



UNITING MATTERS



BENDIGO CENTRAL & AXEDALE

UNITING CHURCH

Minister: Rev Di Esbensen

WEEK COMMENCING 11th OCTOBER 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

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Monday 12 th	
Tuesday 13 th	7.30pm Going Deeper at Forest St
Wednesday 14 th	9am Uniting Threads at St Andrew's
Thursday 15 th	10am – 1pm Cuppa with Company at Forest St
Friday 16 th	9am Meditation Group at St Andrew's
Saturday 17 th	
Sunday 18 th	9.30am Worship service at Forest St led by Rev Di Esbensen 2.30pm Worship service at Axedale led by Rev Di Esbensen



- **Lectionary readings this week 11th October (Pentecost 20):** Exodus 32: 1-14; Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23; Philippians 4: 1-9; Matthew 22:1-14
- **Lectionary readings next week 18th October (Pentecost 21):** Exodus 33: 12-23; Psalm 99; 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

SUNDAY OCTOBER 11th DUTY ROSTER – St Andrew's

Church Openers and Welcomers: Jenny and David Shield

Vestry: Di Farrar

Readings and Prayers: Peter Judd, Glenis Pitson

Creative Corner: Susan Clarke

Morning Tea: Lorraine Castles (Please bring milk), Ron and Kathy Ratcliff

SUNDAY OCTOBER 18th DUTY ROSTER – Forest St

Church Openers and Welcomers: Bruce Johnson, Gwenda Pratt

Vestry: David Shield

Readings and Prayers: Garth Phillips, Gwenda Watson

Creative Corner: Peter Judd

Morning Tea: Gwenda Pratt (Please bring milk), Kevin Dobson

NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY...

- **GOING DEEPER**

The next session of Going Deeper is this Tuesday 13th October 7.30pm at the Forest St Vestry. We will be continuing to look at the question: 'Will the real Jesus please stand up?'

- **LOST PROPERTY FOUND AT FOREST ST**

Some time ago in the church at Forest St, a Lululemon zip front fleece cardigan/jacket, large size, colour a shade of dark olive green. Claim by calling the office at St Andrews on 0434 730 900.

- **REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR CHRISTMAS HAMPER 2026**

Last year the hampers were a great success with sixty-two hampers being distributed to needy families. Thank you to everyone who put together a hamper. They looked great in church the Sunday before being distributed.

I think Rev Di's prayer to send them on their way was a good endorsement of us loving one another!

This year I am suggesting a new way of assembling the hampers.

The idea is that each week, for ten weeks, people bring one item for a hamper. For Example, week one everyone brings a packet of biscuits; week two everyone brings a soft drink etc.

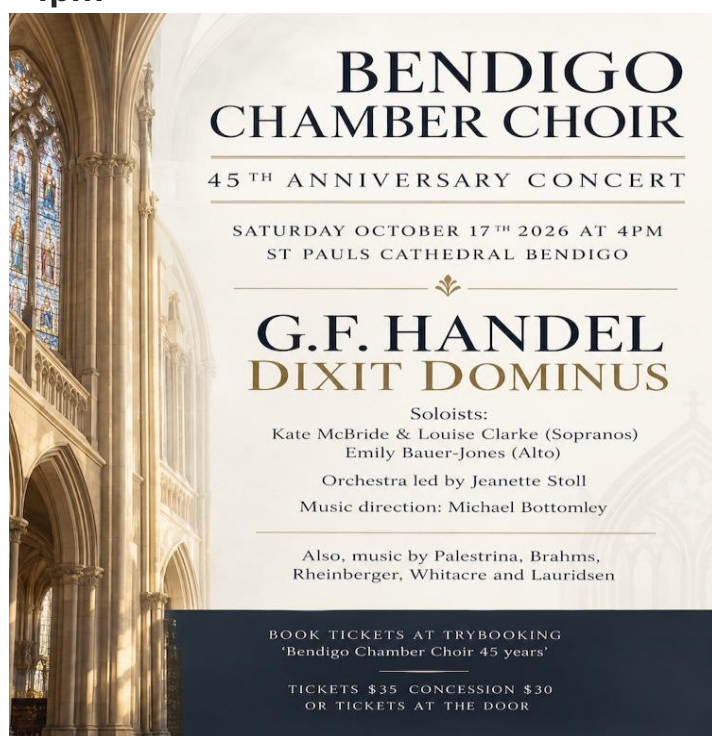
By week ten we would have some fine hampers.

