ESTERN HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH

Western Heights Uniting Church

31 Douglass Street, Herne Hill, 3218. (03) 5229 2681

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Loving God: Growing Together, Partnering Community, Sharing Faith

September 2018 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.

September at a Glance

Sunday 2nd	10.00am	Café Church in Horizons Room	
Wednesday 5th	1.30pm	Mission Outreach	
Sunday 9th 10.00am		Worship—Rev. Isabel Greenall	
		Michele Hardy—St. Albans—St. Andrews	
Tuesday 11th	7.00pm	Tuesday Meditation	
Friday 14th	7.00pm	KFG—Community Helping Night	
Sunday 16th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Isabel Greenall	
		Communion & All Together	
Tuesday 18th	6.30pm	Tuesday Friendship	
Wednesday 19th 7.00pm		Church Council Meeting	
Saturday 22nd	5.00pm	Friendship Club	
Sunday 23rd	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Isabel Greenall	
	4.00pm	Messy Church	
Tuesday 25th	7.00pm	Tuesday Meditation	
Sunday 30th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Isabel Greenall	

Café Church

On Father's Day (**2nd Sept**) we are going to have café church in the Horizons Room. It will include all sorts of yummy things that go in a toaster and of course a selection of spreads and cuppas. If you would like to contribute something, there is a list of eats needed on the back table in the worship space.

Western Heights Mission Outreach 2018

Wednesday 5th September 2018

At 1.30pm

Speaker: Alexandra Adams

Midwife at Geelong University Hospital

Come and hear Alexandra's story—"The miracle of new life" Midwifery today.

All ladies welcome

Afternoon tea

Contact

Dorothy Matthews

5278 9491

KFG (Kids Friendship Group)

Community Helping Night

Friday 14th September, 2018

7pm—8.30pm

All year 3 to 9 are invited to come

RSVP to Karen by Wednesday 12th September, 2018

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

WHUC Friendship Club

A "warm" welcome back to all of our members after the cold months.

Please note that we will be meeting at **5.00 pm** on **Saturday, 22nd September, 2018**, in the Horizon's Room where we will enjoy our tea together.

MENU: Three Quiches kindly provided by Berenice Robertson.

Would members please bring either a Salad or a Sweet to share.

AGENDA: A very enjoyable talk will be given by Geoff & Jenice Coots about their recent trip to New Zealand.



Messy Church @ WHUC

Sunday 23rd September 4

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

Tuesday Friendship

Tuesday 18th September, 2018 At 6.30pm in the Horizons Room

Hosts: Linda & Rhonda

"Retro Kitchen"

Bring older favourite food or recipe & any Retro kitchen equipment.

All ladies welcome

Joan Murphy

Phone 0438 722 035 / 5241 5683

Holiday Tennis Program

The tennis club is holding the next school holiday tennis program in the second week of the school holiday's, those dates being, Monday the 1st October, Wednesday the 3rd, and Friday the 5th 9.30 till 11.30 am. The Friday Session will be followed by a B.B.Q. for the participants and their families.

If anyone could help with a salad or fruit platter or slice, or help with supervision of activities, please see Bruce Rookes 0402135313, or Heather Rookes.

Great Outback BBQ-Grovedale

Saturday 8th September 8am

Guest Speaker Martin Shields from Frontier Services Grovedale Uniting Church RSVP 5243 3400 or iainnixon@gmail.com

Planned Giving Report to 31st July 2018

	Actually Received	Budget
Envelopes	28,720	29,470
Direct Debits	<u>45,870</u>	<u>47,250</u>
Sub-total	74,590	76,720
Open Plate	<u>4,540</u>	<u>5,250</u>
Total Offerings	<u>79,130</u>	<u>81,970</u>

Financial Situation to 31st July 2018

Operating Deficit	<u>- 4,190</u>
Total Expenses	129,100
Total Income	124,910

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Summary of Minutes of Church Council (CC) Meeting Weds., 15 August, 2018.

