



The Uniting Church in Wyndham News

8 October
2023
Pentecost 18

We acknowledge the people of the Kulin alliance, the original custodians of the land which was never ceded and on which our buildings for worship stand and on which we gather.



OUR COMMUNITY NEWS FOR TODAY AND THE COMING WEEK

White Sunday

For the Samoan Christian diaspora, White Sunday (or Lotu Tamaiti) is very special. This year at the Uniting Church in Wyndham the celebration is on this Sunday, October 8.

As Tupu Latu explained in last week's news sheet, "The children lead, conduct the service and deliver their messages through their Scripture reciting, singing and dancing."

Samoan White Sunday was probably introduced by 19th century Christian missionaries; its origins are lost in time. It's now celebrated in all Christian churches on Samoa, and the following Monday is a national public holiday.

I asked Site Tupua about his childhood memory of White Sunday. "For about a month the minister would teach a Bible story, and each child from 3 to 16 would learn by heart two or three verses. I can still remember some of them."

Site says: "That's the day when the children take over from the Minister. On White Sunday children are allowed privileges normally reserved for elders; parents will make sure the children are served their favourite dish, which the children eat first and the parents eat last."

I asked Site: "How can Australian Christians prepare for this day?" He responded: "If you wish, you can wear something white." This writer is planning to learn a simple Samoan greeting: "Ta lofa = hello," and to sing along with the Samoan hymns! (NT)

A new name?

The combined Church Council has to choose a new name for our amalgamated congregation. Any suggestions, please send to the church office. Please note that there is a convention which now requires the name to start with the general location of the church.

3030 Beach Patrol today

We meet in the cliffs carpark K Road Werribee South at 11:30am and the clean will last for 1 hr. Remember to bring your own gloves & water bottle.

Vote YES says Linda Burney



A supportive audience turned out at the Wungurrwill Dhurrung Community Centre in Communal Road, Wyndham Vale recently to hear Hon. Linda Burney, Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians put the case for the Yes campaign's Voice to Parliament in the forthcoming referendum.

Everyone present was invited to participate in the smoking ceremony held in the Centre's forecourt.

Joanne Ryan MHR introduced Ms Burney, stating "Before the 1967 referendum, Ms Burney was classified as Australian flora or fauna. Now we can put that shameful history behind us."

Linda Burney called on the audience to reject untruths put out by the "Vote No" camp. She said there are three simple principles involved in voting "Yes." (1) Recognition. A vote for the Voice to parliament brings Australians together as a nation. (2) Listening. First Nations people have significant input into the decision making of this nation. (3) Better outcomes. Aboriginal health, justice and education will improve with a Voice to Parliament.

Ms Burney explained that the referendum needs a double majority, in the six states and two territories of Australia. That is, in four of the six states a majority of voters is required, and a majority of people in the whole country is required.

"There has never before been a question like this one put to Australians. Each person has a role in making history," said Ms Burney.

She said "What we are asking in the referendum is the principle of recognition. The Voice will be independent, accountable, and will be determined by local aboriginal people, with proper representation of regional and remote communities. When we have constitutional reform; when we have power over our destiny, our children will flourish," said Ms Burney. "Contact Yes23 to volunteer for the pre-poll and referendum day." (NT)

NEWS AND NOTES

Bible Discussion Group

At the church - a time of sharing – 11.30 am discussion and bring lunch to follow at 12.30. Lectionary Gospel reading for this week is Matthew Chapter 22, verses 1-14. Jesus tells the parable of the Great Banquet: “they brought in everyone they could find, good and bad alike. And the banquet room was filled with guests.” This is what the Kingdom of God is like! Neil T. 0402 817 673.

Boys’ Brigade

Boys’ Brigade – Monday night—7:00pm to 9:00pm at Dreambuilders Church, 37-43 Graham Court, Hoppers Crossing, contact Scott W or boysbrigadewyndham@gmail.com for details.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Please return your packed shoeboxes to the Church by Sunday 15 October. If you would like your shoeboxes collected from your home, please contact Rose (RG)

Invitation from Rev. David Withers

I am retiring at the end of this year – officially on 31 December 2023. With unused leave being taken before retiring, my final worship service is set for **9:30am Sunday 5th November 2023 @ St Andrews Uniting Church in Gisborne Road Bacchus Marsh**. The service will also embrace a sense of my ministry over the years including a precious time at Crossroads 2006-2014. So I am hoping that some representative folk from Crossroads might make the trip to come and share in that final worship.

Coffee Cup Challenge

Making a small sacrifice regularly, can make a big difference for people in need. Put aside the cost of a cup of coffee each week from International Coffee Day on 1 October until Shrove Tuesday on 13 February 2024.

Each coffee cup donation is placed into a Coffee Cup Challenge collection. When you register, you will receive information on how participants can access a tax deductible receipt. Go to [Coffee Cup Challenge](#).

All funds raised from the Coffee Cup Challenge will support people experiencing crisis, vulnerability and disadvantage.

O.S.L.O. Occasional Sunday Lunches Out. 22nd

October We are booked with Holiday Inn which is just across the road from the church. If you are driving you take the carpark to the 3rd floor and then the lift to the 8th floor. No charge. Otherwise use the front entrance to the 8th floor. No special menu but limited choice and not expensive. Please contact by Thursday 18th October Elaine or Lorna for booking.

TODAY AND NEXT WEEK

Worship services

8 October: White Sunday
15 October: Rev. Angela Tampiyappa

What’s On This Week

Monday: 9.30am Playgroup
Wednesday: 9.30am Crossroads Property C’tee;
Thursday: 9.30am Gardening Group

Bible Readings 8 & 15 October

8 October: Exodus 20:1–4, 7–9, 12–20; Philippians 3:4b–14; Matthew 21:33–46; Psalm 19
15 October: Exodus 32:1–14; Philippians 4:1–9; Matthew 22:1–14; Psalm 106:1–6, 19–23

Rosters for 8 October & (15 October)

Greetings: Samoan White Sunday (Margaret D)
AV: Samoan White Sunday (Jacob L)
Morning Tea: Samoan White Sunday (Margaret F & Asanka P)
Flowers: Mary D (Margaret F)
Music: Samoan White Sunday (Elliott S)
Prayers: White Sunday participants (Jan B)
Reader: White Sunday participants (Wendy B)

Pastoral Care

Audrey Kateena (0435 064 088)
pastoral.carer@gmail.com

The Uniting Church in Wyndham online

Our Facebook page can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/621987747878234/> <https://crossroadsunitingchurch.org.au>. HX is secretary@hoppersuniting.church.

Church Office

Church office is open Monday to Friday, 9.30–12 noon. Phone 9741 1084. Email office@crossroadsunitingchurch.org.au.

TUCIW News: For any inclusions, please contact the editors **by Tuesday** (ph. 0427 812 606) or email robert.renton@bigpond.com.

Bank Accounts: Crossroads BSB 083-909 A/c 516109795. Hoppers Crossing BSB 013-915 A/c 354439707 Reference: Your surname.

Boom gate Remember the code: 0459#

To book for an event at Crossroads, please email bookings@crossroadsunitingchurch.org.au.