



# The New-Normal Newsletter

Gordon-Pymble Uniting Church  
Sunday 6 December, 2020



Welcome to a BIG Sunday.

Our **worship** will be shaped by the presentation Nicola and Courtney made at their New Growth Course. They will both be involved in leading the service.

Our **Congregational Meeting** will follow with our Annual Reports and the election of Church Councillors.

The **MADOW Stall** will be held prior to worship and following the meeting. So bring your money with you.

With such a busy morning, we will celebrate **Holy Communion** next Sunday in the 2 services at Gordon (9.30am) and Pymble (11.00am).

May we all be blessed by all this holy activity!

Next Sunday, worship is as described above, and then at 3.30 - 5.30pm we will hold our **Hear, and Have Your Say** consultation afternoon in the Marshall Hall at Pymble. A planning group has been busy working on this session where there will be presentations and table discussion seeking your views. An email went out during the week with questions for feedback if you cannot attend on the day. If you can attend, you can also look at the documents in order to come prepared. The email also has a registration link - please register so that we can monitor numbers. May this be a fruitful time as we look and plan ahead for our new (-ish) congregation, seeking God's direction for us.

Thursday was International Day of People With Disability. It is a United Nations observed day celebrated internationally. It aims to increase public awareness, understanding and acceptance of people with disability and celebrate their achievements and contributions. As a church concerned with inclusion and justice we should be alert to the difficulties we inadvertently make for people with disabilities. These can come from our physical space or our internal attitudes.

Let us strive to be informed and aware of the struggles people with disabilities encounter. Whether it is hidden disability, an obvious physical infirmity, an intellectual disability or some other condition, let us focus on the person's humanity first before their disability. Growing up with a brother with a disability made me so much more aware of how poorly he was treated at times and I'm sure many of us have family and personal experiences of disability which make us alert to the need for awareness raising campaigns such as this one. Our inclusion of difference makes us a stronger community.



- **Steve**

At our **election for Church Councillors** at today's meeting, the following nominations have been received. There are up to 4 vacancies.

Darryl  
Maureen  
Wendy

At this stage, our **Christmas services** look like this:

24 December, 6.30pm Children's and Community Service at Gordon. Singing possible.

25 December, 9.00am at Pymble Ladies College Chapel. Restrictions have been eased again and we understand we will be able to sing, though with masks. We believe our limit at the PLC Chapel will be around 350 people, so bring your friends and family!



**MADOW is hoping to entice you to purchase handmade Christmas treats at our Christmas Stall today – Chocolate Christmas trees, Almond Bread, Shortbread, Fruit Mince Tarts, Rumballs, Panforte, Christmas cakes and Christmas puddings.**

**And there's more...**

**Beautiful needlework from our Lesleys - hand towels, face washers, baby singlets, baby jackets, baby booties and a baby bundle.**

**Yes even more...**

**Stunning hampers and the opportunity to just make a financial donation.  
We hope to see you there!**



It's been a very challenging year for everyone. Starting off with the summer bush fires which affected quite a few of our knitting groups and individual knitters. Wraps were distributed locally to those affected by the fires – over 2000 were given.

The next challenge COVID-19. A decision was made to close the warehouse and a lot of our knitting groups had to stop meeting. We set up a "virtual" knitting group on Facebook – some 300 knitters have joined and shared their work – to join the group go to our Facebook page and select 'Groups' we would love to see you there! Three months later a reduced staff opened the warehouse and the wraps have been flooding in ever since. Our groups have been meeting in parks and houses as venues were closed - the virus won't stop our knitters!

In September and October Spotlight stores offered to be a drop off point for squares and wraps and they encouraged their customers to contribute to their Knit a Square Campaign as arranged by World Vision – this was a great success with over 5000 squares and 384 wraps collected . We really appreciate the assistance Spotlight has given us this year.

Our wraps this year have gone far and wide with a large number staying in Australia. Others have gone to Armenia, Moldova, Cambodia, Lebanon and Syria. In addition World Vision have distributed to their projects in the Middle East and Africa.

We would like to thank DHL for their on-going support in supplying the bags and City of Sydney Council who provide our accommodation. Thanks to all our knitters for their continued support and also all our warehouse volunteers and especially Chris who drives far and wide across Sydney to collect interstate deliveries from various transport depots.

**Season's greetings** to all and best wishes for a healthy happy 2021.



Healthy and Active for Life Online is a FREE 10 week healthy lifestyle program for adults aged 60 years and over. The program is delivered online, in the comfort of your own home. Simply log in to your online account to complete the weekly modules and exercises.

#### What do I get?

- Access to weekly online healthy lifestyle modules and two online exercise programs
- Weekly handouts and an exercise manual
- Telephone support to keep you motivated
- Ongoing access to the online modules and exercise programs for 12 months

#### What do I need?

- Access to a computer or tablet with internet
- Ability to understand and read English
- Space to exercise safely in your home

For more information or to register visit [www.activeandhealthy.nsw.gov.au](http://www.activeandhealthy.nsw.gov.au)

### Visiting the Church

Please register your arrival/departure with a contact number and use hand sanitizer. You are encouraged to social distance, remaining 1.5 metres apart. This is part of the COVID 19 Safety Plan, legally required to keep us safe. At GPUC, following the NSW Health guidelines, we are asking anyone using our facilities **to wear a mask if they are in the public areas**. Thank you for keeping us safe.

### Virtual Worship

<https://www.youtube.com/user/gordonuniting>

### Contact the office

[info@gpuc.org.au](mailto:info@gpuc.org.au) or Ph. 9983 9879

For all of our news, visit our Website

[www.gpuc.org.au](http://www.gpuc.org.au)