



## Western Heights Uniting Church

31 Douglass Street, Herne Hill, 3218.

(03) 5229 2681

Email: office@whuc.com.au



Loving God: Growing Together, Partnering Community, Sharing Faith

WESTERN HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH

# May 2021. Newsletter

## 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.

## May at a Glance

Sunday 2nd	10.00am	Easter Sunday—Rev. Bruce Waldron Michele Hardy—Torquay
Sunday 9th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Bruce Waldron
Friday 14th	7.00pm	Friday Night Fun
Saturday 15th	3.00pm	Women of the Bible Study & Quilt-A-Long
Sunday 16th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Bruce Waldron—Communion Michele Hardy—St. Albans/St. Andrews
Tuesday 18th	6.30pm	Tuesday Friendship
Wednesday 19th	7.00pm	Church Council Meeting
Sunday 23rd	10.00am	Worship—Michele Hardy—Pentecost
	3.00pm	Combined Presbytery Pentecost Service
Sunday 30th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Deacon Jeanne Beale

## Staff Leave

Sharn and I will be on leave from the **17th to the 30th May**, catching up with family we haven't seen for many years. If you need to speak to someone in that time, please call Jan in the office, Karen, or one of the Church Councillors. I hope you have a great PENTECOST, and support the Presbytery Service on Sunday afternoon, 23rd May. Getting together with our wider Christian family for these great celebrations of our faith is important. We are not alone.

Love to all

Bruce

## Friday Night Fun

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Ten Pin Bowling  
Friday 14th May 2021  
7.00—9.00pm

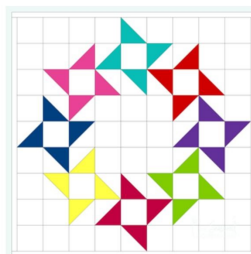
## Tuesday Friendship

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Tuesday 18th May 2021  
at 6.30pm  
All Ladies welcome.

Joan Murphy  
Phone 0438 722 035

Women of the Bible



Study & Quilt-A-Long

Join Us...

Each third Saturday, 3.00—4.40pm  
May 15th, June 19th, July 17th,  
August 21st, September 18th, October 16th, November 20th  
WHUC 31 Douglass St., Herne Hill  
Contact Karen 0404 435 261

## Sammy Stamps

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Sammy Stamps is continuing to provide income to the Uniting Church.

If you have some stamps please bring them to church. Otherwise you could contact Graeme Willingham on 0432 864 727.

## Combined Pentecost Worship Service

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**Combined Pentecost Service: May 23<sup>rd</sup> 3pm**

This service will be held at Western Heights Uniting Church.

The band and choir have started rehearsals, but it is not too late to join.

Please contact Bruce or Amanda- details below

If you would like to help out with the Afternoon Tea on the day, then please contact Rev Suzie Castle at [suzie.castle@gmail.com](mailto:suzie.castle@gmail.com)

This is a great chance for all the Uniting Churches in the southern part of the Presbytery to get together and worship. Pentecost is the birth of the church and it is quite symbolic that we gather together on this special day. We are stronger together and you can be part of this exciting event.

Band: Bruce Waldron 0491 663 514

7.30—8.30pm Tuesday at WHUC

Choir Amanda Nicholas 0413 617 469

2.30pm Sunday, 7.30pm Tuesday at East Geelong

Afternoon Tea: Suzie Castle 0421 023 197

Logistics: Narelle Collas 0481 563 882



## COVID 19 Task Group Update

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The present Victorian Government corona virus guidelines state that “the sharing of food must be avoided. Crockery, utensils, vessels or other equipment must not be shared by participants. All people in the place of worship should be at least 1.5 metres apart with no crowded areas.” With this in mind, we are not able to have morning tea at church, especially not in its previous format. However, everyone is most welcome to meet for a cuppa at “Soft” on Minerva Road, after the service on Sundays. Also, the present Church Roster goes until the end of May. The Task Group will look at any changes to the restrictions before the June, July and August Church Roster is drawn up. If it is allowed, morning tea will be added to the roster. For this to happen, morning tea volunteers will be needed. Please let Velma Oliver know if you would like to assist.

