



THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA – WOLLONGONG MISSION

Wesley Uniting Church

“The Church on the Mall”

Mission Activities: LifeLine South Coast, Wesley Community Centre, The Tea Shoppe, Court Lane Craft Shop

The Church is located at 116 Crown Street Mall, Wollongong, between Church Street and Kembla Street

Sunday, 9th September, 2018 – 10:00am & 6:00pm
Ordinary Sunday 23 (Year B)



Looking up to heaven,
Jesus sighed and said to the man,
“Ephphatha,” that is “Be opened.”
And immediately his ears were opened,
his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

— St Mark 7: 34–35.

ORDER OF WORSHIP TODAY

The Gathering of the People of God

ORGAN PRELUDE

GREETING

Welcome in the name of Christ.

God’s grace, mercy and peace be with you.

And also with you.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

CALL TO WORSHIP

Here, in this place,
we will not be afraid to sing the good news.

We will praise our God, now and always.

Here, with this people,
we will not fear in living the good news.

**We will walk with Jesus,
as he comes with justice in his hands.**

Here, in these moments,
we will not be scared to tell the good news.

**We will be open to all
the Holy Spirit is doing in our midst.**

— Thom Shuman, <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com>

PRAYER OF APPROACH

① **HYMN** (TiS.210) O for a thousand tongues to sing

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

— from *Seasons of the Spirit* 2003

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

...God promises surround God's own children,
from this time on and forevermore.

Thanks be to God.

INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME OF THE DAY

HYMN (TiS.640)

Kneels at the feet of his friends
(Yesu, Yesu, fill us with your love)

The Service of the Word of God

Before the Bible readings, the reader says:

Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet:

A light to our path.

— Psalm 119: 105.

FIRST READING

James 2: 1–10, 14–17

2 ¹ My brothers and sisters, do you, with your acts of favouritism, really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ?

² For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³ and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?

Have you not
made distinctions
among yourselves,
and become judges
with evil thoughts?

James 2: 4.



⁵ Listen, my beloved sisters and brothers. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that God has promised to those who love the Lord?

⁶ But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷ Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? ⁸ You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." ⁹ But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in

one point has become accountable for all of it.
...

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith, but do not have works? Can faith save you?

¹⁵ If a sister or brother is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷ So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

— NRSV.

GOSPEL READING

St Mark 7: 24–37

²⁴ Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophœnician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.

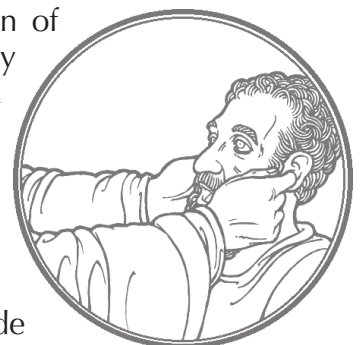
²⁷ Jesus said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs."

²⁸ But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."

²⁹ Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go – the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰ So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹ Then Jesus returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him.

³³ Jesus took him aside



in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, Jesus sighed and said to the man, “*Ephphatha*,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond

measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

— NRSV.

After this final reading, the reader says:

Here end today’s readings.

Lord, may your word live in us;

And bear much fruit to your glory.

SERMON

Are you open to being disturbed?

We respond to the Word of God

THE ‘MUSTARD SEED’ AFFIRMATION

***We believe in God,
holy Source of all that is.***

***We believe in God,
who has spoken the eternal Word
in Jesus Christ.***

***We believe in God,
ceaselessly breathing the Spirit
into creation.***

***We trust in God’s love and wisdom:
fully revealed in
the humanity of Jesus Christ,
present to us through
the Spirit’s working in the Church
and beyond.***

***We believe that God
is calling the whole creation
into a future of justice and peace.***

***We share in Christ’s risen life,
and commit ourselves today
to receive the coming reign of God.***

***To the only God, Three yet One,
be all honour and glory and praise
now and for ever. Amen.***

— *Uniting in Worship 2*, p.206.

