
5. The **Samaritan's Purse** [Operation Christmas Child](#) "is a hands-on way for you to bless children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, and fun gifts." A donation of \$10 per shoebox is requested to cover shipping costs. No toothpaste or lollies are allowed. Local arrangements for collection of the shoeboxes will be advised pending future announcements of Covid-19 restrictions.
6. The [National Church Life Survey](#) is to be held in October and November this year. The cost is \$250 (ex GST) per church/parish plus (for churches over 30 people) \$2 per survey form. Small churches may work together in clusters to reduce costs.
7. All the Illawarra is in lockdown due to the NSW Government's [Covid-19 requirements](#) and church services can only be held online. Shellharbour and Kiama are classified as regional but for now, the same restrictions apply ([see here](#)). Small weddings may now be conducted (see [NSW Health website](#)).

5icm News

1. **Wollongong Gospel Choir** is scheduled to perform at Albion Park Community Church on 23rd October but the Covid lockdown has prevented rehearsals. The performance date will be confirmed when the situation becomes clear. Please check their [Facebook group](#) for details.

2. [Albion Park Community Church](#) senior minister, **Mel Moore**, married **Brad Foye** last Wednesday (the wedding having been rescheduled four times because of Covid restrictions – see [Illawarra Mercury article](#)). There will be a service of blessing on the marriage at the church when it is able to resume meetings. The Covid-19 restrictions have also disrupted the schedule for guest speakers from other churches: **Ps Joel Deacon** of **City on a Hill Church, Wollongong** to 9th October and **Capt. Robyn Black** of **Tarrawanna Salvation Army Corp** to 20th November.
3. **Gary Hetherington** said “We are in lockdown. God is not. He’s unlimited! Jesus said, ‘Do not fear, ONLY BELIEVE.’ Mark 5:36.” Gary has been ministering online holding five Zoom meetings each week: (1) Tuesdays 5:45p.m. to 6:45p.m. prayer meeting focused on the Central West and all country areas of New South Wales; (2) Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. prayer focused on all Australia; (4) Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. Holy Spirit Teaching series; (4) Fridays 7:00 p.m. Holy Spirit Teaching series; and (5) Sunday 11:00 a.m. Supernatural Communion Service. Visit [Gary’s Facebook page](#) for meeting details.
4. The next issue of the monthly **Clearing the Way for Jesus newsletter** will be sent on **12th Oct**. Please email me any items for the next newsletter prior to that date. The 5icm AGM has been set down for 8th November.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,

Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc.
A registered charity.

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

If you want to unsubscribe from this newsletter, or you are changing email address, please email us.
This message was sent to !*EMAIL*!

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](#) 0499 444 151

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.](#)

Monday 8th November

5icm AGM

Find out what has been happening in the member ministries.
Details: TBA (Zoom attendance will be available)

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