

Ashburton-Burwood Uniting Church

AUC- 3 Ashburn Gve Ashburton – BUC- Cnr Warrigal Rd & Hyslop St Glen Iris

Minister: The Reverend Barbara Strickland

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<https://ashburton.unitingchurch.org.au/>

<https://burwood.ucavictas.org.au/>



Purpose: *Welcome all. Nurture faith. Grow disciples.*

Vision: *A welcoming missional community, nurturing faith and growing disciples, sharing God's love intentionally, serving God's world compassionately and striving to be faithful followers of Jesus*

Sunday 7 September 2025 Pentecost 13 Year C

Service of Worship will be held at 10am at AUC

ORDER OF SERVICE is on next page.

You Tube live Stream Link for Sunday's Service, 10.00 am 7 September at AUC.

<https://youtube.com/live/19vtu9cOy44> If you miss it at 10am you may watch it later.

Zoom Link is still available at

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83665396506?pwd=bLU2YjZoTHVnV25RM3F2TIV4TFk2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 836 6539 6506 Passcode: 916429

HAPPY FATHERS DAY to all the Dads, Grandfathers, and all those who fulfil fatherly roles in our families and communities.

See more on Fathers Day in September issue of Views from the Lighthouse

From Rev Barb Strickland to the Modern-Day Followers of Jesus in Ashburton-Burwood Uniting Church:

Written at the beginning of Spring 2025, a time of new growth and promise of new life

Over the next four weeks, a key focus in our worship will be on how God guides and sustains us through times of challenge and change. You are at a pivotal point in your faith journey as a congregation of people from Ashburton and Burwood. I so want to encourage you all at this time. Times of transition require a lot of resilience of spirit and the resolve to keep moving forward in spite of difficulties. However, I applaud you for what I have observed amongst you - a willingness to be faithful to God's leading even when it is uncomfortable and an openness to meeting and sharing with active goodwill with people whom you do not yet know well as you walk this journey of faith together. Well done! Know that you are not alone. The Holy Spirit accompanies you and is amongst you as you gather, as you plan, as you lead, as you explore and as you dream. **"Do not lose heart"**. Paul shared these words when speaking to the Corinthians in 2 Corinthians, Chapter 4. We all have treasure in jars of clay, but God is working on our clay (*thanks be to God!*) so that God's immense treasure can be seen and shown to everyone. Being moulded can be painful! We may experience much bruising and discomfort, but the Potter has in mind a wonderful new shape for us. We are all weak, but we are being transformed, each of us and together, into the disciples and into the community that God desires.

The focus for the reflection for each week over the next month will be as follows and I encourage you to join together for worship in praise, thanksgiving and hopefulness.

September 7 - God's faithfulness

September 14 - God's resources

September 21 - God's friendship

September 28 - God in community

I share with you (on next page) two prayers from Dorothy McRae-McMahon, a retired Uniting Church minister and a gifted writer of liturgy from *Prayers for Life's Particular Moments*.

WHAT IS YOUR HOPE FOR US, GOD?

What is your hope, O God?
It is not always clear to us.
We long for a safe place
where we can look upon your face
and you seem to offer us
a track through a wilderness.

Give us the faith to believe
that this is the pathway through to life.
You, who spent time in a wilderness,
remember with us your struggling.
You, who were tossed in the centre of storms,
remember with us the fear of that moment.
You, whose friends slept through your agony of heart,
remember with us the loneliness.

Please, O God, make straight the path before us.
Calm the storm in the midst of our life together
and take our hand for the next step of the way.
Amen.

MOVING WITH YOUR SPIRIT IS NOT ALWAYS EASY

Dear God,
moving with your Spirit is not always easy.
The way forward
is not as clear as we would like it to be.
It sometimes feels safer to stay where we are,
and then the ground goes from under our feet
and we know that we have no option but to
move.

Give us love for each other on the way, O God.
Show us your footsteps on the path, Jesus
Christ,
and hold us safe as we go, Holy Spirit,
who is our comforter, our grace,
and the one who prays for us,
even as we cannot find the words.
Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE 7 September

Worship leader: Rev Barbara Strickland

Welcome
Acknowledgement of Country
Call to Worship
Prayer of the day

HYMN – TiS 190 ‘Colourful Creator, God of mystery’

Prayer of Confession
Declaration of Forgiveness
The Peace

Readings: (1) Jer 18:1-11, (2) Ps 139:1-6, 13-18, (3) Lk 14:25-33 – Libby McLauchlan/Adrian Miller

Early Word

HYMN - TiS 47 ‘Our God, our help in ages past’

Reflection – The Faithfulness of God
HYMN – (NEW) ‘God in the beginning’

Offering
Notices
Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People

COMMUNION (NEW) ‘We gather at your table, Lord’

COMMUNION

HYMN – (NEW) ‘Remember me, the God who saves’

Charge
Blessing

ROSTER – 7 September 2025 at AUC – Pentecost 13

Minister's Steward:	Andrew Wilkinson
Narthex & Count Steward:	Angus Moore
Door & Offering:	Jenny Liddle, Alan Bailey
Readers:	Libby McLauchlan, Adrian Miller
Music:	Music Team
Sound:	Steve Cauchi
Computer	Howard Hamlyn
Power Point:	Michael Donnelly
Communion Stewards:	Michael Donnelly, Andrew Wilkinson, Alison Wright, Mary Casey, Val Nixon
Morning Tea:	Libby McLauchlan, Jenny Liddle, Pam Degenhardt
Online Communications:	Christine Chappell/Dawn Sullivan

THANK YOU to Anne C for leading the worship service last Sunday. **THANK YOU** too to the singers, Megan & Lance, to organist Colin, pianist Anne F, and on guitar Graeme C. What a lot of work there was for them, and to Kevin for all the lyrics on the power point. For all who contributed songs and those who took part in the service, we are grateful.



