



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

October 2021. 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.

October at a Glance ????

Sunday 3rd	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Bruce Waldron Daylight savings starts turn clocks forward.
Sunday 10th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Bruce Waldron
Saturday 16th	3.00pm	Women of the Bible Study & Quilt-A-Long
Sunday 17th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Bruce Waldron—Communion
Tuesday 19th	6.30pm	Tuesday Friendship
Wednesday 20th	7.00pm	Church Council Meeting
Sunday 24th	10.00am 3.00pm	Worship—Rev. Bruce Waldron Messy Church Michele Hardy—St. Albans/St. Andrews
Sunday 31st	10.00am	All Saints Service—Rev. Bruce Waldron



Office Hours

The office will be closed on Wednesday 20th October due to Public Holiday.

Friday Night Fun

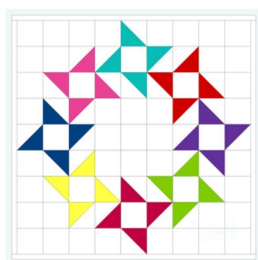
Postponed
Friday 8th October 2021
7.00—8.30pm
Everyone is welcome

Tuesday Friendship

Tuesday 19th October 2021
at 6.30pm
All Ladies welcome.

Joan Murphy
Phone 0438 722 035

Women of the Bible



Study & Quilt-A-Long

Join Us...
Each third Saturday, 3.00—4.40pm
October 16th, November 20th
WHUC 31 Douglass St., Herne Hill
See Joan Walker or Rhonda Dingle



**Messy Church @
WHUC**

Sunday October 24th

3.00pm—5.00pm

Contact: Bruce (0491 663 514) for more info or if
you'd like to help!

Summary of Church Council Minutes 15 September 2021

- Devotions by Velma Oliver: 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5. God does not call us to be equipped but God equips the called.
- Agreed the rates to be included in Funeral Policy at Western Heights for Minister, organist, sound technician, computer Technician and serving of refreshments.
- Planned-Giving Program to commence with issue of invitation letters on 3rd October, with new envelopes to begin on 7th November.
- A number of alterations to the Congregational Roll were accepted, including transfer of Chris and Robyn Howard's membership to Western Heights.
- Consistent with advice provided by Synod Property Services, Church Council approved the implementation of three steps to ensure Essential Safety Measures for buildings are in place.
- Church Council were updated on the work of the Greater Geelong Steering Group that is exploring ways that Uniting Churches in the Greater Geelong Area can collaborate in the future.
- Glenn Chidzey to explore the current status of Pastoral Care at Western Heights and report back to Church Council at a future meeting on any improvement opportunities and ideas.

Next Church Council meeting is on Wednesday 20th October, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Peter Morgan, Secretary of Church Council

Eco Tip—from you church Eco-group.

Do you love tea or coffee. Some teas and coffees are grown in Australia. Some are packed without plastic. If we reduce plastic output, and limit the miles food travels, we are saving the environment on two fronts. Some tea bags are plastic free too. Please think when you buy. It isn't just a purchase.

From The Minister's Desk

September has been a difficult month.

We have been bereaved of two of our community. Loris Taylor died early in the month and Muriel Williams in the middle of the month. Both were people of great integrity and strength of character, purpose and direction. Both were people of faith who encountered this transition in their journey with confidence that God who had walked with them would still be with them, and they with God. My wife once wrote a beautiful piece about birth and death which I love and want to share with you. It goes like this.

Birth and Death

*A child is conceived in nakedness and vulnerability.
It exists unaware of itself in the warm waters of the womb.
If such a child was given the choice, it would probably choose never to be born.
To find its life interrupted, pushed from the familiar dark waters
Into the unknown beyond its grasp, would seem a journey too fraught with dangers to make.
And yet, childbirth is a process, that once begun cannot be halted.
And the child discovers itself screaming in protest as it is hurled into an unfamiliar world.
The spiritual life involves a birth process.
We must be born again, if we are to partake of life.
And yet birth and death are linked.
Intertwined, one constantly responding to the other.
Every birth co-exists with death; death to what has gone before, and the dying is often painful, frightening.
And at times confusing.
It is very much like the cross.
The cross is both a symbol of life and death.
It wounds us deeply and we bleed.
It draws us out of the only life we know, and this is at times infuriating.
Rage is often part of birth.
A child rages against the unknown forces that would push it into a new dimension of life.
It is easy to see how we at times feel like such a child:
In pain, frightened and alone.
And yet, it is here that faith is to be discovered.
It is in the knowing deep within, that it is you, my mother, O God
Who gives birth, pushing me from the dark waters of the womb
And who holds me,
And will never let me go.*

© Sharn G. Waldron 1980

October is going to be an interesting time. With the uncertainty of Covid restrictions always just a breath away, we enter into this month that holds such strong motifs as the Week of Prayer for World Peace, that runs from the 10th to 17th October, International Children's Day on the 24th and All Saints Day on the 31st.

