

GWAC happenings

OCT 2024

Glen Waverley Anglican Church | Updates



Dear friends,

OCTOBER'24: MISSIONS MONTH AT GWAC

October is missions month at GWAC. While, in once sense, every month is missions month, this is a time for us to particularly focus on the privilege of being part of God's mission to the ends of the earth.' There will be opportunity for us to hear more from several of our mission partners and how we can continue to partner with them. *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'* (Acts 1:8)
(Rev'd Maria Brand)

NICOLE HARVEY (OMF INTERNATIONAL), PHILIPPINES

Maria: Nicole, as you prepare to be re-commissioned and return to the Philippines serving with OMF as one of our link missionaries, what are you looking forward to?

Nicole: *I am looking forward to celebrating the partnership GWAC has in global ministry at my re-commissioning, reconnecting with my local staff face to face, and being able to welcome, love, support and provide a space to those in ministry (both local and international) in the Philippines.*

Maria: What are some of the challenges you may face?

Nicole: *There have been 7 different volunteers over my Home Assignment that have managed the guest home. I anticipate my local staff will be fatigued with all the adaptations. With my arrival next month, I know of a few tasks that are now waiting for my return to be dealt with. There have been discussions of the oversight of the guest home moving to local OMF leadership, so I know I will be navigating a transition in line managers and expectations. And to top it off, my closest*





friend in the Philippines, who was a housemate and a big support in ministry, has begun her Home Assignment.

Maria: How might we as your sending church, best support you during this time of preparation and re-commissioning?

Nicole: *Continue to share how you are seeing God at work in your life, I value relationships and that means it is not all about me. Come to the re-commissioning and celebrate your link to the Philippines. Sign up to receive my news and prayers to stay connected when I am not with you in person.*

Maria: What have been some of the blessings of home assignment?

Nicole: *There have been many! I have loved having time and availability to be involved in the life and ministry of GWAC. I have enjoyed volunteering with AFES FOCUS at Monash Uni and Mission to Seafarers with a beautiful link to MU GWAC who has been supporting this mission here in Melbourne. A highlight has been my involvement in a collaborative mission conference for Missions Interlink and seeing multiple areas (churches, Bible Colleges, mission organisations) come together to build the Kingdom for God's glory.*

Maria: How can we, as a church, continue to support you and pray for you as you head back?

Nicole: *A big support would be for GWAC send a greeting of encouragement to the sisters and brothers in the Philippines whom I connect with - to spur them on in love and good deeds. Pray for a medical procedure that will be completed before I depart, clear findings, quick recovery and without side effects. Pray too for my parents, I know this return to the Philippines will be harder than the first time.*

NICOLE WILL BE RE-COMMISSIONED BY GWAC ON SUNDAY 27TH OCT AT ALL THE ENGLISH SERVICES.

THANKING GORDON LI

We invite you to a combined (bilingual) service on **Sun 13 Oct, 10.30am** where we will thank Gordon Li for his dedicated leadership and ministry with the Mandarin congregation. Please join us in this special service.





SPECIAL: COMING UP

Women's Brunch: Saturday Oct 12th at 10am

Join us for a delightful Women's Brunch filled with fellowship, inspiration, and delicious food! We invite women of all ages for a morning of encouragement, uplifting conversations, and fun. Whether you're a regular attendee or it's your first time, we welcome you with open arms.

- **Cost:** \$10
- **RSVP by Monday 7th October:** Connect Card, GWAC App, Church Office.

Special Card Sales for CMS: Sunday 27 Oct: 9am–12.30pm & Wed 30 Oct, 11am

- Hand decorated, and calligraphy-written, recycled and new cards of all types.
- Cards \$2.50 each. \$1 Christmas cards.
- 100% of money goes to the Church Missionary Society (CMS).
- This CMS Ministry has raised over \$63,000 in less than 9 years.
- Cash or credit card. Donations gratefully received.

DON'T MISS (OCTOBER)

This Saturday 5th Oct, 2pm: Hope25 Meeting

Join us to brainstorm ideas and pray together as we prepare for HOPE25. We invite you to be part of the Working Group that will help GWAC prepare for Hope24, please contact Maria, m.brand@gwac.org.au (or use the GWAC App or Connect Card).

This Saturday 5th Oct: Train Your Brain (TYB)

- 9.30am – 12 noon (registration from 9am)
- The Topic of the Month for October will be presented by Richard who will take us through the ways we can use music to sharpen our brains.

Christmas Maker's Market Planning night: Monday 7th October, 7.30–9pm

Planning is in full swing for our market that will take place on Sat 23rd November, 9am–1pm. We invite you to join us if you would like to be part of organising the market, or just want to learn more. All welcome!





Saturday 19th Oct: 'Crafts of Care' – Knit, Sew & Craft Afternoon

- 1.30 – 4pm. Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 @ GWAC
- Includes creating knitted shawls, beanies and knee rugs and sewing pocket prayer quilts to support GWAC's Pastoral Care ministry. See church notice board for more details. All welcome!