- 1. Devotions by Geoff Coots 'Loving God' Taken from Deut. 6:5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. This is the "All-Command".
 - a. Loving with ALL our heart: A spiritual relationship with God comes from within.
 - b. Loving with ALL our soul: We are to love God with our passions, hungers, perceptions, and our thoughts.
 - c. Loving God with ALL our might. We are to love God with everything we have available for honouring God. Prayer.
- 2. NEW CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS: The following 8 members of Western Heights Uniting Church have been elected as members of the Western Heights Uniting Church Council for the next two years:

 Geoff Coots, Rev. Isabel Greenall, Graeme Hardy, Joan Hill, Peter Morgan, Velma Oliver,
 Lynda Scott and Jan Taylor.
- 3. CC OFFICE BEARERS:

Chairperson - Velma Oliver

Ass. Chair -

Secretary -

Ass. Secretary - Peter Morgan (Correspondence)

Treasurer - Geoff Coots

There is an urgent need for 2 additional members of the congregation to serve on CC. As a congregation, we are asked to seek God's guidance in acquiring 2 more CC members.

- 4. John Matthews has applied to his local member for a grant to purchase a defibrillator for the use of the church. John is awaiting her response.
- 5. LAT is empowered, in consultation with the treasurer, Geoff C., to apply to Synod for a grant to enable Karen Morgan and Jan Grigg to attend the World Messy Church Conference in London in 2019.
- 6. \$100 has been made available to the tennis club in order to fund the next family bbq at the culmination of the September School Holiday Tennis Program for New Arrivals. Donations are graciously accepted.
- 7. Close: Meeting closed with the praying of 'The Grace' by all.
- 8. The next meeting of CC will be on Weds.,19 Sept., 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Velma Oliver, Acting Secretary.

INFORMATION EVENING

The Belmont and St Luke's Social Justice Group invites you to attend an information evening on SUN 16th September, 5pm to learn about two programs.

 The SPACE program operating out of Northern Bay Secondary College

SPACE: Supporting Parents Access to Childcare and Education

Michelle and Jo will present details of the program which supports young parents operating out of Rosewall Neighbourhood Centre under the auspices of NBSC.





 A UNITING BARWON program to assist homeless people in our area.

Michelle has statistics outlining the work of this program operating out of the Grovedale and Norlane offices of Barwon Uniting. She will speak about these figures and some of the stories behind the figures.

There will be opportunities to ask questions of the speakers.

SUNDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER at 5pm.
Belmont Uniting Church, Thomson St. Belmont

A light meal will be provided – a suggested contribution for the meal, \$5. Enquiries: Raye – 0414 431006



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Reorganising the Worship Space—Review

Firstly, a big thanks to everyone for embracing our experiment of reorganising the worship space on a Sunday morning so that it might better reflect the community that we are and would like to be. Over the winter months we have trialled having morning tea at the back and seating up the front for the service. Thanks to everyone for giving it a go, for offering your feedback and for together sorting out issues as they arose. Remember, we made the changes not for the sake of making changes but because we recognised that every aspect of the life of our church community needs to reflect who we are today and where we are heading. Our purpose statement reminds us of this: loving God, growing together, partnering community and sharing faith.

Secondly, the Worship & Music Group have decided that we will continue the experiment until the end of September which will take us well into Spring and give us time as a community to decide what we might do next.

Thirdly, how are we going to review the experiment? The Leadership Advisory Team has suggested that we use the relevant goals from our strategic plan. How would you rate the use of the space against each of the goals below and why?

With God's help we will be a Church that:

- 1. Is intergenerational
- 2. Is welcoming, warm and inclusive
- 3. Encourages and supports exploring, sharing and growing in faith
- 4. Provides a variety of worship styles
- 5. Cares for and responds to community and/or individual needs

Fourthly, with all of this in mind, what will we do as we launch into October? Some possibilities are:

- Continue with worship in the front half and morning tea in the back half (with necessary adjustments from feedback)
- Continue with worship in the front half and have morning tea in the Horizons Room (with adjustments from things we've learnt from the experiment)
- Move pews back to the original configuration and have morning tea in the Horizons Room (with adjustments from things we've learnt from the experiment)

• ...?

