



No. 461 28/10/25

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: **3,903**

Church of the Week (for Prayer Support)

Salt Church meets on Sundays at 275 Keira St, Wollongong at 9:00 a.m., 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. Salt Church commenced in 2012 and is part of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches and a member of The Gospel Coalition's Illawarra chapter (formerly Gospel for the Gong. The senior minister is Ps Michael Plaege assisted by Ps Geoff Ackman (Maturity and Ministry Pastor), Ps Andy Hobbs (Membership & Magnification Pastor), Fiona Ackman (Next Gen Director), Natalie Dixon (Admin team leader) and Jessica Houweling (communications). They have two ministry apprentices, Tom Evans and Laura Clark.

Michael Plaege emailed the following.

"Some things to give thanks for and pray for us...

Give thanks to God for

- those who have recently become christian as well as those about to begin our 'Life Series' to discover who Jesus is and respond to him
- new people we met at our recent Saltfest events - a series of connect events to invite our friends and community to.
- our new youth ministry just turned 1!

Ask God to:

- give us generous hearts as we give of ourselves for the sake of the Illawarra knowing Jesus.
- grow us in number and maturity in our current building in Keira St
- provide a new larger and more permanent building to meet in and help us plan wisely for this."

Church of the Week (next week)

"Gerrigong Uniting Church at 28 Fern St, Gerrigong has services on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. The senior minister is Rev. Steve Everist, and they have employed a discipleship pastor, Gregg Cornwall believing that the greatest need for churches today is to become more capable of sharing the good news of Jesus. The church runs a playgroup Friday morning called "Kids Play", a youth group called "DiG" (Disciples in Gerrigong), and "Gezza Kids" for primary school aged children. The congregation joins with all the churches in our region praying for the renewing power of God's Spirit to be active and alive in our community." Emailed by Steve Everist.

News

1. **Rev. Graham Schulz** has commenced as senior minister at **Helensburgh & Stanwell Park Anglican Church**. Graham was previously the assistant minister at St Jude's Bowral.
2. Tina Barnes, the Admin Officer of [Believe Church Global](#) emailed, "we're moving to the **Shellharbour Civic Centre** for our Sunday Services, so we have room to grow and make space for all that God has planned for us ahead, including growing our BelieveKids ministry! We had simply outgrown the Town Hall, which is such a wonderful problem to have. ... And .. we're no longer part of the C3 Movement. We're now an independent church."

5icm News

1. The **20th 5icm AGM** was held last week. Emmanuel Bakenga announced that his *Illawarra Christians Connect* ministry will now be called **Veritas Gospel**.
2. The next edition of ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 11th November**. If you have any items to share with Christians of the Illawarra, just email me. To subscribe to this newsletter, or if your email address is changing, please [email me](#) or message me on Facebook.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,

Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc., a registered charity.

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Email me to [subscribe](#) or [unsubscribe](#) from this newsletter, or if you are [changing email address](#).

Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Illawarra Seniors Band rehearsals are on the third Tuesday of each month from 10.30 am at Shellharbour Salvation Army Corps, Cnr Ulster & Leawarra Ave, Barrack Heights.

Contact: [Jill White](#), the Secretary.

Next Concerts: 10:30 a.m. **Tarrawanna Salvation Army**, cnr Meadow St & Caldwell Ave
10:30 a.m. Tuesday 11th November, **Lakeside Memorial Park Kanahooka**

Fri 7th - Sat 8th Nov, Truth & Freedom Women's Conference

Speakers: Ps Janine Kubala, Ps Leanne Matthesius, Kirsty Neilson, Ana Moir

Details: Fri 7-9pm, Sat 9am-1pm, Sat night 4:00-6:30pm at Shellharbour Civic Centre 76 Cygnet Ave, Shellharbour City Centre.

Cost: \$120, Groups of 10+ \$85 pp, (includes Sat morning tea), +\$25 for optional leadership lunch session on Saturday. Tickets: from [Eventbrite](#)

Saturday 22nd November, Lumina 2025 Carol Competition

Hosted by St Osthathiose Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Horsley

Details: 4:00-9:00 p.m. Ribbonwood Centre, 93-109 Princes Hwy, Dapto

Saturday 22nd November, River of Life Church meeting

Bunty Collins will give her amazing testimony of ministry in 6 nations, including hill tribes and city dwellers.

Details: 2-4 p.m. Koonawarra Community Centre, 36 Fowlers Rd.

Cost: free

Saturday 29th November, Christmas Lunch at Dapto

Hosted by Dapto Uniting Church,

Details: 12 noon at Dapto Uniting Church hall, 122 Princes Hwy Dapto

Cost: \$35 per person, transfer payment online to account 634634 100084236 quoting "lunch" and your surname.

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