NOTICES & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY HYMN (TiS.414 – verses 1, 2, 6, 7)
There’s a spirit in the air

The people remain seated until the final verse.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

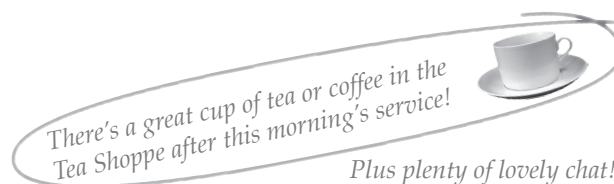


The People of God are sent out

FINAL HYMN (TiS.658) I, the Lord of sea and sky
(Here I am, Lord)

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

THREE-FOLD AMEN.



*There’s a great cup of tea or coffee in the
Tea Shoppe after this morning’s service!*

Plus plenty of lovely chat!

SERVICES TODAY AND NEXT SUNDAY

TODAY’S SERVICES – 9th September, 2018

10:00am & 6:00pm The Revd Geoff Flynn

MUSICIANS TODAY (am) Peter Nickolas
(pm) Marjorie Shephard

READER THIS MORNING Ian Tucker

*The Church:
The People of God,
gathered around
the cross of Christ*



SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY – 16th September, 2018

10:00am The Revd Ian Tucker

6:00pm The Revd Phil Newton

MUSICIANS NEXT SUNDAY (am) Scott Jackson
(pm) Marjorie Shephard

READER NEXT SUNDAY am students

A Word from the Minister – 9th September, 2018

I met with the Church Council last Monday evening and with the Presbytery Strategic Mission Committee last Wednesday morning. Arising out of these two meetings, the Presbytery has resolved to develop a new ministry profile to assist with the recruitment of a Tertiary Minister to fill the vacancy created by the departure of the Revd Phil Newton in December.

While further consultation is still to take place, it is proposed that the Tertiary Minister will divide their time between chaplaincy at the University of Wollongong and growing a new worship service within Wollongong Mission that is designed to connect with millennials.

As part of strengthening the connections between Congregations and Uniting NSW/ACT, the service manager of Elanora has confirmed that within the next few weeks Elanora will be in a position to donate an espresso coffee machine to Wollongong Mission for use in our Tea Shoppe.

I know Christmas is still a long way off, but the Wollongong City Council have approached me about putting up a Nativity Scene in front of the Church again this year. If anyone would like to be part of a small team to work on this project I would be delighted to hear from you.

This week I am meeting with the Elders on Wednesday morning and with the ministers in the Northern Zone of the Presbytery on Thursday. The Revd Ian Tucker will be taking the service next Sunday morning so that I may attend my High School Class 40th Anniversary Reunion.

Grace and peace,



The Reverend Geoffrey Flynn,
Wesley Uniting Church, Wollongong.



Pastoral Letter from President of the Assembly

Dr Deidre Palmer, President of the Uniting Church, has sent a pastoral letter to the church. Here is an extract from that letter:

*The Assembly Standing Committee has faithfully considered the matters referred to it as requested by the Assembly, and the **Uniting Church in Australia Additional Marriage Liturgy 2018** has been released. The liturgy is posted on the Assembly website.*

The ASC has determined that authorised marriage celebrants within the Uniting Church in Australia may choose to use this liturgy in weddings from the 21st of September 2018.

By using this liturgy, or the previously authorised marriage liturgies, Uniting Church authorised

marriage celebrants will be acting properly within the rites of the Uniting Church in Australia.

I reaffirm that the Assembly's resolution on marriage allows you to hold one of two positions on marriage, as a member, Minister or Church Council. The Assembly made this decision acknowledging the faithfully held positions across the life of the Church.

If you are still concerned about the position of the Uniting Church in relation to same-gender marriage, I would encourage you to talk to your Presbytery or Synod leaders to ensure you are acting on accurate information about the nature and impact of the Assembly's decision. Resources including frequently asked questions are also available on the Assembly website.



