



**KENMORE UNITING  
CHURCH**

*Serving our God and community  
with Heart, Mind and Soul*

**REFLECTIONS**

April 2026

Volume 26 Issue 3

## DAVID FROM HIS DESK



Hi all. One of the posts I follow on Facebook is “Painting and Fine Arts”. It simply posts the image of a painting or sculpture or sketching usually by a well-known artist pre-1900s, sometimes going back to the 1600s.

Not surprisingly, these posts over the last week or so have featured ones of Christ. Tintoretto’s “The Last Supper” (1592-94). Repin’s “Judas” (1885). Rembrandt’s “The Descent from the Cross” (1634).

Caravaggio’s “The Taking of Christ in the Garden” (1602/3). (Oh, there was also Picasso’s “Head of Woman” from 1943 which looks like a cartoon face of a puppy with a cut on its foreleg, but that’s another story!)

Caravaggio’s influence continued long after his death in 1610, aged 38. It seems that Rembrandt and Vermeer and so many others were shaped by his art. The painting that I mentioned above, is extraordinary. Apart from the detail, the thing that stands out to me is the shining armour. The effect is so life-like. What of the man himself? He was able to capture the emotion, the beauty, of a moment within sacred art and yet at the same time be far from that in his own life. He led a tumultuous life, marked by violence from his hand and that of others. In the midst of producing so much beauty in his sacred paintings he co-existed with his own destructive behaviour.

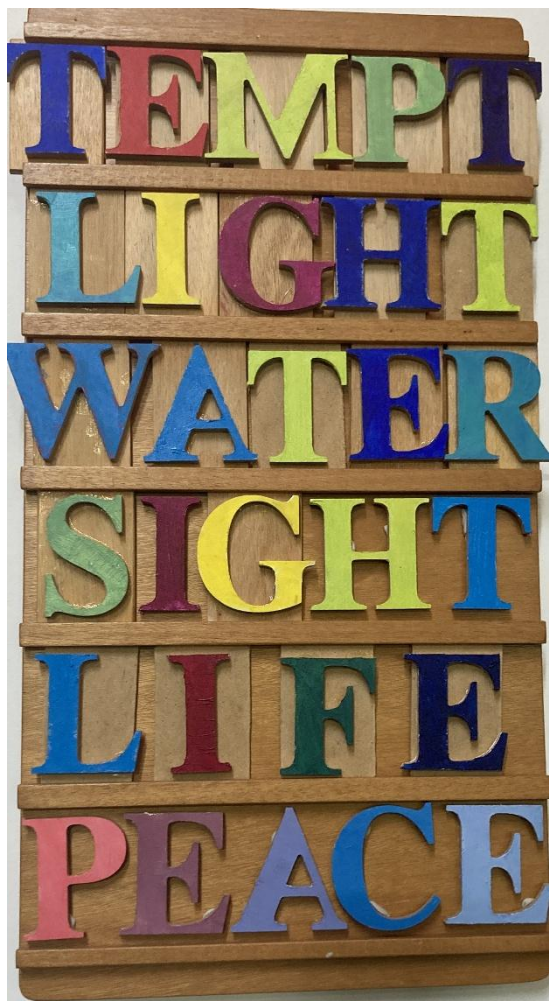
Russ Ramsay ponders what Caravaggio made of the Jesus he often painted. Ramsay looks at Caravaggio’s life, his art and his profound portrayal of scenes from the Bible and says, “We cannot conclude that his behaviour was so destructive that it shattered the grace of the Lord he painted with such reverence.” (*Rembrandt is in the Wind*, Russ Ramsay, Zondervan Reflective, 2022, p65).

This is the hope for each of us. God’s grace extends beyond what we deem as unrecoverable. God’s grace transforms even *our* lives, our hearts. It “saved a wretch like me.” Back in 2000, Bono, from the band U2, sang about grace: “She carries a pearl in perfect condition. What once was hurt, what once was friction, what left a mark no longer stings. Because Grace makes beauty out of ugly things.” (*Grace* by U2, Album: All that you can’t leave behind. 2000)

Make God’s peace and grace go before you.

