



ST. STEPHENS FEBRUARY 2026

No. 225

MINISTER: Rev. Juliette Maua'i
PHONE: 0456 690 291



*179 Melbourne Rd
Williamstown
Phone 0468 365 434*

DIARY

FEBRUARY Worship Services

1st 9.30am All-age
8th 9.30am led by Rev. Juliette Maua'i
15th 9.30am led by Rev. Juliette Maua'i
Service of Holy Communion
22nd 9.30am led by Rev. Juliette Maua'i

COMING EVENTS

February Plant & Garage Sale

Saturday 14th February 8.30am to 1pm

Pancake Fundraiser for Uniting

Thursday 19th February 10am

Sunday 22nd February after worship service

Donation \$5 per pancake & toppings.

St. Stephens Uniting Church

Our Vision: St. Stephens Uniting Church

is a growing, active Christian influence in our community and welcoming to all people.

Our Mission: Led by the Holy Spirit,

our mission is to empower people to love

one another, and be a visible Christian presence within the community

Fund Raising and Responsible Recycling



Please scan this code when you visit the CMD Depot – Racecourse Rd to return your *10c deposit* bottles, cans and containers. Your donation will go straight to St. Stephens

account.

THURSDAY MORNING TEA

If your New Year's Resolution included "making new friends," "reconnecting with old ones", "getting out more" or "enjoying scones with jam and cream", then Thursday morning teas are for you.

10am every Thursday in the rooms.

Thursday Ladies group will meet in the rooms after morning tea and all are welcome.

Come along and enjoy the hospitality. No charge

GARAGE SALES

Although we didn't have a Garage Sale in December a pop-up Christmas Stall brought in some good profits, with Anne & Martin Woodhead's Christmas Jewellery being a highlight.

Our 2025 total amount raised from Garage Sales etc was \$5304 which is a great achievement as our prices are extremely modest, and we are assisting otherwise discards to be repurposed and reused. We have a very comprehensive selection of jigsaws at present and will be offering these and many other new acquisitions at our first Garage Sale on February 14th.



Good Wishes to all who celebrated a birthday in JANUARY including

**Mylene Gill, Jillian Manning,
Tamara Tautala'aso, Benny Kemble and
Jimmy Rowe**

and to those who will be celebrate in FEBRUARY including:

**Nand Djohan, Sylvia Gill, Sally Bratby
Ava Bratby/Williams, Hunter Craggs**

Christmas Bowl Appeal

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to the Christmas Bowl Appeal through our offering at the Christmas Carol Celebration and on Christmas Day, We are able to send **\$1400** to **Act for Peace** 'bringing hope to people who have been uprooted by conflict and disaster.'

ST. STEPHENS CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Announcements: Contact Heather Russell 93976405

Diary: Deadline for March Diary is Sunday 22nd February

Next Church Council meeting: 12.30pm Thursday 19th February

Your weekly offering to the Church

can be made on-line to

BSB 633-000 A/C NO. 1252-34211



**News from the Ukulele Group
Back to Basics – Beginner Ukuleles**

We are back for another year. Contact Jodie for information 0487263 717

ST. STEPHENS THURSDAY MUSIC

We will be excited to be back after a well-earned break.

George has put out a challenge to everyone to select a song that they would like us to learn. New participants warmly welcome to sing or play along.

Jodie Williams



Wednesday Walkers

We are kicking-off another year  of walkers, putting our best foot forward. Leaving from 4 Bunbury Street at 9.30am. Walkers start back first Wednesday 4th February.

Routes suited to all walkers. Dogs too!

More info? ring Jodie 0487 263 717

AUSTRALIA TOUR 2026

CHAMBER PHILHARMONIA COLOGNE

presents classical music from Germany

Electra Street Uniting Church

Tuesday 3rd February 8pm

Bookings at www.trybooking.com/DHSBK

Adult \$50

Concession (Seniors, pensioners, disability) \$45

Children 6-12 \$35 Students 13-25 \$35

Leaders Services and visiting Ministers

We were blessed that Rev. Mark Dunn and Rev. Alistair McCrae made themselves available to lead our Communion Services in December and January respectively and express our appreciation to Lisa Carey (Chairperson of Presbytery) who made a determined effort to encourage these two gentlemen to help us out when Presbytery efforts to secure supply ministry in Juliette's absence had failed. Lisa came to St. Stephens to worship with our congregation during December to show her support and apologise for the uncertainty we had experienced.

