



Werribee Uniting Church

12 November
2023
Pentecost 23

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

Our TV stars!

Some of the crew who went to Q&A last week.



Election of new Church Council

To help us get to know the nominees for Church Council each person has prepared a profile to go with their photo and you will receive a page of profiles as you enter the church this morning. At Notices time nominees will be given two minutes to speak about themselves. You can use the page you have been given to make notes on each person if you wish. Please keep this paper till 3rd December.

More nominees will speak to us on the next two Sundays. The ballot will take place on 3 December. (Bev L)

Climate Choir – new members welcome

The Climate Choir of Melbourne will sing at these two places this month: (1) Friday Nov. 17 at the School Strike for Climate, Flagstaff Station, gardens exit 12.15 to 3 pm. (2) Wednesday Nov 22 at State Library of Victoria, Swanston Street City, 12 noon to 1 pm. The conductor is Jeanie Marsh. New members welcome.
climatechoirmelbourne@gmail.com (NT)

Justice Task Group – new members welcome!

Justice Task Group Werribee Uniting Church meets on Monday November 13 at 7.30 pm in the foyer of the church building at the corner of Synnot Street and Duncan Road. All welcome. Agenda items – contact Rob B.

Gospel reflection today

The Gospel Text for Sunday 12 November (Revised Common Lectionary) is read in Anglican, Catholic and Uniting Churches in Australia.

In this scene, Jesus is urgently calling on his hearers to “watch, prepare, be awake.” (*Greek: grygoriete*) Jesus is coming close to Jerusalem where he will meet his avowed enemies. He predicts he will be arrested, tried and killed. Jesus says: “This present crisis is like the parable’s situation where bridal guests must be ready and alert. My disciples must be faithful and unafraid!”

Matthew’s community, writing that Gospel about CE80, is facing a situation where the return of the Son of Man has been delayed. The wise disciples are those who obey Jesus’ teaching in faithful mission as they ‘hear and do’ Jesus’ words.

What does this mean for the church in 2023 and for the Christian at this time?

We know from the central focus of Jesus teaching and behaviour that he wants us to face down the powerful people and forces which influence the State; for our allegiance is to God and his Empire. (Love the Lord your God...”)

We also know from the Synoptic gospels that Jesus requires us to love our neighbours and our enemies without discrimination. This could mean that in the geopolitical situation of 2023 we are called to:

1. regard the conflicting nations of Ukraine and Russia in conflict with realistic caution, aware that the slogan “NATO means freedom” needs to be tempered with awareness of the global ambitions of USA.
2. Resist an uncritical view of the AUKUS alliance and its investment in nuclear submarines. China’s fear of encirclement is real; open dialogue with Xi JinPing is important.
3. Look for independent sources of information. Don’t be sucked in to the Murdoch media’s propaganda! (Neil Tolliday)

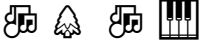
NEWS AND NOTES

Bible Discussion Group

The Bible Discussion Group resumes meetings on Tuesday **28 November** at 11.30 am. The gospel reading will be Matthew 25:31–46. Neil T.

O.S.L.O Occasional Sunday Lunches Out. We will be going to the Hoppers Club 180-200 Pannam Drive Hoppers Crossing for our Christmas lunch on Nov. 26 at 12md. There is a 3 course carvery for \$27 and everyone is very welcome. Please let Elaine or Lorna know that you are coming before Thursday 23 Nov.

Carol Service preparation

 The annual Carol Service is planned for 17 December at 7pm. Rehearsals will continue on the following dates: Sunday 12/11/23 6–7.30pm; Saturday 18/11 5–6pm; Monday 27/11 5–6.30pm; Sunday 3/12/23 5–6.30pm, Sunday 10/12 5–6.30pm; Saturday 16/12 5–6.30pm. Looking forward to seeing everyone again and enjoying the beautiful music of the season. (Wendy B.)

Beach Patrol 3030

Sunday Nov 12th is our final clean in 2023. We are meeting in the carpark at Campbell's Cove at 11:30 and we hope you can join us. To get there travel to the end of Cunningham's Rd & turn left into Campbell's Cove Rd. The carpark is at the end of the road. Remember to bring your gloves & water bottle. The clean will last for 1 hr. & we hope you can stay for a sausage/vege-burger to celebrate another great year for 3030 beach patrol.

Rev. Bruce Watson's retirement invitation

You're invited to attend Bruce's retirement afternoon tea on Saturday 25 November, from 3 to 5pm at Trinity UC, 7 Seves St, Altona. Please RSVP to Doreen C (contact the office for details).

Uniting World meets its fundraising target

Uniting World has just hit their fundraising target to help partners in Maluku and Timor-Leste who are fighting a food crisis in their communities. It means dozens of families accessing resources, support and training to grow their own food, and they're already reaping the benefits. We pray it spreads to impact hundreds over the coming months and we're so grateful for the support of people like you to make it happen. Thank you!

Please consider a card for Christmas from their catalogue

[Everything in Common Gift Catalogue](#) is out now for **Christmas!** (Luciana M8907)

TODAY AND NEXT WEEK

Worship services

12 November: Rev. Annetia Goldsmith
19 November: Rev. Angela Tampiyappa

What's On This Week

Today: 11.30am Beach Patrol at Campbell's Cove
Monday: 9.30am Playgroup; 7.30pm Justice Task Group (Church Foyer)
Wednesday: 9.30am Crossroads Property C'tee
Thursday: 9.30am Gardening Group
Friday: 1pm Sew 'n' Sow

Bible Readings 12 & 19 November

12 November: Joshua 24:1–3a, 14–25; 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18; Matthew 25:1–13; Ps. 78
19 November: Judges 4:1–7; 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11; Matthew 25:14–30; Psalm 123:1–4

Rosters for 12 November & (19 Nov.)

Greetings: Margaret B (Margaret D)
AV: Paul K (Christian R-K)
Morning Tea: Judy O'K & Dorothy R (Sandra S & Margaret G)
Flowers: Elaine B (Mary D)
Music: Gina L (Elliott S)
Prayers: Elizabeth B (HX)
Reader: Deb C (HX)

Werribee Uniting Church online

Our Facebook page can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/621987747878234/> <https://crossroadsunitingchurch.org.au>.

Church Office

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

WUC News: For any inclusions, please contact the editors **by Tuesday** (ph. 0427 812 606) or email robert.renton@bigpond.com. Our 'roving reporter' is Neil T)—if you have a piece of news or a good story, please contact Neil.

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 any of Werribee Uniting Church facilities, please email bookings@crossroadsunitingchurch.org.au. Elizabeth B manages the bookings.