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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.

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Church of the Week

This week, pray for **St Paul's Anglican Church, Shellharbour** at 12 Town St, Shellharbour Village. The senior minister is Rev. Nigel Parker. Services on Sundays at 8:30 am. (Traditional) and 10:15 a.m. (Family with Kid's Church). Nigel wrote:

"We're an Anglican fellowship of mostly mature folk. With an 'iconic' building in Shellharbour village, we have had a historically long and involved ministry to the Shellharbour community - especially in baptisms, weddings and funerals, as well as the vital ministry of SRE in local state primary and high schools.

One of the great ministries we are involved in are providing Christian services and pastoral care to the local Warrigal nursing homes. This is a much appreciated ministry, as Warrigal is not a faith-based organization, so the Christian residents very much appreciate gospel and Bible focused ministry and input - and it is a great outreach opportunity to both non-Christian residents and to staff. It's a good way to have 'Christian presence' in our community, and as nursing homes are still often deeply affected by Covid outbreaks and subsequent lockdowns, Warrigal deeply appreciates our willingness to bring comfort and encouragement to their residents.

Please pray that the door to the nursing homes remains open to us, that we would be faithful in responding to the ministry's opportunities, and that we would be able to recruit and 'field' pastorally minded volunteers to share and encourage residents to know and love Jesus."

Church of the Week (next week)

For prayer next week, is **Woonona Presbyterian Community Church** at 7 Gray St, Woonona. The senior minister is Rev. Peter Currie. Services are held each Sunday 8:00 am Trad, 10:00 am & 6:00pm. Hazel Nisbet emailed the following,

"Please pray for Woonona Presbyterian Community Church as we seek to connect Jesus with our community through mainly music, Kids' Club, Youth Group, services in IRT and Marco Polo, Overcomers Outreach, door knocking, craft club and Art Therapy. Please also pray for God to provide new staff to assist with youth and children's ministries."

5icm News

- 1. Illawarra Seniors Band** always has need of more members, even if only part time to fill in for when one of the other band members goes on holidays. If you are interested in joining the band (you don't have to be a senior, just available for day-time performances), please contact Jill White, the Secretary (email: I.S.Band@hotmail.com).
- 2. The new Illawarra Christian Choir** led by **Jessica Soden** who runs [Illawarra Vocal Academy](#) in Warilla, meets, at least initially, at her studio in 3/10 George St, Warilla. Jessica

and her friend Naomi have a vision for two choirs, an all-age choir to sing hymns and gospel music and a choir for young people (14-30 years) to sing contemporary Christian songs. The all-age [Illawarra Christian Choir](#) meets 4:00pm to 5:00pm Saturdays, and the youth choir follows from 5:00 to 6:00 pm. A small group is already meeting to sing Christian songs, so you can just turn up or contact Jessica at illawarravocalacademy@gmail.com. The rehearsal times can change depending on members availability. Also note that the studio is upstairs and has no disabled access. If this is a problem, just let Jessica know. Jessica reported,

"We had 1 new member join this week and another that has joined the Facebook group. She will join once the new term starts on the 22nd July. Robin Vonk, Minister of Albion Park Anglican Church has invited us to sing there... We have been discussing the idea of taking the choir out to the streets and singing. It will be a great way to share the good news outside of the church. We obviously need to have a repertoire of songs ready first but it's a great goal to have! This week we started singing a blend of Agnus Dei and How Great Thou Art. We are also continuing ... 'Hills and Valleys' by Tauren Wells."

3. My new eBook "**Walk by the Spirit: The Message of Galatians**" is available for free download in pdf format (with page numbers) from the [Sicm Resources webpage](#) or in many eReader formats from [Smashwords](#) who are presently distributing it to other eBook retailers, some of which charge a small amount for free eBooks. The book is based on a series of talks on St Paul's letter to the Galatians with special attention paid to its relevance to revival and church unity. It is not an academic work but it does cover all the key themes.
4. The next issue of **Clearing the Way for Jesus newsletter** will be sent on **Tuesday 11th July**. Church news items, prayer requests, and combined church events can be included in the newsletter for sharing with Christians of the Illawarra. To subscribe to this newsletter please email or message me on Facebook with your email address.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
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Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Illawarra Seniors Band rehearsals are once a month on a Tuesday morning at 10.30am (these currently vary) at the Port Kembla Senior Citizens Community Hall.

Tuesday 27th June, Illawarra Seniors Band Concert

Details: 10:00 a.m. Kiama Uniting Church, 19 Bong Bong Rd, cnr Manning St, Kiama, concert at 10:30 a.m.

Cost: \$10 (includes morning tea)

Wednesday 28th June, YWAM Winter Worship Nights

Details: 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm (includes 1hr worship + a cuppa) at Central Church, 4 Fitzwilliam St, Port Kembla. [Download flyer](#).

Wednesday 26th July, Lunchtime Bible Talks

Every Wednesday from 26/7 to 14/9/23. Bring your own lunch, tea/coffee provided. A 30 minute talk for office workers and anyone else who wants to come..

Speaker: Bishop Reg Piper on the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5:1-7-28)

Details: 12:45-1:15p.m. (doors open 12:30pm) at St Michael's Anglican Cathedral Hall.

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