Rev David

## OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LENT AND EASTER



6 examples of Jesus revealing himself



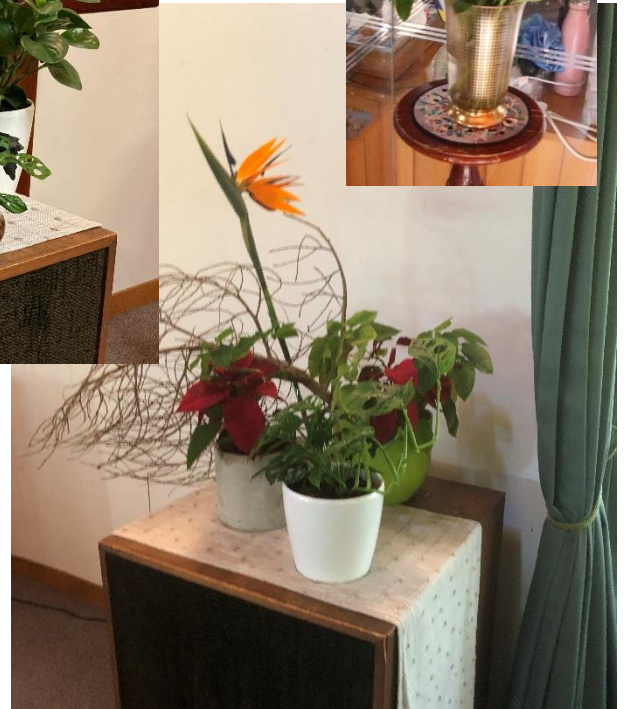
PALM SUNDAY – shadows & light, palms and the cross



**GOOD FRIDAY: Two basins:**  
one used for humble, loving service,  
the second used to wash away  
responsibility, to turn away from truth,  
to choose the easier path.

## **EASTER DAY**

**black to green,  
Death to Life,  
Despair to Hope,  
Sadness to Joy.**



## **EASTER PRAYER FROM SYNOD**

Lord God,  
Thank you that Your love never fails.  
You are our strength and our song.  
You have saved us.  
Shouts of joy echo  
From the cries of your people –  
You have conquered death and the grave.  
We will not die – we will live,  
And tell the world what You have done.  
You have disciplined us, Lord,  
But You have not given us over to death.  
We thank You that You hear our cries  
And are our salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected  
Has become our cornerstone –  
We choose to rejoice and be glad in it.  
So Lord, renew Your Church.  
Rebuild us on the foundation  
Of your resurrection life.  
Make us a people who live,  
Who sing, and who tell the world  
What You alone have done.

Your love never fails. AMEN.



## **REPORT FROM CHURCH COUNCIL**

There has certainly been some movement since the last edition of Reflections. We have moved through the Easter season, culminating in Easter Sunday with a call for renewal as the theme.

**Annual General Meeting** - held with associated reports and elections. Courtney added to the Report with a year in reflection photo page. A great innovation.

Andrew and Gemma will continue as congregation Chair and Secretary. We farewelled Celma, Dawn and Coralie as Council members. Coralie has been co-opted until the end of the financial year. Thankyou for your wonderful service. We welcome Juana for accepting her call to join church council. 28 people attended the congregational dinner to share the chicken and salad lunch.

**ArtBurst.** We have received a grant for \$1300 to assist with staging for the event. A meeting is called for Thursday 14 May at a time to be confirmed. A call to artists has been sent with inquiries beginning to come in.

**Pianos.** As you will have noticed, the pianos from the church and the community centre have been swapped. These will be tuned soon.

**Refreshed.** Changes are continuing to be refined. Thanks to the feedback shared with me, we were able to tweak the plan. Runners for the curtains have gone up, with curtaining due to follow soon.

