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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: **4,007**

Church of the Week (for Prayer Support)

[Wollongong Korean Presbyterian Church](#) meets at Corrimal Community Centre for Services in Korean at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays. Pastor Seongdeuk Choo, emailed:

"Dear brothers and sisters in Christ across the Illawarra region,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are truly grateful for the opportunity to greet you and to share our prayer requests through this letter, and to enjoy fellowship with fellow believers in the Illawarra.

Wollongong Korean Presbyterian Church is a worshipping community established 36 years ago to serve Korean Christians in Wollongong and the broader Illawarra region. Our purpose has been to gather for worship and fellowship, and to engage in community service and evangelism. At present, our church embraces the vision of being "a church that raises up people of God" (2 Tim 3:16–17). With this vision, we are focusing our efforts on nurturing the next generation to grow as people of God, and on building Christ-centred families.

In particular, throughout 2026, our whole church is committed to the theme: "Let us live without forgetting our identity as Christians." We believe that as individual believers are strengthened, and as Christian families are established and multiplied, the Illawarra region—and indeed Australian society—will increasingly reflect the true values of Christ.

We humbly ask for your prayers:

1. Please pray that the vision and yearly theme of our church, as described above, may be faithfully realised through the members of Wollongong Korean Presbyterian Church.
2. In April, we held a joint youth Bible camp in Korea in partnership with Gwangmyeong Church. During this time, a non-Christian student from our group attended the camp and encountered God in a remarkable way. Please pray that all students who participated will continue to hold onto the grace of Jesus Christ they experienced, the love and service of fellow believers, and the work of the Holy Spirit that transcends language and culture.
3. Please pray that all our church leaders may be filled with the Holy Spirit, receiving wisdom and knowledge from the Word, so that they may faithfully carry out ministries that are God-centred, God's Word-centred, and church-centred.
4. Please pray that our church may become a community where the truths of Acts 2:46–47 and 2 Timothy 2:2 are lived out and fulfilled.

We pray God's abundant love and grace be poured out upon all our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the Illawarra, as together we participate in the work of His Kingdom."

Church of the Week (next week)

"[Generosity Church Kiama](#) gathers each Sunday at 9:30am at the North Kiama Neighbourhood Centre on Meehan Drive, Kiama Downs. The church is part of the Australian Christian Churches denomination, with [Generosity Church](#) now established across ten campuses throughout regional NSW and continuing to grow. At its heart, Generosity Church exists to see people encounter Jesus, grow in faith, and live out that faith in practical and meaningful ways within their local community.

As an expression of this, Generocity Church Kiama facilitates "The Everyday Table" every Wednesday from 10am. More than just a weekly gathering, The Everyday Table is a space where community is built around generosity, dignity, and care. It includes a low-cost community grocery store designed to make everyday essentials accessible, alongside hot drinks and a freshly prepared lunch shared together at a long table. It's a place where people can connect, feel welcomed, and experience genuine support—whether they come for a meal, a conversation, or simply to be part of something life-giving.”
Emailed by Nathan Keenan (Lead Pastor).

News.

1. **Port Kembla Baptist Church** has decided to respond to tough economic times by holding a market every two months commencing 9:00 a.m. Saturday 9th May in the church grounds.

Sicm News

1. Lesslie Newbigin, in his book *Truth to Tell*, p. 30, wrote that “We are all heirs of another great Enlightenment figure, John Locke, who defined belief as that upon which we must fall back when knowledge is not available. ‘Faith,’ he writes, ‘is a persuasion of our minds, short of knowledge.’” Hence the split between objectivity and subjectivity. But the scientist is trained in the tradition of scientific method and employs theories to seek in the mind the truth of what is out there. Next time we will see how this dichotomy has infiltrated the church.
2. The next edition of ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 19th May 2026**. If you have any items or events to share with Christians of the Illawarra, just email me, advertising is free. 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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See the [Sicm Events page](#) for **coming events** and the **Regular Events** list.

Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Illawarra Seniors Band rehearsals are on the first Tuesday of each month from 10.30 am at Shellharbour Salvation Army Corps, Cnr Ulster & Leawarra Ave, Barrack Heights.
Next Concert: 10:30 am 19th May Warrigal, Pine St, Albion Park Rail.

Saturday 9th May, Dapto Uniting Church Mother's Day High Tea
Details: 2:00 p.m. church hall, 122 Princes Hwy, Dapto. [Download flyer](#).
Tickets: \$20, book by contacting Janet Hyam 0431 410 189

Saturday 16th May, Kiama Baptist Church “Seen - Women's Conference”
Details: 9am–4pm The Pavilion Kiama, 2 Bong Bong St, Kiama
Cost: Adult \$75, Concession \$65, Highschool \$55 [Register here](#).
Contact: contact@kiamabaptist.church

Sunday 17th to Pentecost Sunday 24th May, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Resources are available on the [World Council of Churches website](#).

Friday 22nd & Saturday 23rd May, School of Sound Worship
Organised by Sound Church at 1/7 Hargraves Ave, Albion Park Rail.
Details: Friday 6:30 to 9:00 p.m., Saturday 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. & 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Cost: \$30 (includes tea, coffee, morning tea and lunch). Tickets at [Eventbrite](#).

Sunday 17th to 24th May (Pentecost) Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Resources are available on the [World Council of Churches website](#).

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