



# Western Heights Uniting Church

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Loving God: Growing Together, Partnering Community, Sharing Faith

WESTERN HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH

## MAY 2024 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.

### May at a Glance

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Saturday 4th	9.30am	Community Garden Working Bee
Sunday 5th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga
Wednesday 8th	2.00pm	Re-Engage Gathering
Friday 10th	6.00pm	Friday Fun Night—Crazy Whist
Sunday 12th	10.00am	Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga Mother's Day—Uniting Winter Appeal
Wednesday 15th	7.00pm	Church Council Meeting
Sunday 19th	10:00am	Pentecost Service at the 'Dome' Geelong library
Tuesday 21st	12.00pm	Tuesday Friendship
Sunday 26th	10:00am	Worship—Rev. Temukisa Amituana'i-Vaeluaga

### Winter Woolies

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**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May** will be our Winter Woolies Day

It's a beautiful way to celebrate Mother's day - Mother's Love by donating something for the vulnerable in our community during Winter.

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## Community Garden News

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We are excited about the 4 new wicking beds to be installed in May.

**Working bee if you are available on Monday 29 April from 2pm** to help with preparation of the sites for the new beds. Wheelbarrow and shovel/rake would be helpful as we will be moving sand to level the ground.

**Installation of 4 wicking beds** and planting a new crop.

**Saturday 4 May from 9.30am.** Bring a shovel / wheelbarrow.

Hope you can come and join in. Many hands make light work.

## Re-Engage Gathering

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Date: **8<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Time: **2pm**

Place: Western Heights Uniting Church

Our next Re-Engage gathering will be on the **8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 2pm.**

A beautiful time of re-engaging with our members in worship and fellowship.

Encourage our members to come along for communion, hymn fest, fellowship and refreshments.



Join us at  
the Uniting  
book sale.

Nothing over \$1  
Children's books  
\$0.50!

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)

**Uniting**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May  
&  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May  
10am - 2pm

## Church & Music Rosters

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The Church and Music Rosters for **June, July & August**, will be drawn up for distribution at the start of May. Please use the unavailability book by **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May**, to record the days on which you will be unavailable during these 3 months

## Friday Fun Night

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Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Crazy Whist

6.00pm

Everyone is Welcome

## Tuesday Friendship

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Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Lunch

12.00pm

All Ladies welcome.

Joan Murphy Phone 0438 722 035

## Geelong Harmony Chorus

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Geelong Harmony Chorus is fast approaching our competition and national convention with Sweet Adelines Australia, this year being held in Fremantle, WA in mid May.

As we have previously done, we would like to invite WHUC along with our Family and Friends for a show on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May** commencing at **7.30pm**

## Bike Rack

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Bruce W is building a "Bike Rack" to go alongside the Horizons Room. He is making it out of old metal bicycle frames, adult size, and needs two more. Could you help please?

Phone Bruce on 0491 663514

# Scarecrow challenge!

A fun activity for all!



Join with your family or friends to create an amazing scarecrow for our garden beds!



You have until the end of May to show how creative you can be!

They will all be displayed in our garden.

Just leave your scarecrow at the garden anytime in May, with your contact details if you wish!



Replacement of boards on the old hall by Bruce & Colin Rookes with Derek Hardy . Well done men . All the pigeon nests went into the compost bins.



## Creator of the Cosmos

You have filled this good earth with complex wonders, abundant beauty, resilient interdependencies, and you invite us to share this abode with all your guests; with bandicoots and banksias, bacteria and blue whales, and the billions of beings like us.

But we have abused your divine hospitality. We've made a right mess of the place. We have kicked out other residents and falsely claimed ownership for ourselves.

We grieve the coral bleached white, the forests burned black, the dwindling glaciers, the silenced bird song, the oceans emptying of fish and filling with plastic.

Forgive us our habitual greed, our stunted empathy, our careful ignorance. Forgive our complicity in systems built on lies, that extract too much and funnel wealth into the pockets of too few.

Fill our lungs with your fresh wind, your Holy breath, your life-giving Spirit, that we may sing songs of resistance, renewal, revolution, and that we may walk together in the true and living way of Jesus so that in you, all may find a home.

Written by Dr Byron Smith - for Common Grace's Season of Creation 2021 celebrations.

# Contact Details

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

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

**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](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Western-Heights-Uniting-Church/167518399975533)

## Parental/Guardian Permission

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In order for Western Heights to be a Safe Church, we are seeking the permission of parents or guardians to photograph or video their children during church services and other church-related activities. Permission forms are available at the back of the church. Please hand completed forms to the duty steward of the day.

## Light Globes & Batteries

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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

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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.

## Eco Group

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The Eco Group has started an Eco Books library, in the entry foyer. Please borrow books and if you have good books on the subject, you would be willing to share, see Bruce W.

## With Love To The World

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

## Pew Sheet

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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.

## Milk Bottle Tops

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

## Future Monthly Newsletters

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To be included in the Monthly Newsletter, please ensure your notices are at the church office by the **20<sup>th</sup> 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**