

Advent 4



Adelaide West Uniting Church

Acceptance, Hope and Transformation in Jesus

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Office Hours

Mon - Thurs 9am - 3pm

**news
of
the
church**

18th December, 2016

Matthew 1:18-25

Isaiah 7:10-16

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.

Today is the last Sunday that we will be following the themes of the advent candles. A saviour has come – so what? Today's focus is that we will be people motivated by love. In the sermon we will explore responses to the crises that come our way as a part of ordinary life. In all of life's circumstances there will be a number of responses to choose from. As children of God we will seek an option motivated by love. This is not necessarily an easy option but it has the best likelihood of a life-giving outcome.

For the last few weeks we have been bringing gifts that UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide will give to families who would otherwise have little to celebrate at Christmas. Their marketing and events officer called in on Monday to pick up a car full of gifts. She wrote that she was amazed at how many gifts were there. She picked up the rest of the gifts on Thursday. These gifts stem from us acting in love. The Christmas Bowl is also motivated by love and we will have a chance to give to that over the next few weeks.

**Rod Dyson
Lead Minister**

Sunday Worship times:

creative traditional 9.15am

family worship 10.45am

youth & young adults 5.00pm



Uniting Church. **Uniting People.**



Welcome to Worship,

This week when the children “leave church” they will be going across to the grassed area and having some fun activities with the help of the Engage Team to celebrate the end of our year.

We invite (the whole church) you to join us at 12 noon for a light lunch time to share the “Love”.
Please join us!

Blessings

Lorraine Schroder

Children and Families Pastor

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

Not sure how to celebrate New Year's Day 2017?

Our 5pm team invite everyone to a special event.

It will be **outdoors**.

Music includes local celebrities,

Family - BYO or just be a part of the AWUC family,

Community - invite your friends & hopefully people will just drop in to see what's happening

From 5pm

2017 diary date

**CWCI - Women's Christian Convention
Passionate Speakers.**

Where - Westminster College

When - 17 - 18th March, 2017

CWCI is an international evangelical woman's ministry which began in Australia and is known for its dynamic Bible teaching and relevance to life issues in the 21st century.

Christmas Eve, Eve Celebrations - 23rd December - All welcome.

Please join the Engage Youth family for their last service for 2016.

Come at 6pm for a BBQ + picnic. BYO picnic and we'll provide the BBQ. Or join us at 7:30 for a Christmas celebration service run by our amazing youth.

**Hope to see you there,
Engage youth leadership team.**



Our mainly music team invite everyone to celebrate with them our

Children's Christmas Service Saturday 24th December From 6:00pm



Pizza is served at 6:00pm, followed by Christmas Carols, mainly music songs and the Christmas story. Ice cream is served at the conclusion approx. 7:30pm.

Geoff Holden and family would like to thank our Church family for their love and help through Barbara's illness.

Thankyou also for helping us celebrate her life through her funeral.

New Year's Day

The first Sunday of 2017 is the 1st of January. On that day in the morning we will have communion as usual and we will use some of the Covenant Service. This will be a way of offering ourselves to God afresh for next year.

Sharing a Christmas meal.

Are your circumstances such that you don't have anyone to share a meal with on Christmas Day? If this is you, and you would like to share a meal on Christmas Day, please leave your name and contact details at the Church Office this week. If you are able to offer hospitality for a shared meal, then please let the office know this week, as well.

It is hoped that we will be able to match requests and offers, so no-one has to eat alone on Christmas Day.

Esmond Dowdy, for the AWUC Church Council.



