

Toorak Uniting Church Newsletter

Update 15 February 2026

office@toorakuc.org.au
03 9829 0300

Sunday services:
9am & 10:15am

Deadline for Update submission is 3pm on the Wednesday prior.



Supporting the Cost of Ministry at TUC

At the 2026 Budget setting meeting of the congregation last November, I indicated that there was an urgent need for congregation members to reconsider their contribution to the ministerial costs. Personally, it has been a number of years since I seriously looked at what I am giving on a regular basis. I found that I was certainly not keeping up with inflation nor was I making adjustments for my changed circumstance. As a result, I have made a significant adjustment to my giving. I share this story as I suspect that many of you, like me, have let time slip by ignoring the subject.

It has always been my belief and hope that congregational giving would substantially cover the cost of Ministry. In 2025, giving covered 71% of stipends for Ministry of the word and pastoral care, which were priorities 1 and 2 in the TUC Family survey of 2025. Ministry of music was also equal priority 2 in the survey. If we acknowledge Ministry to include the Ministry of music, it means that congregational giving only covers 44% of the cost of Ministry. In dollar terms for the 2025 year, giving was around \$85,000 and total ministerial costs were around \$188,000. In 2000, congregational giving covered over 80% of the cost of Ministry.

I would like each of you to consider this subject in the light of your personal circumstance. Bank transfer is the preferred method of giving.

- Chris Begg, Treasurer

15 February - Communion Sunday

Each month on the third Sunday we come together to celebrate Communion. It is these Sundays we have the opportunity to donate towards the four Outreach programs we support. These programs are all under the umbrella of the Uniting Church and greatly rely on and appreciate our support. They are The Homework Hub in Pakenham, The Cranbourne Food Truck, the Boroondara Community Outreach in Kew, and SOSK (Skills, Opportunity and Survival in Kenya).

You may either donate cash into the Outreach offering bowl at the rear of the Church or you may donate electronically at any time to Toorak Uniting Church, marking your donation as "Outreach."

BSB: 033 086

Account number: 911 892

Thank you for your heartfelt support!

Garden Working Bee at Argyle House this Sunday

There will be a short working bee to bring the garden at Argyle House back into shape on **Sunday, 15 February** following the services. Unfortunately, the watering system has failed, and the garden has suffered over summer. Volunteers to assist with watering would also be appreciated.

TUC Directory

Please contact the Office if you would like to have your details added to or updated in the Church Directory by **Thursday, 19 February**. The updated Directory will be distributed late next week to congregation members only.

Community Film Screening: Housing, Hope & Belonging **3pm, Sunday 22 February**

Stonnington Community Uniting Church, 59 Burke Rd Malvern East

Join us for an uplifting look at the stories and people behind community housing, and how we can make a difference together. After the film, we're delighted to welcome a short discussion on local housing needs, the challenges faced by marginalised people, and the practical steps communities like ours can take to support real solutions.

All are welcome and entry is free. Donations are welcome and light refreshments will be provided.

Next Sunday, 22 February, will be a whole church service followed by a special morning tea in celebration of pancake day. We hope that some of our generous volunteer cooks might bring a plate of pikelets or drop scones with butter or jam to the kitchen on that morning before church.

- Jenny Stewardson

23 February - TUC Sewing Circle

Whether you're new or a seasoned stitcher, TUC Sewing Circle is a place for sharing ideas, learning new skills or just having a chat. Come along and bring your latest project or just yourself!

Please arrive between 11-11:30am with a finish time of 2:30pm. BYO lunch, coffee and tea provided. To RSVP, contact either

Margot 0409 361 877 or

Angela 0407 887 596

February Diary Dates

Sun	15 Feb	9:00am	Worship in the Round (HC)	Rev Sylvia
Sun	15 Feb	10:15am	Worship Service (HC)	Rev Sylvia
Sun	15 Feb	11:15am	Morning Tea	Faichney Room
Mon	16 Feb	10:30am	Exploring the Bible	Kinross Café
Tue	17 Feb	7:30pm	Exploring the Bible Online	Zoom
Tue	17 Feb	7:30pm	Christian Meditation Group	Church Space
Wed	18 Feb	7:00pm	Handbells	Wettenhall Room
Sun	22 Feb	10:15am	Combined Worship Service	Rev Sylvia
Sun	22 Feb	11:15am	Special Morning Tea	Faichney Room
Mon	23 Feb	10:30am	Exploring the Bible	Kinross Café
Mon	23 Feb	11:00am	TUC Sewing Circle	Wettenhall Room
Tue	24 Feb	7:30pm	Exploring the Bible Online	Zoom
Tue	24 Feb	7:30pm	Christian Meditation Group	Online
Wed	25 Feb	7:00pm	Handbells	Wettenhall Room
Thu	26 Feb	10:30am	Prayers for Christian Unity	Swedish Church