

Toorak Uniting Church Newsletter

Update 21 December 2025

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Sunday services:
9am & 10:15am

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



Final 9am Service for 2025 - 21 December

This Sunday, the 9am congregation will conclude 2025 with a breakfast at 8am followed by a Holy Communion service in the Wettenhall Room. The 9am services will resume on 1 February, 2026.



Response to Bondi Atrocity

Our shared Abrahamic faith links us across time and tradition, reminding us that we belong to one another and stand together in moments of sorrow. We mourn with the Jewish community and hold you close in our hearts.

Office Closure

The TUC Office will be closed from **Tuesday, 23 December - Monday, 12 January** inclusive. We will reopen on **Tuesday, 13 January** and operate to the usual hours of Monday 12 - 4pm, Tuesday - Friday 9am - 4pm.

Church Council News

Church Council welcomes Anne Marie Box onto Council and looks forward to her input as we carry out our duties, the foremost of which is to uphold the congregation in faith and love. Barbara McKinnon is continuing as Chair and Chris Begg is continuing as Treasurer, however we are seeking a secretary as Rudi is not able to continue in the role.

The primary tasks are to collate the reports for our meetings (approx. every 6 weeks), prepare the agenda and to take and distribute minutes.

We are also seeking input into a business plan for the Café as we grapple with the best way forward.

TUC Directory

It is time to update our directory. Please contact Monique in the Office at office@toorakuc.org.au if you would like to have your contact details in the Church Directory. Please also contact them if you are not sure if your details are there or if any updates are required.

The directory is only circulated to those who have their details in it and is for the use of congregational members only.

TUC Christmas Party

We enjoyed Christmas cheer with our employees and wider community in the delightful Argyle House on Wednesday. It was great to have the opportunity to spend time with those who keep our campus running so smoothly and support our many activities.



Fundraising for the Spire

We wish to form a working group focussed on fundraising for the spire. Latest estimates are that the cost of replacing the spire, work which will need to be undertaken in the relatively near future, will be in excess of \$3 million dollars, an amount that significantly exceeds our current reserves. The aesthetic of TUC is highly valued by the community and we need to harness that good will. A tax deductible fund has been established with the National Trust.

Please contact **Barbara.McKinnon@bigpond.com** to let her know how you can assist.

Renew 603

We had a very productive congregational meeting on Sunday, September 30 and thank you for your well-considered responses. At the moment we are looking at possible financial models and partnerships. The project is still in an information gathering stage as we seek to determine how and with whom we might go about such a redevelopment in a way that meets the needs of our community.

Food for Friends Appeal 2025

Our annual Food for Friends appeal of the Toorak Ecumenical Movement is upon us. These funds enable us to assist local agencies in providing support to those in need at this time of the year. We use your donations to purchase nonperishable groceries and personal items to supply to our chosen charities for sharing with their clients.

Please make your donation direct to:

Toorak Ecumenical Fund

BSB: 063 177

Account Number: 1002 6147

Please mark this donation Food 4 Friends.

Alternatively, you may place cash in the marked bowl at the back of the Church at the end of today's service, or use an appeal envelope available from the back of the Church. This envelope may be placed in the Offertory plate during the Service, or at the end of the service in the marked bowl at the back of the Church.

In the past year, TUC through Food for Friends, has delivered goods valued at \$6,800 to support those in need.

We thank you for your ongoing support and generosity.

Sammy Stamp - Please keep your festive stamps!

The Uniting Church Adult Fellowship Stamp Fund, better known as Sammy Stamp, coordinates the collection and sale of stamps to offer grants for mission and development work in Australia and overseas. Sammy Stamp has raised over \$1.2 million since 1977, with the most recent projects to benefit being aid to Zambia, Frontier Services bush chaplains, and the Uniting Vic.Tas Winter Appeal.

Please help support this worthy venture by keeping any stamps you receive over the festive season. We look forward to collecting any used stamps (on or off envelopes) during February, or you can also drop them into the Office any time throughout the year.

December Diary Dates

Sun	21 Dec	8:00am	9am Congregation Breakfast	Wettenhall Room
Sun	21 Dec	9:00am	9am Congregation HC Service	Wettenhall Room
Sun	21 Dec	10:15am	Worship Service HC	Rev Sylvia
Sun	21 Dec	11:15am	Morning Tea	Faichney Room
Tue	23 Dec	All Day	TUC Summer Closure	
Wed	24 Dec	6:00pm	Christmas Carols	Courtyard
Wed	24 Dec	8:00pm	Christmas Eve Service	Rev John Edwards
Thu	25 Dec	10:15am	Christmas Day Service	Rev Sylvia
Sun	28 Dec	9:30am	Summer Sundays Service	Rev Peter Whitaker