**Food Requests.** A handout has been finalised with local information and will be printed next week. This will help volunteers in the shop when they are asked for food assistance.

**Blessings Wendy**

# COOL & CLASSIC



The 1st Concert this year on International Women's Day showcased the Australian Celtic Women. They are a highly professional group of musicians, all having some Celtic ancestry and specialising in music from mainly Irish and Scottish origin.

The Concert was superbly choreographed and performed with great expertise featuring a variety of instruments such as violin, keyboard, drums, bagpipes, harp and Celtic drum (bodhrán). All the ladies wore stunning costumes including a costume change for the 2nd half. Miranda, one of the vocalists introduced each song which fleshed it out for the audience.

The repertoire ranged from jovial songs such as Molly Malone, with accompanying dancing and clapping by the audience, to nostalgic and lyrical songs such as Scarborough Fair and Danny Boy. A Classical vocal duet, The Flower Duet from Lakmé by Delibes was beautifully sung by the two Classically trained vocalists, Kathryn and Gabrielle.

The violinist and harpist, Melinda, who performed in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in 2025, was very engaging both as harpist and violinist. She wore angel wings with lights when playing her harp and moved about the audience playing her violin. The piper, Camille, had solo renditions which blended seamlessly with the repertoire and evoked the Scottish Highlands.

The songs were so varied in mood and instrumentation, and together with the beautiful costumes always made for total enjoyment!

The concert was well attended and I think most of the audience felt it was one of the best Cool and Classic concerts. **Anne.**



**Melinda was perfectly colour co-ordinated with our Lenten banner.**

The audience of 140 was indeed the best we've had since Covid, especially as most now seem very comfortable to book and pay ahead online, and the rest are glad to come and be looked after by our Refreshed volunteers so thank you to them. Our overall profit for the day was \$2,724 and we still have \$1450 in season tickets to help with the other two concerts. Single concession tickets will rise slightly to \$30, so we can keep attracting quality performers.



So a very big thank-you to all the helpers who make these concerts work, especially the kitchen team represented here by Sally and an anonymous arm.

When I checked on Sonia to see if she'd found a friend, the lady next to her said, "We are friends, but friends who've only just met." What a tribute to our concerts that they welcome friends who've only just met.

Who might you meet at the Best of the Con on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May? **Dawn.**

## MUSIC LOVERS IN MARCH



What a joyous start to the year's programme! Young 10-year-old Sophie, who has accompanied Irina and only played one or two pieces in the past, confidently commanded the piano for the first half. She moved effortlessly from Bach, Beethoven, Chopin to the slightly later composer, Sarti, with quiet aplomb. She has a beautiful touch and played very expressively.

An important focus is during morning tea the opportunity for the audience to interact with the artists. In the case of a young person with such great talent and obvious enjoyment in her craft, it was like “bees around the honey pot”. Her parents helped when questions were difficult. It is also time for old friends to catch up and new friendships to be forged in the warm, relaxed atmosphere.

It being just two days since St Patrick's Day, Rev. David set the mood for the next half with a Celtic joke introducing Robin and Brian Etter-Cleave. Their love is in Celtic and folk music from around the world. Robin interspersed her singing with Brian by playing five different instruments never missing a beat or breath.

The speed on the penny whistle brought laughter and appreciative clapping. It was toe tapping time.

What a professional duo! Robin is a member of the Chantefique choir which we enjoy each November. With the high quality of musical talent and the happy morning tea break, we hope the audience of forty five will swell even further.



Thank you very much to Rosemary and her cheerful band of workers. **Liz**



## MUSIC LOVERS IN APRIL

The next MusicLovers concert will be on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> April, at the usual time of 10 am – 11.30 am, with a break for morning tea.

Special performers will be long-time friends of MusicLovers, the Dexterous Digits Duo. The Duo combines the talents of Cassandra D'Arcy on mandolin and violin and James Lloyd on classical guitar. They both have a background in teaching, Cassandra with all stringed instruments, whereas James has directed the Brisbane Spanish Guitar Centre and loves to arrange music for guitar groups and ensembles.