Please be aware that there will be information to come about the process for working through all of this as a congregation. So, stay tuned!! In the meantime, if you've got any questions please see Isabel.

BOOK SALE

FRIDAY 31st AUGUST 10:00am – 2:00pm

272 Torquay Rd Grovedale (Cnr Reserve and Torquay Rds)

NOTHING OVER \$1.00

Proceeds to



Hygiene Packs

Hygiene Packing afternoon October 14th 3—5pm

Start collecting individual products that you think might be of use (see picture for ideas). A special collection box can be found on the table in front of sound desk.

On the day we will have a speaker from Uniting Barwon before we begin to pack Hygiene Packs.



Intimate Relationships

An excerpt from service on 12/8 about "sex"

Sexual expression is part of our human make-up. It is an integral part of our being. We are born as we are, we are gifted with who we are and in time as we live our lives we come to understand who we are and have to make decisions about how we live. As followers of Jesus, we are all the time considering our actions, what we think and how we should move forward. Every part of our lives is lived as a follower of Jesus, so we cannot escape questions of sexuality even though we mightn't want to talk about it. Sexual expression involves making decisions and we can help each other make informed decisions by talking about it.

The Uniting Church has not shied away from talking about it. In the 1990's two reports about sexuality were produced and discussed right across the life of the church...and then again in the mid 2000's and just recently at the National Assembly. One of the questions in all the discussion has been about how we, as member's of Christ's community, understand the place/role of sex. The UCA developed an approach to this topic called "right relationships" – it is basically about healthy relationships within and outside marriage. The aim of this and the whole report to the Assembly back in 1997 was to help the Uniting Church to respond to changing patterns of human relationships and sexual activity in our society, with a view to promoting healing and wholeness in human relationships. There is much value in this approach for us today, even some 20 years after the report was produced.

For the UCA, here is a list of values that are thought to be important to healthy, lifegiving relationships for people of faith - right relationships:

Honesty: sharing openly & listening to one another's thoughts and feelings

Trust: being trustworthy and trusting of the other

Faithfulness: seen in God's faithfulness to us, we learn about our commitment to one another, we persevere

Equality & Mutuality: treating each other with respect, no domination or double standards, each going beyond the self to be present for the other

Vulnerability: giving of the self for the other, risking being hurt

Freedom & Responsibility: each person free to grow and retain their individuality

Setting Limits & Self Control: set limits on our own needs and behaviour for the sake of the other

Giving & Receiving Affection & Pleasure: enjoying being together, looking forward to being together, the power of physical touch

Communication: talking together, learning how to resolve conflict

Discovering Intimacy: depth and closeness in relationship

- Sexual Passion and Setting Boundaries: sexual passion and desire are part of God's good giftedness to us: the joy and delight of sexual intimacy. It is not a sin, but a celebrated gift of God for intimacy in right relationships. The setting of boundaries is about sensitivity and open communication between the couple in deciding what is appropriate for them. So there needs to be a willingness to listen to each other's feelings and to exercise self-control for the good of the other and the relationship.

This is a list that is meant to be of help to us as we consider the role/place of sex in our intimate relationships as followers of Jesus. I wonder how this connects with your experience or your thoughts or hopes?

The 2018/2019 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.

entertainment.

WHUC gets 20% of sales for each book. See Helen Sleep

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Contact Details

Leadership Advisory 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.

LAT Administrator: Roger Dingle r.dingle@optusnet.com.au 0407 528 533

Children & Families Karen Morgan karen.morgan1968@hotmail.com 5276 1042

Co-ordinator:

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

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

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.

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.

<u>Light Globes & Batteries</u> 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.

PLOYGROUP

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

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

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