



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.

8 February 2026

UnitingWorld's Lent Event



Lenten Event 2026

Walking Together with UnitingWorld

The Werribee Uniting Church invites everyone to take part in this year's Lenten Event organised by UnitingWorld, 18 Feb to 2 April.

Together, we will be stepping into meaningful action in three ways:

We will have a guest speaker, Antony McMullen from UnitingWorld, on Sunday 1 March. We are delighted to welcome Antony as our guest speaker as we take on our Lenten journey.

40 Days of Stories, Prayers and Videos, throughout Lent, we will be sharing weekly stories, prayers, reflections and short videos helping us stay connected to communities tackling poverty, climate impacts and injustice.

Supporting UnitingWorld's Work, donations welcome. As a congregation, we will be collecting donations throughout Lent to support UnitingWorld's life-changing projects.

Why we're participating, climate change is driving a global hunger crisis. In places like Timor-Leste, one in four people experiences hunger. Half of all children face stunting due to failed crops and limited access to clean water. Our Lent giving helps empower communities facing these challenges.

We hope you'll join us in this meaningful, compassionate journey.

Warm Up to Worship next week!!



Our monthly preservice singing will start for 2026 next Sunday, February 15th. Come along at 9.15am to join in hymns and songs, old and new!

TODAY AND NEXT WEEK

Worship services

8 February 2026: Mr Raymond Surujpal

15 February 2026: Rev. Bruce Watson

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

Bible readings

This week: Isaiah 58:1–12; Psalm 112:1–9; 1 Corinthians 2:1–16; Matthew 5:13–20

Next week: Exodus 24:12–18; Psalm 2 or 99; 2 Peter 1:16–21; Matthew 17:1–9

What's on this week

Monday: 9.30am Playgroup

Tuesday: 9.30am Bible Study

Wednesday: 9.30am Property Group;
7.30pm Social Justice Task Group

Thursday: 9.30am Gardening Group;
5.45pm Choral Practice

Friday: 6pm Youth Group

Rosters 8 February (15 February)

Greetings: Tulua Seulupe (Deb Cochran)

Audiovisual: Faith & Chelsea (Jacob Lewis)

Morning Tea: Elaine Belcher & Margaret Gook
(Fa Tuipea & Site Tupua)

Music: Gina Lee (Wendy Barnes)

Prayers: Mahonrie Aiga (Sandra Savory)

Reader: Bev Lambie (Paul Cochran)

Werribee UC on Facebook:

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

Church office

Open 9.30am to 12 noon. Phone 97411084

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WUC Newsletter

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

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BSB 083-909 A/c 516109795

To book facilities at WUC:

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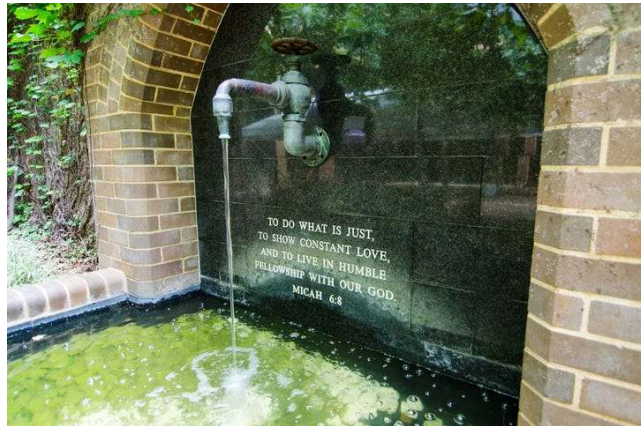
Samoan service

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

AV Training and Operating

Are you interested in helping out the congregation on a Sunday by learning how to operate the audiovisual equipment? If so, could you please let the office know as soon as possible, as we are wanting to arrange some training in the near future.

A word from Micah



I receive a regular mailing from Diana Butler Bass who lives in the USA and who is appalled at the horrible actions of President Trump and his minions. She writes:

The late Hebrew Bible scholar, Walter Brueggemann, wrote of this sense of powerlessness as experienced by the people of Micah's day, "It is now agreed among a growing number of scholars," he insisted, "that Micah is the voice of the village peasant against the rapacious power of the state. . . the peasants watched carefully the growing and shameless power of the Jerusalem government. That urban-scientific-military-industrial establishment had usurped the well-being of the little people. . . So, Micah raises the justice question with reference to that social development, the growing power of the urban state."

Jesus' followers knew this same deadening "rapacious power of the state" some eight centuries later. And now, twenty centuries after the Beatitudes, we know it, too.

It feels horrible to be a "village peasant," and be on the receiving end of the "growing and shameless power" of a rapacious state.

You feel terrible? Can't watch the news? Cry over citizens murdered by government agents and babies kidnapped and sent to concentration camps without their mommies? Struggling to afford groceries? Unable to provide a decent home or health insurance for your family? For a long time, many regular Americans were under the illusion that we mattered — only to be dragged into the imperial crush of history by a wannabe king and his billionaire friends — and find out that we aren't that far removed from village peasants after all.

They cried out to Micah, "We've had enough! What are we going to do? Prostrate ourselves and weep? Should we

give the best of what we have as an offering to the LORD? Sacrifice our children?"

And the prophet replied:

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you*

*but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?*

That's it. That's God's big plan for defeating the rapacious powers of the state. That's what we're supposed to do.

It is pretty simple and unbelievably difficult at the same time.

What are we going to do?

The Vision: Act justly. Do justice.

The Ground of the Vision: Love lovingkindness.

Embodying the Vision: Walk humbly with God.

Do what is right. LOVE LOVINGKINDNESS. Get up and go with God.

The musing this week isn't hard. It isn't a mystery. It isn't complex. It is straightforward. God has a dream of *shalom*, of Sabbath, of justice and joy, of the blessed poor and the woeful rich, of rapacious states stealing from the village peasants being brought low. Of God with us — all the hurt, lost, angry, fearful, confused, "I just want to make a living" little people who the bigwigs have manipulated and brutalized for eternal fame, endless wealth, and political power.

We are called to be part of God's plan. Not a plan for the "justice" of the powerful. Not a project for the rich to get richer. Not for retribution. But a plan for righteousness. For lovingkindness. For humility. The vision of the Beatitudes.

How will I know the mind of God?

When sorrow is redeemed by joy.

How will I know the mind of God?

When sorrow is redeemed by joy.

How will I know the mind of God?

When darkest thoughts are banished by the light.

How will I know the mind of God?

When error is exposed by truth.

How will I know the mind of God?

When war is not a last resort.

How will I know the mind of God?

When insight takes the place of reason;

when silence punctuates the syntax of my faith;

when all the world is seen within a drop;

when power permits persuasion;

when minus is converted into plus;

when anxiousness is overcome by patience and I

know all things as they simply are.

Then, and only then,

will I begin to know

the mind of God.

(Karel Reus)