



UNITING MATTERS



BENDIGO CENTRAL & AXEDALE

UNITING CHURCH

Minister: Rev Di Esbensen

WEEK COMMENCING 19th and 26th July 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.

Sunday 19th Services: 9.30am Worship Service at **Forest St** led by Rev Di Esbensen
2.30pm Worship service at **Axedale** led by Rev Di Esbensen

Sunday 26th Service: 9.30am Worship service at **St Andrew's** led by Rev Stan Clarke

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Monday 20 th	
Tuesday 21 st	7.30pm Church Council Meeting at St Andrew's
Wednesday 22 nd	9am Uniting Threads at St Andrew's
Thursday 23 rd	10am – 1pm Cuppa with Company at Forest St
Friday 24 th	9am Meditation Group
Saturday 25 th	
Sunday 26 th	9.30am Worship service at St Andrew's led by Rev Stan Clarke.
Monday 27 th	10.30am Morning Tea and Conversation at Quarry Hill Cafe
Tuesday 28 th	

Wednesday 29 th	
Thursday 30 th	10am – 1pm Cuppa with Company at Forest St
Friday 31 st	9am Meditation Group
Saturday 1 st	
Sunday 2 nd	9.30am Communion service at St Andrew's led by Rev Tim Angus 2.30pm Communion service at Axedale led by Rev Tim Angus



- **Lectionary readings this week 19th July (Pentecost 8):** Genesis 28: 10-19a, Isaiah 44: 6-8; Psalm 139: 1-12, 23-24, Psalm 86: 11-17; Romans 8: 12-25; Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43
- **Lectionary readings next week 26th July (Pentecost 9):** Genesis 29: 15-28; 1King 3: 5-12; Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b, Romans 8: 26-39, Psalm 128, Psalm 119: 129-136; Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52
- **Lectionary readings week 2nd August (Pentecost 10):** Genesis 32: 22-31; Psalm 17: 1-7, 15; Romans 9: 1-5; Matthew 14: 13-21

SUNDAY JULY 19th DUTY ROSTER – Forest St

Church Openers and Welcomers: Jeannie Turnbull, Bruce Johnson

Vestry: Gwenda Watson

Readings and Prayers: Peter Judd, Doug Poole

Morning Tea: Judy Causon (please bring milk), Ron and Kathy Ratcliff

SUNDAY JULY 26th DUTY ROSTER – St Andrew's

Church Openers and Welcomers: Lorraine Castles, Peter Judd

Vestry: Di Farrar

Readings and Prayers: Garth Phillips, Jon Watson

Morning Tea: Jenny Bursill, Gwenda Pratt, Kevin Dobson

SUNDAY AUGUST 2nd DUTY ROSTER – St Andrew's

Communion: Di Farrar*, Tilby Hayward, Glenys Shirley, Gwenda Watson

Church Openers and Welcomers: Glenis Pitson, Doug Turnbull

Vestry: Carol McKinstry

Readings and Prayers: Erin Mollinar, David Castles

Morning Tea: Gwenda Pratt, David and Lorraine Castles

CHANGE OF WORSHIP VENUES FOR JULY:

A problem has emerged with the gas heating on our St Andrew's site. As a result, the heaters cannot be used for the next month or so. The Church Council Executive has decided that we will move most of our services in that time to our Forest St site until the heaters are repaired.

At the beginning of July, there will be some repairs conducted on the organ at Forest St, so we will go back to St Andrew's for one Sunday to accommodate that work.

Here are our worship venues for remainder of July:

Sunday 19th July: Forest St led by Rev Di Esbensen

Sunday 26th July: St Andrew's led by Rev Stan Clarke

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)

NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY...

- **GOING DEEPER DISCUSSION GROUP**

Going deeper will be having a break over Winter and will return in September.

- **MILK FOR MORNING TEA**

We currently have a supply of long life milk that has a best before the end of July. For the time being please use this milk for Morning Tea duty. Thanks

- **NAME TAGS**

We are putting in a name tag order. If you need a name tag please notify Belinda no later than 30th July.

- **MEMBERS AND FRIENDS DIRECTORY 2026**

The new Directory has been printed and will be available at the service over the coming weeks. If you require a copy to be mailed please contact the office and we will ensure you receive a copy.

- **OFFICE CLOSURE**

The St Andrew's office will be closed from Thursday 16th July until Monday 27th July. A two week edition of Uniting Matters has been released today Thursday 16th.

- **ENGAGE THE CHANGE**



Join us for an evening of conversation, reflection, practical workshops and worship as we explore how communities can navigate change with courage, creativity and hope.

Key Speaker: Rev Dr Julian Hamilton is a minister, writer and retreat leader whose work creates thoughtful grounded spaces for leaders and communities navigating change, pressure and complexity. Based in Northern Ireland, Julian works internationally across faith, education and community settings. Offering reflective leadership formation shaped by deep listening, honesty and imagination.

Workshop: Saturday 8th August 4.00pm-5.30pm

Community Dinner: 6.00pm-7.00pm

Worship Gathering: 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Cost: \$10 including dinner pay at the door

RSVP: Saturday dinner and any dietary requirements to Mick:
weeroonauc@gmail.com

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