## Church & Music Rosters June, July, August 2021

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The Church and Music Rosters for **June, July and August, 2021**, will be drawn up for distribution during the second half of May. Please use the unavailability book by **Sunday, 2 May**, in which to record the days on which you will be unavailable during these 3 months.

\*Please note that, due to Covid-19 restrictions, the vestry steward is also the Bible reader. This limits the use of the lectern to only the minister and the vestry steward. A decision still needs to be made about the possibility of having Covid-19 compliant morning tea after worship at Western Heights. If you would like to add your name to any of the following tasks, please let Velma know on 0421 271 946: Vestry Steward & Bible Reader, Greeter, Steward, Morning Tea. Thank you. Velma Oliver.

23rd May  
3 pm

Come and join with all the  
Uniting Churches in a  
service of celebration

COMBINED  
PENTECOST SERVICE

Great music,  
Inspirational input,  
Afternoon Tea &  
Fellowship



@Western Heights  
UCA

### Summary of Church Council (CC) Minutes

#### Meeting 21st April, 2021

- Devotions by Geoff Coots. Partnering Community. Matthew 13:34 says “ Love one another. As I have loved you, so you are to love one another.
- All CC members have now signed the annual Statement of Commitment to a Safe Church.
- CC is exploring the cost of hiring or purchasing a defibrillator.
- CC approved the holding of a music concert approximately 1 month after the installation of the new church organ and that this event will be used as a fund-raiser.
- CC approved the extension of Rev. Bruce Waldron’s term as our Supply Minister for a further 3 months from 25 May to 22 August, 2021. This application will now be sent to Presbytery for approval in early May.
- CC approved the use of our Worship Space and the Horizons Room by Presbytery for the combined Presbytery Pentecost Service on 23 May, 2021.
- The reintroduction of morning tea after worship will be considered in mid-May before the next Church Roster for June, July and August is drawn up.
- CC endorsed the Resources Group exploring the letting of the manse on a short-term lease.
- Approval was given to allow 4GR internet access with the sharing of costs.
- Next CC meeting on Wednesday, 19 May, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Velma Oliver, Chair of CC.

## Reconciliation in the Park 2021 is a National Event.

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This Reconciliation Event is provided by local Aboriginal community organisations and community members in association with Geelong One Fire Reconciliation Group.

Everyone is welcome to attend this FREE one day event to participate in activities that share culture, history, story and music on Wadawurrung Country.

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> MAY 10am – 3pm** in Johnstone Park Geelong. Put in diaries.

UNITING will want some volunteers to help on the day, further details later.

Janet Pavlakis

## Partnering Community

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Over the past few weeks, LAT (Leadership Advisory Team) has started partnering with our Aboriginal neighbours. This led to two meetings at Narana, one with Humey, the cultural officer, and next with Uncle Vince Ross, who originally started Narana. With them LAT explored how this partnering could be done. This process is ongoing and hopefully we at Western Heights will have opportunities to develop this partnership.





## From the Minister

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Easter doesn't end with the easter eggs. It's a time that runs from Easter Day to Pentecost, and in that time, with the disciples of Jesus' time, we are meant to be using it to rethink and learn again what it is that the resurrection of Jesus means for us, for the way we see our world, other people, and what our own purpose is. It's a time of thinking again how the resurrection upends the way we think about reality and that has huge consequences to our purpose, our behaviour, our relationships. If that doesn't make sense to you, then it means you haven't really understood what EASTER is about. For me, every EASTER season is a bit seismic. I hope it is for you too.

This EASTER season, I want to share with you a reflection on EASTER by Craig Mitchell, and ask you to think about it, study it, reflect on it, pray about it. It's a great insight into EASTER.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> April, I gave everyone in church a picture of a cross and asked them to write down on it, what Easter means to them. On the 16<sup>th</sup> May, I'm going to ask everyone, again, as a reflection towards the end of the service, to do that again, then take it home and compare. I hope something will have changed from what was written six weeks earlier. It will indicate that you've really grappled with this extraordinary revelation of God, EASTER.

