



WESTERN HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH
31 Douglass Street, Herne Hill
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Website: www.whuc.com.au

Our Purpose

Loving God: Growing Together, Partnering Community, Sharing Faith



FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent

Witness

SAFE CHURCH

Western Heights Uniting Church is committed to the safety, protection and well-being of all children and young people from all forms of abuse and neglect. We will make every effort to provide an environment of safety and support. All key leaders have completed a Working With Children Check. Western Heights UC has adopted the Synod "Keeping Children Safe" policy.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 22 2019

We welcome you to today's service at Western Heights Uniting Church

Notice Sheet December 22nd 2019 –10.00am Worship

Please Pray for: ...

those continually in our thoughts and prayers:

Betty McWilliam

Worship & Music Group

Miriam Nation

those with special needs:

Stojanovic Family

Grigg Family

Sympathy:

To Kristen, Peter, Abbey, Chloe and Mitchell Stojanovic on the recent death of their mother, grandmother Judy Edmonds.

To Pam Blackford on the recent death of her sister Margaret.

Birthdays:

Ashley Payne 25th

Sandra Neville 5th

Tom Morgan 29th

Graeme Willingham 9th

Jean Payne 2nd

Val Bray 13th

Daniel Payne 3rd

Albie James 13th

The congregation at Western Heights offers prayerful support of its members and others in a number of ways and because of privacy protocols, names are not included for prayer unless we have received your permission.

Uniting Barwon


Items that would be appreciated this week include tinned fruit, spreads, tinned meat, DB blankets, men's t/pants. Please place in trolley in the foyer.

Thought for the week

All the great pleasures of life are silent.

Clemenceau

Fourth Sunday of Advent



How do we share God's unconditional love with those who have suffered unimaginable violence? Through your gifts, you can help support Syrian refugees as they rebuild their lives. Please give to the Christmas Bowl today.

CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

Finding strength in love after fleeing Syria



Christmas Bowl

Diary for This Week

Sunday 22nd 10.00a.m. Worship – Rev. Isabel Greenall – Witness –
4:00p.m. Carols for Everyone Practice
Tuesday 24th 7:00p.m. Carols for Everyone
11:30p.m. Welcome ChristmasQuietly
Wednesday 25th 9:00a.m. Christmas Day Celebration
Thursday 26th 8.00p.m. Singers & Musicians Practice

Next Week's Services

Sunday 29th 10.00a.m. Worship – Rev. David Walker & Ekkel Family

Special Farewell Morning Tea and Presentation

A **Special Farewell Morning Tea** for Isabel will be held in the Horizons Room after worship on Sunday, 9 February, 2020. Congregation is asked to bring a plate.

The Congregation is asked to contribute towards a **Farewell Gift** for Isabel. Donations in an envelope marked "Gift for Isabel" are to be placed in the offering plate or handed to Geoff Coots or Graeme Hardy by Sunday, 2 February, 2020.

Minister

Rev Isabel Greenall

minister@whuc.com.au

0419 602 006

Children & Families Co-ordinator

Karen Morgan

karen.morgan1968@hotmail.com

0404 435 261

Pastoral Care Referrals Group

Rhonda Dingle 0437245671

Isabel Greenall 0419602006

Graeme Willingham 0432864727

Tasks people are doing today 22nd December 2019

Vestry Steward: Velma Oliver

Reader: Allister Coots

Stewards: Joan Hill, Geoff Everett, Tim Hunt

Greeter: Janet Pavlakis

Morning Tea: Barb Everett, Colleen Douglas,
Velma Oliver

Musicians: Daniel Payne, Geoff Coots, Les
Oliver, Tom Morgan

Singers: Ashley Payne, Bev Hunt, Catherine
Van Zetten, Hannah Uy

PA/Data: Dudley Holroyd, Allister Coots

Tasks people are doing next week 29th December 2019

Vestry Steward: Helen Sleep

Reader: Helen Sleep

Stewards: Val Bray, Colin Rookes, Bev Hunt

Greeter: Leila Green

Morning Tea: Michele Hardy, Velma Oliver,
Doreen Holroyd

Musicians: Sue Ekkel, Geoff Coots, Les
Oliver, Tom Morgan, Gary Ekkel, Ruby Ekkel,
Amelia Ekkel

Singers: Ashley Payne, Bill Fleming, Lynda
Scott, Julia Ekkel

PA/Data: Dudley Holroyd, Allister Coots

**Tasks people are doing Christmas Day
25th December 2019**

Vestry Steward: Michele Hardy

Reader: Karen Morgan

Stewards: Graeme Hardy, Bruce Rookes,
Velma Oliver

Greeter: Dorothy Matthews

Musicians: Geoff Coots, Les Oliver, Tom
Morgan

Singers: Ashley Payne, Lynda Scott, Velma
Oliver, Jacqui Payne, Emily Finlayson

PA/Data: Peter Morgan, Allister Coots

JOHN 1:6-9

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

JOHN 1:35-39

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

JOHN 3:25-30

Now a discussion about purification arose between John's disciples and a Jew. They came to John and said to him, 'Rabbi, the one who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you testified, here he is baptizing, and all are going to him.' John answered, 'No one can receive anything except what has been given from heaven. You yourselves are my witnesses that I said, "I am not the Messiah, but I have been sent ahead of him." He who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. For this reason my joy has been fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease.'

Climate Change Bulletin 6

Madrid 8th Dec 2019

This year's UN Climate Negotiations in Madrid, the longest in 25 years, have ended with major polluters resisting calls to up efforts to keep global warming at bay. Addendum: Australia's 'small' contribution to climate change?? "No snowflake ever felt responsible for an avalanche.

MARK 1:4-8

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

MATTHEW 3:1-6, 11, 13-15

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented.