



UNITING MATTERS



BENDIGO CENTRAL & AXEDALE

UNITING CHURCH

Minister: Rev Di Esbensen

WEEK COMMENCING 15th MARCH 2026

St Andrew's Bendigo 26 Myers Street Bendigo, 3550	Forest Street 21 Forest Street Bendigo, 3550	St Andrew's Axedale 80 High Street Axedale, 3551
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We recognize that we meet on Jaara land, the traditional home of the Dja Dja Wurrung People. With respect we acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the life of the Region & pray for reconciliation & justice.

Welcome to the Sunday service for the Bendigo Central & Axedale Uniting Church. We extend you a very warm welcome and invite you to join us for morning tea following the service.

Today's Service: 9.30am Worship Service at St Andrew's led by Rev Di Esbensen

THIS WEEKS UPCOMING EVENTS...

Monday 16 th	
Tuesday 17 th	7.30pm Elders Meeting in Forest St Vestry
Wednesday 18 th	9am Uniting Threads at St Andrew's – Small Hall
Thursday 19 th	10am – 1pm Cuppa with Company at Forest St
Friday 20 th	9am Meditation Group at St Andrew's
Saturday 21 st	
Sunday 22 nd	9.30am Worship service at Forest St led by Rev Geoff Barker 2.30pm Worship Service at Axedale



- **Lectionary readings this week March 15th (Lent 4):** 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9: 1-41
- **Lectionary readings next week March 22nd (Lent 5):** Ezra 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11: 1-45

SUNDAY MARCH 15th DUTY ROSTER – St Andrew's

Church Openers and Welcomers: Bruce Johnson, Nathan Morsillo

Vestry: Gwenda Watson

Readings and Prayers: David Shield, Lorraine Castles

Morning Tea: Jenny Shield (please bring milk), Marion Allan, Gwenda Pratt

SUNDAY MARCH 22nd DUTY ROSTER – Forest St

Church Openers and Welcomers: Judy Causon, Gwenda Pratt

Vestry: Carol McKinstry

Readings and Prayers: Geoff Barker, Doug Poole

Morning Tea: Bruce Johnson (please bring milk), David and Lorraine Castles

NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY...

- **ANNUAL REPORT 2025**

It is the time to compile the Annual Report for 2025. Can all reports please be submitted in Word format to bendigocentralaxedale.uc@gmail.com no later than Thursday 30th April. Thank you

- **AXEDALE MARCH SERVICES**

The services at St Andrew's Axedale will be on the 2nd and 4th Sundays for this coming month - March 8 and March 22 - at this stage at the usual time of 2-30pm, with Communion on March 8.

- **INTERFAITH FORUM: CARE OF THE ENVIRONMENT:** Thursday, March 19, from 5.30pm - 7pm, in the Bendigo Library. The forum is to be held in conjunction with the City of Greater Bendigo as part of the Cultural Diversity celebrations. Panellists from 4 different faith groups will discuss what their faith teaches about care of the environment and how this informs the way they live. A Q&A session will follow and light refreshments will be served. This is a free event.

- **CUPPA AND CONVERSATION AT QUARRY HILL**

At our February gathering, we learned that closing time at the Quarry Hill Cafe and Larder is now 2pm each day. Those present agreed that, in future, we will meet instead for morning tea, at 10.30am. Our March gathering will be on **Monday, March 23 at 10.30am.**

All are welcome and please make sure that others know about this new arrangement.

- **BENDIGO INTERFAITH DINNER:** Thursday 26th March in the **Lansell Room**, All Seasons Hotel and Resort, Mclvor Hwy, Bendigo - **Please NOTE the new venue**

Our guest speaker this year is Bishop Philip Huggins, who has a long association with Interfaith action and dialogue, in particular combatting racism and discrimination.

Bookings are open at just \$65 per ticket thanks to our partners, Remembrance Parks Central Victoria who support the dinner generously.