Minister:

The Revd Geoffrey Flynn
0421 338 202
revwgonguca@bigpond.com

Services of Worship:

Sundays: 10:00am, 6:00pm
Wednesdays: 1:00pm
(Holy Communion & Prayer)

University Chaplain:

The Revd Phil Newton
Mobile: 0423 658 199



CHURCH DIRECTORY



The Church Office is located right at the rear of the church building (you can enter easily from Court Lane). Office hours are Monday to Friday, 9:15am to 3:15pm.

Contact details:

Phone: 4229 2117
PO Box 244, Wollongong, 2520
wgonguca@bigpond.net.au

Website:

<http://www.wgonguca.org>

Church Bus:

Contact the Church Office

Hymns, prayers etc., herein quoted have been used with permission – CCLI License #308892. Unauthorised re-copying prohibited.

Wesley Community Care Centre Co-ordinator:

Karen Zaini (4229 2117)

Tea Shoppe Co-ordinator:

Rose Flood
Phone: 4285 8930
Hours: M-F 9:30am to 2:30pm

Craft Shop Co-ordinator:

Anne Gallagher
Phone: 4229 3051
Hours: M-F 9:30am to 3:00pm

LifeLine: Ph. 13 11 14

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

Offerings for Last Sunday, 2/9/18

Morning cash.....	\$ 491.00
Morning envelopes	\$ 240.00
Received by EFT (morning)	\$ 342.00
Evening cash.....	\$ 200.00
Received by EFT (evening).....	\$ 100.00
Total collections for the day	\$ 1373.00
Morning Tea.....	\$ 42.45
Donations Box.....	\$ nil ☹️
Total income for the day	\$ 1415.45

LECTIONARY FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Ordinary Sunday 24, Year B (16th September, 2018)

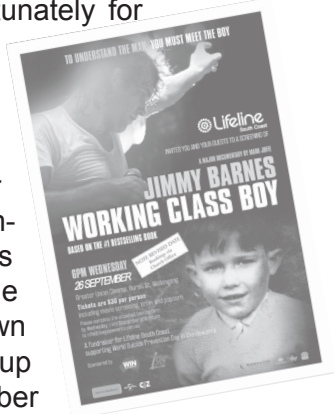


OT Reading:	Proverbs 1: 20–33
Psalms:	Psalms 19
Epistle:	James 3: 1–12
Gospel:	St Mark 8: 27–38

Even if you are not a philatelist (stamp collector), you should collect stamps. Why? Because the **Uniting Church Stamp Committee** collects from all over NSW and then sells the stamps to stamp dealers. The Committee is then able to distribute around \$18,500 (last year's figure) to church agencies such as Burnside Family Care and Frontier Services. Your Wollongong Wesley stamp agent is **Yvonne Webb** (4229 8042). She can give you all the details.

Jimmy Barnes Screening

We are sorry the poster last week was so hard to read. Fortunately for us, the screening date in aid of Lifeline South Coast has been rescheduled for 26th September and bookings can still be made through our own Church Office up until 18th September or online until 19th. A full colour version of the poster should be with your news sheet today.



Monday, 10th September

8:45 & 10:00am School for Creative Living classes.
9:30am Ministerial Ethics workshop at Albion Park UC.

Wednesday, 12th September

10:00am Elders' Meeting for September.
1:00pm Midweek Holy Communion and prayer in the church.

Saturday, 15th September

2:00pm Fashion Parade in the Wesley Auditorium – see advert below.



Karen Zaini at our Community Centre has a shorter list for donations this week: mayonnaise, sugar and tinned food. You know the score – put your donations in the container in the church porch or drop them in to the church office during office hours.

STAFFORD
FASHIONS

are proud to be presenting a parade of
their new SPRING/SUMMER range for:

The Uniting Church, Wollongong

'The Church on the Mall'

(Court Lane, Wollongong)

Saturday 15th September

2:00pm Fashion Parade

Afternoon Tea to follow

\$10 entry (includes Afternoon Tea)



*All the brands you
love at very
reasonable prices*

Sizes 8 – 22

We accept:



*Darkness cannot
drive out darkness;
only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out
hate; only love can do that.*

FURTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST THIS WEEK

Dementia Australia has asked that we draw this event to your attention. For more information, go to dementia.org.au or telephone 1800 100 500.



