



Western Heights Uniting Church

31 Douglass Street, Herne Hill, 3218.
(03) 5229 2681
Email: office@whuc.com.au
Website: www.whuc.com.au
ABN: 50 871 893 057



Loving God: Growing Together, Partnering Community, Sharing Faith

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.

June at a Glance

Sunday 4th	8.45am	No early service
	10.15am	Worship—please wear red for Pentecost
Wednesday 7th	1.30pm	Mission Outreach
Friday 9th	12.30pm	WHISH
	7.00pm	KFG—Board Games
Sunday 11th	10.00am	Worship
Sunday 18th	10.00am	Worship
Tuesday 20th	6.30pm	Tuesday Friendship
Wednesday 21st	7.00pm	Church Council Meeting
Sunday 25th	10.00am	Café Church—UCA 40th birthday
	4.00pm	Messy Church

June Preaching Plan

Western Heights Services:

Sunday 4th	8.45am	No early service	
	10.15am	Rev. Isabel Greenall	Pentecost—please wear red
Sunday 11th	10.00am	Karen Morgan & Joanna Hayman	
Sunday 18th	10.00am	Rev. Isabel Greenall	All Together & Communion
Sunday 25th	10.00am	Rev. Isabel Greenall	Café Church—UCA 40th birthday
	4.00pm	Messy Church	

Other Services:

Sunday 4th	Michele Hardy	Rokewood
Thursday 8th	Audrey Kateena	2.00pm Nangatta, 3.30pm Murray
Sunday 11th	Michele Hardy	Birregurra / Warrion
Sunday 18th	Michele Hardy	Cressy
Tuesday 27th	Audrey Kateena	mecwacare Elstof House (3.00pm)

Western Heights Mission Outreach 2017

Wednesday 7th June, 2017

1.30pm Horizons Room

‘Patchworking with Berenice’

All welcome

July Meeting

Wednesday 5th July, 2017

Fun with Pat Brooks

1.30pm Horizons Room

Dorothy Matthews

5278 9491

KFG (Kids Friendship Group)

Board Games

Friday 9th June, 2017

7pm—8.30pm

Years 3—7

\$3.00

RSVP to Karen by
Wednesday 7th June, 2017

Karen.morgan1968@hotmail.com or 0404435261

or office@whuc.com.au

Tuesday Friendship

Tuesday 20th June, 2017

“Bottom Drawer” Treasures

6.30pm Shared Meal

All Ladies Welcome

Joan Murphy 5241 5683

Friendship Club

Members have voted not to hold any meetings for **June, July and August** as the weather is just too cold.



**Messy Church @
WHUC**

Sunday 25th June 4pm

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

Early Service Update

Thanks to everyone who came along to the May early service and contributed to the discussion. All of the feedback from the conversations is being collated by the Worship & Music Ministry team. When this is complete, the WMMT will feed the info back to the early service community, meet with the Pastoral Care Ministry Team, the co-ordinators of the Senior Retirees Outing and Church Council to consider options for the way forward. Stay tuned.

There will be no early service in June as we celebrate Pentecost as a single worshipping community and remember the formation of the Uniting Church 40 years ago.

Annual Leave

Isabel will be taking leave from **Mon 5th June** and will be back on deck **Wed 14th June**.

Pool Room Fun!

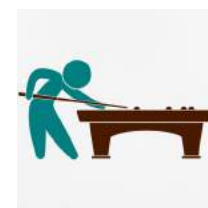
Did you know?

It's all been happening in the The Pool Room!

There has been a flurry of sorting, recycling, repurposing, moving things out and moving other things in!

The Pool Room is NOW ready for intergenerational action!

So...



at morning tea time each

Sunday you are invited to join in the all age fun: hit a table tennis ball, shoot some pool, play table soccer, put some pieces in a jigsaw, build Legos or...

Vacancy at WHUC—Culture of Safety Contact Person

If any member of the congregation – child or adult – has concerns about the safety of children in our congregation, particularly in relation to child sexual abuse, or the welfare of vulnerable adults, it is important that you report this in confidence so that support can be provided. For this reason WHUC requires a **CULTURE OF SAFETY CONTACT PERSON**. This person will be part of a team of people on the **Safe Church Task Group** but will be the person to whom concerns are reported in confidence. If a member of the congregation, with a valid Working With Children Check, is interested in filling this important role at Western Heights, please see Velma Oliver for further details. OR, if you would like to serve on the Safe Church Task Group, please see Velma or Gwyn. Thank you.