Thursday, 24th Oct Sep: Mothers Union & Friends

You are invited to join us on Thursday 24 October (1.30 pm, MR 1&2). We will discuss preparations for the AGM and the Christmas Makers Market this year.

Enquiries to Robin 0419 611 085.

Mondays (weekly) at 1.30pm (except public holidays): Easy Does It (EDI)

Ben, our new physiotherapist who runs our Easy Does Class, has settled in very quickly. Some new additional exercises have been very well received. Check us out!

Friday Mornings (weekly): Prayer Meeting (with breakfast)

Please join us on Fridays in [Meeting room 1 & 2 from 7am](#) for toast, muffins, hot drinks, and PRAYER. Come when you can and leave when you must.

MARK IN YOUR DIARY: COMING UP IN NOVEMBER

Remembering Service: Sunday 3rd November, 2pm

A service of remembering and giving thanks for the lives of loved ones.

Each year, GWAC holds a 'Remembering Service': a short quiet service for reflection on the lives of loved ones who are no longer with us. It is a special time set apart from the everyday. We take time to light a candle in memory. There is music, a short pastoral reflection, and afternoon tea. All welcome.

Annual Meeting: Sunday 17th November, after the 10.30am service

Please see the separate section in the following page about this.

Christmas Makers' Market: Saturday 23rd November, 9am–1pm

This event aims to connect us with our local community and showcase GWAC's ministries; and to bring all the GWAC family across all services, generations and backgrounds together to serve our local community.





[Want to get involved?](#) We need a team of volunteers, stalls-holders, musicians and people willing to serve in many ways. Click on the link [HERE](#) to complete a survey and register your interest.

ANNUAL MEETING 2024

- **GWAC's Annual Meeting-** will take place this year on [Sunday 17th November 2024](#), commencing [12.30pm](#). Church services on the day will run as usual at 8am, 10.30am, 5pm.
- **Electoral Roll-** New Members only: GWAC's current electoral roll will be displayed in the Fellowship Area on Sunday 13th October. If you are not on GWAC's current electoral roll and would like to join, please fill the membership form available in the Fellowship Area. Membership forms must be received in the church office by [6pm, Sunday 27 October](#).
- **Nominations for the Governance Board & Nominations Committee** have opened. Nomination forms are now available in the Fellowship Area. Nominations must be received in the Church Office by [6pm, Sunday 3 November](#).
- **Annual reports** will be distributed (along with church budget for 2025), in the week prior to the Annual Meeting.
- **There will be brunch before the Annual Meeting**, and we are asking people to bring a plate of finger food to share before the meeting. Pls consider bringing a plate of food (sweet or savoury) that will feed your family and up to 2 other people. Pls bring food ready to serve (cut up and heated if necessary). We are also looking for volunteers to look after the kitchen before the meeting and help set up the food that is brought along. Pls indicate through the [App or Connect Card](#) or contact Penny & Kyle Hayes (kyle_penny@yahoo.com.au) if you can help.

PLEASE NOTE:

This Sunday (6 October)

- Daylight saving commences this Sunday. Pls move clocks one hour forward.
- Change4Change: Pls bring your donation for the Mission of Truth Church's Education Assistance Support Program.





GWAC supports Fair Trade

GWAC uses fair trade tea to stand against slavery in the fields. If you prefer any other beverage than what we serve, pls feel free to bring your own.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Services

| | ACTS SERMON SERIES (PART-3) | |
|--------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 6 Oct | Acts 14 | Speaker: Maria Brand |
| 13 Oct | Acts 15 | Speaker: Brad Jackson |
| 20 Oct | <i>To be confirmed</i> | Speaker: Brad Jackson |
| 27 Oct | Acts 20 | Speaker: Maria Brand |

Wednesday 10am Service

IMPORTANT: This series is NOT being livestreamed; please attend in person

| | THEME: CELEBRATING MISSION | |
|--------|---|---|
| 2 Oct | 'Global Mission' Colossians 1: 15-23 | Speaker: John Harrower with Nicole Harvey, OMF |
| 9 Oct | 'Local Mission' Ephesians 1:1-14 | Speaker: Brad Jackson with Jessi Bickerton (<i>mission at university</i>) |
| 16 Oct | 'Mission in Mandarin' Ephesians 6:10-20 | Speaker: Ginger Chen (<i>Assistant Minister, Mandarin Congregation</i>) |
| 23 Oct | 'Rural Mission' Luke 13:18-21 ('It Starts Small') | Speaker: Adrian Lane (<i>Victorian Regional Officer, Bush Church Aid</i>) |
| 30 Oct | 'Mission Where We Are' Acts 1:1-9 & Acts 4:31 | Speaker: John Harrower and the Wednesday Congregation |

Blessings,

Maria Brand | Lead Minister (Vicar)

*A caring community making,
maturing and mobilizing disciples
of Jesus Christ, locally and globally*

