



**uniting
church**

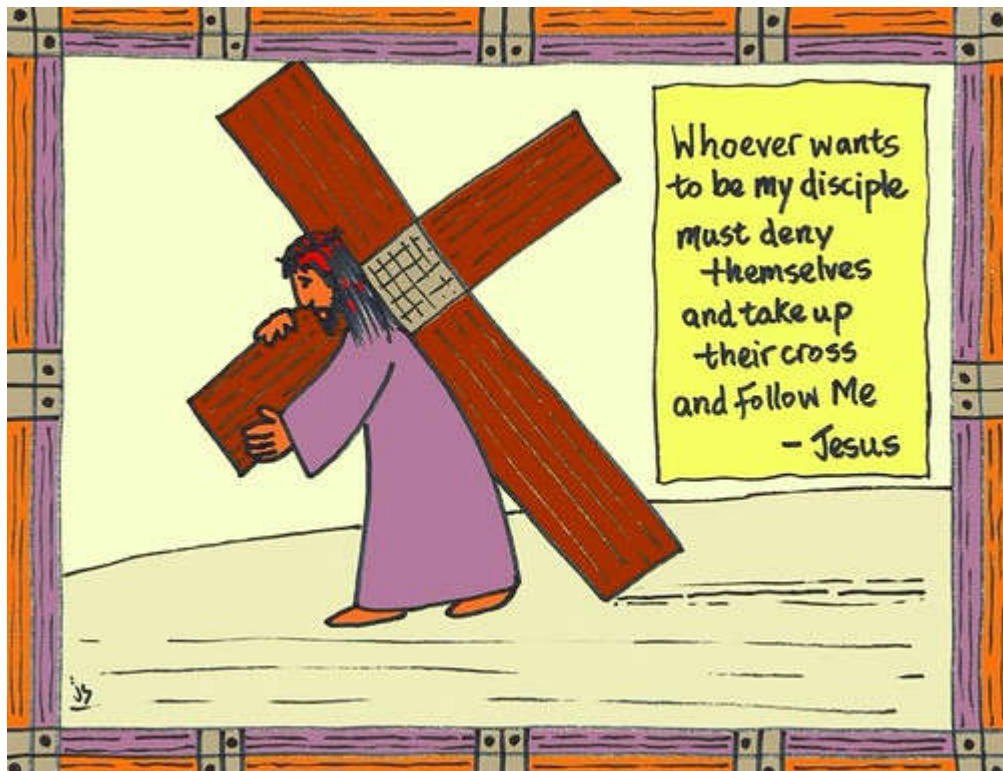
in Australia
Grahamstown

September 2026

<https://grahamstown.uca.org.au/>

Grahamstown Congregation News

Karuah, Medowie, Raymond Terrace, Tea Gardens, Tilligerry



Welcome to Church!

Today (30th August), we gather as the Grahamstown Multicentre Congregation to give thanks for GOD's provision over the past 12 months. We also bring some gifts to help support the young students at the Margaret Jurd College.

Services

The link for the 9.00 am Raymond Terrace Livestream Service is as follows:

Sep 6 - <https://youtube.com/live/04oH5TGqgDk?feature=share>

Sep 13 - https://youtube.com/live/av_K1UnPJhl?feature=share

Sep 20 - <https://youtube.com/live/63FEa7yAf14?feature=share>

Sep 27 - <https://youtube.com/live/kEwfNhCwE58?feature=share>

Date	Tilligerry 9.30 am	Medowie 9.30 am	Raymond Tce 9.00 am	Karuah 11.00 am	Tea Gardens 9.00 am
30	9.30am Grahamstown Congregation Service at Karuah led by Rev Neil Smith with Holy Communion. The service will be followed by Morning Tea and an opportunity to give personal hygiene items and elegant wear for the students of Margaret Jurd College for their end of year dance. There will also be a short Annual General Meeting when Annual Reports will be received, including the Financial Report. The current Church Council has elected to serve you for another year. We are most grateful!				
6	-	Lyn Bratten	Dianne Holden	Lissa Macilquham	Lissa Macilquham
13	Rev Chris Sheppard, HC	-	Rev Neil Smith, HC	Barbara Lyle, HC	Barbara Lyle, HC
20	-	Cliff Barclay	Own Service	2pm Joe Kalou	John Lamb
27	Lyn Bratten	-	Ian Matthews	Mark Naden	Frontier Services

