



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.

27 July 2025

Baptism

The baptism of Leonardo Stevenson will be celebrated today. We welcome Leo, his family and their friends to this service.

Church Council report

The Church Council met on Wednesday 16 July and would like to inform the congregation of the following.

1. Presbytery have confirmed that the congregational profile is with their Administration and Finance area who are reviewing our finances to enable us to have a full-time minister. Once this is completed the process of seeking a new minister will proceed.
2. No response has been received yet to the request for permission to lease the Filippin Court manse.
3. A suggestion was received from the property committee about setting up the rooms up in No. 19 Dunacns Rd (red brick manse) as meeting rooms for hire. With an apparent lack of facilities in Wyndham for groups wanting to hire a space for once-a-month meetings, the rooms in the manse could be hired for such meetings.
4. Following the relocation of the remaining items of furniture from Hoppers Crossing to Werribee, Alan Thompson made a list of all the different types of chairs and tables we have. Re-arranging of where the differing chairs and tables are placed will enable the meeting rooms to be setup. Church Council approved the suggestion.
5. Church Council approved the updating of our wedding brochure together with adjustment to our costs to be inline with nearby Uniting churches.

(Margaret Bull, Church Council Secretary)

FETE FETE FETE

There will be a Fête meeting after the church service on TODAY (before we head to the RSL for OSLO). Please bring along your ideas and tell us what you can offer towards the fête on Saturday 25 October. For more details, please see Tracey Seulupe or Armando Aragon who are 'taking the lead' this year. Thank you.

Vivien Bleakley

Born in 1937 in Birmingham England, Vivien has memories of the years when her home had a war shelter in the backyard. Children in her street put on plays in the Rotunda and charged tuppence for their performances.

Her first job was in the corner shop selling rationed sweets and being the post office person.

She often walked to work in the snow. Later she worked in accounts at the Electricity Board.

TODAY AND NEXT WEEK

Worship services

27 July: Rev. Ian Pearse

3 August: Rev. Bruce Watson

For Pastoral Care: Please contact Raymond Surujpal, convenor of the pastoral care team on: 0432 619 184 or Margaret Bull: 0417 500 961.

Bible readings

This week: Hosea 1:2–10; Psalm 85; Colossians 2:6–19; Luke 11:1–13

Next week: Hosea 11:1–11; Psalm 107:1–9, 43; Colossians 3:1–11; Luke 12:13–21

What's on this week

Monday: 9.30am Playgroup

Tuesday: 9.30am Bible Study

Wednesday: 9.30am Property Group

Thursday: 9.30am Gardening Group;

5.30pm Health & Fitness;

5.30pm Choral Practice

Friday: 6.30pm Youth Group

Saturday: 7.30am Samoan Health & Fitness

Rosters 27 July (& 3 August)

Greetings: Node & Mae Madu (Ken Storey)

Audiovisual: TBC (TBC)

Morning Tea: Sandra Savory & Margaret Gook (Lauina Levave)

Music: Angela Murnane (Wendy Barnes)

Prayers: Emily Metusela (Elizabeth Barnes)

Reader: Lyn O'Meara (Julie Rees)

Werribee UC on Facebook:

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

Church office

Open 9.30am to 12 noon. Phone 97411084

Email office@werribeecunitingchurch.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@werribeecunitingchurch.org.au

Samoan service

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

Vivien was just 20 when she and her husband Fred decided to come to Australia. They arrived on a day of 109 degrees!

Vivien found a job in accounts even though she hated maths. Fred and Vivien had two children Karyn and Tracy. The family had a car accident that seriously injured Vivien and killed Fred.

After her husband died Vivien and her children were invited to Church and Vivien has been part of our congregation ever since.

Later Vivien married Brian and they had two Sons Bruce and David.

At the church she became very involved in Care and Concern and led the Sunday School for 17 years.

After some volunteer work in kindergartens Vivien was employed as a kinder teacher for 28 years. She loved to study and after completing two Bachelor Degrees and a Masters Degree she taught adults at Victoria University, special needs teenagers at Yooralla and also migrants.

Another unpaid role was as the first treasurer of the Community Play Group that began in St Thomas' Church Hall and then moved into 'The Cottage' where it still functions.

At Christmas time in 2016 Vivien was babysitting for her son when she had a tragic accident. She fell on a staircase and spent four months in hospital and many more months on crutches.



Vivien is a very caring person and is always doing things for others. Many of us have received a sympathy card, birthday card or just a 'thinking of you' from Vivien. She contributes to all our appeals and also knits for the Werribee Hospital. A keen member of our UCAF she attends by taxi and picks up two other

ladies on the way.

Her greatest treasures are her four children and her four grandchildren. (Bev Lambie)

An uplifting story

ABC News on Wednesday 23 July had the following uplifting story of the difference a generous love can make. I found the story at <https://tinyurl.com/ry5a4kwf>.

Hobart couple buy former student boarding house for older women at risk of homelessness. (by Crystal McKay)



The Goulds are active members of their neighbourhood's online Good Karma Network group. (ABC News: Maren Preuss)

It was while offering short-term stays to women in need that retirees Richard and Jan Gould heard first-hand of the depth of Tasmania's growing housing affordability issues.

Moved by the stories they were confronted with, the Goulds resolved to try to make a difference in their community by offering their own low-cost housing solution.

"We haven't done this sort of thing before,"

Ms Gould said.

"So, we are consulting widely with charities to see if we've hit the mark on what the people who come to them would want."

After moving to Hobart from Sydney three years ago, the couple had been providing accommodation to vulnerable women at a short-stay rental property they own.

One by one, they met women from all walks of life, with the common thread being their visitors were unable to afford the increasing cost of private rentals.

Some stayed at their place for just a week, others for closer to six months.

Mr Gould said it opened their eyes to how big the housing crisis was, and how it was having a disproportionate impact on older women, who were often lower on the priority lists at social housing providers.

"This property came up on the market and it took us a little while and all of the sudden the penny dropped," he said.

"This could make a great affordable housing property, and specifically for women.

"It was a no-brainer."

Good news

The ABC runs a good news segment daily that I find very helpful, after reading all the depressing stories about billionaires and Trump and the rest! (Robert Renton)