

What's On June, 2026



So. Much. Joy!



The Meeting Place



**MURRUMBEENA
UNITING CHURCH**



From the Minister...

I have spent a lot of my life trying to be good. To say please and thank you and pack up my toys after playing with them. Dress nice, and don't swear. Get good grades. Most of all, don't cause upset. Don't create waves.

For those of us who grew up with religion, we can come to believe that the whole thing is about following the rules; staying on the straight and narrow. Even without religion, life can easily become a series of check-boxes (degree, job, house, partner, kids) that we tick off in order to win the approval of others.

But one day I realised that 'being good' did not serve me, and it did not serve the world. And interestingly, when I reached into my faith tradition, I found that there were things there that wanted to push me outside of the lines; outside of the containers I built for myself.

In the Christian and Jewish traditions, we have the concept of the Spirit of God, which can also be translated as the *Wind* or the *Breath* of God. This is a wind that wants to blow us beyond the comfortable, safe places we are told to abide in. This is a breath that wants to breathe fresh, bracing oxygen into our lungs.

The Spirit/Wind/Breath of God turned my life upside-down. It blew me to places that others disapproved of. But it let me live not inside a container, but in the wildness that is Life.

I wonder where this Wind wants to blow you today?

With love,
Rev Andreaana Reale minister@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

**Holy Breath
Sacred Wind**

**Where do you want
to blow us
today?**



Sundays 10am



**MURRUMBEENA
UNITING CHURCH
The Meeting Place**

Photo by Wolfgang Hasselmann on Unsplash

Coming Up in June

Marg's Mongolian Trip Presentation

Friday 19 June, 5pm nibbles; 5.30-6.30pm Presentation & Q&A

One of our Meeting Place resident photographers extraordinaire, Marg Edwards, earlier this year undertook a photographic expedition to Mongolia. Come along to see and hear about a region of the world few of us have travelled to or know much about. Gold coin donation.

Marg says 'travelling in Mongolia in the winter was challenging. Come along and experience some of these challenges in a land of contrasts, magical scenery and vast plains covered in snow.'



Seasonal Art Display

With the start of winter a new artwork will adorn the walls of the Main Hall. The Seasonal Art Project is curated by local artist Rachel Mackay.

On display from next Thursday 4 June will be 'Nature Walks' by Karen Nisbet. A work made from wire, tissue paper, Acrylic Paint and glue.



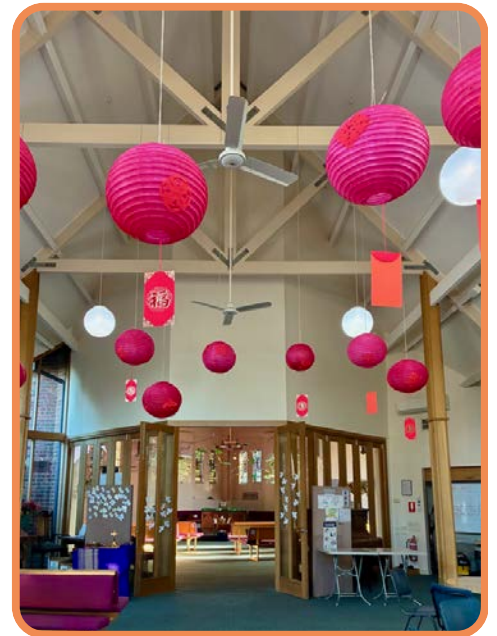
Karen runs Art Lark Gallery in Carnegie. 'Nature Walks' assembles numerous gel print sections and is about seeing the beauty in nature; it was created with her sister, friends and daughter Charleah. Karen says: *"Doing art is similar to showing gratitude, in that it helps you focus on the beauty of the world around you - and it is great for mental health. Doing art together is a way to connect with people; you have time to chat and it gives us permission to drop into deep conversation."* See www.artlarkgallery.com.au



Then & Now Project

Inaugural Artist in Residence, engaging local artist **Rachel Mackay.**

1 July - 4 October, 2026



The “**Then & Now**” art project aims to celebrate Murrumbena Uniting Church stories and history - it will involve The Meeting Place members to contribute photos and stories about this place over the years to current day.

