



UNITING MATTERS



BENDIGO CENTRAL & AXEDALE

UNITING CHURCH

Minister: Rev Di Esbensen

WEEKS COMMENCING 18th, 25TH OCTOBER &

1ST NOVEMBER 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. This edition of Uniting Matters covers the next three Sundays:

- Sunday 18th Oct:** 9.30am Worship service at Forest St led by Rev Di Esbensen
2.30pm Worship service at Axedale led by Rev Di Esbensen
- Sunday 25th Oct:** 9.30am Worship service at St Andrew's led by Rev Stan Clarke
- Sunday 1st Nov:** 9.30am Communion service at Forest St led by Rev Kevin Dobson
2.30pm Communion service at Axedale led by Rev Kevin Dobson

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Monday 19 th Oct	
Tuesday 20 th Oct	7.30pm Elders Meeting at Forest St
Wednesday 21 st Oct	9am Uniting Threads at St Andrew's

Thursday 22 nd Oct	10am – 1pm Cuppa with Company at Forest St
Friday 23 rd Oct	9am Meditation Group at St Andrew's
Saturday 24 th Oct	
Sunday 25 th Oct	9.30am Worship service at St Andrew's led by Rev Stan Clarke
Monday 26 th Oct	10.30am Morning Tea and Conversation at Quarry Hill Cafe
Tuesday 27 th Oct	
Wednesday 28 th Oct	9am Uniting Threads at St Andrew's
Thursday 29 th Oct	10am – 1pm Cuppa with Company at Forest St
Friday 30 th Oct	9am Meditation Group at St Andrew's
Saturday 31 st Oct	
Sunday 1 st Nov	9.30am Communion service at Forest St led by Rev Kevin Dobson 2.30pm Communion service at Axedale led by Rev Kevin Dobson
Monday 2 nd Nov	
Tuesday 3 rd Nov	4pm BUCSJG Meeting at St Andrew's
Wednesday 4 th Nov	9am Uniting Threads at St Andrew's
Thursday 5 th Nov	10am – 1pm Cuppa with Company at Forest St
Friday 6 th Nov	9am Meditation Group at St Andrew's
Saturday 7 th Nov	
Sunday 8 th Nov	9.30am Worship service at St Andrew's led by Rev Geoff Barker



- **Lectionary readings this week 18th October (Pentecost 21):** Exodus 33: 12-23; Psalm 99; 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10; Matthew 22:15-22
- **Lectionary readings next week 25th October (Pentecost 22):** Deuteronomy 34: 1-12; Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17; 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8; Matthew 22:34-46
- **Lectionary readings the week of 1st November (Pentecost 23):** Joshua 3: 7-17; Psalm 107: 1-7, 33-37; 1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13; Matthew 23:1-12
- **Lectionary readings the week of 8th November (Pentecost 24):** Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78: 1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

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

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25th DUTY ROSTER – St Andrew's

Church Openers and Welcomers: Barb Fordham, Nathan Morsillo

Vestry: Glenys Shirley

Readings and Prayers: Judy Causon, Kevin Dobson

Creative Corner: Barb and Glenn Fordham

Morning Tea: Di Farrar (Please bring milk), Bruce Johnson, Jenny Bursill

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1st DUTY ROSTER – Forest St

Communion: Glenys Shirley*, Judy Causon, Tilby Hayward, Carol McKinstry

Church Openers and Welcomers: Peter Judd, Glenis Pitson

Vestry: Carol McKinstry

Readings and Prayers: Claire Lidgett, Garth Phillips

Creative Corner: Susan Clarke

Morning Tea: Marion Allan (Please bring milk), Doug and Jeannie Turnbull

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8th DUTY ROSTER – St Andrew's

Church Openers and Welcomers: Nathan Morsillo, Dean Shirley

Vestry: David Shield

Readings and Prayers: Lorraine Castles, Bruce Johnson

Creative Corner: Barb and Glenn Fordham

Morning Tea: Janice West (Please bring milk), Jenny Bursill

NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY...

- **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** until 9am on **Thursday 5th November**. This three week edition of the Uniting Matters covers 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.

- **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

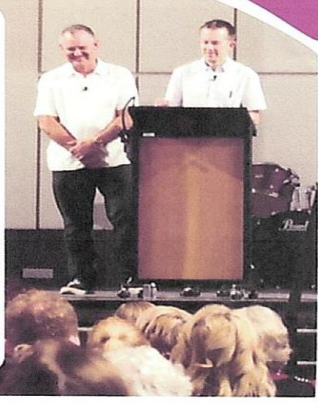
Bendigo

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



Exhibitors




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 Open-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



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



ABN: 11 945 440 100

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