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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: **4,041**

Church of the Week (for Prayer Support)

St Volodymyr's Ukrainian Catholic Church at 56 Kenny St, Wollongong has Services on 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:00 a.m. The church is administered by Rev Fr. Iurii Tychenok of the Sydney parish. "We pray for Ukraine, that the war may end with blessed peace, and that people may once again live normal lives."

Church of the Week (next week)

New Life Missions at the corner of Gladstone and Wardell St, Bellambi is an independent Bible based church. They hold services on Sundays at 6:00 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. The senior minister is Ps Harry Kefford assisted by Ps Samuel Kefford.

News.

- 1. Operation Christmas Child** in the Illawarra is seeking to raise \$45,000 to cover the cost of shipping the shoe boxes of gifts from the Illawarra to needy children this Christmas. [Download Lyn Brown's letter here](#). Download [Fundraising Celebration Event flyer](#).
- 2. Michael Dobie of LifeWay Illawarra Lutheran Church** has commenced at 1/8 Kenny St Wollongong "Better Conversations about faith and life" on the 4th Wednesday of each month starting at 10:00 a.m. This is an opportunity to chat about life and build community over morning tea. All welcome.
- 3. The Nuns of Jamberoo Abbey** have reported that their fundraising appeal has reached \$850,000 of the one million required to complete maintenance works at the Abbey.
- 4. TryPraying** has a "a dedicated website with information, videos and resources. This simple idea of using trypraying is making an impact in many towns, cities and countries." [Link to Do TryPraying](#). Have any Illawarra churches used TryPraying yet? It is a method of evangelism for a postmodern age, challenging people to draw near to God in prayer (James 4:8) and taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8).

Sicm News

- 1. Lesslie Newbigin**, in his book *Truth to Tell*, p. 37, wrote about the anger that arises in liberal Christians at his belief that there is no more ultimate principle than God's revelation in Jesus Christ: "It threatens what has been accepted as axioms – namely the right and power of the human mind to make its own decisions about what is true." On the other hand, fundamentalist Christians "seek to present the Bible as a body of objective truths in which human subjectivity plays no part. Consequently there is a tendency to play down all those elements of human subjectivity and fallibility which are involved at every stage – from the very first words written or spoken, through many stages of recording, revising, editing, selection, translation, printing, and publishing until the book is actually in my hands." (p. 42). To be continued.

2. The next edition of ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 14th July 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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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.

Saturday 11th July, Port Kembla Baptist Church Market Day

Details: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 81 Illawarra St, Port Kembla sausage sizzle, scones, bric-a-brac stalls.

Saturday 11th July, Kiama Presbyterian Church Open Day

To align with the Kiama Winter Festival there will be market stalls from their Op Shop and games for kids.

Details: 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Kiama Presbyterian Church, corner of Shoalhaven & Terralong St, Kiama.

Sun. 12th July, Seafarers Sunday Service - Harbours of Hope

There will be music, interviews, displays, and the keynote address by Anglican Bishop Peter Hayward. [Download flyer.](#)

Details: 2:00 p.m. St Michael's Anglican Cathedral, 74 Church St, Wollongong, followed by afternoon tea.

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, which is the cost of sending a shoebox overseas (afternoon tea included).

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