

February Birthdays

2nd Lexie Bell
2nd Robyn Maggs
3rd Tracey Neller
7th Jenny Brown
8th Jenny Easlea
9th Aleczaender Haak (15)
14th Liz Ogsten
16th Mabel McKenzie(103)
20th Fiona Patterson



*Happy birthday to you all!
May you know God's
blessing on your life.*

February dates at a glance

1 February- Blokes' Breakfast
2 February - Sunday Space resumes
15 February - W.O.W women's breakfast
23 February- Explorers 11am

Advance Diary Dates

NEXT YARD SALE IS 29 MARCH
Working bee: 1 March
Choir practices:
2 March, 16 March, 30 March,
13 April

Electronic giving is a good way for you to be disciplined in your giving, and for UCD to budget more efficiently and effectively for our mission to serve. Every gift, no matter how small, helps. Thank you!

To give electronically: Bendigo Bank

Reference: OFFERING
BSB: 633 000 Account: 183102011

**Deadline: for the March 2025 Bulletin is
21 February 2025. Email: Joy Salmond
joy.salmond@gmail.com**

Uniting Church Dayboro February Bulletin 2025



*The people of Uniting Church Dayboro are warm, inclusive and welcoming who LOVE Jesus, LOVE each other and LOVE our communities, giving HOPE for the future.
Our worship, our communion table and fellowship is open to all.
We simply offer you a place where you will be accepted and loved, and where you can learn about the grace of God.*

**Service times: 9am every Sunday
22 Williams St Dayboro**

<https://www.dayborouca.com.au>

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dayborouniting>

Pastor's Ponderings

Here comes February. Our grocery store shelves have already been filled with hot cross buns and now, chocolate. Jewellery store ads will be popping up everywhere as the world prepares to celebrate "true love" on Valentines Day. I've been pondering what I consider a church that truly loves its communities looks like.

Here's a brief list of values, a mere handful of values I think churches that love their communities should champion:

- Advocating for social justice: Churches must care about the poor and oppressed, and they should actively work to create a more just society.
- Supporting human diversity: Churches should welcome people of all genders, races, ethnicities, abilities, etc. God so loved the world – not just white Anglo-Saxon men.
- Protecting the environment: Churches must care about the earth and work to mitigate the damage modern society brings upon our home planet.
- Working to end racism: The church ought to believe that racism is wrong & we should work to end the evilness that says someone is of less or more worth simply because of the amount of melanin in their skin.

One of the things that saddens me the most, saddens but doesn't shock, is that in 2025, there are many who claim to be followers of Jesus who would scoff at that list – if not publicly, at least privately. Many churches preach about giving your tithe and offerings, but then do nothing to help the poor or oppressed, while their coffers overflow & their ministers live lavish lifestyles. Many preach equality & tell women to submit to men and they accept all people – who are willing to become exactly like them.

There are whole denominations that say that the earth was made for mankind to have dominion, it was meant to be exploited for resources, it's animals and vegetation, just a thing for man to use.

And while lip service is paid to decrying racism, the truth is far more unsettling. Recent studies in the US indicate that white Christians are twice as likely to accept institutional racism in government and law enforcement as white non-believers.

For us to be relevant as part of the church in Dayboro, we must love our communities – no matter how they look.

Let's love our communities.

Dan

Church Council News



As you know, our church is 125 years old in July. We are looking for ways to celebrate this with an eye to getting the message out to the local community. If anyone has any ideas, please let Danny or any Church Council member know.

Thanks

David Windebank (Chairperson)

Annual Stewardship Review

Around this time every year we ask our adherents to review their weekly giving to our work in the Dayboro region. In 2024 we managed to take our minister's stipend to 45% of full-time employment but were unable to achieve our elusive goal of 50%. This remains as our goal. For some people there are economic challenges that make it impossible to give any more than they are now doing. For others there may be some possibility of an increase. Over the twelve months to the September 2024 quarter, the Consumer Price Index rose 2.8%. This has impacted on our costs of insurances, maintenance, electricity, etc. and we are running a very tight budget. The wonderful work of those doing the Yard Sales has kept us afloat. Please prayerfully consider your stewardship and where possible use the confidential direct debit method using the bank details in this newsletter. Thanks for your ongoing support. - Paul Inglis

"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children... This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron." (Dwight D. Eisenhower)



Ladies' breakfast

8am - 9.30am: Saturday 15 February

Held in church hall- bring a plate to share .