If you are happy to prepare a hamper during Advent as usual that would be great too. You certainly don't have to do both! Many thanks Jenny Bursill.

- **OFFICE CLOSURE**

The St Andrew's Church Office will be closed for annual leave from 3pm **Thursday 8th October** and 9am on **Thursday 5th November**. A three week edition of the Uniting Matters will be released on the 8th October to cover the closure period. Emails will be attended to once the office re-opens. For urgent matters only please contact Dean Shirley on the office phone 0434 730 900.

- **HANDEL'S DIXIT DOMINUS - 45TH BIRTHDAY CONCERT - Saturday Oct 17th, 4pm**



Bendigo Chamber Choir will celebrate 45 years of wonderful music making with a grand concert on Saturday October 17th in St Paul's Cathedral Bendigo. The main work on the program will be Handel's Dixit Dominus for choir, soloists and orchestra. Composed in Rome in April 1707, and written when the composer was only 22, this virtuosic, eight-movement Baroque masterpiece showcases his precocious genius, pairing fiery Old Testament text with theatrical, operatic flair. This is a demanding choral tour de force that pushes both singers and

instrumentalists to the absolute limit.

The program also features Palestrina's glorious motet Tu es Petrus, Abendlied by Josef Rheinberger, Waldesnacht by Brahms, Sing Gently by Eric Whitacre and Sure on this Shining Light by Morten Lauridsen. Contact David Castles for more details. [Trybooking - Click here to purchase tickets](#)

- **BEING EMPTIED, BEING FILLED**

Living water in the season of Creation



The gathering will commence with the unfolding on the theme of Living Water in John's Gospel, in the story of Jesus and the woman at the well, as interpreted by

Dorothy Lee and John Honner, followed by individual quiet time, a closing prayer, and lunch.

Wednesday 21st October 2026

9:30am – 1pm 249 Sugarloaf Road, Axedale 3551

Includes an invitation for those who wish to sit outside by the water near either dam or elsewhere on the property. Dress for the weather.

Cost \$10 pp (includes a simple lunch of soup, bread and cheese and fruit, provided)

Bring yourselves and a notebook if you wish.

Limited to 10 participants - register with Tim Angus 0400 383 628 or fordangus@fastmail.net

- FROM DIAGNOSIS TO OAM

From Diagnosis to OAM

plus a Sibling's Perspective: A Personal Autism Journey

Bendigo

Wednesday 21 October 2026, 6:30pm–9:30pm
(3 hour seminar including question time, doors open 9am)

Daniel and Daniel's Dad (Daryl) will discuss Daniel's journey from diagnosis to present day giving an insight from Daniel's personal perspective of living life as an Autistic individual.

Daniel's sister (Alicia) will also be sharing the sibling perspective and is a qualified educator (may be prerecorded).

Topics include diagnosis, school journey, independent living, employment and strategies used to achieve the best outcomes.



Presented by

Daniel Giles OAM
Order of Australia Medal Recipient
& Autistic Self-Advocate

Daryl Giles
Daniel's Dad

Alicia Purcell
Daniel's Sister
and Educator



Venue
The Bendigo Club: 22 Park St, Strathdale VIC

 **Free Bendigo Cinema ticket** (valued at \$23)
available with main meal purchase
from The Bendigo Club bistro menu
Refer to The Bendigo Club social media for details and T&C
Image by Oliver-Free-Vector-Images from Pixabay

Seminar tickets (*includes \$0.50 booking fee for online bookings)

Child (0-11 yrs): FREE Child (12-17 yrs): \$10.50*

General Admission: \$35.50*

Professionals (Educators/Caseworkers/Therapists - incl. CPD cert.)
\$85.50*

events.humanitix.com/doam-bgo26 (or scan QR code)

Contact

e: admin@speakinginsights.com.au

w: speakinginsights.com.au



  Find 'Speaking Insights' on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

EDUCATORS – Educators can claim 3 hours of Professional Development. Australian Professional Standard for Teachers at the level of Proficient Teacher **6.4.2**

Exhibitors





Bendigo Autism Asperger Group



ABN: 11 745 442 100

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