

	Advent 3 — Dec 15	Advent 4 — Dec 22
Preacher	Rev Myung Hwa Park HC	Rev Laurel Barr
Organist	Sylvia Ireland	Richard Morphew
Bible Readers	Chloe Ahern Paul Cameron	Carolyn Craig-Emilsen Joy Connor
Vestry Elder	Kerry Jordan	Denise Cameron
Welcomer	Mel Macarthur	Carolyn Craig-Emilsen
Steward	Dennis Christie	William Emilsen
Prayers of the People	Lorraine White	William Emilsen
Flowers	Margaret Neville	Lorraine White
Morning Tea	Carolyn & William Emilsen	Lorraine White
IT/Audio-visual	Trevor Prowse	Robyn Parsons & Peter Whalan

Rosters

Bible readings

Advent 3 — Dec 15

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

Advent 4 — Dec 22

Micah 5:2-5a
Luke 1:47-55, Psalm 80:1-7
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

Sunday

Morning Worship (& Zoom) 9.30am

Taize Services 3rd Sun 5pm

Contact Carolyn 0413 993 368

Twilight Services

4th Sunday at 5pm (Carol service in Dec)

Monday

Playtime 10am – 12noon in school term

Contact Denise 0427 784877

Book Club- 3rd Monday 2pm Contact Delma 0407 140 837

Leura Forest Holy Communion Contact: revmel@bigpond.com

Friday

Christian Meditation/Prayer 11.30am

Contact John Connor 47841819

Open Table

Tuesday brunch

Thursday breakfast

Junction 142 Katoomba

Contact John Cox 0408 993007

Activities

Online giving

For those who wish to contribute **to the Church** via Bank Transfer, the details are: Leura Uniting Church – General Account
BSB 634 634 A/c No. 100031809 Reference – Offering

If you wish to donate **to Junction 142** via Bank Transfer, the details are: UCA—Junction 142 Account, BSB 634 634; A/c no. 100044848; Reference—J142 Donation

Website: <https://leura.unitingchurch.org.au>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/LeuraUnitingChurch>

Bulletin Editor Karen Basant: karenbasant@optusnet.com.au 0425 273 604

Bulletin Deadline Wednesday 8pm

Leura Uniting Church



Corner of Grose & Megalong Streets, Leura.
Located on Dharug and Gundungurra country.

We have a zoom service every Sunday as well as a face-to-face service in the Church at 9.30 am.

Our Church embraces diversity. All welcome.

Welcome! A very warm welcome to everyone joining us today, especially any visitors. It's good to be worshipping together. We hope you will join us for morning tea and a chat after the service! If you are on zoom, if you are able to, please stay online for a chat after the service.

Third Sunday of Advent: Dec 15, 2024

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Only it's not. Not for everyone. Not when there is an empty chair at the table. Not when your body is ravaged with illness. Not when the depression is too much to bear. Not without his voice joining yours on the Christmas carols. Not when you feel all alone even in a crowd. Not when you are not sure you can even afford the rent or mortgage, let alone the presents. Not when another Christmas party means he will come home drunk again.

It's the most wonderful time of the year? No, it's not. And trying to smile and say Merry Christmas is more than difficult. It's pretty near impossible.

It is the most wonderful time of the year, not because you have to be cheery and happy and merry. But because you don't. You can have heavy spirits and shattered dreams. Broken hearts and deep wounds. And still God comes to be with you. To comfort you. To redeem you. To save you. To restore you. To empower you. To strengthen you. To grant you peace. To be raised for you. To hold you in the communion of saints with those whom you have loved and lost. To store your tears in his bottle. To offer you eternal life.

It is the most wonderful time of the year. For Christ is born. Love has come. God is with us! Thanks be to the Lord our God.

(excerpt by Rev Diane Hendricks)

Susan Aiken



Welcome

NSW Christmas bush

December

Wed 18, 7pm—J142 Board

Sat 21, 11am—Blue Christmas

- Minister**
Myung Hwa Park 0400191880
- Congregation Chairperson**
Kate Prowse 0439 581 664
- Congregation Secretary**
Stephen White 0474 224533
- Congregation Treasurer**
Kerry Jordan 4784 3051

Upcoming events...

Sat 22, 5pm—Christmas Carol Service commencing with a BBQ



Christian Meditation/Prayer on Fridays at 11.30am is now **in recess** and will recommence Friday 7 February 2025.

A **'Blue' Christmas Service** will be held on **Saturday 21 December at 11am** for those who find Christmas a difficult time; followed by lunch.

Beyond Blue: For 1 in 3 people, it's the most difficult time of the year.



Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 22 December

5pm to 7.30pm

All welcome to join a relaxed family-time carol service commencing with a BBQ.



The **Last 2024 Bulletin is 22 December**. As the bulletin will be taking a break in January 2025 please let Karen know of any events in January that you would like included in the last 2024 bulletin. The first Bulletin in 2025 will be 2 February (deadline 8pm 29 January 2025).



For 75 years, church communities like ours, have been giving hope to families who are displaced through the Christmas Bowl appeal. Funds raised are invested in life changing support and programs around the globe that empower people to find safety in exile and rebuild their lives.

From our church community to theirs, our Christmas Bowl gifts help bring the peace that comes with having a safe place to belong, to those who need it most.

Because everyone deserves to have a safe place to belong.

Use the QR-code for Leura Uniting Church's donation page OR the Leura Uniting Church ID number **A 521490** (envelope or credit card) to make your tax-deductible donation up until 31 January 2025.