They play in various orchestras around Brisbane and like to explore music of all styles and periods. It will surely be a varied and entertaining programme for all tastes.



# Women's Fellowship

Please join us for a get-together in the Community Centre where we will share devotions as well as stimulating discussions and fellowship and enjoy lunch.

**Date and Time:**

**Monday 13 April 2026**

**Venue:**

In the Community Centre  
Kenmore Uniting Church

**\*\*PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH\*\***



## REFRESHED NEWS – MARCH – Jenny.

With no let up in the hot weather, we have delayed putting out our new Winter stock. Hopefully, it will cool down soon. There is certainly plenty of mid-season clothing – long-sleeved dresses and shirts in lighter weight fabrics – currently on our racks. We also have a wonderful range of scarves for \$2 each.

We are bursting at the seams, again, with baby and children's clothes. The small double rack (a donated item) we were using to display "special" clothing is no longer safe to use, so we are back to selling everything from plastic tubs. This is far from ideal. To date, I have not been able to find anything suitably sturdy on which to hang children's clothes. If you have any ideas, please let me know.



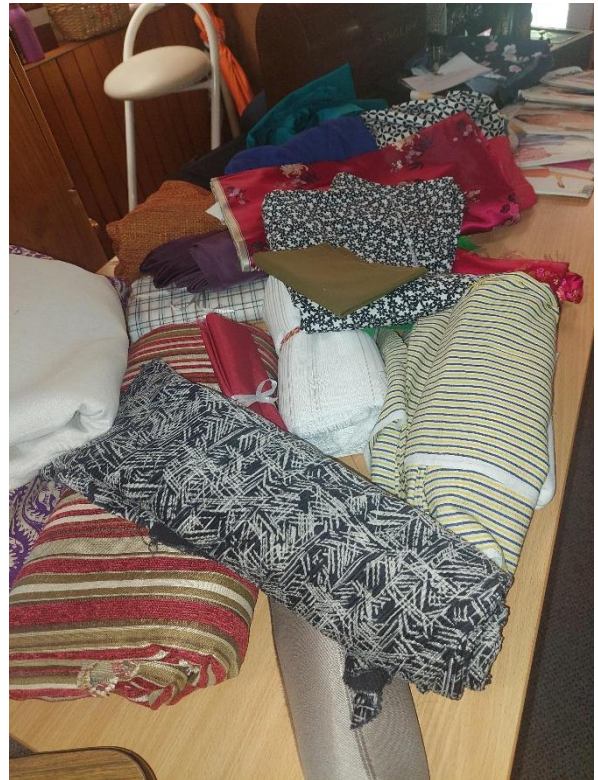
After a generous donation of a large quantity of fabric, sewing patterns, and interesting accessories (ie, vintage lace collars) we are trialling giving more space to these. Despite no advertising, we have seen quite pleasing sales.

Something new is the expansion of our Haberdashery/Sewing Section.



Much of that is thanks to Wendy donating a lovely old Singer sewing machine as a “feature” piece on the table. That machine has certainly been a drawcard, and a talking point!

Most of our fabric is under \$5 per metre. One particularly interesting piece is 40 metres (!) of excellent quality Batik: 145 cm wide. It is a good weight for upholstery or cushions, but would also be suitable for dresses or shirts. Given the quantity, we will sell by the metre, as long as the buyer brings their own scissors and does the cutting. There is also a small quantity of a rather unique Japanese print, woven and produced in England: very special.



We have a new batch of shopping bags, decorated by Beverley: \$2.50 each. We sold quite a few of these at Christmas as very useful gift packaging.

