



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

February 2023 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.

February at a Glance

| | | |
|----------------|---------|--|
| Sunday 5th | 10.00am | Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga |
| Sunday 12th | 10.00am | Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga |
| Wednesday 15th | 7.00pm | Church Council Meeting |
| Friday 17th | 6.00pm | Friday Fun Night—Shrove Tuesday |
| Sunday 19th | 10.00am | Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga Communion |
| Tuesday 21st | 12.00pm | Tuesday Friendship |
| Wednesday 22nd | | Ash Wednesday—Quiet reflection |
| Sunday 26th | 10.00am | Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga Michele Hardy—St Albans/St. Andrews |

Dates for your diary

| | |
|---------------|--|
| February 21st | Lent Starts |
| February 21st | Shrove Tuesday to be held on Friday 17th |
| February 22nd | Ash Wednesday—quiet reflection |
| March 19th | Congregational Meeting |
| April 2nd | Palm Sunday |
| April 6th | Maundy Thursday |
| April 7th | Good Friday |
| April 9th | Easter Sunday |

Church & Music Rosters

The Church and Music Rosters for **March, April & May**, will be drawn up for distribution at the start of February. Please use the unavailability book by **29th January**, to record the days on which you will be unavailable during these 3 months.

Thanks. Maralann.

Tuesday Friendship

Tuesday 21st February 2023

Lunch 12.00 mid day

All Ladies welcome.

Joan Murphy Phone 0438 722 035

Friday Fun Night

Friday 17th February 2023

Shrove Tuesday

Savoury & Sweet Pancakes

6.00pm in the Horizons Room

Price TBA proceeds towards Uniting

Come along and join the fellowship



WESTERN HEIGHTS UNITING TENNIS CLUB
27-31 Douglass St Herne Hill

CLUB OPEN DAY

5th FEB 1pm-4pm

Come along and bring your friends for a fun day of tennis!

Activities include hotshots, casual and competitive hitting, face painting, giant games, barbecue, fastest serve competition

Register here:



Blister Packs

The Eco-group are pleased to announce that blister packs are now able to be left again in the drawer in the foyer.

2023 Annual General Meeting

The 2023 Western Heights AGM will be held after the service on **Sunday 19th March**.

Could all reports be given to Jan in the office no later than **Sunday 26th February 2023**.

Lynda Scott

Congregational Secretary

Book sale.



Nothing over \$1.

Join us at our monthly book sale.

Held the first Friday and Saturday of each month at Uniting Grovedale, the Uniting book sale raises much needed funds for local services.

272 Torquay Rd, Grovedale
(Corner Reserve and Torquay Roads)

Friday 3 February and
Saturday 4 February
10am - 2pm

Uniting

Sunrise to Sunset

Sunrise to Sunset

The sun has set on the life
of a young man of Samoa,
on Australian soil,
far from home and family.

A seasonal worker on adventure,
earning for himself, for his family,
for his community, for the future.

A future cut short unexpectedly,
a sunset mid-way through the day,
out of season, out of place.

A place of gathering in Pilgrim Church
for those few who knew Puaa,
some friends and work colleagues,
and some church folk, from near and far,
who gather to remember the sunlight
of life, and mourn the sunset.

An adventure cut short,
a future that will not unfold,
a distant family and community
with hollow loss, grief, questions.

An embracing love, an abiding love,
from the God of the universe
enfolds all, from sunrise to sunset,
and the darkness that follows.

Night too will pass.

Another day will dawn,
seasons will turn still
in the cycles
of life and love.

Remembrance of this one
who passed away into the night,
far from home, on a different island,
can remind those who remain
of the precious life we have, and share,
so that we who remain may take care,
show care and compassion,
to each one that we meet,
whatever the season
and whatever the day,
or night.

Rohan Pryor, 21/1/23



A seasonal worker from Samoa died suddenly, and a service of remembrance and thanksgiving for other seasonal workers and related staff was held at Pilgrim Uniting Church in Launceston. Local minister Rev. Valentina Satvedi Leydon hosted, with Rev. Sani Vaeluaga and Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga travelling from Victoria to lead the service in Samoan. The dates of birth and death of the seasonal worker Puaa Taisi were noted as 'sunrise' and 'sunset'.

A Word from Temukisa

Part of my calling within the UCA is ministering outside of the local congregation.

Last Friday, with the blessing on the church council chair (Velma Oliver) on behalf of the CC and Congregation - I travelled with my husband to Launceston, responding to the call from the Pilgrim Church Minister and the Presbytery of Tasmanian Chairperson to assist with a memorial service for a Samoan Seasonal Worker who passed away tragically in December.