It was wonderful to have Andrew Craggs return for our Communion Services - to play the organ again and to provide beautiful background piano during the distribution of elements at Communion. It is great to see Andrew restored to health, we wish him well in this New Year.

We are eagerly looking forward to having Rev. Juliette back to lead us in worship. We hope Juliette has had a lovely time of restoration and relaxation and joyous times with family and friends.

Tennis Anyone?

You may have been inspired by the excitement of watching the Australian Open - now it's time to dust off your racquet and join us for a hit of tennis.

Tuesday morning 9.15am, Thursday 8.30am or Saturday 1pm. Social tennis for all at St. Stephens.

PANCAKE FUNDRAISERS FOR UNITING



THURSDAY 10AM FEBRUARY 19th
SUNDAY 10.30AM FEBRUARY 22nd
\$5 per pancake with toppings

Church Council Report

We are all greatly appreciative of the commitment that Armindo has made to keep our lawns mowed and the property looking inviting. A new motor mower has been purchased to make Armindo's work a little easier. Any assistance that anyone can offer with weeding and tidying garden beds would be greatly appreciated. Mark Young has been quietly working at this project for many years, but with the super spring growth we had, and the dry period we are now experiencing, a little assistance would be very welcome. There is a lot of dry weeds and foliage to clear.

Thanks to Ted for replaced the table tops in the hall bathrooms and replaced the perished pan cone in the disabled toilet in the rooms. We are lucky to have people who can voluntarily help us with these jobs.

Clean-up Australia

Sunday 1st March between 8.30-11.30am
Along the banks of Kororoit Creek
Meet at Shed 16 Williamstown Historic Fishing
Village - Gray Reserve Road
More info? Contact Ted Peck 9391 1109

Carol Celebration

After many months of planning, rehearsals, and preparation, we came together for a wonderful

evening of singing and celebration. The church was beautifully decorate with Iris' lovely window display with candles and framed artwork by Janet Howie. Kirsten's amazing floral arrangement, a magnificent Christmas tree from Lal Lal and a church filled with beaming faces. It was a very special night to have Andrew back at the organ and George's debut accompanying the singers for "The HallelujahChorus".



(left)
Singers
gathered for
Hallelujah
Chorus

Well done, Elaine & Joyce for leading the singers.

It was helpful to have Ally and Imogen step out to the front and give us some direction.

Thanks to Ted and Elaine for hosting the Sunday rehearsals and for the dedication and enthusiasm of the singers. We were quite an eclectic mix.

Thank you to Janet and Ross for another thoughtful and entertaining Christmas Bowl presentation, encouraging people to give generously.

To our Leaders, candle lighters, sound-room and power-point technicians, door welcomers, providers of supper, set-up and clean-up helpers. A wonderful St. Stephens team effort. Joyce has informed me that it is only 11 months to Christmas.

Jodie Williams

Sunday School Report -As with the school holidays, we take a break from our more structured sessions to play games. We are so lucky to have our young ones so keen to come along when they can. Although it may have looked like we were just playing games, we had great conversations about the choices we make, being kind and considerate, thoughtful and good sports. Some new team leaders are needed for 2026. Speak to Iris or Jodie.

What's on the St. Stephens Property

Our members often ask me who is at St. Stephens property and when they are there. At the present time I can let everyone know that on:

Monday the Kadampa Meditation Centre is here 6.30 - 8.30pm starting 2nd February Meeting rooms

Tuesday - Ladies Tennis 9.am - 10.30am Courts
John Beckman Ju Jitsu 4pm -7 pm Hall

Wednesday 5.30-7.30pm Calisthenics Training Hall
Tongan Congregation 7 - 9pm church

Pelican Quilters - 7 - 9pm rooms

Thursday 8.30-10am Tennis

9.30-11.30am Williamstown North Playgroup Hall

10-12 Morning tea and Thursday Ladies - rooms

10.30am-12noon Music Group (ukuleles) in church

Friday 4-7pm John Beckman Ju Jitsu Hall

Saturday Occasional Garage Sales

Tongan Congregation Occasional Church and Hall

Occasional music recitals - church & rooms

1pm-3pm Social Tennis

Sunday 9.30am St. Stephens worship service

12noon-6pm Tongan Congregation