Readings

Date	Week	1 st Reading	Psalm	2 nd Reading	Gospel
30	Pent 14	Exodus 3:1-15	105:1-6, 23-26	Romans 12:9-21	Matthew 16:21-28
6	Pent 15	Exodus 12:1-14	149	Romans 13:8-14	Matthew 18:15-20
13	Pent 16	Exodus 14:19-31	114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21	Romans 14:1-12	Matthew 18:21-35
20	Pent 17	Exodus 16:2-15 Jonah 3:10-4:11	105:1-6, 37-45 145:1-8	Philippians 1:21-30	Matthew 20:1-16
27	Pent 18	Exodus 17:1-7	78:1-4, 12-16	Philippians 2:1-13	Matthew 21:23-32

Regular Happenings around Grahamstown

Wednesdays

9am – Tilligerry Craft Group meets all year round.

1- 3pm – Medowie Craft Group during school terms.

Thursdays

10am – 12.30pm – Raymond Tce Craft Group meets in the hall. Drop in for a cuppa, chat or some craft.

Fridays

10.30am – 12 noon The **Living Through Grief** group meets on the 2nd Friday of the month at Karuah RSL and on the 4th Friday of the month at the Grange Village, Tea Gardens. This month's dates are:

11th September at Karuah RSL

25th September at The Grange Village, Tea Gardens

10am – Discipleship Share and Care Bible Study at Raymond Terrace. Please ask Ian for the venue as it does change week to week.

Saturdays

The Toy Library at Tea Gardens is on the first Saturday of each month.

Looking ahead to October Come and meet the Moderator-Elect of the Uniting Church !

On 18 October, the next preaching plan has a joint Grahamstown Congregation service at Raymond Terrace at 9.30am. It will be led by the Moderator-Elect of the Uniting Church Synod of NSW and ACT, Rev Pablo Nunez.

Save the date to come along and meet him before reading about him in the press!!!

In the meantime, click the link below if you would like to find out more

[Meet Rev Pablo Nunez – Uniting Church Australia](#)



Pause With God

What's Your Manna Moment?

The selected reading is from Exodus 16: 2-15, a Pentecost 17 Year A reading, and we hear about manna—that bread God sent from heaven. Did you know manna translates to ‘What is this? What is it? What is that?’ An expression of surprise! But it may also be derived from manan, meaning “to allot”, and hence denoting an “allotment” or gift. A gift from God!!



And here's something important: God didn't stop giving manna when the Israelites left the desert. He didn't retire the idea. He didn't say, "Well, that was only for back then." God is still giving manna today. We just don't always recognise it because it doesn't fall from the sky anymore. It comes in quieter, more ordinary ways.

I think a manna moment is when God gives you exactly what you need, right when you need it. Not everything you want. Not everything for tomorrow. Just enough for right now.

Think about a time when you felt overwhelmed. Maybe you woke up one morning already tired. Maybe you were worried about something you couldn't fix. Maybe you felt like you didn't have the strength to get through the day. And then—unexpectedly—something small but meaningful happened. A friend called. A verse came to mind. Someone gave you a hug. You felt a moment of peace. You took a deep breath and realised you could keep going.

That's not coincidence. That's not luck. That's manna.

It doesn't solve everything. It doesn't remove every problem. But it gives you enough for right now. It wasn't a permanent fix. But it was enough. Enough to keep going. Enough to remind you: God sees me. God hasn't forgotten me.

We all have these moments, even if we don't always recognise them at the time.

- The person who was exhausted, and a friend drops by to lend a hand.
- The man who lost his job, and a week later a new door opened.
- The person in the hospital who felt afraid, and a nurse held their hand.

That's manna. It doesn't look like bread from the sky. It looks like love. It looks like kindness. It looks like timing. It looks like God showing up in the ordinary parts of life.

Sometimes manna looks like a person. Sometimes it looks like a message. Sometimes it looks like a moment of calm. Sometimes it looks like strength you didn't know you had.