My husband and I lead the memorial service in Samoan and English for the non-English speakers from the employment sector and Pilgrim UC members and Presbytery chair. It was a lovely ministry to the grieving community who were so far from home. We appreciate the love and prayers of the WHUC.



PAN CAKE DAY



**Flip for a
good cause.**

Date: **17th February 2023**

Time: **6.00pm**

Place: **Western Heights Uniting
Church — Horizons Room**



Uniting is the community services organisation
of the Uniting Church in Victoria and Tasmania.



Uniting

Eco Group Fun Night!

All welcome. The eco group is having a working bee fun night in the Horizons Room on **17th March at 6pm**. Our project will be to make fabric substitutes for paper towel, reusable of course! BYO food to share (savory or sweet). Tea, coffee and games provided as well as musical entertainment from the band "Wont Back Down" Donations of new flannelette fabric, old broom handles and cardboard tube (longer than 20cm) would be appreciated. If you have a 4 thread overlocker please see Joan. Speak to Joan Walker or Bruce Waldron if you would like to be a part of the evening and help save the planet Joan 0437878187, Bruce 0491663514

Western Heights Uniting Tennis Club

The Tennis Club, in various names. Wellington St. Ashby, St James, Trinity, and now Western Heights Uniting, has existed since before 1940. The Premiership photos which were on the walls of the timber hall is testament to the dozens of Premierships teams, juniors and seniors, over the last 80+ years the club has been a credit to all involved, over many decades, but particularly the hard working leaders.

A few recent highlights are worth remembering

2014: To ensure the courts maintained the standards required, the Church Council provided a loan for Tennis Club for the resurfacing of the 4 courts in 2014, and the Tennis Club, to their credit, has since paid them back.

2018: The tennis rooms were renovated, for multi purpose use, with a total re paint, new glass sliding doors, carpeted, with a reverse cycle air conditioner, which has been much appreciated by the tennis club members. In approx 2019, this began being used by 4 GR, and plans are under way to explore ways in which the room can be shared, to enable the tennis community to use the room when not being used by 4GR

2019: To acknowledge the contributions of 4 long term members who had made major contributions to tennis generally and at Western Heights specifically, these 4 courts were named, recognising those members: Mark Wrigley, Bruce Rookes, Andrew Gibson, and Bruce Chisolm

2022: The local indoor centre, Centre Court Tennis, located in Hepner Place, North Geelong, for many years, has been sold, and closed. However, three of the teams from there, and one of the coaches have chosen to re locate to Western Heights

Teams: The club currently has 2 Senior teams, and 6 Junior Teams and 1 mid week team. approx 30 junior players and 16 senior players, plus family members—totalling approx 60 members. Team play on Saturdays: Juniors – mornings, Seniors – afternoon, and Tuesday mornings - mid week ladies

Family Club: the club has a history of encouraging parents, siblings, friends, grandparents, community members to watch, volunteers, support, enjoy their friends and family members, playing tennis to learn, to have fun, to improve, to play, to practice, to become a team member, to encourage others.

Current members learning, playing, practising, range in age from 10 to 70's.

Social Tennis: Thursday 10am – 12

Junior Practice: Wednesdays, and Thursdays 4-5.30-pm

Private Coaching: Monday, Tuesday and Friday afternoons

Beginner Program: a program designed for young beginner players (ages 7-9) has started on Friday evenings 4-5

Tennis Nights: The Club is hoping to organise some Family Tennis nights over the coming summer break

Welcoming New Arrivals: Most school holidays, the club has provided a program of 4 coaching sessions for high school aged new arrivals, recently Afghanistan, Syria, Lebanon, and finished with a BBQ for their families and the church community. Although Covid prevented this program to continue during 2020-22, the tennis club is exploring how it can continue in the future.

Fundraisers:

2022: Election BBQ made approx. \$400 providing an election BBQ service

2023: Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road bike race, arranging and organising volunteer marshals for the Jan 28, 29 races

Comm. Members:, Andrew Ryan, VP, Denise Airey, Nathan Gibson, Carmel Addlem, Jacqui Payne, Bruce Rookes, Bruce Waldron,

Any Questions, please contact: Bruce Rookes. 0402 135 313

Contact Details

Leadership Advisory Team:

Minister: Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i – Vaeluaga
0400 664 991

Temukisa's day off is **Monday** so please refrain from contacting her on this day.

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

Children & Families Co-ordinator:

Congregational Member: Janet Pavlakis
angyjanet@bigpond.com 0439 527 500

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

Pastoral Care:

Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i – Vaeluaga
0400 664 991

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

With Love To The World

With Love to the World booklets can be left in the marked drawer in the recycling material box in the foyer.

Blister Packs

Your blister packs from Panadol, and other medications can be left in the 4th drawer in the foyer.

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.

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.

Milk Bottle Tops

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

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**