The photos will be curated into a display at The Meeting Place gallery during September school holidays.

More information about this project and exhibition will be released in upcoming What’s On newsletters.

CALL OUT FOR PHOTOS

STARTING IN JUNE!

If you have any photos from any period of time, that showcases activities, people, the physical landscape or events held here, then please drop them at the office Wednesdays to Fridays from 10am - 3pm. We will scan and give the original photographs straight back.

Please provide name and contact details, phone (and email if available) in case more information is needed about the images, and to signify you are okay for your photographs to be freely used and shared for this project and it’s records.

SAVE THE DATE

Boot Scoot for BlazeAid Bush Dance
Saturday 22 August, 7.30-10pm



Every Week at The Meeting Place

Monday

9.30am - 11.30am **Murrumbeena Playgroup**
Activities and play for parents, carers and children.
Contact: info@murrumbeenaplaygroup.org.au



4.15pm - 8.15pm **Grace Gymnastics**
Rhythmic gymnastics for primary and secondary age.
Contact: grace@gracegymnastics.com.au; 0466 902 857

7.30pm - 9pm **Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA)**
Support group for healthy relationships.
Contact: Christine 0414 370 658



6.30pm - 7.30pm **Soo Bahk Do (Martial Arts)**
A defensive Martial Arts Class.
Contact: sesoobahkdo@gmail.com

7.30pm - 9pm **Alcoholics Anonymous**
Support group for alcoholism recovery.
Contact: Barry - 0407 867 515



Tuesday

2 - 3pm; 6 - 8pm **JMDdance** (group & private classes)
Social dancing - Ballroom group classes
Contact: Jarrod 0410227803 or Sadhvi 0412802660

4.30pm - 7.30pm **AM Dance Company**
Ready Set Dance program for pre-schoolers - jazz, tap, hip hop, singing, music. Contact: visit

7pm - 8pm **Dance Be In It** (group classes)
Street Latin group classes
Contact: Kieren - dancebeinit@gmail.com



7.30pm - 9pm **Sing Club**
First Tuesday of the month. With the Tuck Shop Ladies.
Contact: tuckshopemail@gmail.com

Wednesday

10am - 1pm **Knitting & Craft Circle**
Knit and natter, crochet and chatter!
Contact: murrumbeenaknitting@bigpond.com

9.10am - 12.15pm **Mini Maestros**
Music and movement for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers. Contact: 9850 5566



12.15pm - 1.15pm **Wednesday Singing Group**
Fun and soulful community singing. No experience necessary. Contact: richard@richardlawton.com.au

Wednesday

2pm - 3pm

Line Dancing

Easy-to-follow steps. No experience necessary.

Contact: modernlinedancinginc@gmail.com; 0433 076 225

4pm - 5.30pm

AM Dance Company

4.15pm - 8.15pm

Grace Gymnastics

5pm - 6pm

Twilight Gardening

Connect with others over gardening in our community gardening. Contact: murrumbeenagarden@gmail.com

6.30pm - 7.30pm

Soo Bahk Do (Martial Arts)



Thursday

10.30am - 12pm

Mini Maestros

4.15pm - 8.15pm

Grace Gymnastics

Friday

9.30am - 11.30am

Murrumbeena Playgroup



10am - 11.30am

Friday Drop-in

A weekly gathering sharing conversation, great food & activities. Contact: connect@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

Saturday

9am - 12.15pm

Stonnington School of Dance

They teach expert tuition in all dance genres. Contact: office@stonnington schooldance.com.au; 0499 003 722

