



WESTERN HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH
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Our Purpose

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.

SUNDAY AUGUST 13 2023

Western Heights Uniting Church

Notice Sheet Sunday 13th August – 10.00am Worship

Please Pray for:

Church Council

Colleen Douglas - recouping well after surgery.

Birthdays:

Trish Fleming 14th

David Andrews 16th

Nathan Gibson 16th

The congregation at Western Heights offers prayerful support of its members and others in a number of ways; because of privacy protocols, names are not included for prayer unless we have received your permission.

Uniting Barwon

Items that would be appreciated this week include: tinned spaghetti, tinned vegetables, toilet paper.

Thought for the week:

Don't be afraid to take a big step if one is indicated. You can't cross a chasm in two small jumps.

David Lloyd George

Diary for This Week

Sunday 13th 10.00am Worship – Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga

Tuesday 15th 12.00am Tuesday Ladies Friendship Group

Wednesday 16th 7.00pm Church Council Meeting

Thursday 17th 8.00pm Musicians & Singers Music Practice

Diary for Next Week

Sunday 20th 10.00am Worship – Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga
Communion

People Helping Elsewhere

Michele Hardy – St. Albans / St. Andrews

Minister & Pastoral

Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga

0400 664 991

Pastoral Care Coordinating Team

The Pastoral Care Coordinating Team are Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga, Glenn Chidzey, Vanessa Thomson, Helen Sleep, Jan Taylor and David Walker. New members will be endorsed by the Congregation at the next Congregational Meeting.

Church & Music Rosters

It's time again for the next Church & Music Rosters to be drawn up for the months of September, October & November. Please use the unavailability book by Sunday 13th August, to record the day on which you will be unavailable during these 3 months.

Safe Church Training

1. This is a friendly reminder that, if you are required to have a Working With Children Check for the task that you perform at Western Heights UC, you are also required to do the new Safe Church Training. Please see Velma, Bianca, Heather or Nathan for more information.
2. Thanks to all who have completed the training. Please show Jan Grigg your certificate when you have received it.

Safe Church Group

Tamil Welcome Feast

Saturday 19th August, 6:45 p.m.

Online bookings are now open for the Tamil Welcome Feast on **Saturday 19th August, 6.45 pm** in the Uniting Church Hall, Queenscliff.

Tamil Welcome Feasts is a social food project that is more than just a meal!

*COMMUNAL TABLE – A communal table is available for people who'd like to book for 1-3 people. If you don't mind being seated with others, then this arrangement might suit you. Contact Nithi: 0450 035 396 to access booking for the communal table. \$45/per person. Set Menu: meat & veg / vegetarian / vegan options available. Bar opens from 6.30 pm. No BYO. (Bar payment by card preferred).

Note: Tickets for everyone at your table must be purchased in the one booking, with meal choice for each person provided at the time of booking.

Book online

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1089443> as a group of 4 up to 8 people. Bookings essential.

Tamil Welcome Feasts is organised by Tamil refugees and supported by Queenscliff RAR and Unitingqueenscliff

GENESIS 39: 1-20

Now Joseph was taken down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man; he was in the house of his Egyptian master. His master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hands. So Joseph found favour in his sight and attended him; he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had, in house and field. So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge; and, with him there, he had no concern for anything but the food that he ate. Now Joseph was handsome and good-looking. And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, 'Lie with me.' But he refused and said to his master's wife, 'Look, with me here, my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my hand. He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except yourself, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?' And although she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not consent to lie beside her or to be with her. One day, however, when he went into the house to do his work, and while no one else was in the house, she caught hold of his garment,

saying, 'Lie with me!' But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside. When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside, she called out to the members of her household and said to them, 'See, my husband has brought among us a Hebrew to insult us! He came into me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice; and when he heard me raise my voice and cry out, he left his garment beside me, and fled outside.' Then she kept his garment by her until his master came home, and she told him the same story, saying, 'The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to insult me; but as soon as I raised my voice and cried out, he left his garment beside me, and fled outside.' When his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, saying, 'This is the way your servant treated me', he became enraged. And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; he remained there in prison.

