

November 2021



Strong Family Church

Kawana Waters Uniting Church

## A word from Schalk



Hi Everyone,  
Warm Greetings,

Long leave is such a wonderful gift and Marlene and I so enjoyed the time. We focussed on Rest, Renewal, and Relationships. Thank you, again, to all who enabled us to take this time by taking up the extra burdens of our responsibilities.

This time reminded me strongly about the 'noise' of daily activities and demands and the danger of making decisions and commitments 'on the fly'.

Early in His public ministry Jesus set the tone of regularly withdrawing into seclusion in order to pray. This He did, amongst others, before he chose His 12 disciples, to grieve the death of His cousin, John the Baptist, before teaching the Lord's prayer and in the Garden of Gethsemane.

This is a habit I hope to develop more fully in my life. You might call it my ongoing hankering to live a Sabbath lifestyle which balances time, work, resources, renewal, relationships and silence. It is also a call to live more simply, less anxious, more generous and less cluttered in a direction of contentment found in God and His will.

Nathan Johnson (blogger) makes the following challenging proposal:

***"For many, their lifestyle determines how they Sabbath, but I propose a radical reversal: let Sabbath determine our lifestyle. For is not our whole life bound up in the Sabbath rest accomplished and promised in the work of Christ?"***

Some tips towards The Sabbath way of life (not simply one day a week):

- A Worshipping and following Jesus everyday,
- B Intentionally deepening family relationships
- C Sharing in communal life (small groups) through serving others
- D Choose when to rest and work in order to have a healthy work/rest

Balance.

- E Living more simply.
- F Be generous.
- G Ruthlessly eliminate 'hurry' (Dallys Willard).
- H Learn the value of silence.
- I Be thankful—always!



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[www.kawanawatersuc.com.au](http://www.kawanawatersuc.com.au)



[Info@kawanawatersuc.com.au](mailto:Info@kawanawatersuc.com.au)



07 2103 5933

Imagine a congregation of Sabbath people.....

Anyone keen to join me on the journey?

### **Some News:**

Sadly, **Kate Boileau** has not been able to complete her period with us as an interim Youth and Family assistant, given her need to provide extra support to her parents at this time amongst other challenges. She has completed her Period of Discernment and will continue to pursue studies at Trinity College, as well as her Master's degree at ACU next year. Thank you, Kate, for your efforts on our behalf and trust that God will use you mightily in the years ahead.

We have had 8 applications for the position of **0,5 FTE Youth and Family Lay Worker** at our church and hope to bring a name of a candidate to the Church Council meeting on Wed 18 November 2021. If approved, this person will be presented to our congregational meeting on Sun 28 Nov 2021 for approval.

Please note that we will be welcoming **Sawyer Muir** into the church through baptism at the 9:30 am Service on Sunday 28 Nov 2021 Please remember her and her parents, Paige and Thomas in your prayers.

### **Looking Further Ahead.**

Our hope, as always, is to honour and worship Jesus and to share His Good News with our community and all who would be able to join with us during this period.

To that end, teams of volunteers are setting up the Christmas lights, decorating the church and preparing to offer the gift of hospitality. Of course, scriptures remind us that all our efforts need to be undergirded by prayer and to that end we are hosting a 12 hour prayer vigil on Sat 27 Nov 2021 at the church. Please be part of the prayer journey contact Brian Lendrum), the worship journey and the journey of outreach and hospitality.



Please invite friends and family to join us.

Here is the Christmas Events 2021 pamphlet:

A festive Christmas-themed pamphlet for Kawana Waters Uniting Church. The background is dark red with a white scalloped border at the bottom. The top is decorated with green pine branches, red and gold ornaments, and a red ribbon. The title "Christmas Events 2021" is written in a large, white, cursive font with a red outline. Below the title, four events are listed in two columns. The text is in white and gold. At the bottom center is the church's logo, a white cross inside a circle, followed by the church's name and contact information.

**Christmas Events 2021**

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON & ADVENT SERVICE**  
Sunday, 28 November at 6:30pm  
Short Advent Service in the Church &  
Switch on of Christmas Lights

**CAROL SERVICE**  
Friday, 17 December at 6:30pm  
Nativity Play with impromptu children's dress up.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**  
Friday, 24 December  
at 6:30pm

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES**  
Saturday, 25 December  
at 7:00am & 8:30am

 **Kawana Waters Uniting Church**  
5493 8739 | [www.kawanawatersuc.com.au](http://www.kawanawatersuc.com.au)

Much love to you all.

Blessings

Schalk