

Advent 4

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:46-56

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45



**Adelaide West  
Uniting Church**

Acceptance, Hope and Transformation in Jesus

312 Sir Donald Bradman Drive

Brooklyn Park SA 5032

w [awuc.org.au](http://awuc.org.au)

e [office@awuc.org.au](mailto:office@awuc.org.au)

p 08 8234 1199

Office Hours

Mon - Thurs 9am - 3pm

**news  
of  
the  
church**

**20th 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 we focus on two readings from the gospel of Luke – 1.39-45 and 1.46-56.

Luke has a very strong focus on the work of the Holy Spirit, on prayer and on women. He pays a lot of attention to the outsiders, the poor and non-Jews and today we see that the kingdom is about lifting up the lowly and scattering the proud. For many God came in a surprising or even disturbing way. What was God doing coming to a poor, young girl who lived in a town such a long way from the CBD? I think it means that God comes anywhere and everywhere to everybody.

That means that God could come to you today in surprising or even shocking ways. Will you be ready and willing to accept this surprising God? May the Holy Spirit enable us to recognise and welcome God however God comes.

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.

The healthcare system in **Gaza** has been under extreme pressure since 2007 due to the ongoing blockade imposed by Israel. Prior to the 2014 conflict, children in Gaza were already affected by malnourishment due to the blockade. Damage to healthcare infrastructure sustained during the fighting now places them at even greater risk.



#### HEALTHCARE

\$910 can help equip a medical centre in Gaza so doctors and nurses can provide the healthcare children deserve.

#### No December Share lunch.

The response to the monthly share lunches this year has been amazing. It is a great chance for people to gather and get to know each other. The Kids Space lunch last week was certainly a highlight and extremely well attended.

We will have a break for December with no share lunch on Sunday 27th, but will resume again on January 31st.

#### Christmas morning service helpers...

There is an opportunity for children who are attending our Christmas morning service to be involved in the call to worship and lighting of the **advent candles**. Involvement is very simple and doesn't require any practice and we hope to include all those who want to help. To be involved please gather with Suzi and Lorraine in the foyer at 8:45am on Christmas morning so you don't miss out.

Wearing white would be good, but is not compulsory.

Our weekly **prayer and fasting group** are having a break over Christmas. There are no more Tuesday night gatherings until Tuesday 19th January.



Welcome to Worship.

Our Kids' Space program is in recess for the School Holidays and will resume on February 7<sup>th</sup> 2016. Today we have activity sheets at the back of the church for children.

The Gifts that the children have chosen from the "Everything in Common"

catalogue from Uniting World are as follows:

Seahorses "Set for School" one year's school supplies for 4 children and "Lay an egg", 8 chickens and their eggs, the foundations of a small business for a family in rural Zimbabwe.

Mussels "Create a buzz" helping families from rural communities who've learnt beekeeping skills earn an income.

Dolphins "Loan for a loo" it's hard to imagine a more useful gift than this one. Helping a family build their own toilet will increase awareness of health and hygiene, allowing them to live free from the spread of preventable disease.

Orcas "Lay an egg", 8 chickens and their eggs, the foundations of a small business for a family in rural Zimbabwe.

Thank you to all the children for their wise choices.

Activities for the next three weeks are: 27<sup>th</sup> December and 3<sup>rd</sup> January – activity sheets and the 10<sup>th</sup> January there will be an activity available, hopefully in the Hall.

Wishing all the families a very blessed and Joyful Christmas.

Lorraine, Children and Family Pastor.

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

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.

UnitingCare Port Adelaide

Thank you to everyone who donated Christmas items to UnitingCare Port Adelaide. The items were collected last Thursday and the UnitingCare staff were delighted with the amount they collected.

## 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 (18-22<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://bigweekout.org.au)

[John Harris](#)

[Youth & Young Adults Pastor](#)

### Christmas Service Times

24 <sup>th</sup> December	6pm Children's Christmas
	9pm Christmas Eve Service
25 <sup>th</sup> December	9am Celebration Service

### Holiday Office hours

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.

[Offering Envelopes](#) for 2016 are now available from the foyer table. If you require offering envelopes and you can't find your named packet please see John Burton or contact the AWUC office either on Monday 22nd December or from Monday 11th January.





## Soon... 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.



**Adelaide West  
Uniting Church**

## 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  
[dinnerof8@awuc.org.au](mailto:dinnerof8@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.

Monday 21st            10:00am biscuit decorating AWUC hall

24<sup>th</sup> December        6pm Children's Christmas  
                                 9pm Christmas Eve Service

25<sup>th</sup> December        9am Celebration Service

We would love you to wear white  
on Christmas Day

Next Sunday 27th December -

9:15am	Trevor Story
10:45am	Trevor Story
	No share lunch this month
5:00pm	John Harris

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.