

**TODAY:** Welcome back from holidays Steve, Nicki and Oscar Stanis.

**COMING WEEK:**

- > **Kiama Show: Fri 27 to Sat 28 Jan 2017.** Engaging with our community! Each year our grounds are used for Show parking. We charge a nominal parking fee (gold coin) and all monies raised go to Anglicare. If you can assist with supervising parking 8am-4pm on either day please contact Richard Maitland on 4237 7430. Also let Richard know if you can assist in the kitchen preparing devonshire teas and/or lunch for the Show officials.
- > **'Welcome to Kiama' Packs:** Are you on the lookout for people moving into Kiama this summer? Let the Office know, request a pack to deliver yourself and most of all be praying that this initiative would help us to **"Go, Make, Grow Disciples of Jesus."**

**COMING MONTH(S):**

- > **Blue Haven Service:** Next service on **Thu, 02 Feb 2017, 2:30pm.**
- > **Thank You / Welcome Lunch: Sun 05 Feb 11:45am.** Patio lunch to thank Rod and Deb and to welcome Michele & Rachel as they commence their new roles. If you can assist by providing a slice or fruit platter please add your details to the clipboard in the Foyer. **Contact: Wendy Unsworth 0410061624**
- > **"Thank-you" gifts for Deb Baker and Rod Harding:** If you wish to contribute please place in a clearly marked envelope and then put it in the offertory, drop it off at the Office or give it to one of the Wardens before 05 Feb.
- > **Alan & Helen Woods (CMS):** will be at KAC on **12-17 Feb** and at services on **12 Feb.**
- > **Anglican Aid "WaterWorks for a Thirsty World!": 18 Feb. Breakfast** with Henry Olonga (Zimbabwe's first black international cricketer) in the Church Point Centre. Cost \$15, so keep the date! Note the date, RSVP to the Office.
- > **Church Meeting, Sun 26 February 11.45am.** This short meeting will receive audited financial reports for 2016 plus all 2016 ministry reports. (Reports in by 13 Feb please)
- > **8am Morning Tea:** if you can help once per quarter, please contact Lynnette Matheson on 0418 412 787.



**Our Vision:**

"Dependent upon God, we seek to be inspired, equipped and enabled to walk the journey of faith in Jesus Christ, so that each of us..."



...intentionally shares Jesus' message and love reaching out to all people in our local and global communities."  
Matthew 28:19-20

**Welcome!**

**Greg Holmes** 8am, 10am, **Peter Varcoe** 8:30am, 6pm  
continuing our series in Matthew's Gospel.

**Light has Dawned**

Third Ordinary Sunday (AAPB p224)

**Bible Readings:**

Isaiah 9:1-7 (NIV 683)  
Matthew 4:12-17 (NIV 958)

**FINANCIAL UPDATE:**

**Parish Operating Account**  
Offertory Budget for 2017 \$495,700  
Required weekly Offertory \$ 9,533  
to meet budget.

**NEW BANKING DETAILS**

**A/C Name:** Anglican Church Kiama  
**BSB: 032 689 A/C Number:** 211284

**MINISTRY TEAM**

**JOIN US**

**SENIOR MINISTER**  
**Rev Steve Stanis**  
4232 2066 | 0429 928 001  
steve@kiamaanglican.org.au  
(Rest Day Tuesday)

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER**  
**Rev Rod Harding**  
0411 331 167  
rod.harding@kiamaanglican.org.au  
Wednesday, Thursday & Sunday

**CHILDREN & FAMILIES MINISTRY**  
**Deb Baker**  
4232 2066  
deb@kiamaanglican.org.au  
(Rest Days Thursday & Saturday)

**ASSISTANT MINISTER**  
**Rev Christopher Anstiss**  
4232 2066 | 0403 678 602  
christopher.anstiss@kiamaanglican.org.au  
(Rest Day Thursday)

**YOUTH MINISTRY**  
**Steve Inman**  
0429 147 938  
steveinman@kiamaanglican.org.au  
(Rest Day Tuesday)

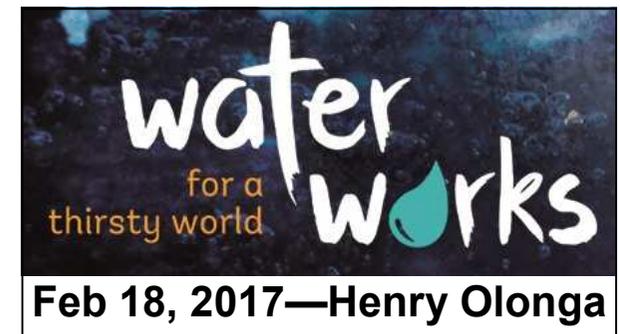
**OFFICE (Temporary)**  
**Michael Birrell**  
4232 2066  
office@kiamaanglican.org.au  
**Office Hours: 9am-2pm (Mon-Wed)**  
**9am-3pm (Thu-Fri)**

**Coming weeks:**

**Concluding Matthew 2-4**  
29 Jan - Come, Follow Me

**2017 Feb—Apr**  
New series, Matthew 5-7  
**Sermon on the Mount**

**KAC website:**  
<http://www.kiamaanglican.org.au>



## THE GOSPEL(S)

So much of our motivation, our vision, our mission as a church (and as Christian individuals) is built around what we refer to as 'the gospel'. We all agree that it is fundamental to our thinking and our actions, so we keep checking our plans, our ministries and our relationships against what we understand as 'the gospel' to ensure that we are heading in the right direction, and that we are honouring God in the plans and purposes we undertake. But the critical question behind all this is, "What is 'the gospel'?"