UCA is turning 40!

In 1977, three Australian churches came together as one. The Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational churches have been the Uniting Church in Australia ever since. The Uniting Church in Australia is getting ready to celebrate its 40th anniversary, remembering where we have come from and how far we can go together. At our inauguration service on Wednesday 22 June 1977 the first President Rev. Dr Davis McCaughey, the primary author of our Basis of Union, remarked that church union ‘meant absolutely nothing, unless it drives us back to the fundamental questions – where do you come from, where are you going, and who are you?’ “Are you and I prepared to find our bearings afresh?” asked McCaughey, as he urged the 1977 faithful on a new pilgrimage, to engage the world through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the outpouring of his spirit.

We are the people of God on the Way, a diverse group of many cultures and understandings of faith that will bring us into deeper unity with others.

LOGO

The 40th anniversary logo can be viewed as whose seeds are spread on the wind. The all the varied parts of the Uniting Church remind us of our covenant with First “All of this is us”, encompasses past, present formed us as we began, all that has shaped all that we hope for as we look to the future.



a starburst, fireworks or a dandelion head image brings to mind celebration, diversity and The colours intentionally connect to those that Peoples, the red earth and ochre. The tagline, and future – all that brought us together and us has involved us over the past 40 years, and

PRAYER

As a part of the remembering, celebrating and looking to the future, members of the UCA are invited to 40 days of prayer leading up to the 22nd of June. You can join an email list to receive the prayers <https://assembly.uca.org.au/component/k2/item/2609-forty-years-forty-days-forty-hours>

OUR PLANS

We at Western Heights have some local plans to celebrate the 40 years. Already, Jan Taylor has been collecting stories from you about your experiences of Union which will be shared during the month of June. As well as this our Sunday morning worship will follow themes directly related to who we are as the Uniting Church.

4th June – Pentecost – celebrating the birth of the church from the Book of Acts and the birth of the Uniting Church back in 1977. What are the hallmarks of the UCA?

11th June – Whose voice is important in the UCA?

18th June – Sexuality & marriage equality in the UCA

25th June – Moving into the future. This will be café church style, held in The Horizons Room. We need a big birthday cake to be made for this day. If you would like to do this or help do this please speak with Jan Taylor.

The Big Event Update

Western Heights in conjunction with The Join The Dots Project is hosting a Welcome Dinner on Saturday 22nd July between 12 midday—2.30pm. The aim of Welcome Dinners are to connect newly arrived people and local people to come together to share a meal. This is an informal event for refugees, migrants and international students from all across the world to come together over a shared meal to make space for conversation, connections, and learning about different cultures.

This is an activity of The Big Event group in line with our goal of partnering community.

The aim of “Welcome Dinners” Community Lunch is to connect equal numbers of new arrivals with local people who come together to share a meal. Newly arrived people may include refugees, migrants or international students. Children are very welcome and we will have some games to play. Nibbles, drinks, tea & coffee will be provided.

What You Need To Do

We require your passion, your enthusiasm and support by registering for this event on-line, through www.jointhedots.org (Welcome Dinner Project—Western Heights Community Dinner) and partnering with Diversitat. Once registered your booking will be confirmed, and on the day all you need to do is bring a dish of food to share (perhaps a traditional family favourite), a smile and an open loving heart. This event is open to any Community member and every person needs to be registered. Numbers are limited, so please register as early as possible. If you have difficulty in registering on-line, or any queries contact Bruce or Heather Rookes, Joan or David Walker, Jenny Stephens. Thank You.

Ration Challenge

Hey everyone,

I'm taking up the Act for Peace Ration Challenge and wonder: would you consider joining me? The Challenge truly is a challenge and involves only eating the same amount of rations that a Syrian refugee gets in a camp in Jordan for a week. 18-25th June are the dates.

You can check out the details of the Challenge at <https://actforpeace.rationchallenge.org.au/#challenge>

For me, there are four main reasons why I am taking up the Challenge.

