



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.

October at a Glance

Sunday 1st	8.45am	Traditional Worship
	10.15am	Worship
	Daylight Savings Starts	
Tuesday 3rd	7.00pm	Tuesday Night Meditation
Wednesday 4th	1.30pm,	Mission Outreach
Sunday 8th	10.00am	Worship
	3.00pm	Big Gathering for Small Groups
Tuesday 10th	7.00pm	Tuesday Night Meditation
Friday 13th	12.30pm	WHISH
	7.00pm	KFG—Old Fashion Games
Sunday 15th	10.00am	Worship
Tuesday 17th	7.00pm	Tuesday Night Meditation
	6.30pm	Tuesday Friendship
Wednesday 18th	7.00pm	Church Council Meeting
Sunday 22nd	10.00am	Worship
	4.00pm	Messy Church
Tuesday 24th	7.00pm	Tuesday Night Meditation
Saturday 28th	7.30pm	Friendship Group
Sunday 29th	10.00am	Worship
Tuesday 31st	7.00pm	Tuesday Night Meditation



WESTERN HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH

October 2017 Newsletter

October Preaching Plan

Western Heights Services:

Sunday 1st	8.45am Rev. Isabel Greenall	
	10.15am Rev. Isabel Greenall	
Sunday 8th	10.00am Rev. Isabel Greenall	Early Service discussion
Sunday 15th	10.00am Rev. Isabel Greenall	All Together & Communion
Sunday 22nd	10.00am Ekkel Family	Taize style
	4.00pm Messy Church	
Sunday 29th	10.00am Rev. Peter Greenwood	

Other Services:

Sunday 1st	Rev. Jan Taylor	St. David's
Sunday 8th	Michele Hardy	St Albans-St Andrews
	Rev. Isabel Greenall	McKellar Centre
Tuesday 24th	Audrey Kateena	mecwacare Elstoft House (3.00pm)

Western Heights Mission Outreach 2017

Wednesday 27th September

Invitation to Winchelsea Uniting Church Lunch
12 noon—\$12

Contact

Dorothy Matthews

5278 9491

Wednesday 4th October, 2017

“With Joan Murphy”

Afternoon Tea Eve Wood

Big Gathering for Small Groups

An invitation is extended to all members of Small Groups to attend an afternoon of sharing with some new ideas on studies related to our everyday life of faith.

Sunday 8th October 2017 3pm – 4.30pm

Please bring a small plate of food to share for afternoon tea.

We also invite any members of the congregation who would like to hear and learn about Small Groups.

We look forward to seeing **you** there.

Isabel Greenall, Roger Dingle, Janet Pavlakis.

KFG (Kids Friendship Group)

Old Fashion Games

Friday 13th October, 2017

7pm—8.30pm

All invited to come

RSVP to Karen by
Wednesday 11th October, 2017

Karen.morgan1968@hotmail.com or 0404435261
or office@whuc.com.au

Tuesday Friendship

Tuesday 17th October

Speaker: Helen Sleep on her recent trip to Japan

Please bring a plate to share

Tuesday 28th November (4th Tuesday)

“Christmas Celebration”

All Ladies Welcome

Staff Leave

23/9 – 7/10 Karen Morgan is taking annual leave

24/10 – 3/12 Isabel Greenall is taking long service leave and annual leave

Friendship Club

Saturday, 28th October, 2017,

at 7.30pm in the Horizon’s Room.

Looking forward to seeing you .



Messy Church @
WHUC

Sunday 22nd October 4pm

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

All Saints Service 2017

Our annual All Saints Service, to honour the memory of loved ones who have died during the past year: those who were associated with our church, and those whose family is associated with us, will be held on **Sunday 5th 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: pastoral.carer@gmail.com, by **Sunday 29th October**.

Planned Giving Report to 31st August 2017

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actually Received</u>
Envelopes	44,330	42,170
Direct Debits	<u>51,270</u>	<u>49,480</u>
Sub-total	95,600	91,650
Open Plate	<u>6,640</u>	<u>5,380</u>
Total Offerings	<u>102,240</u>	<u>97,030</u>

Financial Situation to 31st August 2017

Total Income	130,945
Total Expenses	146,929
Operating <u>Deficit</u>	<u>- 15,984</u>

Early Service Review Summary

Action 5a from the 2nd Year of the 3 Year plan: consult midweek community and early service community about needs for traditional worship (facilitated by the Worship & Music Ministry Team).

Relevant Goals: We will be a Church that

- Is welcoming, warm and inclusive
- Provides a variety of worship styles
- Cares for and responds to community and/or individual needs

Current Context: The number of people attending the early service has continued to decrease (average attendance 13). This has been due to: illness, people moving in to aged care, death, inability to come so early. Two small groups raised concerns about the ongoing viability of the early service and the Church Council received a letter about this also.