To book, go to <https://www.trybooking.com/DHJNS>. Tables of 8 are available by booking 8 tickets.

We look forward to seeing you on 26th March and to a great night together.

- **CHURCH PICNIC**

Church Picnic 12th April at the Axedale Park on High Street, from 12 pm. BYO food and drinks, BBQ available and there is a café nearby. Bring a chair if possible. There will be games for the children, and play equipment is onsite. Come along and enjoy a fun day in Axedale! For enquiries contact Jenny Bursill or Glenis Dyason

- **SILVERBAND CAMP – HALL GAP**

This year the annual camp is booked for the weekend of 7th – 9th August. Please make a note of this date in your diary and further information will be available closer to the date.

- **THE WAY OF THE CROSS**



THE WAY OF THE CROSS
Bendigo's own Passion Play

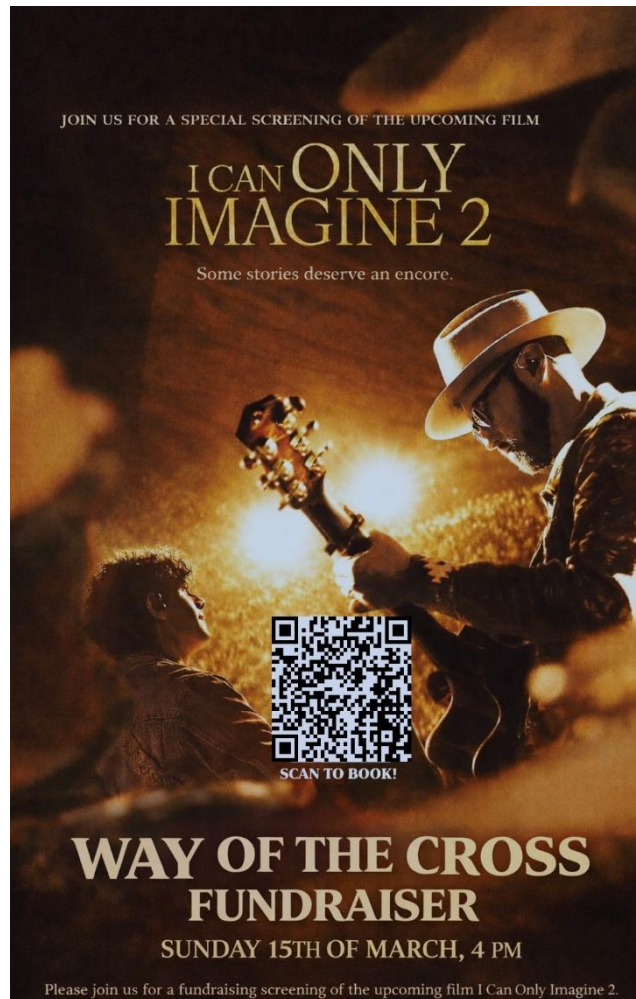
GOOD FRIDAY April 7th 7:30 PM
ROSALIND PARK, BENDIGO

PLEASE BRING A PICNIC CHAIR.

SUPPORTED BY THE BENDIGO EASTER FAIR SOCIETY
THE CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO &
COMBINED CHURCHES OF BENDIGO

- **THE WAY OF THE CROSS FUNDRAISER**

Please join us for a fundraising screening of the upcoming film **I Can Only Imagine 2** this Sunday 15th March 4pm at Bendigo Cinema. For bookings please use the QR Code on the poster below.



St Andrew's office is normally open Mondays: 8:45am-11:45am, Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00am - 3:00pm. Please contact Belinda Smith on 5441 3100 or email bendigocentralaxedale.uc@gmail.com

Forest Street office is normally open Thursdays from 11am. Please contact Judy McCarthy at foreststuca@bigpond.com on 5442 4123 or phone her on 5435 2099 on Wednesdays.

Congregation Website bendigocentralaxedale.ucavictas.org.au