1. Following the ways of Jesus in my life prompts me and commits me to offer care for others and to stand up against injustice.
2. Bearing the cost of giving up my usual eating habits for a week, I will feel in my body and mind just a little of what it might be like to be a hungry Syrian refugee and grow further in my understanding and compassion.
3. The money raised from people offering sponsorship will go to helping refugees.

The Challenge gives me opportunity to raise awareness and have conversations with people about the plight of refugees and contribute to bringing about much needed change in our national approach to refugees and asylum seekers.

So, will you join me? Either in taking up the Challenge or through sponsorship will you join me? You can sponsor me at the following link: <http://www2.actforpeace.org.au/e/318241/fundraisers-isabelgreenall/5tr8/4403699>

In taking up the Challenge, I am thinking that we would meet sometime the week before and then again once or twice during the week of the Challenge to share the experience and grow together. Will you join me? You can sign up directly on the website. Feel free to invite others to join us.

Show refugees you are with them, not against them!

Thank you so much for your support!

Isabel Greenall

Summary of Church Council Minutes of meeting held on 19 April 2017

The formal minutes of this meeting still need to be approved at the next CC meeting on
17 May, 2017.

CC Purpose Statement

“Church Council shall give priority in its life to building and supporting the church community in Loving God, Growing Together, Partnering Community and Sharing Faith. We will seek to sustain the church community and each other in hope and realise a fuller participation in Christ’s mission in the world through fostering a culture of empathy, purpose, conversation and learning.”

1. Rodger Marsden took devotions. It was based on readings from 2 Peter, where there are many e.g.'s of 'Growing Together' and growing in faith. It is important for us to grow upwards first before we can grow outwards.
 2. CC OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2017: Rodger Marsden - Chair; Gwyn Edwards - Vice-Chair; Velma Oliver - Secretary; Peter Morgan - Ass. Secretary; Geoff Coots - Acting Treasurer; Graeme Hardy - Ass. Treasurer.
 3. As a trial for the rest of 2017, and as of 17 May, 2017, CC will meet every month, on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. MT's are to meet at a time suited to each team. MT Reports are required for CC meetings in Feb., April, June, August, October and December.
 4. 60 members of the congregation who require a WWCC because of the role/s that they fulfil at WHUC now have a valid WWCC and have been entered on the secure Synod database. CC commends the congregation for their cooperation in this matter. Rodger, Isabel, Nola and Velma will be attending the Safe Child Project - Church Safe Training seminar at Wesley on Sat. 6 May from 10:30 to 1:00. All holders of WWCC's are encouraged to attend.
 5. Chris Macha from Presbytery addressed CC on the work that is being done by UCA Fresh Expressions of Church at Armstrong Creek. WHUC's \$2500 donation will be used towards renting a 'community house'.
 6. Jenny Stephens has been added to the Confirmed Members Roll.
 7. CC has agreed to make funds available for the purchase of equipment for the Pool Room. Members of the Congregation are respectfully encouraged to donate money to this cause. Please check with Karen.
 8. Letters in response to resignations of members of the congregation have been written and mailed.
- Velma Oliver, CC Secretary.



2017: a spiritual survival guide #3

Yummy Money - surviving consumerism

A conversation with Jonathan Cornford about the hard teachings of Jesus on money. What spiritual power does money have in our lives? What challenge does the way of Christian Discipleship put to those who live in a wealthy capitalist society?

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**GISBORNE BRANCH OF OXFAM
IN CONJUNCTION WITH
ADULT FELLOWSHIP OF THE
GISBORNE UNITING CHURCH**

Invite you to a

FORUM

Entitled

‘THOSE WHO HAVE LESS’

at the Gisborne Uniting Church,
23 Brantome Street, Gisborne.

on MONDAY, JUNE 19TH AT 1.30 P.M.

Panel of speakers will include:

Jan McColl, speaking about Oceania, East Timor;
and

Pauline Brown from the Macedon Rural Australians for Refugees.

Our speakers will relate their first hand experiences of helping
‘those who have less’.

Discussion to follow.

Afternoon Tea

Enquiries: 5428 8574



ALL WELCOME!



St Alban's Anglican Church, Hamlyn Heights invites you to...

PENTECOST TODAY!



Saturday June 3, 2017

Program includes 2 sessions...

