



Western Heights Uniting Church

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Loving God: Growing Together, Partnering Community, Sharing Faith

WESTERN HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH

September 2015 Newsletter

September at a Glance

Wednesday 2nd	1.30pm	Mission Outreach
Friday 4th	10.00am	Vines Options Op Shop Coffee morning
Saturday 5th	5.00pm	Connecting the Natural Themes 1st week
Sunday 6th	8.45am	Traditional Worship
	10.15am	Worship
Tuesday 8th	1.00pm	Senior Retirees Outing
Friday 11th	7.00pm	KFG—Minute To Win It
Saturday 12th	5.00pm	Connecting the Natural Themes 2nd week
Sunday 13th	10.00am	Worship
Tuesday 15th	2.00pm	Midweek communion
	6.30pm	Friends from Vines
Wednesday 16th	7.00pm	Ministry Teams Meeting
Saturday 19th	5.00pm	Connecting the Natural Themes 3rd week
Sunday 20th	10.00am	Worship
Saturday 26th	1.00pm	Connecting the Natural Themes 4th week at Narana
	7.30pm	Friendship Club
Sunday 27th	10.00am	Worship
	4.00pm	Messy Church

September Preaching Plan

Western Heights Services:

Sunday 6th	8.45am	Rev. Isabel Greenall	
	10.15am	Rev. Isabel Greenall	
Sunday 13th	10.00am	Rev. Paul Stephens	
Tuesday 15th	2.00pm	Rev. Isabel Greenall	
Sunday 20th	10.00am	Rev. Isabel Greenall	All Together Service & Communion
Sunday 27th	10.00am	Rev. Isabel Greenall & Les Oliver	
	4.00pm	Messy Church	

Other Services:

Thursday 3rd	Rev. Isabel Greenall	Nangatta & Murray (Kalkee)
Sunday 13th	Michele Hardy	Lara
Tuesday 22nd	Audrey Kateena	Vincetian Village 3.00pm
Sunday 27th	Michele Hardy	St. Andrews/St. Albans

Western Heights Mission Outreach 2015

Wednesday 2nd September 2015

Card Making with Bettine James

1.30pm Horizons Room

Please bring some old Christmas cards and scissors.

Contact: Dorothy Matthews - 5278 9491

Vines Options Op Shop—Coffee Morning

All past volunteers from Vines Options are invited to catch up for coffee and a chat at Soft Café in Minerva Road on **Friday 4th September at 10.00am.**



Senior Retirees Outings for 2015



The following dates and venues are for the projected outings for this year:

September 8th—Country Mystery Car Trail

November 10th—Narana Creations Visit

Please put these in your diaries/calendars now.

Graeme & Michele Hardy

KFG (Kids Friendship Group)

Minute To Win It

Friday 11th September, 2015

Horizons Room

7pm—8.30pm

\$3.00

RSVP to Jan or Karen by
Wednesday 9th September

Karen.morgan1968@hotmail.com or 0404435261

or office@whuc.com.au

Friends from Vines

Film Night “Boy Choir”

Tuesday 15th September, 2015

7.00pm Horizons Room

Includes Supper

Donation to support Cancer Research

Anyone interested welcome

Joan 5241 5683

0438 722 035

Friendship Club

Friendship Club have invited a Guest Speaker, Jean Murray to talk about her trip to the United Kingdom.

Love to see you on **Saturday 26th September 2015 at 7.30pm** in the Horizons Room.

So leave the TV and come and enjoy this great night, with supper and a good chat to follow.



**Messy Church @
WHUC**

Sunday 27th September 4pm

Contact: Karen (0404435261) for more info or if you'd like to help!

Want to earn some extra money?

Expressions of interest are invited for a person(s) to clean our Church building (including the Horizons & Pool rooms) on a temporary basis.

Mary, our faithful and conscientious cleaner for many years, is now on the “shortlist” (sometime in the next 6 months?) for knee surgery, so we will need to replace her for the period of her surgery and rehabilitation, expected to be 2 – 3 months.

Presently, cleaning is performed on a Monday when the building is normally unused, although there may be some flexibility possible if this was required. Award rates (casual) will be paid, for 5 hours per week.

Please contact Graeme Hardy if you might be interested in this position.

Winter Meditation Series

All are invited to participate in as much or as little of the four week meditation series connecting with natural themes of fire, water, air & earth in September. The first three will be at Western Heights and the last will be a half day retreat at Narana Creations. There will be more information available about the retreat closer to the time.

5-5:45pm 5th, 12th, 19th Sept @ Western Heights

1-5pm 26th Sept @ Narana Creations, 410 Surfcoast Hwy, Grovedale.

