



No. 475 16/6/26

## 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](http://www.5icm.org.au/resources.html).  
Distribution of this edition: **4,042**

### Church of the Week (for Prayer Support)

**Helensburgh Anglican Church** at 77 Parkes St has Services on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. The senior minister is Graham Schultz assisted by Matthew Leach. The Parish Administrator is Rebecca Wagstaff and the women's minister is Ella Leach. Regular activities include a playgroup, kids club, youth group, men's events, women's events and Bible study groups.

### Church of the Week (next week)

"**Gerringong Uniting Church** at 28 Fern St has church services Sundays at 9:00am and 5:30pm. The senior minister is Ps. Steve Everist assisted by the Church Council and a caring and Jesus-centred community of believers. The church runs many groups for all ages: Know Your Bible (KYB), Cuppa Craft & Chat, Adult Fellowship, Book Club, Gezza Kids (K-6), DiG Youth Group and Kids Play for pre-schoolers. They also deliver meals from the Chittick Lodge kitchen for those in need. The church's mission is "Living the love of Jesus in our community."

Gezza Uniting's Latest News & Events:

Refugee Week Webinar - Thursday 18th June

Join us at 28 Fern Street, Gerringong

7.30-9pm in the church hall

More info: [https://www.commongrace.org.au/refugee\\_week\\_2026](https://www.commongrace.org.au/refugee_week_2026)

"Under the Sea" Kids Holiday Club

A one-day program for kids on the Term 3 pupil free day. Bookings opening soon.

Monday, 20 July 2026. Cost: \$10"

Emailed by Libby Henderson

### News.

1. **The Men's Well** is starting a second location at Wollongong Tennis Club from 21st July. Matt Jamieson will be facilitating.
2. **City on a Hill, Wollongong** every Monday at 5:30 p.m. is offering a free meal, followed by a Bible Study for those who want to stay at the old Presbyterian Church at the corner of Hargreaves St and Maynes Parade, Unanderra. [See video here.](#)
3. "The team at **Mission to Seafarers** is looking forward to the special Service that will honour seafarers of the world on the 12th July, at St. Michael's Anglican Cathedral, Church Street, Wollongong at 2.00 pm. There will be music, interviews, displays, and the keynote address is from Rt. Rev. Peter Hayward, Anglican Bishop of Wollongong. Afternoon tea will follow the service. There are 1.9 million seafarers who travel the oceans to supply the world with almost all the goods that we receive. This island continent, Australia, receives almost every item from ships that are manned by seafarers. Missions to Seafarers exist to help the men and women who are seafarers. You are invited to join us at the **Sea Sunday Service**"  
Ruth Milne, Mission to Seafarers, Port Kembla. [Download flyer.](#)

4. The **Catholic National Mass Attendance Count** in May found that **Lumen Christi Parish** found that the average weekend attendance increased from 776 in 2022 to 1,365 in 2026, representing an increase of almost 76% over the period.

## 5icm News

1. Lesslie Newbigin, in his book *Truth to Tell*, p. 36, says of western culture: "The false dichotomy is set up between 'I know' and 'I believe.' Everything in theology becomes subjective." To which he responds, "the great objective reality is God but he is also the supreme subject who wills to make himself known to us not by a power that would cancel out our subjectivity, but by a grace that calls forth and empowers our subjective faculties, our power to grow in knowledge through believing. We believe in order to understand." Next time he turns to the conflict in the church.
2. The next edition of **Clearing the Way for Jesus** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 30th June 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.

Website: [www.5icm.org.au](http://www.5icm.org.au) | email: [ficm@spin.net.au](mailto:ficm@spin.net.au) | phone: 4256 5780 |   
Email me to [subscribe](#) or [unsubscribe](#) from this newsletter, or if you are [changing email address](#)  
See the [5icm 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 a.m. Tues 21st July, IRT, Tarrawanna.

### **Wednesday 24th June, Coffee and Dessert Night**

Northern Illawarra Combined Churches Christian Education Board information night.  
*Details:* 6:30 for 7 pm start, Northern Illawarra Uniting Church, Point St, Bulli.  
*Cost:* \$15 adults, \$10 students, \$35 family. [Download flyer](#).

### **Sat 27th & Sunday 28th June, Preloved Book Sale**

Fundraiser for Kiama High School Scripture Ministry and St Matthew's historic Church.  
*Details:* 9am to 4pm Kiama Catholic Church, Manning St, Kiama

### **Saturday 11th July, Kiama Presbyterian Church Open Day**

Aligning with **Kiama Winter Festival** - market stalls and games for kids.  
*Details:* 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Kiama Presbyterian Church, Terralong St, Kiama.

### **Saturday 25th July, Dapto Uniting Church, Christmas in July**

*Details:* 12 noon, Dapto UC, 122 Princes Hwy, Dapto. [Download flyer](#).  
*Cost:* \$40, book by contacting Janet on 0431 410 189 or by [email](#).

### **Sunday 16th August, Dapto Uniting Church Musical Festival**

There will be three visiting choirs plus congregational singing.  
*Details:* 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Dapto Uniting Church, 122 Princes Hwy, Dapto  
*Cost:* adults \$15, concession \$10, children under 12 \$5.

### **Sunday 23rd August, Samaritan's Purse Celebration Event**

*Speaker:* Rick George, Samaritan's Purse State Manager. [Download flyer](#).  
*Details:* 2:00pm-4:00 pm Albion Park Uniting Church, cnr Terry & Russell St, Albion Park  
*Cost:* \$15 at the door, the cost of sending a shoebox overseas (afternoon tea included)

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