9.30-4.00pm Day session

7.00-9.00pm Evening session

Lunch and refreshments provided.

RSVP Brad Cox

brad@familychurch.org.au

by Monday May 29

There is No Cost to attend but a Love Offering will be received to support the work of SOMA and New Wine.

"A Visiting Team from SOMA and NEW WINE led by Bishop Ian Lambert (Anglican Bishop for the Australian Defence Force) will lead the day helping us grow in the *knowledge* and *experience* of the Holy Spirit. We are looking forward to a very fruitful and engaging weekend."

Rev. Jon Taylor - St Alban's, Hamlyn Heights.

NewWine
Local churches changing nations

NewWine
Local churches changing nations



SYNOD MEETING 2017

Join together for opening worship on

Friday, 8 September 2017 at 7.30pm,

St Michael's Church, 120 Collins St, CBD.

(There will be Auslan interpreting at the service.)

Diarise the date **9 - 13 September 2017** at
Box Hill Town Hall, 1022 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill.

Pray for the Meeting: for representatives from your presbytery, for our leaders and all members of Synod as they seek wisdom and discernment in their discussions, deliberations and decision making.

We've launched the Synod 2017 mobile app for information and regular updates and news about the meeting.

To download the app visit
<https://crowd.cc/s/7ASM>



OR



Entertainment Book

The 2017/2018 Entertainment Book has been released. These books make ideal gifts.

Still just \$60 giving you over \$20,000 worth of offers.

Offers of up to 50% off and 2 for 1 offers, from best restaurants, hotels, activities, travel and more.

WHUC gets 20% of sales for each book.

See Helen Sleep



JOAN STOTT UCAF BURSARY

Are you:

- committed to or already studying for leadership or theology within the ethos of the Uniting Church
- under 35 years of age

Could you use funds to:

- pay fees to your "Place of Study"
- pay for additional courses or resources

Apply now for a Joan Stott Uniting Church Adult Fellowship (UCAF) Bursary for study in 2018

Contact:

David Wang for more information and an application form E: david.wang@victas.uca.org.au

Applications closing date is Wednesday 31st May

Uniting Leaders 2017— Registrations open

The Uniting Leaders 2017, "Growing leaders to grow the church" conference, will take place in Adelaide from 22-24 August. The three-day conference features keynote speakers Nancy Beach and Mark Conner along with interactive workshops and networking opportunities. There are travel subsidies available for rural congregations. Find out more and register here or email info@unitingleaders.org.au

UCA Working With Children Checks

All UCA congregations are required by law to ensure that the following members of the congregation have current Working With Children Checks (WWCC).

These include and is not limited to: Ministers, Lay Ministry Workers, Lay Preachers, Church Councillors, Worship Leaders, Music Leaders, Organists, Pianists, anyone commissioned by the Church Council to perform a leadership role, Bible Study Leaders, volunteers at Messy Church, those in leadership at Congregational Meetings. Volunteers at the Western Heights Secondary College Breakfast Program are also included.

Copies of the UCA letter from the General Secretary are available to all members of our congregation who are affected by this requirement. It is important that, if you are affected by this requirement, you get a WWCC or update your details immediately. Attached to this letter is a step-by-step procedure to guide those:

- (a) needing to make application for a WWCC for the first time, and
- (b) members of the congregation who are holders of current WWCC's and need to update their details.

Copies of the letter and the attached step-by-step guide are available from Velma Oliver.

The WWCC Regulations require Cardholders to update their details on the Dept. of Justice website. All locations where the person volunteers or is employed need to be recorded. Please update your details at <http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/cardholders/update+your+details/index.html>. You must notify the Department of Justice and Regulation within 21 days of any changes to your personal, contact and organisation's details.

A very special thank-you to all our members who have already applied for and received a valid WWCC. These have now been entered onto the secure Synod database. Again, thank you. Velma Oliver

Contact Details

Leadership Team:

Minister: Rev. Isabel Greenall **minister@whuc.com.au** 0419 602 006
Isabel's day off is **Monday** so please refrain from contacting her on this day.

Church Administrator:

Children & Families Co-ordinator: Karen Morgan **karen.morgan1968@hotmail.com** 5276 1042

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: 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 aluminium cans and foil pie plates. 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**