

Advent 2

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 1:68-79

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6



**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**

**6th 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.



Christmas is a complex season. A mix of emotions. Grief and Joy.

Disappointment and anticipation. All sorts of tensions in family gatherings. A story I read recently about Thanksgiving in America made a similar point. The

writer was commenting on the prayer that was offered before the meal. Instead of people saying thank you for all we have, for the lovely food etc etc the writer imagined prayers like: thank you God that I have controlled my tongue so far. Thank you that my two uncles haven't had a fight yet. Thank you that no one has raised politics yet. The family gathering looked fine but it was at the point of explosion. I imagine that this scenario is not new. In today's Luke reading (Luke 1.67-79) Zechariah sings a song of praise about a time that Israel will be free from enemies and when the people will have knowledge of God's salvation through the forgiveness of their sins. He writes of a deep peace that resolves the surface conflicts and their deep causes.

Zechariah talks of a prophet who will guide the peoples' feet into the way of peace. This is just as relevant today in our families, in our community and across the world. We need to unlearn the patterns that lead to conflict and learn new patterns that lead to peace. This advent and Christmas may we seek these ways through the Holy Spirit who gave the words of the song to Zechariah.

**Rod Dyson**  
Lead Minister

Sunday Worship times:

creative traditional 9.15am

family worship 10.45am

youth & young adults 5.00pm



Uniting Church. **Uniting People.**

## URGENTLY NEEDED

Donations required to cover a stroller.

New arrival, single mum with a 4 month old baby and 2 other kids. She has been carrying the baby and the shopping on public transport.

Thank you.

Please see Ruth Harbinson-Gresham

Come and enjoy the December meeting of the [AWUC Adult Fellowship](#) on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.

This will be a night of Christmas fun.

Members please remember to bring a gift for your Secret Friend and an item for donation to the UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide Christmas Appeal.

## [Ring in Christmas with Adelaide Harmony Choir](#)

8pm Wednesday 16th December

Elder Hall, North Tce, Adelaide

Adults \$28

Concession \$26

[UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide Christmas Appeal](#): For the last two years Adelaide West has supported this campaign and made a significant difference to families who struggle. We invite you to give again this year. Today is the last Sunday to make donations., but the office can still receive items until Wednesday.

UnitingCare are seeking non-perishable food, wrapping paper, decorations and toys.

[Christmas Bowl](#): Christmas Bowl envelopes will be available from December 13th and can be placed in the offering any time after that. The offerings on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will all go to the Christmas Bowl.

Gifts over \$2 are tax deductible.



### Welcome to Worship.

At Adelaide West we believe every child is precious and is part of our church family. Children are included in worship and also have their own special time in groups tailored to their ages. We start each Sunday with morning tea in the hall from 10.15am with the whole church family, then move into the 10.45am service. At approximately 11am we gather in the hall for our opening session then separate into our groups and finish at 12 noon.

Our groups are:

Squirts	0-2 years
Seahorses	3-4 years
Mussels	5-6 years
Dolphins	7-9 years
Orcas	10-11 years

We would love for you to join us!

Next week, **13<sup>th</sup> December** we will be coming out of church as usual but then heading to the grass area by the college and having some outdoor games and fun and then coming back to the hall at the end of the service where we will share a light lunch with the whole church. The theme is **Yellow – Constant Joy**, so we think that this is quite fitting.

Blessings Lorraine  
Children and Families Pastor.

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

PASTORAL NOTE: We regret to inform all members of the passing of Grace Homley, a treasured member of the 9.15 Congregation. Grace died last Sunday morning. Her funeral was held on Thursday. Please keep Maurice and his family in your thoughts during this time of loss. Maurice himself suffered from a bad fall only the night before Grace's passing.

## Engage Youth News

Join us for Engage Youth this Friday night!  
6pm for dinner (\$5), followed by games, worship,  
small groups and more!



### Advanced notice

Big Week Out registrations are opening soon.  
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](#)

For over a decade, children in  
Burma (Myanmar) have been  
recruited to participate in a violent  
armed conflict between the state  
and numerous militarised ethnic  
groups. Though Burma recently  
signed a treaty forbidding the use of children in the army, there are  
still currently more than 5,000 child-soldiers in the country being used  
by the army and rebel groups.



### COMMUNITY ORGANISERS

\$148 is enough to pay the salary of a community  
organizer for a month so they can rescue child soldiers  
in Burma

Afghanistan's girls are still fighting for equal access to education.  
Quality education, in particular for girls, is crucial in any attempt to  
alleviate poverty and bring about meaningful social change.

### TEACHERS

\$470 can help train female teachers in Afghanistan so  
they can provide a brighter future for girls.

Cooperating Churches of West Adelaide inc  
presents

Christmas Carols Festival 2015

Come along to Mellor Park corner Henley Beach Road and  
White Avenue Lockleys

Wednesday 16th December 6pm - 9:30pm

Food and refreshments from 6pm

Carols and Entertainment from 7:30pm

Entertainment includes Henely & Grange Concert  
band, Naomi Crosby and Chanelle Andris.

More details in next week's newsletter.

Why not arrange to meet a group of friends or  
neighbors at the carols or have a small group  
celebration .

Christmas Service Times

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

## What's on this week...

Today

Communion all services

9:15am Rod Dyson

10:45am Rod Dyson

5:00pm John Harris

Monday 7th

6:30 - 8:00pm Girl's Brigade AWUC hall

Tuesday 8th

5pm management meeting AWUC hall

7:00 - 8:00pm Prayer & fasting AWUC chapel

Wednesday 9th

7:30pm Evening Fellowship AWUC hall

Thursday 10th

9:00 - 11:30am mainly music AWUC hall

7:30 Church Council AWUC chapel

Friday 11th

6:00 - 9:30 Engage Youth

Next Sunday 13th December -

Remember to wear yellow for Advent 3.

9:15am Rod Dyson

10:45am Rod Dyson

Kids Space Break-up party

5:00pm John Harris

16th December Carols by Candlelight Mellor Park

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.