

Advent 3

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Isiah 12:2-6

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7 –18



**Adelaide West
Uniting Church**

Acceptance, Hope and Transformation in Jesus

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Office Hours

Mon - Thurs 9am - 3pm

**news
of
the
church**

13th December, 2015

If you are new or visiting Adelaide West Uniting Church we are pleased you are here. A Welcome to Adelaide West information sheet is available in the foyer or from the stewards.



This Sunday is sometimes called 'Rejoice Sunday' and Paul states this with clarity and emphasis in the Philippians reading (Philippians 4.4-7). He says, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" Many will reply that they don't feel like rejoicing or at least don't feel like rejoicing always. But joy has nothing to do with how we feel. The clue to Paul's emphatic statement is that "The Lord is near." Joy comes from our awareness of God in our lives – who God is and what God is doing now and promises to do in the future.

So joy is centred on God. May we like Paul pray, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15.13)."

Rod Dyson
Lead Minister

Sunday Worship times:

creative traditional 9.15am

family worship 10.45am

youth & young adults 5.00pm



Uniting Church. **Uniting People.**

Christmas Bowl: Christmas Bowl envelopes can now be placed in the offering any time. The offerings on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will all go to the Christmas Bowl. Gifts over \$2 are tax deductible.

South Sudan is the youngest nation in the world and remains unstable. Recent violence has forced more than 200,000 refugees to flee over the border to Ethiopia to escape the fighting. However refugee camps are full and unsanitary living conditions mean potentially fatal diseases can easily spread.



SANITATION

\$285 can provide a toilet for South Sudanese refugee communities in Ethiopia to help stop the spread of disease and save lives.

Tonga is made up of 176 small islands. It is the world's second most at-risk country from natural disasters, including cyclones, earthquakes and tsunamis. Tonga is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and increasingly extreme weather patterns, which pose serious threats to the people of Tonga and their livelihoods.

ACCESSIBLE WATER

\$4,150 can help install water tanks in Tonga so that clean water is accessible after a devastating cyclone.

The Christmas Bowl appeal has an added spin this year... a sweet one! Karen Osborne ordered the fundraising guide for this campaign, and with help from other Kitchen Elves there will be packs of homemade cookies to take away for a nosh later on. There will be, as always, an opportunity to donate by using the Christmas Bowl envelopes if you choose to do it that way. The cookie purchases are not tax deductible, but your envelope donations are. Please support Act for Peace this year either way, to give a gift of hope and relief to people around the world who are suffering.



Welcome to Worship.

Today we will be coming out of church as usual but then heading straight to the grass area by the college and having some outdoor games and fun. We will then return to the hall at the end of the service where we will share a light lunch with the whole church.

We would love as many people as possible to join us, food is provided.

Today is our last Kids Space session for the year and we will return on the 7th February. There will be a mixture of holiday activities during the break sometimes in the 10:45 service and sometimes out in the hall. Watch this space for more details.

Next week the children will stay in for the whole service and activity sheets will be available.

Blessings Lorraine
Children and Families Pastor.

A place to belong, learn to believe in & become like Jesus

Christmas Service Times

24 th December	6pm Children's Christmas
	9pm Christmas Eve Service
25 th December	9am Celebration Service

Richard and Sandy Altmann, Ashleigh Matthews and Louise Fielke would like to thank the church community for their amazing support for the upcoming Scripture Union Family Mission in Port Vincent this coming January.

All up just over \$700 in total has been donated in the last few weeks, from some generous individual donations and the sale of cakes and slices on Dec. 6th., also amounts from the Wednesday Lunch Group, and from the Craft Group.

We are looking forward to a great week of sharing the gospel with local and holidaying children and their families.

Engage Youth News

Engage youth is enjoying the holiday break and will return on Friday 5th February, 2016.



Don't forget.....

Big Week Out registrations are now open.

BWO is a week (18-22nd Jan 2016) of youth

discipleship and serving opportunities, putting young people's faith into action by serving the community.

More info at bigweekout.org.au

[John Harris](#)

[Youth & Young Adults Pastor](#)

[Thankyou](#) to everyone for all the many thoughtful ways you have loved our family these past few weeks following the death of my Brother John. The whole family has been blessed by your love and care.

Deep thanks from the Crosby family ♥

[Regarding donations for a stroller.](#)

Thank you everyone for your kindness. We have had a beautiful response and I feel so encouraged. I managed to get a stroller yesterday and will deliver it Wednesday. We had a bit left over and will use this to buy some of the heavier food items in bulk so she doesn't have the extra weight to carry on the bus along with a stroller, baby and 2-little kids. eg: rice, tinned fish and long life milk.

Thank you.

Ruth Harbinson-Gresham

Looking to have some [fun these school holidays](#) without making a mess at home?

Come and join us in the church hall on Monday 21st Dec, 10am-12pm to decorate honey biscuits to share with families at the 6pm Children's Christmas Eve service.

[All helpers big or small welcome!](#)



Soon...

MY

**Dinner at ~~your~~
place**

Dinners of Eight...

Register your interest. Your dinner date can be arranged to suit your preferences. Please email or phone to indicate your interest and leave your contact details.



Small group
dinners...(or lunch.)

Would you like
to get to know
others at AWUC?

Your dinner party
could include youth,
young adults,
people from the
9.15, 10.45, 5pm
services, those new
to the Church
or visitors.

(Up to about 8 people)

AWUC: 8234 1199
dinnersof8@awuc.org.au

What's on this week...

Today	9:15am	Rod Dyson
	10:45am	Rod Dyson
	5:00pm	John Harris

Many of our regular gatherings are now on hold for the Christmas break.

Tuesday 15th	7:00 - 8:00pm	Prayer & fasting AWUC chapel
Wednesday 16th	7:00pm	Progressive Christianity AWUC chapel
		Mellor Park Carols - see flyer for details.

Next Sunday 20th December -

Remember to wear green for Advent 4

9:15am	Rod Dyson
10:45am	Rod Dyson
5:00pm	John Harris

The AWUC office will be closed from Tuesday 22nd December and will re-open on Monday 11th January.

Rod, John & Lorraine will still be working until Christmas Day, but not in the office.

Items for Sunday 27th December and January (that covers the 3rd & 10th) newsletters must be sent to the office before Monday 21st December to be included.

The **2016 Uniting Church Calendar's** are now available from the foyer table. We have had to pay for these, so to cover our costs we ask if everyone can please pay a gold coin if taking a copy.

lead minister:

Rev Rod Dyson 0409 718 025
minister@awuc.org.au

youth & young adults pastor:

John Harris john@awuc.org.au

children and family pastor:

Lorraine Schroder kidsspace@awuc.org.au

office & event coordinator:

Suzi Cousins office@awuc.org.au

AWUC personal name tags can be ordered from the office.

Costs are:

standard pin \$6.00;

dual pin and pocket clip \$7.00;

magnet \$9.00.