



DU Grape Vine



FEBRUARY 2026

DAY OF MOURNING

Australia has just had a National Day of Mourning to reflect on the loss of 15 lives in Bondi. The last National Day was when Queen Elizabeth II died.

The Uniting Church designates the Sunday before Australia Day as a Day of Mourning to recognise the loss of land and culture experienced by the First Peoples as a result of colonisation by Britain. The Uniting Church recognises that the church in the past has been complicit in some actions as part of colonisation and Australia's development since.

The Uniting Church took this decision to have a Day of Mourning in conjunction with its Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC).

The plaque by the kitchen door says:

**Drysdale Uniting Church
acknowledges that this
church stands on the
traditional land of the
Wathaurong people.**

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are one and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts,
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page let every stage,
Advance Australia Fair!
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair!

AUSTRALIA DAY

Although controversy surrounds the date of Australia Day, the 26 January is still the day listed for Australia to celebrate what a wonderful country we are. From the time of the First Peoples and the subsequent arrival of the Second People at Botany Bay, we have seen

major changes that can be regarded as good or bad.

Australia Day should be a day to celebrate who we are—a people who have a chance to develop as we wish and experience life in a variety of ways.

Whether we are rich or poor or in between, there are different things that we can do that says our

culture is important.

Within our congregation we have members who have come from different countries, rather than being born here—England, Ireland, Scotland, South Africa, India, Sri Lanka, United States, Vietnam (hopefully I haven't missed any). Australia benefits from the additions to our culture from all migrants.

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross,
We'll toil with heart and hands;
To make this Commonwealth of ours,
Renowned through all the lands;
For those who've come across the seas,
We've boundless plains to share;
With courage let us all combine to
Advance Australia Fair!
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair!



LOOSE CHANGE



Our recipient organisations for 2026 will be decided at the Congregation AGM next week.

In January we have had \$98.80 provided.

This months' services

- 1 Feb — 10.30 am Rev Karen
HC & Loose change
- 8 Feb — 10.30 am Wayne's Team
- 15 Feb — 10.30 am Jenni's Team
- 22 Feb — 10.30 am Rev Karen

CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING

Next week, Sunday 1 February, following the service with a shared lunch to follow.

PANCAKE DINNER

Tuesday 17 February

Raising money for Uniting's Pancake Appeal. The cost remains the same at \$15. Tickets from Jenni Nickelson—either \$15 cash to Jenni or direct to the bank account (BSB 083623 ACC 03533 3892 Ref: Surname Pancakes). Enjoy dinner with church friends; brings friends.



MORNING TEA WITH THE MINISTER

Resumes Friday 6 February 10.30 am—12.00 pm. Just come along—no cost, you don't have to bring anything. The March and April dates will be cancelled due to World Day of Prayer and Good Friday.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

Friday 6 March at Central Baptist Church at 10.00 am.



SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Congratulations to Judy Grimm on her 90th birthday this month. God's blessings continue to be with you. There will be a "0" birthday lunch on Sunday 1 March at 12.15 pm at the Clifton Springs Golf Club. Please add your name to the sheet in the foyer if you would like to attend.



Happy birthday!

- FEBRUARY**
 Betty Domeyer
 Sue Deale
 Judy Grimm
 Wilma Mansell
 Peter Sierakowski
 Joan Cook

Happy birthday!

OUR BANK DETAILS

BSB: 083-623
 ACC: 035333892
 REF: Surname purpose

	MORNING TEA	WELCOME	VESTRY	READING	PRAYERS	COUNTING	FLOWERS	COMMUNION
FEB 1	Margo & Marie	Val	Denise	Susan	Marie	Denise	Susan	Val & Claire
8	Melva & Brenda	Melva	Ian	Wayne's Team		Lynda	Wayne	
15	Marg &	Wilma	Rhonda	Jenni's Team		Margo	Andrea	
22	Claire & Jean	Jean	Lynda	Maggie	Jean	Jonnie	-	

Web site: <http://drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au>

Facebook: [Drysdale Uniting Church](#)

Our Vision—Reaching out with God's love and care