Christmas
Bowl

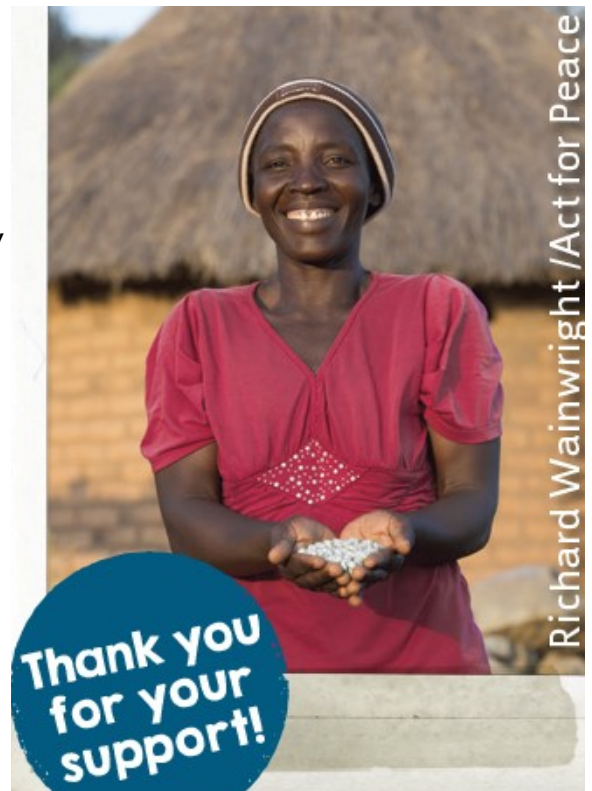
Encouraging peace & justice in the Philippines.

Your gift can help support the production of art and drama performances to stimulate discussion on peace and justice in the Philippines. **Please give hope this Christmas.**

Growing enough to eat

Your gift can provide farmers in Zimbabwe with seeds and training so they can grow enough food for their families.

Christmas Bowl envelopes are available from today and offerings will be collected at all Christmas services.



Connect Groups

In Adelaide West we have groups that focus on many different things. But all of them are connect groups. They are groups where people can make a connection with each other. They are groups where newcomers can get to know those who have been here longer. A connect group can be a bible study, a choir, a sewing group or a cycling group but all of them strengthen our community and help us to care for each other. We will refer to the broad cross section of groups as connect groups from now on. Dorothy Crosby is overseeing our connect group ministry. She can be contacted on groups@awuc.org.au

Uniting Church Calendars are now available to purchase for \$2.00 each. There are a limited number available and worship leaders may find them particularly helpful as they include the lectionary readings.

2017 Giving Envelopes are also available for collection. If you have any query please either see John Burton, Peter Whiting or contact the office.

Have you noticed the new **display shelving in the foyer**? This is where you can now find the additional donation envelopes for:

- ◆ Debt reduction
- ◆ Youth pastor
- ◆ Organ fund
- ◆ Musical instrument fund

These envelopes are regularly used and greatly assist the work of the church.

Also, the recycling boxes and relevant brochures and UCA privacy forms.

Please don't leave things on this shelving without checking with the office or staff first.

Our final **Stitchers** gathering for 2016 in this Monday 19th December. As always, just bring along your own stitching or craft to work on any time between 10am and 3pm.

To celebrate the end of the year we are all bringing a share lunch.

As it is school holidays, we are hoping that some people will join us who normally can't. If you want to bring your children and work on some craft together (that you bring), we would love to have as many as possible.

Newsletters....

- A newsletter for Christmas will be printed on Wednesday 21st December.
- A newsletter that will cover Sundays 1st – 15th January will also be printed on Wednesday 21st December.

The cut-off for inclusion in both of these newsletters is Wednesday 21st December 11am.

There will be a newsletter printed on Wednesday 18th January for Sunday 22nd January.

What's on this week...

Today 9:15am Rod Dyson
10:45am Rod Dyson
5:00pm Jack Harington

Monday 19th 10am - 3pm AWUC Stickers BYO stitching
Share Lunch

Tuesday 20th 7:00pm prayer & fasting AWUC chapel
(last gathering until 10th January)

Wednesday 21st Carols

Christmas Services - all welcome.

Christmas

at ADELAIDE WEST



CHRISTMAS EVE, EVE
FRIDAY 7:30PM

CHRISTMAS EVE | CHILDREN SATURDAY 6PM
CAROLS SATURDAY 9PM

CHRISTMAS DAY
SUNDAY 9AM

The **AWUC office will be closed between Christmas & New Year** but will **re-open on Tuesday 3rd January**. Normal office hours of Monday to Thursday 9am - 3pm will apply.

Suzi is on leave from 22nd December, returning on Tuesday 17th January.

Planning ahead.....

January 1st Special Celebration Service - from 5pm
January 16 - 20 Big Week Out

lead minister:

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

children and family pastor:

Lorraine Schroder kidsspace@awuc.org.au

youth ministry team leader:

Jack Harington youth@awuc.org.au

Young adult team leader:

Lauren Andris youngadults@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.