



UNITING MATTERS



BENDIGO CENTRAL & AXEDALE

UNITING CHURCH

Minister: Rev Di Esbensen

WEEK COMMENCING 23rd 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 service: 9.30am Worship service at Forest St led by Rev Stan Clarke

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Monday 24 th	10.30am Morning Tea and Conversation at Quarry Hill Cafe
Tuesday 25 th	
Wednesday 26 th	9am Uniting Threads at St Andrew's
Thursday 27 th	10am – 1pm Cuppa with Company at Forest St
Friday 28 th	9am Meditation Group at St Andrew's
Saturday 29 th	
Sunday 30 th	9.30am Worship service at St Andrew's led by Rev Di Esbensen



- **Lectionary readings this week 23rd August (Pentecost 13):** Exodus 1: 8-2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12: 1-8; Matthew 16:13-20
- **Lectionary readings next week 30th August (Pentecost 14):** Exodus 3: 1-15, Jeremiah 15: 15-21; Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26 45b Psalm 26: 1-8; Romans 12: 9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

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

SUNDAY AUGUST 30th DUTY ROSTER – St Andrew's

Church Openers and Welcomers: Gwenda Pratt, Jenny Bursill

Vestry: Glenys Shirley

Readings and Prayers: Stan Clarke, Kevin Dobson

Morning Tea: Barb and Glenn Fordham (Please bring milk), Isabel Thomas Dobson

Creative Corner: Nathan Morsillo

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)

Sunday 23rd August: Rev Stan Clarke

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...

- **MORNING TEA AT QUARRY HILL:** Our next gathering will be on Monday, August 24 from 10.30am at the Quarry Hill Larder and Cafe, Carpenter St. All are welcome to join us for a cuppa, cake and conversation.
- **UCAF LODDON MALLEE ANNUAL GATHERING, MONDAY SEPTEMBER 7.**
This year's gathering will be hosted by the Bendigo South Cluster at the **Chum Street Uniting Church**, commencing at 10am. Guest Speakers will be **Isabel Thomas Dobson**, who will speak about her experience at the recent World Methodist Council meeting in El Salvador and **Jan Jenkin**, who will share stories of the bushfire recovery at Harcourt.
Please bring lunch to share and items for the trading table - and some cash to spend there! The offering and trading table proceeds will be used to support the Harcourt recovery.
All are 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