Finally, it is citrus season again and Leigh has donated a lot of Tahitian limes from her dad’s tree, and there are more to come. We are selling these for 50 cents each, or 3 for \$1.00. I made a very easy and delicious Lime Pie for Easter lunch:

#### **LIME PIE**

23cm Pie Dish. Oven 160 (FF)

*Pastry:* Use pre-baked short crust pastry, or biscuit crumb (as used for a cheesecake). I used Gingernut Biscuits (2 cups, crushed) + 1 tsp Powdered Ginger + ½ cup Coconut + 100gm melted butter. Bake for 10 mins and press down with a glass and wooden

spoon when out of the oven to reshape. Cool completely and chill in refrigerator until needed.

*Filling:* 2 tins Condensed Milk; 4 egg yolks; 1 cup fresh lime juice + 1 tablespoon zest. Beat together until combined and pour into pie crust. Bake for 30/40 minutes. (It should be not too firm.) Cool, then refrigerate for at least 3 hours.

Serve with whipped cream and/or ice-cream.



## LENT EVENT

**Everyone of us is so proud of our Refreshed Shop** and thankful also for all the hard work by everyone who supports it. This enables us to spend on average about \$10,000 on crucial mission projects locally and far afield. We have just sent the

half-yearly amount of \$1500 to the Kenmore High School Chaplaincy Committee and in May Council will decide on how the profits from this six months will be disbursed on vital projects, especially those which attract government subsidies.

Only twice a year do we usually ask you as individuals to support particular church appeals i.e. for the Christmas Bowl and for Lent Event. When most governments are spending more on bombs than poverty relief and more on being first to access scarce petrol, poorer countries again miss out, so it is timely to read this letter from Dr Sureka Goringe, National Director of Uniting World.

***What Lent taught me:*** *There's a paradox at the heart of Lent that I find myself returning to every year.*

*When we turn our attention toward Christ, when we fast, when we pray, when we slow down enough to follow his footsteps, we don't get pulled away from the world. We get pulled deeper into it. Because Christ moved toward the forgotten, the poorest, the most vulnerable. And when we fix our eyes on him, he turns our gaze to the same people. This is what **Lent Event** has always been. A season of people choosing to make that turn together.*

*Timor-Leste is just one story of what's possible. What we've started there isn't a one-off. It's a model that our partners have the vision and determination to grow, reaching many more communities where the need is just as real. Sureka.*

Many of you have already given, but if you haven't yet had the chance, please put your donation into an envelope marked Lent Event in the plate. If you wish to use credit card ask Coralie or Dawn for the photocopied giving sheet and fill that in and again use an envelope marked Lent Event to give. The appeal will stay open for **2 more Sundays**.

**The hunger virus kills about 8,000 children a day and the vaccine for it exists. It's called "FOOD". But you won't hear about it because hunger doesn't kill the rich.**

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This was quite a new experience as the Kenmore area joined with Indooroopilly and held a combined service at St Andrew's Anglican Church



near St Peter's school. Several of our members were present as well as some from Chapel Hill and OLR, who will host next year's district service. We sang with a video Nigerian choir a song specially created for the day.

The congregation of 45 attendees were generous in their offering with \$683.10

being raised for projects in Nigeria, where Christians are attacked and children kidnapped. No wonder the projects chosen by the Bible Society were trauma healing sessions and school supplies for internally displaced people in overcrowded camps and slum residents affected by violence and poverty.

Nigerian Blessing Agada, here with Rev. Sue, spoke about his personal journey from those risks where he narrowly escaped being taken as a student, to his experience in Australia.



Over morning tea, the local WDOP organiser told us that Micah Projects have turned some rental accommodation near the Anglican church into a place for homeless people. We discussed our planned leaflet as a resource and perhaps adding information from other churches in the Western Suburbs so we can all be more effective and efficient in meeting needs without doubling up.



Great to have Glenda's son Mark for Easter Day to give a joyous episode of piano playing on the newly positioned Kawai to lead into the Easter Sunday service, as sunlight poured in from the skylights.

