

February Roster

01/02/26	08/02/26	15/02/26	22/02/26	01/03/26
Greeting Hosts				
D McCallum S Jewell	S Schneider G Barton	E Spencer J Hazen	D McCallum S Jewell	S Schneider G Barton
Church cleaning				
H Jones	W Poyner	D Muller	H Jones	W Poyner
Hall / Foyer / Steps				
P Holland	J Bromilow	P Holland	J Bromilow	P Holland
Morning Tea				
S Jewell S Schneider	L Hazen S Barrand	M McGough H Jones	W Poyner G Barton	D McCallum J Dean
Offering Count				
G Barton S Barrand	W Poyner L Brown	R Jane J Frost	I Firth L Spencer	G Barton S Barrand
Thank you to all who contribute in any way to the Church body. If you are unable to take your turn, please arrange a swap with someone. If you would like to be included on any rostered duty please see Gail Barton.				

For your Diary in February

Sunday	9:30 am 4pm – 6pm	Worship service Open invitation to morning tea Messy Church resumes 1 st February 15 th February – Kids Church
Monday	11:00 am	50+ Playgroup - Booln Booln Cultural Centre
Tuesday	10:00 am 7:30 pm	Mainly Music 3rd February Study Group February TBA
Wednesday	10am-3:30pm 6:30 pm	Chattels + Chats open 18 th February - Church Council meeting
Thursday	9:45 am 10:00 am 4:00 pm	Prayer Group Craft Group 5th February Worship practice
Friday	10am-3:30pm	Chattels and Chats open
Saturday	10am – 3:30 pm 9:30am 10am – 3:30pm	7 th February Chattels and Chats open 14th February – Grounds Working Bee 21 st February Chattels and Chats open



GROVEDALE UNITING CHURCH FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday Worship: 9:30 am
Our Ministry Team is the Whole Church

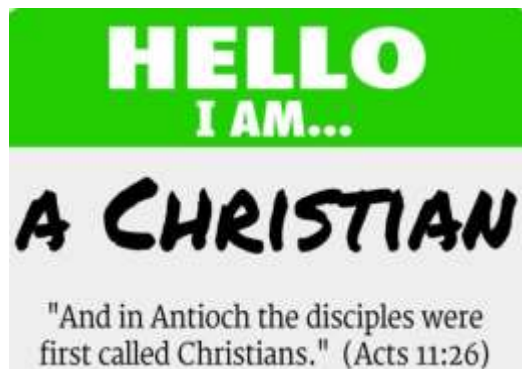
For pastoral issues please contact
Rev. Peter Jewell – Minister of the Word
Phone: 5245 8040 or 0419 165 473 or psjewell@netspace.net.au

Church Council Chairperson – Ian Firth
0419 317 350 - diane.ian70@bidpond.com

Worship Leader – David Muller
5243 1256 – dmuller7@bigpond.net.au

Church Vision Statement
To worship God and grow through fellowship and discipleship,
each member in loving ministry and transforming outreach.

Peter's Piece



NBA's Dallas Mavericks offered a Chicago sports-talk host \$100,000 to legally change his name to 'Dallas Maverick'. In addition, he said he would donate \$100,000 to the man's favourite charity.

After some soul searching, the radio host held firm and told the owner no.

He explained, "I'd be saying I'd do anything for money, and that bothers me. My name is my birthright. I'd like to preserve my integrity and credibility."

Just as the radio host's name is his birthright, early believers in Jesus took on the name 'Christian' as their spiritual birthright. Barnabas and Saul ministered a year in Antioch, and through the preaching of the good news, the church grew. The early believers in Antioch lived so much like Christ that people who didn't believe in Jesus – called them 'Christians'. So 'Christians' were those who belonged to Christ. Bearing that name ultimately became a source of persecution. But Peter encouraged believers to 'not be ashamed' of their birthright and of suffering for bearing that name.

For those who believe in Jesus, 'Christian' is our birthright, and no amount of money, suffering, or abuse should cause us to compromise that name. We have a responsibility, as God provides what we need, to live every day to bring honour to the name of Christ.

(Marvin Williams. 'Our Daily Bread' January 20, 2026)

I wonder how easy it is to be a Christian in our modern day society?
I wonder how Christ is reflected in our lives?

Rev Peter

Grounds Working Bee

Church Council have suggested that to keep up with the ongoing maintenance of the grounds around the church, they will hold a working bee on the 2nd Saturday of every other month the first one being on the **14th February at 9:30am**. Any help with this activity will be enormously appreciated, no matter how great or small.

Weekly Offering Count

After 10 years of volunteering her time counting and banking the church offering Dianne Armstrong has retired from her role of Assistant Treasurer. Council have appointed another Treasurer, Brendan Morris, who is the son of Ron and the late Heather Morris, both past members of our community. Brendan is a member of St David's Church in Newtown and will not be attending worship with us. Council members are now taking on the role of counting the weekly offering. Four volunteers who are able to assist and be the second person with the count have also stepped forward. Any other church family members able to volunteer and help out, please speak to any of the council members. Instruction and support will be available for all helpers.



February

Leba Ravubale
Jim Hazen

Ian's Reflections

A very happy New Year to you all. If you're like me then all you'd like from 2026 is the best possible health for yourself and your nearest and dearest. I've come to the view that if you have good health then there are not many challenges you can't overcome.

Our Congregation will have a few challenges this year. The biggest one is the departure of *Uniting* and the effect that will have on both how the site is used and also on the demands on our income. At time of writing I have not heard anything from *Uniting* about what they plan to do with the *Albert Renshaw Building*. While I would be very surprised if a decision was made to move it, there's always that possibility until advice is received that it will remain.



Should it remain then that opens up a range of possible uses. I think it would make a good medical clinic, dental surgery or rooms for a chiropractor or osteopath. Whatever the use it must be one that fits with the ethos of the Uniting Church. There's no denying that the income would be most welcome. A figure suggested would be almost enough to cover the total cost of ministry per year.

We have just received a report on the condition of the former Methodist Chapel (where the Op Shop is). That report details the work needed to either do just what



is necessary to keep the building functional and safe or to do all the work necessary to restore the building. As you will realise there's a significant cost involved. While the building is covered by the City of Greater Geelong Heritage overlay, that's not a level of protection which offers money to pay for maintenance.

Hopefully this year will see the end of the "Winchelsea Manse Saga" and that the former manse will be offered for sale. You might remember that, sometime last year, when we had a combined meeting with our friends at Winchelsea, it was agreed that, once the manse was sold, the proceeds would be set aside, to provide a fund that the Winchelsea Congregation would use to pay for one day per week of Peter's time.



At that meeting the suggestion was that we consider ourselves engaged until such time as the manse was sold and we could move to a permanent changed ministry arrangement. The processes of the Church require that we 1) ensure that Peter is happy with the change and 2) the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee approves and 3) that the change is approved by the Synod.

So even though it's still early in the year, we have some interesting challenges ahead. It is my prayer that throughout the year, as we deal with these issues we will always be attentive to the leading of the Spirit.

Ian



Working
Bee

SATURDAY
14TH FEBRUARY
GROUNDS
9:30 AM START
All welcome

Chattels and Chats
Opportunity & Book Shop

Commissioning of Volunteers
Sunday 22nd February

Open invitation to all volunteers to attend