



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

August 2022 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.

August at a Glance

Sunday 7th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga
Friday 12th	7.00pm	Friday Fun Night
Saturday 13th	2.00pm	Women of the Bible Study & Quilt-A-Long
Sunday 14th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i – Vaeluaga
Tuesday 16th	12.30pm	Tuesday Friendship
Wednesday 17th	7.00pm	Church Council Meeting
Sunday 21st	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i – Vaeluaga Communion
Sunday 28th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga Michele Hardy—St. Andrews / St. Albans



Please be comfortable wearing a mask

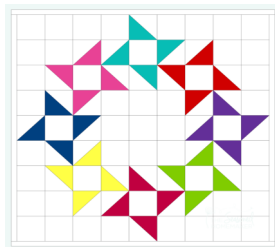
Seeking Ideas for Mission Projects for WHUC

In recent years WHUC has put time and energy into a number of mission projects including a breakfast program, playgroups, homelessness project, refugee welcome dinners and many others.

Church Council is seeking ideas of new mission projects that our congregation could undertake.

Please write down your ideas with your name and place them in the 'Suggestion Box For Mission Projects' at the back of the worship area or contact a member of Church Council with your idea(s).

Women of the Bible



Study & Quilt-A-Long-2022

This year in particular, has been difficult to meet regularly as a group.

So... August, 13th 2-5pm we are thinking of having a sew your blocks together/ catch up/ show and tell/ get together.

It seems that we are at a bit of a T intersection, so we are thinking that it would be helpful to discuss where to from here during this time. For more information please contact Karen on...0404435261 or karen.morgan1968@hotmail.com...

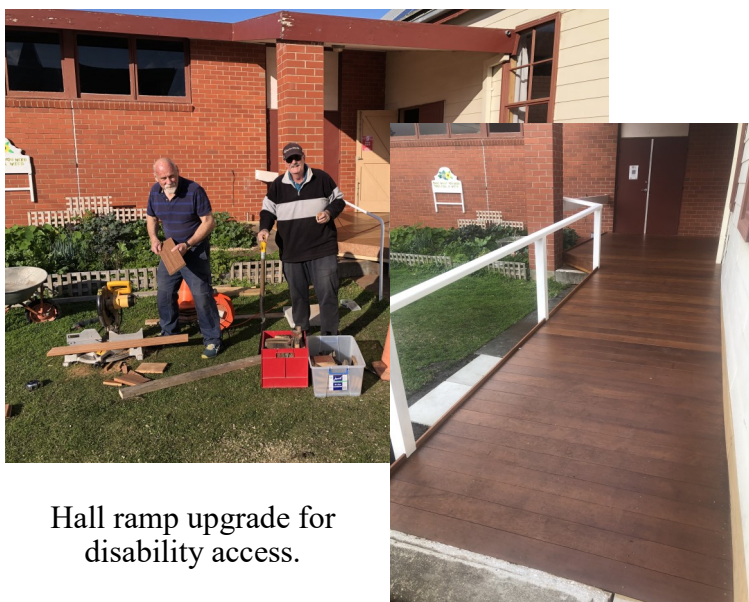
From the Music Worship Team

Starting from **August 7th** we will trial having a time of singing before Worship commences.

From the ECO Group

We are interested in interviewing people who are doing things for the environment. We are going to use these interviews in worship or write them up to encourage others. We would love to hear from you however big or small.

Contact Bruce Waldron 0491 663 514



Hall ramp upgrade for disability access.

Friday Fun Night

Friday 12th August 2022

7.00pm

Pot Luck

Horizons Room

Everyone is welcome

Tuesday Friendship

Tuesday 16th August 2022

at 12.30pm for Lunch

Change of time during winter

Theme:

All Ladies welcome.

RSVP

Joan Murphy

Phone 0438 722 035

Reading of Scripture during Sunday Worship

If you would like to join the Scripture Reading Roster you are invited to enter your name onto the list located at the back of the Church. Scripture Readers, along with many other activities, were put on hold during the worst of the COVID pandemic and the restrictions that were in place. This was to lessen the number of people using the microphone during the times of COVID restrictions. Now that the Government and the community are more relaxed re COVID due to the huge take up of vaccinations, it is time to reinstate this ministry for the Sunday morning worship. This invitation is extended to **all** who would like to offer this ministry within worship at Western Heights. COVID Task Group.

Church & Music Rosters

The Church and Music Rosters for **Sept, Oct and Nov 2022**, will be drawn up for distribution during the second half of Aug. Please use the unavailability book by **31st July**, in which to record the days on which you will be unavailable during these 3 months.

