



Uniting Church in Australia  
**SEACLIFF WEEKLY NEWS**  
Sunday 15 December 2024  
**ADVENT 3**



**Luke 3: 14 - 18**

<sup>14</sup> Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?” He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

<sup>15</sup> The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” <sup>18</sup> And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

The December 22 Newsletter will be the last for this year to return in 2025 on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January. Thank you all who have sent me the church life items that share Seacliff UC to the world.  
*Dean*

## This Week.

**Advent Group**      **10 am Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Moviemates**      **Time TBA Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Advent Group**      **2 pm Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**  
**What's News**

### Advent Groups 2024

The final Advent Groups will be held on **Tuesday 17 December at 10a.m.** and **Thursday 19 December at 2p.m.**

We will consider the Advent themes: ***The Promise of TRUTH, COMPASSION, RESTORATION and JUSTICE.***

Please note the Thursday group will be a repeat of the Tuesday group for that week. *Graham.*



### *Notes from the Treasurer*

I have a few matters to report from our Church Council meeting yesterday:

- A payment of \$170 has been sent to **Tarcisius**, specifically as a donation towards Katarina's further education expenses
- The balance of the 'We Dream' account will be sent at the end of this year as our final contribution and the account will then be closed as foreshadowed at the AGM.
- Arthur has been authorised to upgrade our **sound equipment** to improve sound quality of our microphones.
- A new **stepladder** will be purchased and instructions will be provided in due course by others about its safe and proper use.
- Geoff Lister has undertaken **security** inspection with a police officer and there will be some upgrades to our security which I'm happy to explain if anyone is interested. *David*

### **CogsnCoffee**

Last ride for the year, with 25 of us fronting for breakfast at Plant 4 Brompton. They did an excellent job, most impressed. We will be having a rest until mid to late Jan. *Brian*

## **ACD – Advance Care Directive**

A reminder that, following the recent *Uniting Conversations* gathering, information sessions for the ACD form are being scheduled for late January, and into February if necessary. Each session has a capacity limit of 16-20, and we will run more than one session.

If you wish to be part of this programme, please give your name to Max or Annette.

## **Church Council election**

Nomination forms are available from today for election to membership of Church Council. Please note:

- There are vacancies for around 4 people (including 2 whose terms have been completed and who are able to nominate for re-election).
- Church Council is part of the governance structure of the Uniting Church, which means that nomination is open to Confirmed Members and Members in Association.
- Council plays an important role in the pastoral and discipleship oversight of our congregation.

CC membership is a key service and leadership role in any congregation. Please consider prayerfully whether this might represent a Call from God to you. Council normally meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month, but the exact time will be decided so as to fit with the availability of CC members.

The election will be conducted as part of the AGM (Reports) to be held on Sunday February the 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Please have nominations to Secretary Rosemary Thomson by January 26<sup>th</sup>, so that nominations can be announced 2 weeks ahead.

## **AGM – Reports**

A reminder that Part 2 of our AGM will be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February. Report writers: please get your reports to Rosemary by January 26<sup>th</sup>. If you are planning to park your brain in Holiday Mode for part of January, or take your physical self to a Holiday Place, please complete your report before you leave. And do be sure to enjoy the break!!

## **Seacliff UC – a Safe Space**

Council has been giving some attention to some reminders about how we can keep each other and ourselves safe while on our church premises. These will appear over time – this is just a reminder about the first one, mentioned a few weeks ago at Soapbox: at morning tea and similar, please leave the kitchen space free for those who are working in there – no more than three people in the space, especially when hot liquids or food are being carried. More information later!!

*Max*

## **THANK YOU**

I'd like to thank everyone for their prayers, thoughts, love, messages, calls and visits before and during my recent hospital stay for a knee replacement. It was comforting and encouraging to know I had so much caring support from my church family. I'm making good progress and hope to be back to 'normal' in the very near future. Thank you all so much,

*Josie*

## **Community Garden**

The 3rd Saturday of the month is coming around again.

Next **Saturday the 21st at 9.30am** we will be meeting for some general gardening - and, of course, coffee cake and chat.

We are developing a roster for watering and keeping an eye on the garden during January to March. Roles would include checking the wicking beds, overhead watering of young plants and picking produce that is ready for use and delivering these to Grocer With A Heart (unless the gardener could use them).

*Ruth Telfer*

## **Christmas Gift Exchange**

For the next 2 weeks the produce table will host a **Christmas Gift Exchange**, where you can bring some of the unwanted gifts that are gathering dust in the back of a cupboard at your place. They must be new and unused. Leave what you don't want, and take what you'd like, either for yourself or to use as a gift for someone else. Just be careful not to re-gift an item that one of your lovely church friends has given you.

*Maureen*

## **CMLA Journalling with the Paint and Poetry**

Join a reflective and creative retreat at Bridgewater Uniting Church, 10.00am – 4.00pm. (Tues 21st January)

Explore life, spirituality, and creativity through painting, poetry, or both. Suitable for all experience levels, with full-day or half-day options. Led by Karan Hudson and Paul Turley, hosted by the Centre for Music, Liturgy, and the Arts. More details are available on web site "[CMLA Journalling Bridgewater](#)" Max

## **CHRISTMAS at SEACLIFF UNITING CHURCH**

**5-9 WHEATLAND STREET, SEACLIFF 5049**

**YOU WILL BE MADE WELCOME**

**SUNDAY, 15th DECEMBER at 9.30 am**

**WORSHIP SERVICE**

*Lessons &  
Carols*



**SUNDAY, 22nd DECEMBER at 9.30am**



## **Carols Under the Pine Tree**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**TUESDAY, 24th DECEMBER at 9 Wheatland Street, Seacliff**

**6 pm SAUSAGE SIZZLE      7 pm CAROL SINGING**

**Followed by Supper in the Hall**

**Christmas Day at 9am.**

**WEDNESDAY, 25th DECEMBER**

## BACK PAGE

**Worship Leader for Today: Max Howland**

**Lectionary for Today: 15 December 2024: Zep 3: 14 - 20;**

**Is 12: 2 - 6; Phil 4: 4 - 7; Lk 3: 7 - 18.**

Reminder for Stewards: **22 December 2024**

Pauline Galliford

Colin Theakstone

### **Welcome to our Church.**

Things you need to know, especially if you are a visitor.

**Fire exits** are marked. Please take note. In the case of an emergency evacuation please gather on the Western Lawns under the Pine Tree. **St John First Aid Kit** - on top of the pigeon holes up from the ramp.

**Toilets** are available through the door front right of the Worship Area or out through the turn around point on the ramp.

**Morning tea** is held after the service – we hope you will join with us.

### **Items for the Newsletter**

Please email items to

[newsletter@seacliffuc.org.au](mailto:newsletter@seacliffuc.org.au)

by 5pm on Wednesdays.

If you do not have access to email, please contact the church office and it will be forwarded for you.

**Our Minister is Rev. Graham Sturdy.**

**Contact :**

Mobile : 0474508824

email [graham.sturdy3@gmail.com](mailto:graham.sturdy3@gmail.com)

For all general matters other than pastoral care, please contact the **Church Office** as follows:

Phone contact: ☎ 8296 1517

Email: [office@seacliffuc.org.au](mailto:office@seacliffuc.org.au)

Website: [www.seacliffuc.net](http://www.seacliffuc.net)