Contemporary Reading Genesis 39:1-20

A foreign woman threatens a hero of Israel and is judged an evil doer. And in this story, you don't even get to know my name, but you will recognise the name of my husband, and, of course, the name of yet another of the heroes of Israel.

Life was actually very good until Israel's hero came along, this hero who was bought by my husband as a household slave. My husband had a good job, he was an officer in Pharaoh's army, Captain of the Guard no less. We lived

well; we had plenty of servants, a large house, and our own fields.

Until Israel's hero arrived, I enjoyed my life. I controlled the household. I made my own decisions. I chose what I wanted and did not want to do.

But gradually as Israel's hero wormed his way into my husband's favour, much of my freedom was taken away from me. This slave was given more and more responsibility, until he ended up in charge of the whole household: finances, servants, food (of which my husband was extremely fond), fields, the lot!

As, you can imagine, I was not going to take all this lying down. If I was to regain my power, this hero had to go. The problem was my husband obviously liked him and trusted him. I needed a plan. Well, yes, my plan was underhand, and a bit risky, but what did I have to lose? There comes a time when a woman does what she has to do. And I needed this hero gone.

So, I waited until my husband was out of the house and I tempted this hero slave. I lured him. My best perfume and make up, my sexy underwear, my most revealing little dress. Me at my most attractive and seductive. And he said no! I was devastated. I was angry. I felt insulted and humiliated. He had to go. I came up with plan B. I invited him to lie with me again. And when he refused, and turned to leave, I snatched at his robe, and he left it in my hands. As he fled, I screamed. Loudly. And when the other servants came running, I showed them his robe and told them that he had been about to rape me.

I told my husband the same story and he had Israel's hero thrown into prison and there he'll stay. Result!

Have you guessed my husband's name yet?

Or the name of Israel's hero?

Maybe you have. And my name? As I said, it is hidden in history. But I think you'll remember my story

MARK 10: 2-16

Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.' But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.' Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.' People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Tasks people are doing today.

13th August 2023

Vestry Steward: Roger Dingle

Reader: Trish Fleming

Stewards: Geoff Everett, Colin Rookes

Greeter: Janet Pavlakis

Morning Tea: Catherine Van Zetten,
Barbara Everett

Hall Cleaner: Bruce Waldron

Musicians: Sue Ekkel, Les Oliver, Dudley
Holroyd, Geoff Coots, David Andrews

Singers: Bill Fleming, Lynda Scott, Bev
Hunt

PA/Data: Peter Morgan / Allister Coots

Tasks people are doing next week.

20th August 2023

Vestry Steward: Jan Taylor

Reader: Geoff Coots

Stewards: Graeme Hardy, Neil Douglas

Greeter: Joan Murphy

Morning Tea: Colleen Douglas, Maralann
Damiano

Hall Cleaner: Bruce Waldron

Musicians: Nathan Gibson, Les Oliver,
Dudley Holroyd, Bruce Waldron, Geoff
Coots

Singers: Lynda Scott, Ashley Payne,
Velma Oliver

PA/Data: Sharn Waldron / Allister Coots

Update of Postcards to CommBank

A lot of our people sent postcards on this subject, through Bruce Waldron and Sue Strong, to the manager of Belmont CommBank. She took it to her regional managers' meeting, so our church had a hand in this.

Thanks to our collective people power - Australia's biggest bank has essentially ended fossil fuel finance for good.

After over a year of campaigning, our efforts have seen CommBank rule out lending to all new and expanding oil and gas projects, and by 2025 will stop lending to companies who refuse to transition away from fossil fuels.

This is what people power looks like, and wouldn't have been possible without your voice, and the voice of our friends in the movement like Market Forces. This sets a precedent for other Australian banks to follow suit, and if they do, it would make it much more difficult for gas corporations to secure finance for their climate-wrecking projects like fracking in the NT, massive gas rigs off WA and pipelines across the country.

I can't overstate how huge this is.

Over the past year, we've visited 80 CommBank branches, spoken to staff, held stunts at major offices, put ads in newspapers, crashed major banking summits and AGMs, and so much more.

Kelly, for the whole 350 Australia team

Pick up the latest August Crosslight and FrontierNews from the table