## WE ARE COMMUNITY

Birthdays seem to come in clusters. Jim sneaked his into March but just before we saw him with Nettie at the concert at St Andrew's Anglican Church which held World Day of Prayer. They were present at a concert because daughter-in-law Melissa (nee Webb) was singing in it. Then on



Good Friday, in the midst of their family cares, Gwenda's birthday still happened, followed the next day by Sonia's, who was also celebrating the birth of her first great-grandchild, Hugh Stewart McLellan, hence the traditional flower on the communion table. Quite a break then until after Anzac Day, when Fran, Blair and Liz all have birthdays one after the other. We wish you all good health and growing contentment with friends and families as time goes by.

**GOOD FRIDAY** can be hard. This one also brought some very sad news with the passing of Sylvia Anderson in Sydney. We are thankful that we heard the news together in church in the worshipping community she was so much a part of and that her passing came when she was in Sydney surrounded by her family. David has now reported that, following conversations with Debbie and Heather, a memorial service for Sylvia will take place at **Kenmore UC on Thursday, 23 April at 11 am**. This service follows on from a memorial service for her in Sydney on 16 April. Refreshments in our Community Centre will follow. Debbie and Heather are keen to take pressure off us in regard to catering and so will organize that part.

**ANOTHER FAREWELL** occurred on Good Friday with the passing of Rev. Duncan Harrison, known to many in the past and who has been a resident in Fairview and attended here occasionally when he could not get to Indooroopilly. He has been a good friend to Brenda and Ted and many others and also served in many capacities in the Uniting Church, including Moderator and General Secretary of the Synod and previous roles in the Presbyterian Church. His son John edited Journey and was mentored at Kenmore in a placement.

As advised by his family, the funeral for Rev Duncan Harrison will be held at **Indooroopilly Uniting Church, Station Road, Indooroopilly, at 10.00am on Friday 17 April**. The service will be followed by refreshments in the adjacent hall. The family is also exploring whether a livestream may be made available.



**ANDREW H.** had a great time visiting Sri Lanka with some friends. In fact he was on top of the world at Sgiriya, which is a fabulous rock mountain with ruins on the top.

In fact, the Langfords can vouch for the view because they did the same climb 15 years ago – but probably couldn't do it at all now. Evidence?

Well, this photo below shows us on the way down and who's taking the photo? Andrew L. of course. And these are just the first flights of over 1200 steps to the top nearly 200 metres up.





**Juana and her artist friends** have an exhibition entitled 'Four Visions, One Space' at the Richard Randall Art Studio in the Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt. Coot-tha Rd, Toowong. ENTRY & PARKING is FREE. Accessible by bus too.



The exhibition will feature works by award-winning artists – Monica Anthon, Juana Bernardo, Lesley Bright and Shruti Kashikar, celebrating their diverse personal visions and stories through their artistic creations.

There is an appealing array of artworks, all handmade and one-of-a-kind gifts, including unique semi-precious jewellery from Monica, original paintings, gifts and art cards from Shruti and Juana, and textile sculptures by Lesley. There will also be live demonstrations of painting to show the creative process in action.

The gallery is open from 9 am to 4 pm from Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April to Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April, and from 9 am to 3 pm on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April.



### **Ikebana Excitement for Wendy:**

In my other hat as Director of Sogetsu Ikebana, I have had the pleasure of working with fellow artists and Maker Gallery, Clayfield. We were invited by Stephanie to participate in an exhibition to showcase the vases that she sells at her gallery.

Details here, along with my favourite arrangement. Opened yesterday and will continue for a fortnight.