If you would like to add your name to any of the following tasks, please let me know on 0490 151 560: Vestry Steward, Bible Reader, Greeter, Steward, Morning Tea. (A text message with your name, task/s, and frequency e.g. once a month.)

Thanks. Maralann.

Summary of Church Council Minutes 20th July 2022

- Devotions by Velma Oliver: Deuteronomy 6:5. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
- Church Council discussed the Child-Safe Standard No. 3 that requires that children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them, and are taken seriously.
- Recording and or photographing children in services or church activities not to occur without the approval of the parents of the children.
- A process for gathering ideas for mission projects from the congregation was agreed. Church Council to consider the ideas at the next meeting.
- Covid Task Group was placed into recess, but can be reconvened quickly if required.
- Discussion on Luke 10:1-11 and what insights this text provides on what it means to be a missional church.

Peter Morgan, Secretary of Church Council

FRIDAY FUN NIGHT INVITATION

FRIDAY August 12th 2022

Pot Luck

6.30pm

Horizons Room



Please bring food of your choice to share.

Come along and join the fun

**Social gathering for all ages newborn to over a hundred
are welcome.**



Car Park Lighting

Installation of the car park lighting has now been completed, with the final installation of a timer switch to control the lights. First to arrive for an evening meeting in the church should now press the button on the left side of the panel mounted to the left of the Vestry door. A small light in the button will confirm the timer has been set. This will activate the car park lighting for a set period. No other action is required to turn the lights off.

Under the previous temporary arrangement, the lights operated seven days a week for 6 hours each night, whether anyone was using the church or not. The new timer arrangement is expected to considerably reduce our energy bills and environmental impact, compared to the temporary arrangement.

VICTAS Synod meeting 2022

Arise Come with me! – Synod theme for 2022 meeting; based on the passage from the Song of Songs 2:10 - where one lover calls to the other and says, “*Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, come with me.*”

The Moderator, David Fotheringham says, the 2022 meeting of the Synod hears the beckoning voice of God: Arise, come with me!

“Synod meetings are always about more than just ‘business’, as important as that is in our stewardship of God’s resources. More, Synod meetings are opportunities to worship, listen, network, and share together. Synod is a chance to meet with others across the life of the Church that we may together be built up in faith and love. “Our lover God calls us to arise, not alone but together and with God.”

The Opening Service and Installation of the Moderator Rev David Fotheringham was at Wesley church, Lonsdale Street, Melbourne on Thursday 30th June. The business session of the Synod 2022 was held at Box Hill Town Hall from July 1st to July 3rd; the first in person Synod since 2019, with live-streaming and recordings of most sessions.

Among the many resolutions considered by the Synod was a response to Tasmania’s End-Of-Life Choices (Voluntary Assisted Dying) legislation. Other resolutions including:

- o Improving the lives of people with disability, which pushed for reforms that “fill in some of the cracks that exist in the safeguards systems”.
- o Raising the age of criminal responsibility, which argued for raising the age from 10 to 14.
- o Disability Action Plan 2022-2025, which requested a continuing plan to address, among other things, issues that will likely be raised by the findings of the Disability Royal Commission, which will be released next year.
- o Synod Meeting Planning Committee, which prompted passionate debate with regard to minority voices (race and age were two examples) being invited and included.

Blister Packs

Your blister packs from Panadol, and other medications etc. can be left in the 4th drawer in the foyer.

- o Improved system of income support.
 - o Making homelessness a thing of the past.
 - o Moderator Nomination Committee, which recommended Sue Withers as next chairperson.
 - o Process for setting the ministerial stipend and related allowances.
 - o Succession planning and leadership development.
- We need to ensure that institutional memory and broad -Church experience is passed across the generations. This needs to be done in clear, transparent, and practical ways to ensure the gift that God has given us in the Uniting Church in Australia continues to stand in its unique and wonderful space for the glory of God.
- o Ministry pathways. The Ministry & Mission Committee was requested to report to the next Synod meeting regarding the breadth, opportunities, and challenges for effectively facilitating lay and ordained ministry pathways.
- Ecumenical engagement with Pentecostalism. Matt Julius said as a Church we are called to “acknowledge with humility and penitence the ways our ecumenical engagements have, and continue to, exclude certain voices: particularly the voices of non-Western churches and the voices of the poor”.
- The Tributes Service is planned for Saturday 23rd July 2022, 2:30pm at Wesley Church in Melbourne. This service will also be livestreamed.
- The Synod meeting started with worship and concluded with worship and communion - sharing bread and wine together.
- If you wish to follow up any of the information and details about the Synod 2022 meeting, please log into the Synod (VICTAS) website via google and follow the link re VICTAS Synod meeting 2022.
- Grace and blessings,
Rev Temukisa Amituana’i-Vaeluaga

INCREASE YOUR CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE

What can you do in the next year to increase your cultural knowledge? Knowing and understanding local history and cultural protocols are important for everyone who lives on cultural lands. We've come up with some ways you can make a start and be further involved.

