



UNITING MATTERS



BENDIGO CENTRAL & AXEDALE

UNITING CHURCH

Minister: Rev Di Esbensen

WEEK COMMENCING 16th AUGUST 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 services: 9.30am Worship service at St Andrew's led by Rev Bill Lidgett
2.30pm Worship service at Axedale led by Rev Bill Lidgett

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Monday 17 th	
Tuesday 18 th	7.30pm Elders Meeting at Forest St Vestry
Wednesday 19 th	9am Uniting Threads at St Andrew's
Thursday 20 th	10am – 1pm Cuppa with Company at Forest St
Friday 21 st	9am Meditation Group
Saturday 22 nd	
Sunday 23 rd	9.30am Worship service at Forest St led by Rev Di Esbensen



- **Lectionary readings this week 16th August (Pentecost 12):** Genesis 45: 1-15, Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8; Psalm 133; Psalm 67; Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:”(10-20), 21-28
- **Lectionary readings next week 23rd August (Pentecost 13):** Exodus 1: 8-2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12: 1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

SUNDAY AUGUST 16th DUTY ROSTER – St Andrew’s

Church Openers and Welcomers: Ken Crouch, Dean Shirley

Vestry: David Shield

Readings and Prayers: Susan Clarke, Dean Shirley

Morning Tea: Marion Allan (Please bring milk), Di Farrar

Creative Corner: Peter Judd

SUNDAY AUGUST 23rd DUTY ROSTER – Forest St

Church Openers and Welcomers: David Shield, Peter Judd

Vestry: Judy Causon

Readings and Prayers: Claire Lidgett, Gwenda Watson

Morning Tea: Jeannie Turnbull (Please bring milk), Jenny Shield

Creative Corner: Di Farrar

SERVICE LEADERSHIP

We thank Rev Stan Clarke, Rev Tim Angus and Rev Bill Lidgett for stepping in to lead the services while Di is on leave.

Sunday 26th July: Rev Stan Clarke (St Andrew’s)

Sunday 2nd August: Rev Tim Angus (St Andrew’s and Axedale)

Sunday 9th August: No service at Bendigo Central & Axedale UC. For those who are not attending Halls Gap Camp we will be joining the Weeroona UC at 10am (Neale St) for their special service with Rev Dr Julian Hamilton.

Sunday 16th August: Rev Bill Lidgett (St Andrew’s and Axedale)

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY...

- **HALL'S GAP WEEKEND**

A wonderful time of fun, fellowship and learning was experienced by the 43 people who ventured to Hall's Gap for our annual weekend away. The weather on Saturday was kind and we walked, climbed, visited waterfalls, played games, sat and talked and enjoyed the beautiful Gariwerd environment. While Sunday was wet, Tim led us in our worship and we reflected on faith and hope in a climate-changing world. After worship, some hardy souls re-visited Silverband Falls to see how much more water was flowing after the rain!

We have booked Silverband Lodge for **6th – 8th August 2027**, so note this date in your diary, and we look forward to sharing in another great weekend!

NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY...

- **BENDIGO CLIMATE CHANGE CAFÉ- ACF Community Central Vic**

The Rights of Nature putting the Earth at the Centre. Video featuring Dr Michelle Maloney of the Australian Earth Law Alliance. Followed by discussion. Friday 14th August, 3.45pm Bendigo Library. Drop by for a cuppa and a chat everyone welcome.

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