**Wendy.**

**MAKERS GALLERY**  
**Vessels**  
 Collaboration with Sogetsu Ikebana Qld

Open 11 April - 25 April  
 Opening 11 April 1:30pm

Open 10am - 4pm Fri & Sat  
 Other times by arrangement

Stephanie Outridge Field  
 0417 886 185  
 53 Jackson St, Clayfield 4011

Instagram / online store  
[www.makersgalleryaustralia.com](http://www.makersgalleryaustralia.com)

## LECTIONARY READINGS - YEAR A - April 2026

Date & Day	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel	Colour
Apr 3 Good Friday	Is 52:13 – 53:12	Ps 22	Heb 10:16- 25 or Heb 4: 14-16; 5:7-9	Jn 18:1- 19:42	B/R
Apr 5 Easter Day	Acts 10: 34-43 or Jer 31:1-6	Ps118: 1-2, 14- 24	Col 3:1-4 or Acts 10: 34-43	Jn 20:1-18 or Mt 28: 1-10	W
Apr 12 Easter 2	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Ps 16	1 Pt 1:3-9	Jn 20:19- 31	W
Apr 19 Easter 3	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Ps 116:1-4, 12-19	1 Pt 1:17-23	Lk 24:13- 35	W
Apr 26 Easter 4	Acts 2:42-47	Ps 23	1 Pt 2:19-25	Jn 10:1-10	W

### DIARY

<b>13 April (Mon.)</b>	<b>12.30pm BYO Women's lunch in Community Centre</b>
<b>16 April (Thurs.)</b>	<b>10:00am – 11.30am MusicLovers – Dextrous Digits Duo</b>
<b>17 April (Fri.)</b>	<b>10:00am Funeral for Rev. Duncan Harrison – I'pilly Church</b>
<b>23 April (Thurs.)</b>	<b>11:00am Memorial Service at KUC for Sylvia Anderson</b>
<b>25 April (Sat.)</b>	<b>Anzac Day</b>
<b>8 May (Fri.)</b>	<b>12:15am Men's Lunch One Table</b>
<b>10 May (Sun.)</b>	<b>9:00 am Mother's Day service</b>
<b>11 May (Mon.)</b>	<b>12.20pm Women's Fellowship lunch – One Table</b>
<b>14 May (Thurs.)</b>	<b>Church Council Meeting and ArtBurst (Times TBA)</b>

## April Roster 2026

	12 April	19 April	26 April
<b>Elder</b>	Wendy	Dawn	Dawn
<b>Music</b>	Jenny	Jenny	Jenny
<b>Prayer</b>	Dawn	Juana	Gemma
<b>Reading</b>	Andrew H	Dawn	Marleine
<b>Steward</b>	Rob	Carolyn	Allan
<b>Steward</b>	Ralph	Philip	Blair
<b>Cha Bar</b>	Gemma	Rosemary C	Sally
<b>Cha Bar</b>	Joycelyn	Arini	Rosemary H
<b>Ann'ments</b>	Dawn	Dawn	Dawn
<b>PA System</b>	John	John	Andrew L
<b>PowerPoint</b>	Rosemary C	Gemma	Rosemary C
<b>Notice Board</b>	Lester	Lester	Lester

## May Roster 2026

	3 May	10 May	17 May	24 May	31 May
<b>Elder</b>	Rosemary C	Rosemary C	Rosemary C	Rosemary C	Rosemary C
<b>Music</b>	Jenny	Jenny	Jenny	Jenny	Jenny
<b>Prayer</b>	David	Marleine	Wendy	Dawn	Juana
<b>Reading</b>	Andrew H	Dawn	Andrew L	Rosemary C	Coralie
<b>Steward</b>	Coralie	Carolyn	Rob	Ralph	Blair
<b>Steward</b>	Lester	Philip	Allan	Andrew L	John
<b>Cha Bar</b>	Gemma	Sally	Wendy	Rosemary H	Wendy
<b>Cha Bar</b>	Joycelyn	Rosemary C	Arini	Rob	Jan
<b>Ann'ments</b>	Rosemary C	Rosemary C	Rosemary C	Marleine	Rosemary C
<b>PA System</b>	Andrew L	John	Andrew L	John	Andrew L
<b>PowerPoint</b>	Gemma	Wendy	Rosemary C	Wendy	Gemma
<b>Notice Board</b>	Euan	Euan	Euan	Euan	Euan

Are you sweating whilst putting petrol in your car? Feeling sick when paying for it? You probably have the Carownervirus.