### Emmaus Eucharist

Easter is not an event that has occurred it's an adventure that has begun not a place that we have visited but a path on which we stand a story not complete, but unfolding characters still breathing stations still teeming with the promise of new life not just for you and me but for all people, in all places.

Easter is the season of wild hope of dangerous intent of potent promise.

Tonight we re-enter the story to explore our questions to uncover our doubts to face our nagging need.

We walk the path of two who travelled a dusty road wrapped in confusion and despair two who shared the company of a stranger voicing their plans, airing their fears and in the listening heard words of hope and in the eating received true bread of life.

Risen Christ, walk with us this night be our companion and guide be our teacher and friend be our host and servant bringing your gifts of faith, peace and hope and deep joy as always. Amen.

At Easter time the space between heaven and earth grows

thin time and eternity are one age-old promises prove true long-held hopes become real and we can finally believe that God's will might be done on earth as it is in heaven.

As so we gather to remember and celebrate in the company of the One who names us and claims us risen and re-resent not controlled by history not confined by texts not contained by death One who has walked alongside us who has heard our questions and cries who has offered gentle wisdom Christ invites us to this table. If you know hunger or thirst know that you are most welcome here.

On this night we recall that just as Jesus broke bread in that upper room with his disciples on the night before he died—sitting at a meal table plates and cups conversations and jokes friendship and betrayal Christ saying, "Take and eat, this is my body broken for you. Take and drink, this is a new covenant in my blood" - so he broke bread a second time not in city temple but in a country pub not with knowing friends but with those who thought him a stranger just as he had done before as a host he offered welcome as a master he served making strangers into friends making a meal into a holy moment. So now we do as Jesus did.

This is an edited extract from *Deeper Water*, by Craig Mitchell



# Contact Details

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## Leadership Advisory Team:

**Supply Minister:** Rev. Bruce Waldron  
**waldronbruce3462@gmail.com** 0491 663 514

**Church Council Chair:** Velma Oliver  
**lv.oliver@inet.net.au** 0421 271 946

Bruce's days off are **Monday** and **Tuesday** so please refrain from contacting him on these days.

**Property Co-ordinator** Graeme Hardy  
**graeme.c.hardy@gmail.com** 0408 630 391

**LAT Administrator:** Roger Dingle  
**roger.dingle@gmail.com** 0407 528 533

**Communications Administrator:** Jan Grigg 5229 5889

**Children & Families Co-ordinator:** Karen Morgan  
**karen.morgan1968@hotmail.com** 0404 435 261

**Pastoral Care Referrals Group**  
Rhonda Dingle 0437245671  
Bruce Waldron 0491663514  
Graeme Willingham 0432864727

**Congregational Member** Janet Pavlakis  
**angyjanet@bigpond.com** 5275 1711

**WHUC Office:**

Phone:	5229 2681
Office hours:	Wed: 1.30pm - 3.30pm Fri : 9am – 1:00pm
Office email:	<b>office@whuc.com.au</b>
Website:	<b>www.whuc.com.au</b>
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/pages/Western-Heights-Uniting-Church/167518399975533

## **Postage stamps**

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Sammy Stamp is a part of the UCAF (Uniting Church Adult Fellowship) that collects postage stamps, sells them and then provides grants for small projects not covered in the Synod Budget. There is a box in the foyer for you to put your used stamps. If you could cut around your stamp leaving 5mm of paper that would be helpful.



Playgroups are held in the Horizons Room on: **Thursday mornings and Friday mornings 9:30-11.30am.**

## **Light Globes & Batteries**

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Did you know that light globes and batteries of any sort can be recycled? There is a box in the foyer near the stamps where you can leave them.

## **Future Monthly Newsletters**

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To be included in the Monthly Newsletter, please ensure your notices are at the church office by the **20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month**. They can be dropped in to the office in a clearly marked envelope, or emailed to the office, at **office@whuc.com.au**

## **Milk Bottle Tops**

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We are now collecting plastic bottle tops with St. Joseph's College. You can leave your bottle tops in the bucket in the foyer for recycling.

## **Aluminium Foil**

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The Leprosy Mission is able to raise funds from the sale of aluminium cans and foil pie plates. Please assist this worthy cause by leaving your used foil in the appropriate box in the foyer.