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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 facilitate church unity. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of the newsletter may be downloaded from www.5icm.org.au/resources.html.
Distribution of this edition: **4,216**

Church of the Week

New Life Missions Church at the corner of Gladstone & Wardell St, Bellambi has Services on Sunday 6:00 p.m. and Wednesday 7:00 p.m. The senior minister is Ps Harry Kefford assisted by Ps Samuel Kefford. The church messaged:

"Thank you for your prayers. They are much appreciated. It would be great if you could also pray for Godly direction as to future missions that our church is considering. God bless you and your church

Also we are doing a tent mission this week in Grafton, NSW. If you could pray with our church body for souls to be saved and lives to be changed in Jesus' name Amen"

Church of the Week (next week)

LifeWay Illawarra Church (Oak Flats & Wollongong). Michael Dobie emailed the following:

"**LifeWay Lutheran Church** is a multi-site ministry with centres in Wollongong, Oak Flats, Epping, Newcastle, Western Sydney and Cambodia. Their vision is to be a vibrant multi-ethnic Christian Community, equipping and empowering disciples of all ages in advancing his kingdom by living fully, sharing boldly and growing purposefully in the life transforming grace of Jesus. The senior minister is Rev. Mark Schultz and local Community Connector is Michael Dobie.

The LifeWay centre in Kenny Street, Wollongong is as place from which to equip the church to go out and connect with community. It serves as a gathering place for prayer groups, life groups, and disciple training. Currently the fit out for a "Bookshop and Conversation Space" is underway, so stay tuned for the opening date.

LifeWay gather as a community on Sundays at the Oak Flats Senior Citizens Centre, 43 Griffiths St, Oak Flats at 8:30 am and at 1/8 Kenny St, Wollongong at 10:30 am.

Services are also available at [LifeWay Lutheran Church - YouTube](#)"

Church News

- 1. St Osthathiose Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Wollongong** is hosting the **Lumina 2024 Carol Competition** again this year. It will be held on 23rd November at Dapto Ribbonwood Centre, 93-109 Princes Hwy, Dapto. First prize is \$2,001, second \$1,001 and third prize \$501. Carol singing team registration closes 10th November. The audience gets free entry but the performing groups pay a registration fee of \$200.
- 2. Operation Christmas Child** shoe boxes should be delivered to Albion Park Uniting Church by mid-November at the latest to allow time for processing before they are picked up in December. Phone Lyn Brown on 0425 219 233 to organise drop offs. Also, remember that it costs \$12.50 per box to cover Samaritan's Purse overheads and shipping costs.

Sicm Matters

1. Leslie Newbigin in **"The Household of God"** deplored "the virtual disappearance of the idea of the Church as a visible unity" (p. 63). "The one body spoken of in the New Testament is not the contrary of the one Spirit, but its implicate. To place them in opposition to one another is fatal to a true doctrine of the Church." (p. 69). "The Church cannot be defined simply as that which is constituted by the event of the preaching of the Gospel and the administering of the sacraments. It belongs to its true nature that it is a continuing historical society, that society which was constituted and set forth once for all by Jesus Christ" (p. 71).

"The Household of God" can be downloaded for free from the [Internet Archive](#).

2. The [Sicm website](#) is available again but now there are restrictions on the number of emails Sicm can send so we are looking for a suitable bulk email service. The CTWFJ newsletter has been connecting the Christians of the Illawarra for 19 years.

3. The next issue of the ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter is due on **Tuesday 15th October**. If your church has any ecumenical events for sharing with Christians of the Illawarra, please email me and I will add them to the Sicm Events page. 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.

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Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Illawarra Seniors Band rehearsals are on the third Tuesday of each month from 10.30am at the Port Kembla Senior Citizens Community Hall. *Contact:* [Jill White](#), the Secretary.

Tuesday 2nd October, Illawarra Seniors' Band Concert

Details: 10:30 a.m. IRT Tarrawanna, 74/80 Caldwell Ave, Tarrawanna

Sunday 6th October, Daylight Saving Time starts

Sunday 13th October, Dapto Uniting Church Music Festival

Featuring "Sing Australia" and a Korean band and singers.

Details: 2-4pm at Dapto Uniting Church hall, 122 Princes Hwy Dapto

Cost: \$10 each, children free (includes afternoon tea)

Monday 21st October, Sicm AGM

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

RSVP to [Derek Thompson](#) 4256 5780

Wednesday 6th November, Illawarra Seniors' Band Concert

Details: 10:30 a.m. Marco Polo Aged Care, 70 Waples Rd, Unanderra.

Monday 11th November, Remembrance Day

Illawarra Seniors Band playing

Details: 10:30 a.m. Lakeside Memorial Park, Kanahooka

Saturday 16th Nov., One Music Festival

An interdenominational Christian music and arts Festival for all ages.

Details: Kiama Showground and Pavilion.

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