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The Israelites had to gather manna every day. They couldn't store it up. They couldn't save it for tomorrow. God gave them what they needed for that day. And He asked them to trust Him again the next day. In the same way, God often gives us what we need one day at a time. We want long-term solutions. We want certainty. We want everything planned out. But God often works in daily portions—just enough light for the next step.

So, think back: When was a time God gave you exactly what you needed—just in time? Maybe it was last week. Maybe it was years ago. Maybe it was during a crisis. Maybe it was during an ordinary day. If you pause and reflect, you will probably find more manna moments than you realised.

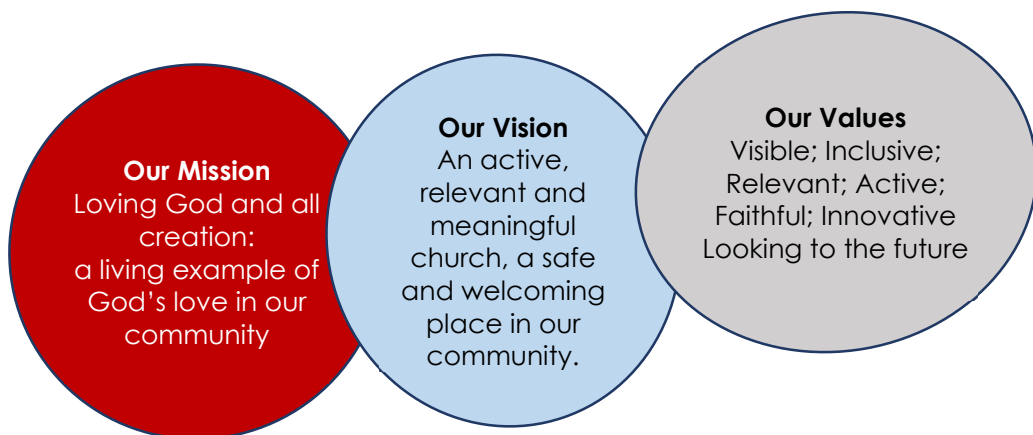
These moments matter. They remind us that the same God who fed Israel in the desert is feeding us today. The same God who saw their fear sees ours. The same God who walked with them walks with us.

And when we recognise our manna moments, we can share them. Because someone else might need to hear your story. Someone else might need the reminder that God still provides. God still cares. God still shows up.

Let's pray:

Lord, open our eyes. We don't want to miss Your goodness. Thank You for every little way You provide—the phone calls, the hugs, the peace in the middle of chaos. Help us to trust You for today and help us to share our stories so others can see Your love too. In Jesus' name, Amen.

(Ian Matthews)



My Aged Care Forum



Uniting, in partnership with Grahamstown Congregation, hosted a My Aged Care Forum today at Raymond Terrace Uniting Church, bringing together congregation members and the wider community for a morning designed to empower attendees with practical, accessible information on navigating the aged care system.

Approximately 27 people attended, creating a welcoming space where Seniors and their families, could learn, ask questions, and connect with trusted support. The forum



sought to simplify this process, providing face-to-face guidance in an environment where questions could be asked openly and information was delivered in clear, everyday language.

Worship Through Giving



Thank you for your freewill offering. Here are the relevant numbers:

Uniting Financial Services **BSB 634 634**

Account numbers as follows:

Grahamstown	100035375	Karuah	100046015
Medowie	100046201	Raymond Terrace	100046088
Tea Gardens	100046084	Tilligerry	100046093

LET'S PRAY !

Thank you for praying for our brothers and sisters.

Les, Jennifer, Jeff, Lyn, John, Denise, Peri, Anne and Elizabeth.

Lagi, Michelle, Ruth, Judy, Paul and Val.

Wendy, Matthew, Peter, Tracy & Barbara, Anne.

Rachel Pitchford, our generous Lay Preachers, Revs Maz and Neil Smith who have been supporting Grahamstown Congregation since Waisea's departure.

I am wondering how we can show love and support to our Church Council members, many of whom have served on this committee for YEARS! Correction They have ALL been on this committee for years and are still there! Can you think of something nice to show your appreciation for your particular members? A little encouragement goes a long way

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Please send any items, photos, articles, or things to advertise to

karen@totalrisk.com.au

or 0438 299 969 by the last Thursday of the month.