



Werribee Uniting Church

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 we gather.

21 December 2025: Advent 4

Christmas Bowl

This Advent, we can act for peace together and help create a world where people uprooted by conflict and disaster have a safe place to belong.

Today more than 123.2 million people – 1 in every 67 worldwide – are without the peace of a safe home. Many travel for months across countries, arriving in places where they are nameless, stateless and homeless. Your prayers, offerings and participation ensure they are not alone.

This Christmas you can stand with them every step of the way home. Together, we can bring hope and belonging to those who need it most. We can bring practical help and God's love to families affected by conflict and disaster.

"The Christmas Bowl has become an enduring ecumenical tradition, raising significant funds for humanitarian aid, transforming lives, and reminding us that generosity can ripple through generations." Rev. (Deacon) Sandy Boyce

The Christmas Bowl is the Christmas Appeal of Act for Peace, the international humanitarian agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. Gifts of \$2 and over are tax deductible.



Inaya lives in Southern Pakistan, where livelihoods are disrupted by drought, so education often takes a back seat to survival, plus girls were much less likely to attend school than boys. Act for Peace's local partner is helping communities rebuild not just their livelihoods, but their futures, through access to education for both boys and girls.

As we reflect on the theme of love may we remember that every gift, every act of kindness, every prayer for peace is part of that greater story – the love that began in Bethlehem and continues through us today.

Please donate by Christmas. Last day of the appeal is Sunday 28th December. (Sandra Savory)

Ways you can donate:

- Use the Christmas Bowl envelopes available at church (for cash, cheque or credit card)—put in offering bowl, or our Christmas Bowl, or post
- Put your cash donation in our own special wooden Christmas Bowl at the back of the church

TODAY AND NEXT WEEK

Worship services

21 December: Rev. Angela Tampiyappa

Christmas Day: Mr Raymond Surujpal

28 December: Mr Raymond Surujpal

For Pastoral Care: Please contact Raymond Surujpal, convenor of the pastoral care team on: 0432 619 184

Bible readings

This week: Isaiah 7:20–16; Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19; Romans 1:1–7; Matthew 1:18–25

Next week: Isaiah 63:7–9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10–18; Matthew 2:13–23

What's on this week

Rosters 21 December (28 December)

Greetings: Deb Cochran (Margaret Bull)

Audiovisual: Jacob Lewis (Noel Savory)

Morning Tea: Jan Bradley & Julie Hamilton (Judith O'Keefe & Dorothy Rookes)

Music: Gina Lee (Angela Murnane)

Prayers: Margaret Bull (Node Madu)

Reader: Paul Cochran (Louise deNove)

Werribee UC on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/621987747878234/>

Church office

Open 9.30am to 12 noon. Phone 97411084

Email office@werribeeunitingchurch.org.au

WUC Newsletter

Send information for inclusion to the Editor at robert.renton@bigpond.com or 0427 812 606.

Bank Account & Boom Gate (0459#)

BSB 083-909 A/c 516109795

To book facilities at WUC:

Email: (Elizabeth Barnes)

bookings@werribeeunitingchurch.org.au

Samoan service (resumes next year)

3rd Sunday, 4pm, in the Church: All welcome.

- Donate online at christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au Please make sure to donate under our church's name.
- Scan the QR code on the Christmas Bowl posters in the church foyer to go directly to our church's donation page on the website.

Christmas Greetings from Church Council



To all members of the congregation, wishing you all a happy and safe Christmas. May you and your families have the blessing of hope and the peace of His love with you at this Christmas time and always.

Booking our facilities

For all church group bookings, if you are wanting to use the church facilities, please ensure that you email bookings@werribeeunitingchurch.org.au with full details **at least two weeks prior to the date that you require.** Please note that the Bookings email is monitored during business hours, whereas this is not the case for the church office email. (Elizabeth, Bookings Admin Officer)

Office & Newsletter holidays

The Church Office will be closing on Friday December 19 2025, and reopening on Thursday 29 January 2026.

This is the last newsletter for the year and the first one for the new year will be for Sunday 1 February 2026.

Rosters for January 2026

4th – Preacher: Rev. David Withers; Greeting: Kur Mag; AV: Noel Savory; Morning Tea: Lauina Levave; Music: Wendy Barnes; Prayers: Site Tupua; Reader: Site Tupua

11th – Preacher: Rev. Angela Tampiyappa; Greeting: Node & Mae Madu; AV: Noel Savory; MT: Elaine Bailey & Julie Rees; Music: Wendy Barnes; Prayers: Node Madu; Reader: Judy Khor

18th – Preacher: Tupu Latu; Greeting: Judy Khor; AV: Jacob Lewis; MT: Judith O'Keefe & Dorothy Rookes; Music: Wendy Barnes; Prayers: Mahonrie Aiga; Reader: Node & Mae Madu

25th – Preacher: Mabel Msopero; Greeting: Louise & Mae; AV: Chelsea & Faith; MT: Jan Bradley & Julie Hamilton; Music: Angela Murnane; Prayers: Site Tupua; Reader: Site Tupua

Roster for 1 February 2026

Preacher: TBC; Greeting: Margaret Dent; AV: Christian Ropeti-Kilifi; MT: Lauina Levave; Music: Wendy Barnes; Prayers: Ron Latu; Reader: Sandra Savory

Certificate of Appreciation



Helen Grech came to Crossroads Church 25 years ago. When she was looking for a way to contribute to the congregation she heard that there was a vacancy for a volunteer at the church office. She felt that would be good way to use her skills. She accepted the position.

Now, 25 years later, she is still the friendly voice who answers you calls at the office on Wednesdays. At worship last Sunday Margaret Bull presented a certificate of appreciation for her 25 years of service.

Helen, we thank you for your outstanding service and wish you many more happy years of Wednesdays in the church office.

Cameroon Cultural Festival



This photo was taken at worship recently when the deNove family from Douala in Cameroon came in their national dress because it was the day of their Ngondo Festival. This traditional cultural festival is

celebrated by the Sawa people of Douala in Cameroon. It is held every year to honour water spirits and ancestors. The celebration includes traditional dances, canoe races on the Wouri River, cultural rituals, and community gatherings. It is a very important event for unity, culture, and heritage.

To Lila, Daniel, Louise (mother), Andréa and Léannah (Left to right in photo) we say thank you for sharing a little of your culture with us. (Mae Joy)

Help for Sri Lanka — UnitingWorld



Urgent support is needed after the deadly Sri Lanka floods—Cyclone Ditwah has caused the

worst flooding Sri Lanka has seen in decades. Over 200 lives have been lost and nearly 200,000 people have been displaced. Our partner, the Methodist Church in Sri Lanka, is on the ground providing food, shelter and emergency care. Your gift today will help them reach more families in urgent need. You can support UnitingWorld through its webpage—go to <https://tinyurl.com/yc7mt6mn>. (Angela Tampiyappa)