A great time of fellowship and sharing, getting to know one another better.

See Carolyn for more details



Calling all Choir members - new and existing -every-one welcome

We will be doing an item in Church on Easter Sunday- 20/04/25

Practice will be after church 10:30 am- Sundays 02/03, 16/03, 30/03 and 13/04.

We have picked a great song and will distribute music/words in coming weeks.

See Carolyn for details

'...rather than speaking of Jesus as "the Answer",
perhaps we ought to think about him as "the Assignment".'

-Robin Meyers

Blokes' Breakfast Kick Start the Year Saturday 1st February: 7:30AM-9:00AM @ The Church Hall

A generous and delicious barbecued breakfast together, followed by a round table where we will all get a chance to contribute to the lives of our friends & family in our faith community.

Suggested cost \$10



You might like to ponder:

- *Why you followed the career path you did.*
- *What is one question you wish people would ask you? (and what would you tell them?)*
- *If you've been married for more than a little while, what are two keys to a long and happy marriage?*

***Blokes' Breakfast is about building deep, valuable,
& lasting friendships***

Explorers 2025

The first Explorers for the year will be on Sunday 23 February from 11am. I have planned to revisit the "Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth" that I partly covered a few years ago. I will have an 8 page handout for people at the Explorers meeting.

At this meeting I would also like to discuss topics people might like to share, lead or suggest in 2025.



I plan to set up an email discussion group this year for Explorers. If you would like to join this email discussion list where we can post Progressive Christianity articles of interest, would you let me know so I can add you to the list.

Warren Rose

Explorers facilitator 2025

Email: warrenrose16@gmail.com

Kids' News

FUN, FRIENDSHIP, and CREATIVITY as we all learn to live
like Jesus!

This is what SUNDAY SPACE, our children's ministry at Uniting Church Dayboro, is all about.



All ages are welcome. Whilst lessons are geared for pre-school and primary kids, our high schoolers have been valuable role-models and helpers, as they participate in our all-age activities. This year we are planning some intergenerational learning, as well. We are blessed with a congregation that loves having kids involved. During term time, children remain in the service until after 'Young & Young-at-Heart' message, then have special activities in the hall. They are served morning tea on the verandah as the service ends, but are welcome to join their families if they wish. This year we are basing the activities in Sunday Space on the readings & message for the week (the lectionary).

NOTICE FROM CAROLYN:

SUNDAY SPACE resumes **Sunday 2nd February**.

We still need more teachers and helpers for 2025. We are also looking for a rostered helper to come out during last song and set up morning tea for children. Please seriously consider if you could help in this very vital part of our church life. See Carolyn to find out more.

Shed tidy out

Our next Yard sale is 29/03/25

At present the shed is overflowing with donations and we do not have capacity for any more. So we are going to have a Shed tidy out working Bee - Sat morning 01/03/25.

Please come - many hands make the work lighter and if we have a great number of people we might be able to do some Autumn cleaning inside and outside church.

Rosters for February, 2025

	2 February	9 February	16 February	23 February
LECTIONARY READINGS	Epiphany 4 Green Jer 1:4-10 Ps 71:1-6 1 Cor 13:1-13 Lk 4:21-30	Epiphany 5 Green Is 6:1-8, (9-13) Ps 138 1 Cor 15:1-11 Lk 5:1-11	Epiphany 6 Green Jer 17:5-10 Ps 1 1 Cor 15:12-20 Lk 6:17-26	Epiphany 7 Green Gen 45:3-11, 15 Ps 37:1-11,39-40 1 Cor 15:35-38, 42-50 Lk 6:27-38
Message	Danny	Danny	Danny	Joy
Young & Young-at-Heart	Danny	Joy	Danny	Joy
Reader	Mike	Sue	Vicki	Andris
Intercession	Margaret-Ann	Shirley	Robyn	Joy
Singers	Lorraine, Tim	Carolyn, David	Carolyn, Tim	Lorraine, Maria
Keyboard	Coral	Judy	Coral	Judy
Sunday Space	Carolyn, Robyn	Joy, John	Fiona, Maria	Holy Communion
Cleaning Crew	Andris, Marion	John & Joy	Carolyn & crew	Mark & Surjit
Greeting	Andris, Marion	Mark & Maria	Robert, Judy	Chris, David
Alternate 2 Feb White	Presentation of the Lord	Malachi 3:1-4 Ps 84	Hebrews 2:14-18	Lk 2:22-40