



No. 393 11/10/22

## 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/resources.html](http://www.5icm.org.au/resources.html).

Distribution of this edition: **3,819**

### Prayer

1. Although God does not change, we have to deal with constant change. Let us pray that the church in the Illawarra negotiates changes in a way that makes us more Christlike.

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NRSV)**

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

### Illawarra Church News

1. **Ps Scott & Rachael Hanzy** of **Awaken Church** are now concentrating on their role as Senior Pastors of the Awaken Church network and Ps Caleb Hanzy is the location pastor for Awaken Church, Wollongong. **Ps Paul & Annette Bartlett** of **Lighthouse Church** have "announced to the Lighthouse family that after 22 years of senior leadership, they have made the decision to transition out of the leadership of Lighthouse." **Rev. Robin Kinstead** became the senior minister at **Figtree Anglican Church** earlier in the year. **Rev. Aiden Sibrava**, the Assistant Minister at **Kiama Anglican Church** is to be ordained at Wollongong Cathedral 1:30p.m. Saturday 29th October. He will be taking up the position of rector at Milton-Ulladulla Anglican Church.
2. **Note** Christmas Day is on a Sunday this year as is New Year's Day.

### 5icm News

1. **Wollongong Gospel Choir** rehearsals resume today at 7:00 p.m. The choir is now taking bookings for 2023. Choir bookings are free. They perform at fund-raising events, weddings, nursing homes, etc. They prefer to keep Sunday mornings free for their members to attend their own churches. For further information, see the WGC [Facebook group](#) or [website](#).
2. **Emmanuel Bakenga** of **Illawarra Christians Connect** has visited his home country of Democratic Republic of Congo. It was the first time in 17 years since he fled for his life. His parents and brothers and sisters were killed, but he was able to meet his grandparents and other extended family members. Emmanuel was the main speaker at a Christian leaders' conference in Moshi Ebenezer Gospel Church, the capital of the Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania. Then he went to the Congo where he was again the main speaker and did a one-week seminar for Pastors and church leaders. After, he spent another 3 weeks in the Congo preaching and sharing his testimony starting in the church where he became a Christian.

The ministry goal of Emmanuel's trip to Africa was to establish a platform where once each year, pastors, especially rural or village pastors, come and be equipped to lead by following the footsteps of Jesus and be able to disciple the growing number of believers in the Congo and elsewhere in Africa.

During the mission in Tanzania, 6 Muslim women and men attended church for the very first time and were able to give their life to Christ. At the mission in the Congo, Bukavu city, more than 20 people gave their lives to Christ and there were some great testimonies of healings and encounters with the Holy Spirit. 380 pastors and leaders participated in the conference. For more details and photos, go to [Emmanuel's Facebook page](#).

3. The next issue of ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 8th November**. Please email me any Christmas events or other news items for the next newsletter prior to that date. The 5icm AGM will be held at 7:00 p.m. Monday 14/11/22. If you are interested in coming, please contact me. To subscribe to this newsletter please email or message me on Facebook with your email address.

God bless,  
Derek Thompson,  
Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc.  
A registered charity.

Website: [www.5icm.org.au](http://www.5icm.org.au) | email: [ficm@idx.com.au](mailto:ficm@idx.com.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 – Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays during school terms.**

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

Contact: [John Sandercock](#) 0499 444 151

### **Saturday 15th October, Bible Society Coffee Morning**

*Presenter:* Jonathan Harris will open some of the oldest and rarest Bibles in the world and tell the story behind them. An offering will be taken up for the work of Bible Society

*Details:* 10:00 a.m. at Kiama Anglican Church.

*Contact:* [Barb Mathie](#), Co-ordinator Kiama/Jamberoo/Gerringong Bible Society Action Group, 0411 212 874

### **Saturday 22nd October, High Tea – CWL **SOLD OUT****

Port Kembla Catholic Women's League is hosting a High Tea (Gatsby Theme - optional).

*Details:* 2pm to 4pm, St Patrick's Parish Hall, 39 Kembla St Port Kembla.

### **Thursday 27th October, Bible Society Coffee Morning**

*Details:* as for 15th October meeting. An offering will be taken up for Bible Society

*Venue:* 10:00 a.m. Gerringong Anglican Church.

*Contact:* [Barb Mathie](#), 0411 212 874

### **Thursday 3rd November, Illawarra Missions Connection.**

*Speakers:* Ian & Narelle Hadfield from Singapore. Narelle is involved in Women's & Children's ministries. Ian is the Vicar of St. George's Church & Dean of Laos.

*Details:* 12:30-2:00 p.m. Fairy Meadow Anglican Church, corner Princes Hwy & Jardine St. BYO lunch, tea/coffee provided.

### **Friday 11th November, "One Youth" South Meeting**

*Presenter:* as for 15th October meeting but a shortened version of the presentation.

*Venue:* 8:30 p.m. Gerringong Anglican Church

*Cost:* \$5 for each young person attending.

*Contact:* [Barb Mathie](#), 0411 212 874

### **Monday 14th November, 5icm Annual General Meeting**

This meeting is open to any Illawarra Christians who are interested in supporting church unity. Please contact [Derek Thompson](#) (4256 5780) for more information.

*Details:* 7:00 p.m. 1 O'Gorman St, Albion Park

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