WATCH

Indigenous movies and stories, NITV on SBS TV or Message Stick on ABC TV

BE INVOLVED

There are lots of events especially during the important dates listed below. You can attend **NAIDOC events**, the **NAIDOC March**, **Flag Raising** and **Smoking Ceremonies** and local heritage walks.

WORKPLACE INITIATIVES

Enquire about VACCA undertaking **Cultural Awareness Training** in your workplace.

Does your organisation have a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)? If so, contact your RAP representative and see how you can get involved. If not, contact Reconciliation Australia or Reconciliation Victoria to find out more reconciliation.org.au

LISTEN

3KND Kool N Deadly 1503 AM - Live stream or check out programs via 3knd.org.au
Triple R 102.7 FM - Search Indigenous programs via rrr.org.au

READ

Books by an Aboriginal author, Koorie Mail or Indigenous Times newspapers.

Visit magabala.com to learn more about Aboriginal authors and purchase Indigenous books.

LEARN MORE

Hear deadly and proud stories from Aboriginal leaders and Elders in Victoria, visit deadlyandproud.vic.gov.au
Learn and explore Aboriginal Cultures, histories, treaty and opinions – from Aboriginal Victorians, visit deadlyquestions.vic.gov.au

*Deadly means 'Awesome'

ACKNOWLEDGE IMPORTANT DATES

Aboriginal organisations and local councils have cultural events at times of the year that are important to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Find out more by contacting your local council or checking out the events on www.deadlystory.com

SUPPORT

Visit supplnation.org.au for a directory of Indigenous businesses, including food items and ingredients for your Morning Tea for Culture.

Purchase from vacca.org/shop for a range of educational resources, books, toys and much more including items from Narrun Yana - designed by young people who have participated in our Art Mentoring program.

VISIT A CULTURAL CENTRE

Experience the opportunity to learn about local Aboriginal groups and customs. See displays of various cultural artefacts and art pieces and support local artists located in Victoria.

- Narana Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Grovedale
- Brambuk National Park and Cultural Centre, Halls Gap
- Burra Indigenous Cultural & Environmental Discovery Centre, Gateway Island
- Bangerang Cultural Centre, Shepparton
- Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Melbourne Museum, Carlton
- Kaiela Arts, Shepparton
- Koorie Heritage Trust, Federation Square Melbourne

*Source: Service directory - culture and language on www.deadlystory.com.au

EXPERIENCE

ILBIJERRI Theatre Company, Djirri Djirri Dancers, Bangarra Dance Theatre.

IMPORTANT DATES

SURVIVAL DAY 26 JAN

ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL APOLOGY 13 FEBRUARY

HARMONY DAY 21 MARCH RECONCILIATION WEEK 27 MAY-3 JUNE

SORRY DAY 26 MAY NAIDOC WEEK EARLY TO MID-JULY



VACCA
Connected by culture

VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE AGENCY

Contact Details

Leadership Advisory Team:

Minister: Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i – Vaeluaga
0400 664 991

Temukisa's day off is **Monday** so please refrain from contacting her on this day.

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

Children & Families Co-ordinator:

Congregational Member: Janet Pavlakis
angyjanet@bigpond.com 0439 527 500

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

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

Communications

Administrator: Jan Grigg 5229 5889

Pastoral Care:

Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i – Vaeluaga
0400 664 991

WHUC Office:

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

With Love To The World

With Love to the World booklets can be left in the marked drawer in the recycling material box in the foyer.

Blister Packs

Your blister packs from Panadol, and other medications can be left in the 4th drawer in the foyer.

Pew Sheet

If anyone wishes to receive the Pew Sheet information by email each week, please give your name and email address to Jan in the office.

Light Globes & Batteries

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.

Postage stamps

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.

Milk Bottle Tops

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

Future Monthly Newsletters

To be included in the Monthly Newsletter, please ensure your notices are at the church office by the **20th 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**