September
Dementia
Awareness
Month 2018

Small actions.

Big difference.

Dementia Australia and the Illawarra Public Forum Planning Group presents:

2018 Illawarra Public Dementia Forum

Small Actions, Big Difference

Join people living with dementia, carers and industry leaders who will bring insights into dementia, ageing and cognitive wellbeing. You can also find out how to become a Dementia Friend.



Maree McCabe

Chief Executive Officer,
Dementia Australia



Prof Susan Kurrle

Curran Chair in Health Care
of Older People, Northern
Clinical School, University
of Sydney



Dr Belinda Goodenough

NSW.ACT Dementia
Training and Study Centre,
UOW National Knowledge
Translation Manager,
Dementia Training Australia



Dr David Sykes

Director, Centre for
Dementia Learning
Director, Dementia Training
Australia

WHEN

Wednesday 26 September
Forum 10:00am - 2:00pm

WHERE

The Fraternity Club, Fairy Meadow

COST

Free entry | Lunch provided

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

To register for this FREE forum,
online: illawarra2018.eventbrite.com.au
email: dementiaawareness@dementia.org.au
phone: 03 9816 5784

Upon registering please advise dietary requirements as lunch will be provided

Maree McCabe: Small actions. Big differences.

Maree joined Dementia Australia (formerly Alzheimer's Australia) in 2010 as CEO of Alzheimer's Australia, Victoria. Maree was appointed as CEO in February 2017. Maree led the organisation's unification process, providing a new, national peak body to represent the 425,000 people living with dementia.

Maree represents Dementia Australia as a member of a number of Australian health and aged care sector Committees and Boards. Internationally, Maree is a member of the Alzheimer's Disease International Asia Pacific Regional Committee.

MC and Guest Speaker

Dr Belinda Goodenough: What can you do in 725 days?

Belinda is currently working in the field of dementia with Dementia Training Australia, helping to connect the worlds of research and practice. Belinda's background training is behavioural science and she has worked in public health/research in a variety of areas including pain, cancer, children's health and healthy aging/dementia.

Prof Susan Kurrle: The latest on dementia prevention and management

Susan Kurrle is a geriatrician practising at Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital in northern Sydney and Batemans Bay Hospital in southern NSW. She has had a longstanding interest in diagnosis and management of dementia, and has developed memory clinics in both urban and rural settings.

Susan holds the Curran Chair in Health Care of Older People in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sydney, and she has led the NHMRC Cognitive Decline Partnership Centre since 2012.

Dr David Sykes: Transforming dementia practice through engagement

David leads the Centre for Dementia Learning, which has been at the forefront of the use of learning technologies including the multi award winning Virtual Dementia Experience and the Educational Dementia Immersive Experience (EDIE). He represents Dementia Australia on the Dementia Training Australia Executive.

Call 1800 100 500



For language assistance
131 450

dementia.org.au

#dementia2018

September is Dementia Awareness Month. Together, we can all make a positive difference to the lives of people living with dementia, their families and carers. Become a Dementia Friend and help us transform the way we think, act and talk about dementia. Small actions can make a big difference.

Learn more.

Attend an event.

Show your support.

Become a Dementia Friend.

The National Dementia Helpline and Dementia Awareness Month are funded by the Australian Government

Some details from Lifeline South Coast's August, 2018, Snapshot

During August Lifeline South Coast crisis volunteers took 2,003 calls on the 24-hour telephone crisis support service. Of these, 1,487 callers specifically discussed suicide; 19 calls were from people who are at risk of suicide; and there were ten emergency suicide interventions during the month.

In happier news, volunteers have sorted, cleaned, priced and packaged 76,000 books for the next Lifeline South Coast Book Fair to be held at the Illawarra Sports Stadium, Berkeley, from Friday, 19th October, to Sunday, 22nd October. That's right, seventy-six thousand books!