



**WESTERN HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH**  
31 Douglass Street, Herne Hill  
Tel: 5229 2681 : Email: [office@whuc.com.au](mailto:office@whuc.com.au)  
Website: [www.whuc.com.au](http://www.whuc.com.au)

***Our Purpose***

**Loving God: Growing Together, Partnering Community, Sharing Faith**



***“Advent 2—Peace”***

**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 DECEMBER 10 2023**

# Western Heights Uniting Church

Notice Sheet Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December – 10.00am Worship

## **Please Pray for:**

Church Council

**Sympathy:** To Janet Pavlakis on the death of her sister Gwenda Pillar on the 26<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Birthdays:**

*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: long-life milk, margarine, pasta, cheese, pasta sauces.

## **Thought for the week:**

We know what we are, but know not what we may be.

William Shakespeare

## Diary for This Week

<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Worship – Rev. Temukisa Amituana’i-Vaeluaga Blue Christmas
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	7.00pm	Church Council Meeting
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	8.00pm	Musicians & Singers Music Practice

## Diary for Next Week

<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	Worship – Rev. Temukisa Amituana’i-Vaeluaga Lessons and Carols – Communion
-------------------------------	---------	---

### Minister & Pastoral

Rev. Temukisa Amituana’i-Vaeluaga  
0400 664 991

## **Crosslight**

Pick up the latest issue of the December Crosslight.

## Retiring Offering

Thank you to all those people who contributed to the Retiring Offerings for the families of the Samoan victims involved in the tragic car crash near Mansfield. A total of 295.00 was provided.

## Walk the Labyrinth

The labyrinth once again will be at the Barwon River at the end of Craigie Road Newtown. You are most welcome to walk the labyrinth at any time that suits you.

## Please Note:

**No morning worship service on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.**

Church Council has approved the recommendation that, instead of a morning worship service on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the congregation gathers for a pre-Christmas finger food meal (bring a plate to share) at church at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Carols for Everyone Service at 7:00 p.m. and the Reflective Christmas Eve Service at 11:30 p.m.

## Presbytery Representative

Church Council has graciously accepted Bruce Waldron's offer to be our Presbytery Representative. On behalf of the church, we thank Bruce for his kind offer.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT –

Music at the Basilica invites you to our annual Christmas Concert at 7.30pm on Friday 15 December at the Basilica of St Mary of the Angels, Geelong. This year the Windfire Choir, orchestra and soloists will present the Christmas Oratorio by Saint-Saens and Fantasia on Christmas Carols by Vaughan Williams. Tickets from

[www.trybooking.com/CFGTN](http://www.trybooking.com/CFGTN)

**FREE LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITALS**  
12.30-1.15pm on Mondays at the Basilica of St Mary of the Angels Geelong

Monday 11 December: David Macfarlane

Monday 18 December: Frank De Rosso

**Second Sunday of Advent**

### Bringing Peace to refugees in Ethiopia



Sara\* fled to Ethiopia from Yemen eight years ago with her four children. In Addis Ababa refugees are at risk of severe exploitation, with little access to education, medical care, or basics like food. Through Act for Peace's partner, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission, you can help provide refugees with medical and psychological care, as well as livelihoods training, giving people like Sara the chance to build secure futures for their families. **Please give today.**

\*Name changed for safety reasons

**CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: [christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au](http://christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au)**

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international humanitarian agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188



**Christmas Bowl**

**Tasks people are doing today.**

**10<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Vestry Steward:** Helen Sleep

**Reader:** Trish Fleming

**Stewards:** Geoff Everett, Neil Douglas

**Greeter:** Janet Pavlakis

**Morning Tea:** Barbara Everett, Vanessa Thomson

**Hall Cleaner:** Maralann Damiano

**Musicians:** Nathan Gibson, Geoff Coots, Dudley Holroyd, Les Oliver

**Singers:** Lynda Scott, Bev Hunt, Catherine Van Zetten, Bianca Brant

**Data:** Tim Hunt / Allister Coots

**Tasks people are doing next week.**

**17<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Vestry Steward:** Velma Oliver

**Reader:** Geoff Coots

**Stewards:** Glenn Chidzey, Colin Rookes

**Greeter:** Joan Murphy

**Morning Tea:** Heather Rookes, Joan & David Walker

**Hall Cleaner:** Maralann Damiano

**Musicians:** Sue Ekkel, Les Oliver, Dudley Holroyd

**Singers:** Ashley Payne, Bill Fleming, Velma Oliver

**PA/Data:** Peter Morgan / Allister Coots

**ISAIAH 40: 1-11**

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do

not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

**LAMENTATIONS 3: 19-24**

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. 'The LORD is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.'

**JOHN 14: 25-27**

'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.