Key Questions:

1. Is there a need for worship in a traditional style at Western Heights?
2. How best might this need be met?

Consultation Process

On 7th May, the early service congregation reviewed the purpose of the service and discussed its ongoing viability through the following questions: Why do you attend the early service? What are the main issues regarding the early service? Is there a need for worship that is more traditional in style from a) members at WH? b) people in the wider community? What suggestions do you have to meet the needs? Responses were collated and discussed by the Worship & Music Ministry Team (WMMT). Further feedback and suggested ways forward were sought from the Pastoral Care Ministry Team and Co-ordinators of Senior Retiree Outings. The WMMT presented four possibilities to Church Council. The Church Council asked that three be tested with the congregation. The three possibilities will be considered by the congregation during worship on **8th Oct** and for those unable to attend that Sunday, after worship on **15th Oct**. Feedback will be collated by the WMMT and a recommendation given to Church Council for decision on **18th Oct**.

Key Points

- Majority attend early service to sing hymns, some attend because it is a smaller group of people.
- For many the time is too early, for a few it is because it is early that they attend.
- Main Issues: time too early, low attendance, few people resources available to make it happen.
- Mixed response re perceived need for traditional worship.
- Music & familiar words are important for people with dementia.
- Monthly midweek service was concluded in 2016 as it wasn't needed anymore.
- Worship services for residents of aged care facilities need to be during the week to have the best support from the facility.
- Part of being an intergenerational church is experiencing and appreciating what is valued by each generation.
- Hymns are valuable in that they carry the story of the church and it's varied theologies.

Possibilities (in no particular order)

1. Bring the early and 10:15am service together, with pre-service singing of hymns beginning at 10am on the 1st Sunday of the month for 15minutes.
2. Bring the early and 10:15am service together at 10am, with inclusion of generally two hymns within the service.
3. Bring the early and 10:15am service together at 10am, with the designation of one service each month to be all hymns.



All welcome to a 'Breakfast' at Grovedale Uniting Church 'With Dan McAloon' Relationship Manager 'Frontier Services'



'Dan' is part of the Frontier Services Development Team. They focus on mission services to sparse populations over vast distances across Australia's outback that are subject to drought, fire and flood and lack basic amenities.

When: 14th October 8am
Where: Cnr Reserve Rd and Torquay Rd Grovedale
Cost: \$10. A Retiring Offering goes to Frontier Services
RSVP: Rev. Iain Nixon: PH 52433400



Help Us Celebrate
175 Years of Worship
 At Wesley Uniting Church
 100 Yarra Street Geelong



October 22nd 2017

All Welcome

10am with Luncheon to follow

RSVP for lunch by 30/09/17

Phone 5229 8866

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

Positions Vacant Board

It takes a community of people to be a healthy church! In the Horizons Room there is a positions vacant board listing a variety of roles/tasks in our church community that are currently vacant. Some are quick and easy, some take a little more time, some require a bit of thought. There is something there for everybody whatever the age! Have a look and see what you might be able to do. Or, have a look and think about others you know in the church who might be suitable for particular roles and ask them if they'd consider taking up the challenge. People have already taken up the opportunity to contribute in new ways. Thanks to Lynda for looking after the stamps and aluminium foil drop-offs, thanks to Maralann for sorting out the photo board. It is being updated regularly so please check for changes. If you think that an ad is missing from the board or are aware of a position being filled, do let Isabel know.

Postal Survey on Marriage Equality

Following the news that the postal survey on Marriage Equality will now proceed, we want to confirm our unwavering support for all who participate in the life of the Western Heights Uniting Church community. Particularly if aspects of the debate are causing you distress, you are encouraged to contact your small group, pastoral partner/buddy or one of us via phone, email or private message.

Yours in Christ, Isabel, Karen & Audrey.

Secretary of Finance Committee

Responsible for taking the minutes at Finance Committee meetings and making reports available to Church Council on a bi-monthly basis. Meetings are scheduled as needed.

Contact: Geoff Coots 5278 3135

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 Karen Morgan.

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. Karen Morgan

\$5,000
cash prize

**RELIGIOUS
SHORT
FILM
PRIZE**

Open to all faiths and types of film
Entries close 5pm 30 April 2018
For more information or to submit a
film go to: www.creativitypillar.com.au

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR
CHRISTIANITY
AND CULTURE



bethel
centre
COUNSELLING, EDUCATION, CARE



Bethel Centre's services are available to those in the Uniting Church (UCA) Synod of Vic/Tas who have experienced trauma, abuse or misuse of power emotionally, physically, sexually within the church.

Our services are free and are for people who are seeking to heal and resolve the hurt and/or explore their spirituality. They include:

- Professional counselling and support by telephone, Skype or in person
- Educational workshops to small groups and personally tailored training to congregations
- Professional consultation, information and advice to ministers, congregations and staff
- Library and resource materials
- Collaboration with faith communities and secular services to support the healing process

To make an appointment to see one of our counsellors, please contact us on 03 9859 8700 or email support@bethelcentre.com.au

Dying with Dignity consultation

The Justice and International Mission unit is calling on church members to share their views on voluntary assisted dying as the Victorian government prepares to introduce a Dying with Dignity Bill into parliament. The JIM unit has released [a discussion paper](#) to inform and guide the synod's conversation. It can be found at

https://www.victas.uca.org.au/getinvolved/Social-Justice/Documents/Assisted%20Dying%20Paper_WEB.pdf

Church members are encouraged to make their submissions to the JIM unit before Friday 20 October 2017.