11.30am - 3.30pm

Grace Gymnastics

2pm - 5pm

Knitting & Craft Circle *(1st Sat. of month)*

5.30pm - 9pm

Community Meal *(last Sat. of month)*

Potluck dinner, kids corner and fun games. All welcome. Contact: 0411 169 723

Sunday

10am

Church Gathering

Gather, sing, pray, reflect. Children, LGBTIQ+ . All welcome! Contact: minister@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

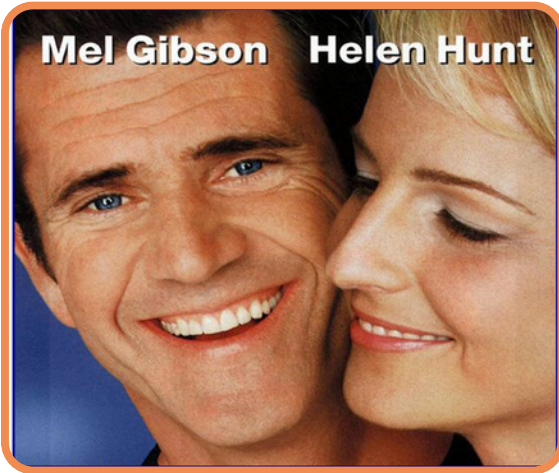


3pm

Melbourne Canaan Gospel Church

Mandarin-speaking congregation. Contact: Pastor Jimmy jimtian7@gmail.com

Group & Activity News



The Big Screen - Movie Thursday 18 June, 2026

'What Women Want'

Doors open **1.30pm** for coffee and chat;
movie starts **2pm**

- Free event
- Rated PGR
- 127 minutes.

A chauvinistic advertising executive magically becomes able to hear what women are thinking.

The gift from heaven turns out to be a poisoned chalice.

Comedic, romantic fantasy. Starring Mel Gibson, Helen Hunt, Marisa Tomei

Contact: gredwards49@gmail.com

Friendship Fellas/Mens Group

Saturday 13 June Breakfast 8am at The Servedy, 5 Royal Ave, Glenhuntly.

Wednesday 17 June at 5.45pm dinner in the foyer of The Meeting Place.

The breakfasts are on the second Saturday of every month at The Servedy, Glenhuntly. Bi-monthly dinners are held. Feel free to contact the office for more information or just come along.

LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together)

Saturday 27 June at 9am at Cafe Omnia, 486 Neerim Rd, Murrumbena.

Meet with the friendly ladies for coffee and a bit of a chat. Contact the Office for more info.



Community Meal

Saturday 30 May & 27 June, 2026

5.30pm Kids corner, meal from 6pm

Each night is different, depending on who comes along, but it's always fun! It's always great welcoming new people to our dinners.

Bring some food to share for this Pot Luck Meal.

Melbourne Canaan Gospel Church

Meets here for worship on Sundays from 3pm

They have a thriving youth program catering for many ages. If you know Mandarin speaking people in the community looking for a church, then feel free to contact Pastor Monica: monica.ln@gmail.com



This photo was taken during Mother's Day celebrations. Youth took part in the church service then everyone enjoyed cake made especially for all the mothers.

Update on Fence Art Project



You may have seen that the art panels that many of you have contributed to are now up on our outdoor gallery driveway. Many thanks to Glen, Keith (from The Lions Club), Renee and Kristen for the hard work of installing these wonderful expressions of community.



A launch will be happening soon. In the meantime, come and take a look!

Community Garden

Communal Herb Garden



There is a communal herb garden (enclosed by coloured poles) that Meeting Place participants are welcome to harvest. It contains Sage, Parsley (both flat and curly leaved), Lemongrass, Rosemary, Vietnamese Mint, Peppermint, Spearmint, and Borage. There is room for more herbs, so if you have cuttings or plants that are not listed above, we'd be grateful for your donation

Murrumbeena Playgroup

Term 2 Calendar

Join us for some fun activities at upcoming playgroup sessions!
 Activities run as part of the regular playgroup session and are free for all playgroup members.
 Casual sessions for non-members are \$15 per family. No bookings required.

