



# 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.

**15 March 2026**

## UnitingWorld's Lent Event

### Week 4: Zimbabwe

This week, as we learn and pray for our global Church partners, we're in Zimbabwe, where school hubs are an innovative way of creating change in the whole community. Children and students everywhere face huge challenges in our complex and ever-changing world. In rural Zimbabwe, schools face these issues on top of even more urgent challenges: children come to school hungry or malnourished. They may drop out because they're needed at home to look after younger children and animals. When rains fail, they may have to walk long distances for water instead of attending school.

Changing weather patterns have created unseasonal drought, failed crops and widespread hunger in these communities. Gains made against poverty and hunger have slid backwards in the face of these challenges. UnitingWorld's partner, the Methodist Church in Zimbabwe, realised that one of the best ways to reach whole communities to create change is through school hubs.

Through their Relief and Development Agency, MeDRA, the Church is turning dry land into school vegetable gardens, installing solar powered water systems and training students and their families in climate-smart farming.

Parents know their children are eating well at school, and using the solar powered water systems, they can also access enough water to improve their own vegetable gardens. This means they have enough to feed their families and also create some income.

MeDRA's projects show people that the Church is responsive to their most urgent challenges – how to feed themselves, get clean water and provide an income in the face of a changing climate. Children are learning to care for their land in a climate-crisis, and members of the community are stepping up to advocate for better environmental policies.

UnitingWorld plans to help the Methodist Church in Zimbabwe extend the school hub model across more communities, and funds we raise through Lent Event this year will support this critical work.

**Options to give**, Werribee Uniting Church Lent Event link, Lent Event envelopes, online giving, or in person to Armando, Luciana, Mae or Node.

## TODAY AND NEXT WEEK

### Worship services

15 March 2026: Rev. Bruce Watson

22 March 2026: Mr Raymond Surujpal

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

### Bible readings

**This week:** 1 Samuel 16:1–13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8–14; John 9:1–41

**Next week:** Ezekiel 37:1–14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6–11; John 11:1–45

### What's on this week

**Monday:** 9.30am Playgroup

**Tuesday:** 9.30am Bible Study

**Wednesday:** 9.30am Property Group;  
7pm Church Council

**Thursday:** 9.30am Gardening Group;  
5.45pm Choral Practice

**Friday:** 6pm Youth Group

### Rosters 15 March (22 March)

**Greetings:** Tulua Seulupe (Elizabeth Barnes)

**Audiovisual:** Jacob Lewis (Chelsea & Faith)

**Morning Tea:** Sandra Savory & Julie Rees  
(Judith O'Keefe & Dorothy Rookes)

**Music:** Wendy Barnes (Angela Murnane)

**Prayers:** Tulua Seulupe (Lauina Levave)

**Reader:** Bev Lambie (Val Tardrew)

### 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, 12pm, in the Church: All welcome.

## Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will be held immediately after worship on Sunday 29th March. At that meeting we need to elect the Secretary and Chairperson for the congregation. These positions are annual appointments. Please advise Bev Lambie if you wish to nominate a person for these positions. 0474 075 5543.

## Inaugural W'Nat Experience

**THE W'NAT EXPERIENCE AT THE YOU YANGS**

# LET'S WALK 'N' TALK

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21ST | 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM | YOU YANGS (TURNTABLE CARPARK)**

**W'Nat: A Seasonal Walking Series**  
On the 3rd Saturday of every second month, move your body and spark your mind. We hike side-by-side to breathe, share inspiring conversations, and renew our wellbeing in nature. Come for the walk, stay for the community!

**JOIN US IN OUR INAUGURAL EXPERIENCE!**

- ✓ **THE WALK**  
Guided moments through the granite peaks to clear your mind and find your focus.
- ✓ **THE NATURE**  
Insights into local ecology and environmental justice.
- ✓ **THE TALK**  
Purposeful conversation prompts and a 'Justice Jar' for actionable eco-tips.
- ✓ **WE PROVIDE:** guided trail maps, talking prompts, and guided mindfulness.
- ✓ **YOU BRING:** Water bottle, snacks, and sturdy walking shoes.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME! FREE ENTRY**

**ORGANIZED BY JUSTICE TASK GROUP | SUPPORTED BY ENVIRONMENT VICTORIA**

**RSVP : Luciana 0478 655 957**

Join us for the inaugural W'Nat Experience! We are organising a seasonal walking series at the You Yangs starting on Saturday, March 21st. We're walking side-by-side to breathe, connect, and talk about the environment.

Meet: 9:30 AM at the You Yangs—Turntable Carpark. What to expect: Guided trails, mindfulness, and great community. What to bring: Sturdy shoes, water, and snacks.

Everyone is welcome! Let us know if you can make it. And it is free! RSVP Luciana : 0478 655 957.

## VAKA 26 – A Shared Journey

I was invited to attend Vaka 26, a community organising training held at the Uniting Church Centre for Ministry in Sydney, alongside a small group of representatives from the Latino community. The gathering brought together Pasifika communities, leaders, and members of

the Uniting Church from across Australia. Through shared learning, storytelling, and relationship-building, it was a powerful reminder that we are not alone — our faith, cultures, and commitment to justice are deeply connected.



A similar Vaka training is planned for Melbourne later this year, so stay tuned. (Luciana Manrique Aragon)

## Living water



*Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."*

*Unexpected refreshment  
flows from an act of service,  
a mystery hidden  
in an ordinary deed.  
Acting in trust  
for the sake of life and healing  
releases the infinite grace  
already present  
in even the most unpromising situation.  
Faith is not knowing,  
but striking the rock.*

**Steve Garnaas-Holmes, "Strike the Rock"**