SUNDAY 14 September: at Burwood UC

10.00 am Worship Leaders: Rev Barbara Strickland, Fran Willmott & worship team.

Lectionary Readings: Jer 4:11-12, 22-28; Ps 14; 1 Tim 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-10

SOME HAPPENINGS IN SEPTEMBER

MENS FELLOWSHIP MEETING - MONDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

Men's Fellowship will next meet on Monday 8th September at 1.30pm in the BUC Wesley Room for coffee, cake and an informal chat. Suggested topic for discussion - an interesting book I have read, or film I have seen. Other topics of interest and concern also welcome. Graeme S. & Kevin H. (Coordinators)

TUESDAY MEN'S GROUP Weekly on Tuesdays at 8pm on Zoom. Please contact Paul Mattiske or Michael Donnelly M. 0438 674 247.

WEDNESDAY MORNING STUDY GROUP meets weekly at BUC using "With love to the World". 9am-10am. All are welcome.



BARRY'S PLACE at Burwood UC is open on **Thursdays**, between 10 and 11.30am; share in a cuppa and relaxed conversation.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Wednesday 17 September : **Special Morning tea** in the Lighthouse at AUC at 10.30am. Come along for friendship and fellowship and enjoy some delicious food.

EASY WALKERS: **Saturday September 20th**: A mystery location at the moment but it will be a Willing Walker Wattle Wander or an Acacia Active Amble somewhere appropriate. Most likely a BYO morning tea. More detail down the track. Meet at BUC at 9.15 for usual 9.30am departure with car pooling where possible. Please advise if coming in case a change of plans is necessary. Contacts: Email preferred grajenstone@bigpond.com Jen:0434 007 463 Graeme:0431 915 198

Sunday 28 September a light lunch 'Soup, Sandwiches and Slices' will follow morning worship at Burwood. Contributions are welcome – please note your planned contribution on the list available at morning tea OR contact Fran ifwillmott@hotmail.com This will also mark Rev Barbara's final Sunday with us so come along and take the opportunity to thank her for her 3 months of caring for us.

PEW SHEET: Please forward all notices to Dawn das42ul@gmail.com by Wednesday 5.00pm. Please state for which date/s you need your notice to be listed. **The pew sheet is posted online on the Communications page at <https://burwood.ucavictas.org.au/>**

BUC/AUC UPCOMING EVENTS and SERVICES are listed on the Quarterly Calendar on the Communications page on the BUC website. Also refer to 'Views from the Lighthouse', Ashburton UC.

NOTE: AUC = Ashburton UC, 3 Ashburn Grove Ashburton - BUC = Burwood UC, 1 Hyslop St., Glen Iris

You are invited to send prayer requests to:



BUC PRAYER NETWORK: For the month of September please forward prayers to be circulated to Maree at silver.maree@gmail.com by midday on Mondays. Additional prayers will be circulated as needed. (If email not available use 0401 838 575).

PRAYER CHAINS:

Email prayer requests to
Eileen & Graeme
rulefam@bigpond.net.au

Prayer Focus:

God, we rejoice that we have become part of your family, may we always remember that in this family, freedom and dignity belong to all of us. (With Love to the World 5 Sept)

Prayer Points:

For fathers and all who take on the fathering role

WCC Prayer Cycle

7 – 13 September -Benin, Ivory Coast, Togo

- emotional and physical healing, and restoring hope in people who are victims of conflict, disease and human rights abuses.

VIEWS FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE:

The September issue will be emailed out over this weekend, probably late Saturday. Watch for it in your inbox. If you don't receive it please email Dawn. das42ul@gmail.com
Make sure you read the solution to the mystery vases. Thank you to those who have contributed items for this spring issue.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PRAYER

CYCLE: The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle takes us through every region of the world over the course of a year.

<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle>

14-20 September - [Ghana, Nigeria](#)

WORSHIP at ASHBURTON-BURWOOD UC.

with Rev Barbara Strickland

September Sunday @ 10.00am

7th Ashburn Gr., Ashburton – Communion.

14th Hyslop St.

21st Ashburn Gr., Ashburton.

28th Hyslop St., plus Lunch

October: Sunday @ 10.00 am

5th Ashburn Gr., Ashburton – Communion.

12th Hyslop St.,

19th Ashburn Gr., Ashburton.

26th Hyslop St.,

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SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Matthew 10:8

Freely you have received; freely give.

Food, toiletries and household goods can be brought to Burwood church to support Burwood Neighbourhood House, Camcare and East Burwood Care. The basket is placed in the foyer at Burwood during the week and in the church during the services on Sundays. Bread is also available for anyone to take.

Non-perishable food items can be brought to Ashburton church and placed in the Care & Kindness Pantry which is outside the glass doors of the church under the covered area. People are free to take whatever they need from the pantry at any time.

If you wish, you may donate cash which is used to purchase groceries for the pantry. Place cash in an envelope clearly marked "Pantry" and put it in the offering plate or you can make a direct deposit to the church bank account as follows: BSB 033106; A/c No. 121266 – Reference "Pantry" A/c Name: Ashburton Uniting Church Parish Council.

THANK YOU to all for your continued support and generosity.

SOMETHING TO THINK ON!

Gratitude can

transform common days into thanksgivings;

turn routine jobs into joy;

change ordinary opportunities into blessings.

William Arthur Ward

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:

*Does a green candle burn longer than a pink one?
No, they both burn shorter.*