Murrumbeena Playgroup is open 9:30-11:30 on Mondays and Fridays including school holidays (closed public holidays)



murrumbeenaplaygroup



Murrumbeena Playgroup



117 Murrumbeena Road

| | | | |
|------------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Monday 20 April | Open Play Session | Friday 24 April | Open Play Session |
| Monday 27 April | Open Play Session | Friday 1 May | Zumbini 45min of can't-stop, wont-stop bonding and fun. |
| Monday 4 May | Mother's Day Crafts Crafts activities for your someone special. | Friday 8 May | Mother's Day Crafts & Morning Tea Crafts activities and morning tea provided! |
| Monday 11 May | Open Play Session | Friday 15 May | Open Play Session |
| Monday 18 May | SportsBuzz Throwing, jumping, skipping and non-stop action for all ages | Friday 22 May | Zumbini 45min of can't-stop, wont-stop bonding and fun. |
| Monday 25 May | Open Play Session | Friday 29 May | Open Play Session |
| Monday 1 June | SportsBuzz Throwing, jumping, skipping and non-stop action for all ages | Friday 5 June | Open Play Session |
| Monday 8 June | Closed for Public Holiday Kings Birthday | Friday 12 June | Gumnut Music Let's sing and dance about food! |
| Monday 15 June | Open Play Session | Friday 19 June | Zumbini 45min of can't-stop, wont-stop bonding and fun. |
| Monday 22 June | Teddy Bears Picnic Bring your teddy and picnic rug for a group picnic | Friday 26 June | Open Play Session |
| Monday 29 June | Open Play Session | Friday 3 July | Open Play Session |
| Monday 6 July | Open Play Session | Friday 10 July | Gumnut Music Let's sing and dance about food! |

More Info

info@murrumbeenaplaygroup.org.au
www.murrumbeenaplaygroup.org.au

Call Out!

Finisher Wanted



Would you like to be an important part of a group making cot blankets for Our Village?

Do you enjoy crocheting?

A generous donor provides funds to purchase yarn, and there are a number of keen knitters who knit squares, 20cm x 20cm, but the gem who crocheted them together has retired and hung up her hook.

We would contact you when there was a supply of squares to collect from the Murrumbeena Uniting Church. Yarn will be provided.

Both bassinet blankets (4 x 5 squares) and cot blankets (6 x 5 squares) are gifted to Our Village.

Don't hold back thinking we will get lots of responses – you just might be the only angel we're looking for!

Email Glynis – murrumbeena knitting@bigpond.com or ph. 0407 506 662.

Blanket and Winter Woolies Appeal Help Keep Someone Warm This Winter

As the colder months arrive, we are once again collecting blankets and warm clothing for people in our community who are doing it tough.

We gratefully accept:

- *New and good quality second-hand blankets (freshly washed and free from stains or rips). New blankets can be purchased from Kmart for \$10 (Soft Fleece Blanket)*
- *New and good quality second-hand warm clothing (freshly washed and free from stains or rips)*



Alternatively, you can make a donation to our Blanket Appeal either by:

- Direct debit to the church bank account using the description: "Blanket". Account Name: Murrumbeena Uniting Church
BSB: 013-260; Account Number: 3078-31212
- Place cash in the envelopes marked "Care Fund – BLANKET" (available on the information table in the foyer), then place in the offering bowl on Sundays or hand to one of the church staff.

Clothes and blankets can be dropped off at the Church between Wednesday and Friday, 10am–3pm, or on Sunday after the service.


Join us at The Meeting Place

Gathering on Wurundjeri Land



 117 Murrumbeena Road, Murrumbeena



 03 9568 8177

 office@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

 www.murrumbeenauniting.org.au

 facebook.com/murrumbeenauniting

 instagram.com/murrumbeenameetingplace