Contacts: Rhonda Dingle (5222 3641) & Jen Stephens (5221 3453)



UnitingCare changes

The Standing Committee of the Synod at its June meeting approved a new strategic direction for the UnitingCare agency network, affirming the Church's ongoing role in the delivery of community services as an expression of God's mission in the world. This strategic direction reflects the Church's motivation to respond in compassion to human need. These changes have been initiated in order to continue to care for people in current and future contexts. The new strategic direction changes overall governance of community services provided within the UnitingCare Victoria and Tasmania network from the Commission for Mission board to a new single governance body ('agency board'). This new body will oversee delivery and support functions for Uniting Church community services in Victoria and Tasmania. All UnitingCare agencies have been informed of this strategic direction. A Project Control Group will be established to manage the changes needed to achieve the changes. Visit www.victas.uca.org.au/unitingcareupdate for more information.

Tennis Club News— Open Invitation

Sunday 4th October, the Tennis Club will hold a barbeque after church at **11.30am** (gold coin donation). Followed at **12.00pm** by the club presentations for the past season. Two senior and two junior teams will play in this year's grand finals. All welcome

Synod Archives is relocating

The synod's Victorian archives service will be relocating from Orrong Road, Elsternwick to Serrell Street, Malvern East later this year.

The relocation of the service is part of a wider redesign of the archives operation for the synod in Victoria.

A new archivist has recently been appointed. With the continued support of the volunteers, the archives service will open a number of days a week to process materials and handle research requests when relocated to the new facility in August or September.

The current archives site at Orrong Road, Elsternwick, was sold at auction on Friday 5 June. All net proceeds from the sale of the property will contribute to the upfront costs of the relocation and ongoing funding of the archive operations.

The archives service continues to operate as normal during this period of transition. The date for the relocation of the service and new operating hours will be settled in the coming weeks.

Go to <http://www.victas.uca.org.au/archives> for more information

All Saints Service 2015

This year's All Saints service to honour the memory of loved ones who have died during the past year, including those who were associated with our church, and those whose family is associated with us, will be held on **Sunday 1st November**.

If you wish to ensure that a loved one is remembered in this year's service please contact Audrey on 0435 064 088 or Jan at the office on 5229 2681 or by email: whuc@bigpond.com, by Sunday 11th October.

Vision Sisters Fundraiser!



Did you know...that every hour, 33 women still die from pregnancy or childbirth complications. In Uganda, almost half of all pregnant women give birth without the assistance of a skilled health worker, often in unclean conditions that threaten the lives of both mothers and babies. So...this term our playgroup is going to support the fundraising efforts of world vision and will be raising money to assist mums in Uganda!

Giving birth shouldn't be a matter of life or death

World Vision works around the world to improve maternal and child healthcare. In Uganda, we are training health workers and encouraging women to give birth in a health clinic. World Vision also partners with the Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia) to provide health clinics with clean birthing kits so that mothers and babies can avoid infection and survive childbirth.

What is a clean birthing kit?

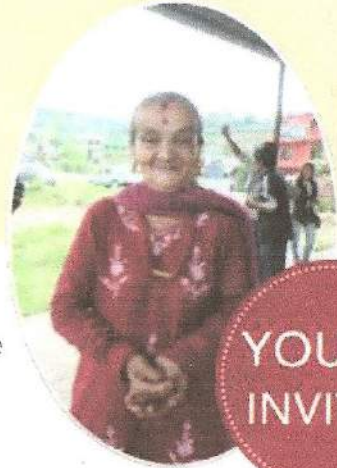
A clean birthing kit is so basic that it costs less than a cup of coffee. Yet it can help prevent infection and save lives. One birthing kit costs \$3! Each birthing kit contains six items needed to ensure a clean delivery:



Our playgroup's goal is to donate 200 birthing kits!

So...what can you do?

- * make a \$3 donation and receive a fridge magnet.
 - * take a five pack of magnets and spread the word about what we are doing and maybe some of your family and friends would like to support Ugandan mums too!
- See Karen for more info or to make a donation. Thanks! 😊



YOU'RE
INVITED

Friends of The Leprosy Mission invite you to an afternoon tea with Sheldon Rankin (CEO)

Nepal –aftermath and rebuild

Date: Sunday 6 September 2015

Time: 2.30pm

Place: Western Heights Uniting Church
31 Douglass St, Herne Hill, 3215

Donation: a collection will be taken during the afternoon

Enquiries: Barry Edwards T: 03 5241 7073

Sheldon will share the about unique role of TLM to bring aid following the earthquakes and how they are now rebuilding the lives of the vulnerable. All funds raised will help in the rebuilding of Nepal through the work of The Leprosy Mission Australia.

If you would like to make a donation but are not able to attend please use the enclosed form. **Thank you!**

TLM merchandise will be available to purchase.

