



The Uniting Church in Wyndham News

27 August
2023
Pentecost 12

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

Today's amalgamation meetings

Following today's worship service separate congregational meetings will be held to approve the amalgamation of our two congregations which now have been worshipping together since November 2022.

The proposal to be approved is: **That this congregation of (Crossroads Werribee/Hoppers Crossing) in accordance with Regulation 3.4.4 request the Presbytery of Port Phillip West to amalgamate this congregation with the (Hoppers Crossing/Crossroads Werribee) congregation as from 2nd December 2023.**

The meetings will 'vote' using **consensus decision-making procedures** as approved by the Assembly, in which orange cards are used to show a positive, supportive attitude, and a blue card to show negative or disagreement with the proposal and yellow to ask a clarification question.

OSLO today

Our lunch today will be at the Phoenix Hotel, 22–30 Wallace Avenue, Point Cook, at the slightly later time of 12.30pm.

Thought for the day

I would like to beg you, dear Sir, as well as I can,
to have patience with everything unresolved in your heart
and to try to love the questions themselves as if they
were locked rooms
or books written in a very foreign language.
Don't search for the answers which could not be given to
you now,
because you would not be able to live them.
And the point is to live everything.
Live the questions now.
Perhaps, then, someday far in the future,
you will gradually,
without even noticing it,
live your way into the answers.

— Rainer M R (1903)

Welcome to Melvin T

It's a great pleasure for me to meet a young person from Vanuatu, the former "New Hebrides mission field" of the Australian Presbyterian Church. Over many years I knew former missionaries – including Sister Margery Heard and Revds Milton Chiles, Malcolm Campbell and Alex Peerman.

I learned the story of the famous Presbyterian missionary John G. Paton, who brought the gospel of Jesus to the islanders of the New Hebrides. Paton protested publicly at the slavery practices of the "blackbirders" including Robert Towns, founder of Townsville, who kidnapped young New Hebridean men for unpaid work in the cane fields of Queensland, a black stain on Australia's history.



Melvin T (pictured) is working as a vegetable processor at Werribee South farms. He is attending worship at Crossroads Uniting Church. He greeted me with a big smile and agreed to tell me his story.

He grew up in the village of Erakar on the island of Efate, near to the capital Port Vila, with two brothers and one sister, and attended Onesua Presbyterian College.

Melvin's family attends the Presbyterian Church, and he is a youth leader. Melvin's further education was for a year at the University of the South Pacific, and then at the Maritime College, Port Vila, where he studied towards a Captain's ticket. He says: "I have worked on small merchant ships plying around the islands of Vanuatu. In 2018 I completed fire-fighting training in Auckland, New Zealand."

He says: "My younger brother came to Australia last year for vegetable farm work, and I became interested. My contract is for 9 months, from my arrival in June this year, until April next year. I share a house in Werribee with several young men from Pacific Islands. Cutting the vegetables starts at 6 am. It's very cold in the mornings."

Introduce yourself to Melvin and make a new friend. (NT)

NEWS AND NOTES

Prayer group and Bible study

Meet again at Crossroads on **Tuesday 29 August from 11.30 am to 1 pm** for the discussion about the gospel reading for the next Sunday. Share lunch together afterwards. Contact Neil T.



WYNDHAM Learning FESTIVAL 1-7 SEPTEMBER

WYNDHAM UNITING JUSTICE TASK GROUP PRESENTS:

REGENERATING AUSTRALIA AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS COMMUNITY FILM AND DISCUSSION

Join us for an afternoon of discussion on climate solutions and sustainable change through transformative practices. Let's build a cleaner, fairer and more prosperous future together!

Live music, drinks and snacks!

WAYAPERRI HOUSE, 106 DUNCANS ROAD WERRIBEE, VIC 3030 (OPPOSITE WERRIBEE SECONDARY COLLEGE)
SATURDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER, 3 PM-4:30 PM

QR CODE TO BOOK

Proudly supported by
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Shoebox

If you would like to pack a shoebox this year, I have plenty of empty shoeboxes of all shapes and sizes available. If you need some just let me know and I will drop them around to you, or you can collect some from the church office.

I would like to remind you that the cost of postage per shoebox has risen to **\$12.50**. All filled shoeboxes must be returned to the Church by **15 October**. I can collect them from you if that is easier.

After this season I will retire from leading the shoebox project at Crossroads. If you think you might like to take it on, please have a chat with me. (Rose G)

TODAY AND NEXT WEEK

Worship services

27 August: Rev. Ian Pearse

3 September: Rev. Lyndon Broadstock

What's On This Week

Monday: 9.30am Playgroup

Tuesday: 11.30am Bible Discussion

Wednesday: 9.30am Crossroads Property C'tee;

Thursday: 9.30am Gardening Group

Bible Readings – 27 August & 3 September

27 August: Exodus 1:8–2:10; Romans 12:1–8; Matthew 16:13–20; Psalm 124

3 September: Exodus 3:1–15; Romans 12:9–21; Matthew 16:21–28; Psalm 105:1–6, 23–25, 45c.

Rosters for 27 August & (3 September)

Greetings: Margaret D (Margaret D)

AV: Jacob L (Christian R-K)

Morning Tea: Marie C & Virginia S (Samoan Ladies)

Flowers: Mary D (Margaret F)

Music: Angela M (Elliott S)

Prayers: Tupu L (Margaret B)

Reader: Tupu L (Neil T)

Pastoral Care

Audrey Kateena (0435 064 088)

Crossroads and Hoppers Crossing online

CR 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.