As it happens, we are currently studying 'The Gospel of Matthew', which, we know, is one of four books of the New Testament called 'The Gospels'. Interestingly enough, these four books were first called 'gospel', not because that was a handy name to use to refer to the story of Jesus, but because the story of Jesus is so absolutely fundamental to an understanding of the gospel. However, since the first few centuries of the development of the church, it is the *creeds* which have maintained the essential truth of the gospel from one generation to the next, rather than the gospels themselves.

So now look at the creeds. The Apostles' Creed says (about Jesus), '*He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried.*' The Nicene Creed, which we use for communion services, says (about Jesus), '*By the power of the Holy Spirit he was incarnate of the virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.*' We don't use the Creed of St Athanasius, but you can find it in the back of the Prayer Book, where you will read, '*It is necessary to everlasting salvation that he also believe rightly the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ (then proceeds through line after line on the qualities of the incarnation, and then) who suffered for our salvation; descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead.*' Do you notice that absolutely NOTHING between Jesus' birth and Jesus' death features *at all* in the creeds?

So why do we need the gospels? These first-hand accounts of Jesus' life, ministry, relationships, healings, parables, teachings, etc, may well be completely superfluous to an understanding of the gospel, if the traditional creeds state what we believe. While I don't want to appear critical of the creeds (which I've been reciting since I was a very young boy), I do want to say that they are inadequate for a full understanding of the gospel, for the very reason that they completely ignore the life and ministry of Jesus between his birth and death. We must not do the same!

So bring on the series on Matthew ... and as we move past the introduction (chapters 1-4) and get into the details of the Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5-7), we will have a chance to hear afresh what Jesus himself thought about how we should live as people of his kingdom, what are our priorities as bearers of the gospel, and how the truth and significance of this gospel, Jesus' gospel, can be lived and shared in our community and our world today. This is Matthew's telling of 'the gospel' – we must learn from it and embrace it ... for ourselves and for those we love and serve.

Rod.

## PRAYER FOCUS

### World, Nation, Local Community Anglican Aid Pakistan

**Give thanks for** Angela Michael and the team at 'Miracle Ministries'. **Pray that** 'Miracle Ministries' will be able to open a third school, that more families would be liberated from brick kiln slavery, and for protection for Pakistani believers who face great discrimination and persecution.

**Give thanks for** the Australian government leaders – Federal, State, local, and those in opposition. **Pray for** a spirit of wisdom and godliness, so their decisions will reflect God's truth and integrity, and work towards a fair and just society. **Pray especially for** the NSW Government in the wake of Mike Baird's resignation.

**Give thanks for** a time of refreshment and rest over the **school holiday** period. **Pray for** safety and protection for those who are travelling.

### Mission and Partners.

**Give thanks for** the Year 13 program and the leaders who provide oversight and mentoring to those participating. **Pray for Jacob Mierendorff** as he begins, for openness and attentiveness as he applies himself to the program and for guidance and wisdom in how he will serve Jesus in 2017 and beyond.

### Andrew & Pauline Cox

**Pray for** a restful and refreshing family holiday for the Coxes over January.

## PRAYER GROUPS

**Thu 2pm** Minnamurra Prayer Group  
(restarted 19 Jan 2017)

Contact Janet King 0438 483 572

**Fri 10am** Ladies Prayer Group  
(restarts 10 Feb 2017)

Contact Margaret Beazley 4232 2618

**Prayer Chain** requests contact  
Jo Bailey phone 0424 466 935, email  
[praying@kiamaanglican.org.au](mailto:praying@kiamaanglican.org.au)

## Congratulations Elaine Pratt

This week Elaine received the Community Achievement Award as part of Kiama Council's Australia Day Awards 2017 for more than 50 years of volunteer work. Details at <http://www.kiama.nsw.gov.au/your-council/news---media/latest-news/australia-day-awards-2017>. She was also nominated for the Australia Day Citizen of the Year award for Kiama.

**Give thanks for** the improvements in health for Abigail. **Pray for** protection from infections as her lungs continue to grow and strengthen. **Pray for** the ministry in Punta Arenas in Chile and for the church and university leaders to seek God's wisdom and guidance in all they do. **Libros Gran Panorama (LGP)**  
**Pray for** the transition of Philip Scarratt into the book ministry with Grahame & Patty. **Give thanks for** God's gracious provision of all their needs. **Pray for** improvement in health for both Grahame and Patty.

### KAC Ministry

**Thank God for** providing us with Michele Thornton (Office & Administration) and Rachel Aitken (Communications Co-ordinator) for 2017. **Pray that** God may also provide a suitable person(s) to come and partner with us in the areas of children, seniors and pastoral care.

**Give thanks for** the time of encouragement, fellowship and learning that Steve Inman and eight (8) young people from KAC are currently experiencing at the **Leaders in Training (LIT)** conference.

### People to Pray for...

**Comfort and Healing:** Barbara Baird (respite Warrigal Care), Grahame Scarratt.

**Still Needing Prayer:** Gary Bennett, Faye Browne, Warren Divers, Aileen Thomas, Elisabeth Vickery

**Grieving families:** The Coles family and our KAC 8am church family, grieving the loss of **Norm Sharpless**.

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

**Leaders In Training (LIT) 21-25 Jan 2017**  
**Youth groups are on summer break**  
**until 03 Feb 2017**