Submissions can be sent to: End of Life Options Submission, c/- Justice and International Mission Unit Uniting Church Synod Centre, 130 Little Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 or email: jim@victas.uca.org.au The JIM unit welcomes the chance to consult with presbyteries, congregations and small groups to hear people's views on the issues raised by the paper. To arrange a meeting, call (03) 9251 5271 or email jim@victas.uca.org.au

The Fourth International Conference on Receptive Ecumenism

Leaning into the Spirit: discernment, decision-making and reception

Receptive Ecumenism is a fresh ecumenical methodology emphasising receptivity, learning, and listening. It is about learning from other Christians in order to learn about ourselves. It is a process of conversion, and openness to the Holy Spirit. Receptive Ecumenism is summed up in the following quote from the Third International Conference programme notes: *The essential principle is that the primary ecumenical responsibility is to ask not "What do the other traditions first need to learn from us?" but "What do we need to learn from them?" The assumption is that if all were asking this question seriously and acting upon it then all would be moving in ways that would both deepen our authentic respective identities and draw us into more intimate relationship.* Keynote Speakers: Professor Paul Murray (Durham, UK), Professor Michael Welker (Heidelberg, Germany)

Visit <https://arts-ed.csu.edu.au/centres/accp/projects/2017-conference-receptive-ecumenism/conference> for Registrations and conference details. For further information contact Rev'd Dr Ray Williamson - raywilliamson@csu.edu.

When: Monday 6 – Thursday 9 November 2017
Where: University House, Australian National University, Canberra
Registration: closes on 27 October 2017

Marriage Postal Survey

This is an excerpt from a recent letter from the UCA President, Stuart McMillan.

The “Uniting Church is conducting its own longstanding independent discernment on marriage and we will not be recommending any position to UCA members in the Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey. I would however take this opportunity to again remind members of the need for respectful conversations on the issue of same-gender marriage.

As the public debate intensifies, we must redouble our efforts to choose our words carefully, including when we speak of our sisters and brothers in Christ.

For those who feel the need to share their views, pointed criticism of other Christians lacks grace and falls short of our stated ecumenical values.

In Paragraph 2 of the Basis of Union we state our belief that Christians in Australia are called to bear witness to a unity of faith and life in Christ which transcends cultural and economic, national and racial boundaries. We may disagree with each other on any number of issues as Christians, but as Paul said in Romans 12:5 “We belong to one another”. So please speak with love.

The Uniting Church’s official definition of marriage is between a man and a woman. Also we are committed to being an inclusive Church that embraces LGBTIQ people as full members and to culturally appropriate discussion about relationships and marriage across our diversity.

Public speculation on how the Uniting Church might respond to a change in the Marriage Act is unhelpful, and distracts focus on our own discernment.

Under the Marriage Act, ministers of religion cannot legally solemnise a marriage without an approved liturgy.

Whatever the outcome of the postal survey and any subsequent changes to the Act, our Church’s position on marriage will remain the same until such a time as our national Council, the Assembly, decides otherwise and approves an appropriate liturgy. This is not a matter in which individual Uniting Church congregations can act unilaterally.

I would like to acknowledge that this national conversation is difficult and painful for many. If in the course of the public debate you experience sadness or distress and you need help, please seek support.”

Drivers for Senior Retirees Outings

Once every couple of months, pick up a couple of senior retirees and take them to participate in the Senior Retirees Outing. Usually takes about 3 hours on a weekday afternoon. Contact: Graeme & Michele Hardy 5278 8258

Playgroup Helpers

Come along and help out at one of our playgroups: Tues/Fri 9:30-11:30am. Involves engaging with parents/carers and small children. Contact: Karen Morgan 0404 435 261

Vegetable Gardener

Our little veggie patch near the brick hall needs some love. Interested in sorting it out, keeping an eye on it, getting others involved in it? Contact: Bruce Rookes 5291 3322

Breakfast Program Volunteer

Help prepare and serve toasties for students at Western Heights Secondary College approx once per month, 7:30am - 9.00am Wednesday mornings during term time. Contact: Michele Hardy 5278 8258

Wheelers for McKellar Centre

People to accompany residents in wheel chairs from aged care and rehabilitation to service of worship at McKellar Chapel every 2nd Sunday, 1:45-3pm. Wheelers are rostered so do not need to be available for every service. Contact: Colin Rookes 5229 6686

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

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.



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

Ring Pulls from Cans

You can collect your ring pulls from cans to be used for prosthetics. If you would like to help Rings for Limbs you can send your ring pulls to Mark Jewell, PO Box 1128, Horsham, Vic, 3402

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**