

President's Report for Glen Waverley Interchurch AGM on Monday 28 November, 2022. .

I can't believe that it will be December, at the end of this week and our activities, for the year are finishing up. Once again, we have had a topsy turvy year and we have had to adapt and make changes.

I want to thank you for your dedication and support. I have been privileged to work with a group of people whose faith is real and dynamic and is displayed in the way that they interact with people in the local community and share the Gospel . Thank you for being fantastic members of Glen Waverley inter-church council.

Last Christmas we received our permit, from the Monash Council, to display our Christmas Board on Central Reserve. We are lucky to be allowed to put the board in such a prominent position on view to all those travelling along Springvale Road and Waverley Road. I feel that the board shows members of the community that we are here and celebrating something important.

It is disappointing that we haven't been unable to get new members. We just have to keep on trying and spreading the word about GWICC when we meet people from other local churches.

On Friday 4 March, I attended the World Day of Prayer at High Street Road Uniting Church. There were about 75 people present. Rev Pam White was the guest speaker and her reflection was well received. The service in 2023 will be on Friday 3 March, at St. Stephen and St. Mary Anglican church in Mt. Waverley and the focus will be on Taiwan.

It was disappointing that couldn't have the Way of the Cross this year but hopefully, it may be possible to have it next year. It is always well received within the local community.

We decided that Christian Unity Sunday would be celebrated on 29 May but people wouldn't visit other churches. The themes for the prayers were Peace Makers and Good Samaritans in the World. At Glen Waverley Uniting Church, people were willing to light candles and read the prayers. It may be possible to visit other churches next year. Members of Mt Waverley Inter-church Council and our Inter-church Council have been asked to think of ideas for 2023 and be ready to present them at the February Joint meeting.

The joint meetings that we have had with Mt. Waverley Inter-church council have been good opportunities to strengthen bonds between the two groups as we have shared ideas and reported on events -past and in the future.

We are part of a small committee and everyone needs to play a part. Thank you again for the active part that you have played. I would particularly like to thank Pat and Tony for being faithful members of GWICC for a long time. They are not seeking re-election. We wish them every blessing as they plan for the future.

As we approach the Advent season leading up to Christmas, I pray that you and your loved ones may experience peace and blessings during the build up and on Christmas Day as we celebrate Jesus' birth. I also pray that 2023 may be a wonderful year for you with new experiences, adventures and good health and that you may come back in February with renewed energy and enthusiasm. May God bless you all. Jan Clear.