

August Roster

02/08/26	09/08/26	16/08/26	23/08/26	30/08/26
Greeting Hosts				
J Hazen	G Barton	D McCallum	J Hazen	G Barton
Church cleaning				
D Muller	H Jones	W Poyner	D Muller	H Jones
Hall / Foyer / Steps				
J Bromilow	P Holland	P Holland	P Holland	J Bromilow
Morning Tea				
G Barton S Jewell	M McGough H Jones	D McCallum J Dean	L Hazen S Barrand	W Poyner G Barton
Offering Count				
I Firth J Frost	D Armstrong L Brown	G Barton J Frost	W Poyner L Brown	I Firth J Frost
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.				

<i>For your Diary in August</i>		
Sunday	9:30 am 4pm – 6pm 9:30 am	Worship service Open invitation to morning tea Messy Church - 9th August Kids Church – 16 th August
Monday	11:00 am	50+ Playgroup - Booln Booln Cultural Centre
Tuesday	10:00 am 7:30 pm	Mainly Music Study Group TBA
Wednesday	10am-3:30pm 6:30 pm	Chattels + Chats open Church Council meeting – 19 th August
Thursday	9:45 am 10:00 am 4:00 pm	Prayer Group Craft Group Worship practice
Friday	10am-3:30pm	Chattels and Chats open
Saturday	10am – 3:30 pm 10am – 3:30pm	Chattels and Chats open 1 st August Chattels and Chats open 16 th August



GROVEDALE UNITING CHURCH AUGUST 2026

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@bigpond.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

Road Closed. Spirit Led.



In Acts 16, verses 6-10, we hear how Paul and his companions were travelling through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, preaching the gospel.

When they reached the border of Mysia, they tried to go into the province of Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. So they travelled right on

through Mysia and went to Troas. That night Paul had a vision in which he saw a Macedonian standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us!" As soon as Paul had this vision, they got ready to leave for Macedonia, because God had called them to preach the Good News to the people there.

"After a lengthy journey, my wife and I finally neared our street, but a large ROAD CLOSED TO THRU TRAFFIC sign blocked our path. I felt the urge to drive around it because home was just ahead, and I didn't like being rerouted. But then I saw why the road was closed: a downed power line lay across the road. Had I ignored the warning, I could have driven into danger."

In Acts 6, Paul and his companions were eager to preach the gospel in the province of Asia, but the Holy Spirit closed that door.

Detours aren't always rejection, however. They can be divine redirections. Like the roadblock on our street, God rerouted Paul from entering the province of Bithynia. It must have been frustrating to be blocked, especially while Paul was striving to do his best. But then he received a vision in which a man said, 'come over to Macedonia and help us'. God said, 'no, to something good, because they were being prepared for something else; taking the gospel to the people of another continent.

We can see 'no' as punishment and rejection, or we can see it as a Spirit led redirection. God's detours are often pathways to divine appointments. Let's not simply trust God's direction when the roads are open; let's follow when God closes them too." (adapted from an article by Marvin Williams in 'Our Daily Bread').

Is there somewhere in your life, or in the life of our congregation, where God has placed a 'road closed' sign? (*Uniting* no longer on our property for example). Can you see a 'road open' sign elsewhere?

May God give us courage and discernment to take a new road. **Rev Peter**

CHATELS AND CHATS OPPORTUNITY SHOP

IS RELOCATING.

Due to planned refurbishment to the Blue Stone Church building which was used as our Op Shop, and the exit of Uniting ER from Grovedale, it has been decided that the Op Shop will be relocated permanently to that space.

Lots of plans are underway for that relocation, but the most important is to note that the Op Shop will be closed from

Wednesday 5th to Wednesday 12th August.

Help with the relocation will be enormously appreciated.

Please contact Wendy on 0488 435 702

And indicate your availability to lend a hand.

Many hands make light work ☺

Heavenly Father

We come to You seeking Your guidance as our op shop goes through these changes. Bless the work of our hands and grant us the wisdom to make decisions that best serve our community. Ease any anxieties we may feel about the transition, and fill this space with Your peace, hope, and compassion. May our shop continue to be a place of connection, where every item sold and every person who walks through our doors is touched by Your Love.

Amen

Ian's Jottings

What a memorable past few months we've had! We were very fortunate in having the Rev Deacon Peter Batten provide supply while 1st Peter was on LSL. It was great to hear so many express their appreciation for his ministry at his farewell morning tea.

And just a few weeks ago, we welcomed back 1st Peter and Suzanne refreshed and excited to resume their ministry with us. (I hope!)

We also farewelled, Linley and Barry, as they move to Linley's new placement at Cowes. While we will miss them and their contributions to the life of the Congregation, we wish them happy and enjoyable ministries.



We are very grateful that Ben is available to help with all that IT stuff that many of us (ie me) find so challenging. Thanks Ben.

On the down side, Uniting have now left the site after some 11 years of shared ministry. While it was sad that their time

had to come to an end, their departure raises some exciting mission possibilities.

Now that the former Uniting Food Room is available, Wendy and her crew of volunteers, with some outside help, will start moving the Op Shop into this area. This will provide a larger area for stock, better parking for patrons and better facilities for the staff.



As I've previously announced, the Grovedale Book Sale has now been recognised by the Church Council as an activity of our Congregation. This is a

legal necessity following Uniting's decision to change their model of operating which meant the Book Sale was no longer considered to be part of their operation. In order to be covered by the Church's insurances, and to financially contribute to our Congregation, the Book Sale volunteers decided that they were happy to come under our umbrella.

Church Council has also done the same thing with the Community Kitchen. So our outreach activities continue to expand.



We are currently negotiating with a Uniting volunteer who has let us know he is happy to do voluntary work for us in order to maintain his Centrelink benefit. The offer is timely as the person we had engaged to cut the grass is not able to continue. At this time it seems probable that these negotiations will be successful and we'll gain a really nice guy who will be able to do other

voluntary work for us. More on this later.

Cheers, *Ian*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY in AUGUST to

.....

Ian Firth

Poni Ravubale

Lexie Armstrong

MUSIC AT THE BASILICA

AUGUST-DECEMBER 2026

St. Mary of the Angels

136 Yarra Street, Geelong

Friday August 14th 7:30 pm

LONDON CALLING

Tickets \$40/\$35 from www.trybooking.com/DLCXX