All welcome

Pas†oral Care

Pastoral Care is a term closely linked with Christianity. What is it and how is it provided here at Western Heights?

First written about by Pope Gregory I around the year 590AD, in a treatise on the responsibilities of the clergy, you could ask 10 people what it means and receive 10 different answers.

Originally a term relating to the ministry of care and counselling provided within and by the Christian Churches it is also more broadly seen today as the practice of looking after the personal and social well-being of people within an organisation whether religious or not. Such care includes a wide variety of issues including health, social and moral education, behaviour management and emotional support.

Traditionally, a distinctive feature of the Uniting Church has been the proactive provision of pastoral care of its members. It is a phrase regularly used at Western Heights but do we all have the same understanding of what it means?

At last November's Pastoral Partners' training session, open to all within the congregation, the following draft definition of pastoral care was formulated:

Jesus calls all of us to care for others.

Pastoral Care is a ministry of "presence", based on our faith and prayer, providing support to those in need.

Pastoral Care is a journey shared, with each other and God.

What was seen in 590AD as the responsibility of the clergy is understood in 2015 at Western Heights as the responsibility of **all** within the congregation. It is provided in a variety of ways, formal and ad hoc, proactive and reactive. The depth to which that care goes tends to be relative to the training of the 'provider'. In summary care is currently provided by:

The Ministry Team of Isabel, Audrey & Karen

Pastoral Partners – people trained in the provision of pastoral care. Each has a specific responsibility for a number of specific people in their "cluster"

Small Groups – Each member of the group is responsible for the care of the others within the group. Each group creates its own plan for the provision of care for each other.

Buddies – People who have been noted as providing an ad hoc means of maintaining a link between individuals and the congregation. A person's Buddy was often their Pastoral Partner before "retiring".

The various groups within the congregation such as Friendship Group, Friends from Vines, Messy Church, Contemplative Group, retirees Outings, Midweek communion, Mission outreach, etc

Individuals There are many quiet achievers providing supportive friendship to others within the congregation. Any time you think of another, pray for another, connect with another particularly with an attentive ear, you are providing pastoral care

As we seek to be a church that "cares for and responds to community and/or individual needs" we need to ask ourselves what can be celebrated about how we care for each other and ask what could we do better enabling us to develop a new approach to pastoral care that is more diverse and intentionally engages members/groups in this ministry.

Thoughts? Comments? Contact Audrey on 0435 064 088 05 or pastoral.carer@gmail.com.

2015 Advent Festival

Newman College November 28-29, 2015

If you have ever imagined yourself in the cloisters of a medieval monastery—surrounded by the peaceful sounds of Gregorian chant, splendid architecture, and beautiful manuscripts—then the Advent Festival will open this world to you. The festival offers the opportunity to side step the Christmas rush and pause in Melbourne's culturally rich oasis of Newman College.

Gary Ekkel, Artistic Director

Pamphlets and booking forms are available from the information table.

Messy Church

At the August Messy Church, we explored the topic of 'Gentleness'. All the activities were based around this theme and included decorating egg friends, hand massages, water colour paintings, baby bathing, bubbles, feathers and skewers through balloons.

A big thank-you to everyone who came and to those who helped out!



KFG Bowling Night

Seventeen bowlers had fun bowling at The Geelong Bowling Lanes on August 14th. There were lots of spares, strikes and no gutters.

Congratulations to Isaac Morgan, who was the overall winner of the night with the fantastic score of 122.



*Write Your Own Icon
praying with a paint brush*

Paint an icon in the tradition of Eastern Orthodox Churches under instruction from an experienced iconographer. No previous painting or drawing experience required.

15 – 19 February 2016, 9.00 to 5.00

Centre for Theology and Ministry, 29 College Cres, Parkville

Inquiries: Peter Blackwood – pdblackwood47@gmail.com

OR 9434 4742

More information: writeyourownicon.wordpress.com



Contact Details

Leadership Team:

Minister:	Rev. Isabel Greenall	minister@whuc.com.au	5250 5930
	Isabel's day off is Monday so please refrain from contacting her on this day.		0419 602006
Church Administrator:	John Matthews	dotjohn1b@gmail.com	5278 9491
Children's Ministry Co-ordinator:	Karen Morgan	karen.morgan1968@hotmail.com	5276 1042
Pastoral Care Contact:	Audrey Kateena	Pastoral.Carer@gmail.com	0435 064 088
Church Council Chair:	Rodger Marsden	eagles@pipeline.com.au	0419 717 774
Property Co-ordinator	Graeme Hardy	graeme.c.hardy@gmail.com	0408 630 391

Communications

Administrator: Jan Grigg 5229 5889

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



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

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.

Aluminium Foil

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

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**