2023 Refugee Week Resources



The Uniting Church in Australia Synod of South Australia

Sunday 18 - Saturday 24



2023 Theme – Finding a Freedom

What does it mean to be free? To live without the fear of war, to have your basic human rights upheld, to live in equality and without the fear of persecution are just some of the examples of what freedom can entail. Every day millions of people across the world embark on dangerous journeys for the sole purpose of finding safety and freedom. From Australia to nations across the globe, settling into a new environment after experiencing the perils of a refugee's journey can also provide the opportunity to live, to love and to dream.

World Refugee Day is 20 June. It is an international day to honour refugees around the

globe, celebrate the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their homes to escape conflict or persecution, and lament the circumstances that led to their forced displacement and harrowing journeys to find refuge. World Refugee Day offers us an opportunity to build empathy and understanding for the plight of refugees, to recognize their resilience, to pray for displaced people and their homelands, and to take time to discern how God is calling us, as Christ followers, to provide compassionate care for refugees and other displaced people.

Worship resources

- Plan a service for World Refugee Sunday on either Sunday 18 or 25 June falling on either side of World Refugee Day, 20th June.
- <u>Refugee Sunday Worship Resource</u>:

The Social Justice Commission of the Uniting Church, Synod of Western Australia, has collated a series of prayers and reflections that could be used in worship for Refugee Sunday, 18 June 2023 with the theme 'Finding Freedom'.

- World Refugee Sunday Worship Toolkit
- Sermon outlines with matching PowerPoints
- <u>Reflections</u>
- Bible Studies
- Children/Youth Resources
- WRS Posters (in multiple languages)
- SA Synod Refugee Advocacy Group-produced video
- For further worship resources, please refer to the <u>Pilgrim Uniting Church Adelaide worship</u> website

<u>Refugee Week resources</u>

- Refugee Week 2023 Poster
- <u>Canva Resources 2023 Refugee Week</u> (Social media template, events, video etc.)
- Films, Books and other resources about refugees
- UCA SA Refugees: Resources for Congregations
- UCA SA How you can support refugees
- A Welcoming Compassionate and Diverse Nation
- UCA Vision for a Just Australia