



# The Uniting Church in Wyndham News

20 August  
2023  
Pentecost 11

**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

### Questions re amalgamation meetings

**Q: What differences will it make when the two congregations unite? We already worship together.**

**A: The answer is there will be several important and positive differences even if some things remain the same.**

These differences are all positive. We will be able to have just one Church Council, one chairperson, secretary and treasurer, one Property Committee, one set of people responsible for the oversight of the important functions such as occupational health and safety and 'safe church', and of course these roles will be shared amongst a bigger group of members.

Our combined membership will reflect a wider range of ages, interests, strengths and cultures that will enhance our ability to enter more strongly into mission as well as support our existing programs. We will continue to benefit from each other's gifts and strengths in many ways.

There is a financial and property advantage as well. Our combined assets will enable us to undertake valuable improvements to the way we use and develop our property. The last major renovation work to the Crossroads property took place more than 30 years ago and the increased size of the combined congregation necessitates a new look at how the property can be made a better fit for our purposes. The combined finances will also improve the sustainability of our church life, including the provision for ministry. Our ministry needs will be re-evaluated with the guidance of the Presbytery.

Of course, some things will remain much the same, such as worship as one congregation at 9.30am, existing programs such as seniors afternoon tea, boys' brigade, bible discussion groups, and OSLO will continue. The recently re-started Messy Church will continue and the Justice Task Group, which has been strengthened with new members, will continue. The office will continue to be operated, thanks to the volunteers. The combined newsletter will continue, as will the provision of a video of the day's worship service on YouTube and Facebook. (RR)

### A re-introduction to Ian Pearse



Welcome back Ian Pearse today. Retired minister Rev Ian Pearse (pictured) conducts our combined Hoppers Crossing and Crossroads worship this morning and next Sunday.

Ian and his wife Bev came to Victoria from Western Australia in 2014, having served in several metropolitan parishes, chaplain at Royal Perth Hospital and Cancer Council Cottage.

He has been supply minister many times since coming to Maddingley, Bacchus Marsh where he and Bev live. Ian preached and led services on line during the Covid19 pandemic. He says "I feel privileged to be invited to lead the worship of God with your two congregations together, and I look forward to meeting old and new friends." (NT)

### The Congregational Meetings

Next Sunday our two congregational meetings (held separately) will vote on this proposal:

"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."

### APOLOGIES

If you are not able to be present on Sunday 27th August you are invited to record your apology on the list provided for your congregation on the table at the entrance to the church. Or you can advise your church secretary. (Remember, though, you have to be present at the meeting to vote.)

**OSLO:** Sunday 27 August we are booked with the Phoenix Hotel at 22-30 Wallace Avenue Point Cook. Because of the General meetings it is booked for 12.30pm. Everybody welcome but please contact either Elaine or Lorna for booking or cancellation before Thursday 24 August.

## NEWS AND NOTES

**Prayer group and Bible study**

Meet again at Crossroads on **Tuesday 22 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:

*Join Us! All Welcome!*

**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

WYNDHAM UNITE WITH US! ALL WELCOME!

Proudly supported by wyndham unite with us! all welcome and Climate Society

**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**

20 August: Rev. Ian Pearse

27 August: Rev. Ian Pearse

**What's On This Week**

**Monday:** 9.30am Playgroup

**Tuesday:** 11.30am Bible Discussion

**Wednesday:** 9.30am Crossroads Property C'tee; 2pm Seniors Afternoon Tea

**Thursday:** 9.30am Gardening Group

**Bible Readings – 20 & 27 August**

**20 August:** Genesis 45:1–15; Romans 11:1–2a, 29–32; Matthew 15:21–28; Psalm 133

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

**Rosters for 13 August & (20 August)**

**Greetings:** Bev C (Margaret D)

**AV:** Christian R-K (Jacob L)

**Morning Tea:** Margaret F & Asanka P (Marie C & Virginia S)

**Flowers:** Elaine B (Mary D)

**Music:** Elliott S (Asanka P)

**Prayers:** Luciana A (HX)

**Reader:** Paul C (HX)

**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](mailto:secretary@hoppersuniting.church).

**Church Office**

Church office is open Monday to Friday, 9.30–12 noon. Phone 9741 1084. Email [office@crossroadsunitingchurch.org.au](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bookings@crossroadsunitingchurch.org.au).