



# 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.

31 August 2025

## Church Council Report

The Church Council met on Wednesday 20 August 2025 and would like to inform the congregation of the following:

The preaching plan for September, October and November was approved. Worship services for these months will be led by Rev. Bruce Watson, Rev Ikani Vaitohi, Lay Preachers from our congregation and the Social Justice Task Group.

Following the review of our finances the Presbytery Admin and Finance area had several questions for the Finance Committee and Church Council to discuss. The discussion has taken place, and the information is being sent back to Presbytery Admin and Finance.

Permission has been received from Synod Property area for the leasing of the Filippin Court manse for a period of 12 months. Meetings are taking place with Westwoods Real Estate agent to start the process of leasing Filippin Court.

The setting up of rooms in 19 Duncans Rd as meeting rooms for hire has taken place. Repairs to two windows and appropriate window coverings are being actioned.

The cost of updating the sign boards at the front of the property plus a board to advertise the rooms for hire at 19 Duncans Rd is being obtained.

A suggestion was received from the Property Committee to re-name the area previously known as the Op Shop to the Long Room was accepted.

Margaret Bull, Church Council Secretary

### Church Office Volunteers

The church office is open from 9.30am to 12 noon and is staffed by the following volunteers.

Monday	Liz Barnes
Tuesday	Julie Hamilton
Wednesday	Helen Grech
Thursday	Liz Barnes
Friday	Margaret Gook.

## TODAY AND NEXT WEEK

### Worship services

31 August: Rev. Valerie Johnson

7<sup>th</sup> September 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:** Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:10-16; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14

**Next week:** Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33;

### What's on this week

**Monday:** 9.30am Playgroup

**Tuesday:** 9.30am Bible Study

**Wednesday:** 9.30am Property Group;  
1.30 UCAF.

3.30pm Pastoral Care

**Thursday:** 9.30am Gardening Group;  
5.30pm Choral Practice

**Friday:** 6.30pm Youth Group

### Rosters 31 August (7 September)

**Greetings:** Elizabeth Barnes (Paul Kirkman)

**Audiovisual:** Jacob Lewis (Paul Kirkman)

**Morning Tea:** Jan Bradley & Julie Hamilton  
(Tupu Latu)

**Music:** Wendy Barnes (Wendy Barnes)

**Prayers:** Sandra Savory (Ashok Sherwal)

**Reader:** Fa Tuipea (Ashok Sherwal)

### 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](mailto:office@werribeeunitingchurch.org.au)

### WUC Newsletter

Send information for inclusion to the Editor at [robert.renton@bigpond.com](mailto: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](mailto:bookings@werribeeunitingchurch.org.au)

### Samoa service

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



## Stan Belcher

Stan was born in Corowa NSW in 1942 the third child of six. His father was a Presbyterian Minister and he served in four states... NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia. Stan's school years were spent in Smeaton, Murray Bridge and Rochester. By the age of 17 he was ready for work and

began with the Public Trustee then later at the State Treasury and the State Superannuation Board. Whilst working he studied part time for a Bachelor of Commerce Degree at Melbourne University. He later worked as the Manager of Superannuation with the BTR Nylux Group.

When he was boarding in Footscray he met Elaine at the church PFA group. They married in 1967 and built their first home in Werribee. At Werribee Presbyterian Church Stan was an elder, as well as doing some Sunday School teaching. Following church union he served as a church council member and treasurer.

At the time of Union, with the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches both located in Synnot St, it was necessary to decide which building to keep and which to sell. Stan took on a very challenging role as the convenor of the Property Rationalisation and Development Committee. In 1989 they decided to sell the Methodist property and combine on the site we now use which became known as Crossroads.

Stan was then involved in the development of the new foyer and kitchen linking the heritage church to the hall.

Stan has enjoyed sport especially tennis and running. He specialized in marathons and ran 15 marathons in all (eleven in Melbourne, two in Canberra and he was an Australian rep for the World Veterans Marathon at Gateshead in England in 1999). In 2000 he participated in the test run for the Olympic Games in Sydney. They even had a helicopter flying overhead to film their run.

I was amazed to hear that his best time was three hours and seven minutes to cover a distance of 42.2 km.

Stan we congratulate you on all your personal achievements and thank you for all that you have done for our congregation over so many years.  
(Bev Lambie)

## Church Fete Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October

### A message from Nola Edgar—

I have had a good response to my article in last week's newsletter about the possibility of a stall to sell Hand Embroidery Items. I have already been given some items with the promise of more to come. We need many more to fill a stall.

I am looking for small quantities of left over bits and pieces from hand embroidery crafts.

This could consist of embroidery threads e.g. DMC, Anchor Madera and other brands. Tapestry wool DMC, Anchor etc. usually 8 ply, 2 ply Appleton, used to embroider on wool baby blankets Tea cosies, as well as hot water bottle covers. Fabric could be off-cuts of AIDA various thread count. Even-weave Linen, Tapestry Canvas, small pieces can produce many different items. Lace, motifs or bits of "by the metre".

We could also sell books related to hand embroidery.

If you have any of the above you would like to donate, let me know please.

Nola Edgar 0400 797 683



## Church Council Election

At the end of this year the following Council Members will complete their term of service:

Lauina Levave, Node Madu, Amelia Ropeti-Kiliffi  
Wendy Barnes and Ron Holman.

There are two other vacancies so we need to elect seven Church Council Members this year. The date for the election will be Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

Please start to think about this and consider who you wish to nominate. Those who have completed a term may be renominated if they are willing to stand again.

Nomination forms will be available from 19<sup>th</sup> October. (Bev Lambie Congregation Secretary)

## UCAF

Werribee Uniting UCAF will meet again on Wednesday 3rd September 1.00pm in the church foyer. All welcome to come and join our meeting and listen/watch our guest speaker decorate little cakes.  
(Margaret Gook)

## 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Long time Werribee resident and member of Crossroads Uniting Church...Joan Sturgess celebrated her 99th birthday on Thursday 21st August among friends at "Charles Brownlow" village in Geelong.