More information will be available during the month, so please keep an eye open for further information. I am hoping to have something happening each night of the Week of Prayer for World Peace. If you are interested, you can find some lovely, thought provoking reflections on this address <https://rdc.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Week-Of-Prayer-2021-A5-6p.pdf>

On Sunday 24th, in the morning we will be celebrating National Children's Day, and then in the afternoon, for Messy Church, we are planning a Blessing of Pets and their families on the front steps of the church. So bring along your dogs, cats, chooks and rats, guppies and guinea pigs, turtles and horses, or pictures of them if you like. We'll need musicians too so be prepared.

ON Sunday 31st October, Covid restrictions permitting, we will be remembering with thanksgiving the people whose lives have been so important to us, and we spend time in that service giving thanks to God for them, and remembering the gift of community and friendship and family.

CHRISTMAS CARDS **(PRE-ORDER NOW FOR** **CHRISTMAS 2021!)**



Preorder NOW and we'll post your card packs as soon as our new stock arrives. [Order Christmas cards](#)
You will receive them before Oct 8.

By sending these cards to loved ones this Christmas, you'll be supporting UnitingWorld and our partners in the Pacific, Asia and Africa working to lift people and communities out of poverty.

Presbytery Seminars

Presbytery has had some very informative and helpful seminars e.g. Pastoral Care in a Pandemic, Parts 1 and 2.

They will be running two more pastoral care seminars; Seminar 7 & 8 in Sept / Oct and you can register for them here <https://www.trybooking.com/BSFZS>

They will be on topics such as Dealing with Criticism and Resistance, Fogging, negative Inquiry, NLP, how to deal with turtle and skunk behaviour, significant time to practise our listening skills in groups.

Seminar 7 Friday 24 September 9.30am – 12.30 pm

Seminar 8 Thursday 7 Oct 6 – 9pm, Friday 22 Oct 9.30am – 12.30pm

Please talk to Velma Oliver on 0421 271 946 if you would like to know more. Anyone is most welcome.

COVID Restrictions At Church

For when we return to attend church

- In order for us to be safe and to keep others safe, we need to wear masks at all times while outside and inside, including during singing.
- We must distance 1.5m from those not in our household, while seated and while chatting before and after the service, and during morning tea.
- Food and utensils are not to be shared at morning tea. We ask that you bring your own cup/mug so we can save paper cups going to landfill.

Thank you for adhering to these restrictions and keeping each other safe

Covid-19 Task Group

Rev Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga

Our newly appointed minister, Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i – Vaeluaga, will begin her time at Western Heights on **1 December, 2021**. She will be inducted on **Sunday, 12 December, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.** at Western Heights. There will be a morning service at 10:00 on that day. Temukisa will take her first service of worship at Western Heights on **Sunday, 19 December, 2021**.

All Saints Service 2019

Our annual All Saints Service, to honour the memory of loved ones who have died during the past year will be held on **Sunday 31st October**. This is specifically to remember those who were associated with our church and those whose family is associated with us. If you wish to ensure that a loved one is remembered in this years service please contact Jan at the office on 5229 2681 or by email: office@whuc.com.au by **Wednesday 27th October**.

TAMIL WELCOME FEASTS

Queenscliff



a social food project that is more than just a meal!

Saturday October 16th 2021. 7pm

@ Uniting Church, 85 Hesse Street, Queenscliff

\$40/person Bookings Essential <https://www.trybooking.com/BUEJN>



Experience an exciting three-course feast of colourful, aromatic, spicy & sweet Sri Lankan Tamil food, prepared by local Tamil refugees Nithi, Kumar and Nithiya. Share in their stories, celebrate their culture and show them that we are a supportive and welcoming community.

Book as a group of 4 up to 8 people.

Each table is socially distanced. Tickets for everyone at your table must be purchased in the one booking, with contact tracing details for each person provided.

Bar available, No BYO
Set Menu Vegan & Vegetarian options available



-Breaking down barriers through food-

Supported by Queenscliff Rural Australians for Refugees & Queenscliff Uniting Church
Further enquiries to Sue: 0418340155



**TAMIL WELCOME FEASTS
QUEENSCLIFF**
Follow us on Facebook

'QRcode' registration is required at the hall entry

FRONTIER SERVICES - Standing with people in the Bush

On Sunday 14th November, 2021 Western Heights Uniting Church will be conducting a special service in support of Frontier Services - *The Great Outback BBQ*. This event is a great way to show support for our Aussie Farmers doing it tough.

This will be a donation day with every dollar raised going towards Aussie Farmers rebuilding in the wake of the drought, bush fires, floods and the mice plague.

So start saving your coins. We would love to see as many people on the day get in the spirit of the day and dress up in country/farming clothing, e.g. Akubra, check shirt, gum boots. Aussie entertainment during the service will be supplied by our own Rev. Bruce Waldron. So, **SAVE THE DATE**.



Contact Details

Leadership Advisory Team:

Supply Minister: Rev. Bruce Waldron
waldronbruce3462@gmail.com 0491 663 514

Bruce's days off are **Monday** and **Tuesday** so please refrain from contacting him on these days.

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

Children & Families Co-ordinator:

Congregational Member Janet Pavlakis
angyj Janet@bigpond.com 5275 1711

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

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

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

Communications

Administrator: Jan Grigg 5229 5889

Pastoral Care Referrals Group

Rhonda Dingle 0437245671

Bruce Waldron 0491663514

Graeme Willingham 0432864727

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.

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**

Milk Bottle Tops

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

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.