



Central Vic Salvos

8th March 2026

Last Friday night a spectacular lightning display blitzed across our skies. My friend Rev. Gordon Wild on his way home from Bendigo stopped and climbed a fence into a paddock on Big Hill to take these photographs. More here <https://www.wildwithwonder.net/portfolio/sky-life>

In the art of the ancient Greeks, creator God Zeus' was portrayed with his signature move, hurling a lightning bolt.

Unfortunately this image of Zeus has influenced how many people now still think about God – primarily imagining God smiting and striking with lightning in vengeance, punishment and judgment.

Adverse weather events aren't God's dysregulated emotions; **witnessing the power of lightning should open our hearts in praise and wonder at God's creative power**, not thicken the lenses of violence. As I watched the lightning storms it connected a few theological dots for me.

Recently I discovered a little bit of lightning science that I had somehow missed in Year 8 meteorology: Lightning can be a conversation between sky and earth. Lightning bolts that begin in the atmosphere send out charges, **"seeking"** to be met by charges from the earth. We see vertical lightning that seems to hit the ground directly from above, and we see lightning that moves across the sky branching out – it is actually **searching for a reciprocal signal from below**. You can see some of this in the photographs.

So we reject the ancient Greek ideas interpretation of electrical storms: of Zeus, hurling lightning bolts on human victims, and also their theology of God, vindictively and wantonly inflicting terror. There are world leaders today who exploit this twisted theology, who claim a Zeus like power, striking vengeant terror from above in the name of God. We should not say amen to their ungodly words or actions, or subscribe to their religion of violence and retribution.

Jesus shows us clearly this is not the way of God: God doesn't simply hurl his power upon us, but seeks a responsive relationship with us. God longs for us to know love reaching to us, to be led by love in response, not struck by punishment or covered into fearful submission. In Lent we lean into the life of God grounded in earthliness in Jesus. Far from raining from above, God 'leads from the ground up', from alongside us in full humanity, redeeming us by bearing and overcoming the violence of the cross. God's powerful seeks us out like lightning, not to destroy, but to reconnect across the cosmos in reconciling love

Beth Waldron Anstice



Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Philippians 2v 6

FUNDRAISER

Raising money for the group
The Way of the Cross

Movie: I Can Only Imagine 2

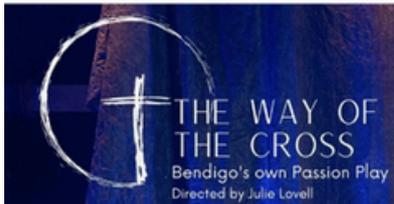
Where: Bendigo Cinema

Date: Sunday 15th March

Time: 4pm

Cost: \$23

Scan QR code to book



MONTHLY QUIET CHALLENGE



March:

Prayerful Hearts

Read:

Philippians 4: 6-7

Write down your prayers and notice How God responds



THE Way

Jesus-centred, *Spirit-led*
hope revealed

Created by us for us, this new reading plan features short devotions, reflections and stories from people right across The Salvation Army Australia. Officers, volunteers, corps members and leaders from every corner of the movement have contributed, offering authentic perspectives on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus in everyday life.

The Way is about learning to walk with Jesus daily - growing in faith, reflecting on scripture and practising his love in real and practical ways. Over 30 days of your choosing, the reading plan provides an opportunity for us to pause, reflect and be encouraged by voices from within our own movement, people who are walking the way of Jesus.

Watch the video message from Commissioner Miriam Gluyas inviting all personnel, salvationists, volunteers and community members are invited to join the journey together, united in prayer, learning and growth. <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/68073-the-way-discipleship>

FREE EVENT

Victoria Divisional Gathering

Save the Date

Sunday 4 October

Main Service @ 3PM Join us for Spirit-led worship, fellowship & celebration as we come together for the afternoon. Kid's Church will run during the service in a separate room at the centre.

Youth Service @ 6PM Stay for praise, fun & prayer with youth & young adults from around the Division.

Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

1 Convention Centre Pl, South Wharf VIC 3006

We look forward to you joining us for a day together later this year so please keep this date clear. We will have more information for you in the near future.



EASTER PARADE

Saturday 4th April

Central Vic Salvos are in the Twilight Parade in Bendigo once again to join in the Parade please meet at the Queen Elizabeth Oval car park at 5.00pm.

For more information please Contact Captain Ashir on 0408 746 114



Central Vic Salvos



NEW YORK STAFF BAND LIVE IN BALLARAT

JE
SAVE

KING OF KINGS

NEW YORK STAFF BAND

KING OF KINGS

Friday 20 March @ 7.30pm

Ballarat Central Uniting Church, 103 Lydiard Street S, Ballarat

Adults \$25 / Children under 16 \$10

Tickets on sale @ trybooking.com/DJA0B or scan the QR code



"We unite to pray for a world where all women and girls can flourish and live out their God-given potential."

Commissioner Janine Donaldson.

International Women's Day

8 March




DEAR CHURCH MEMBERS OF BENDIGO AND EAGLEHAWK,

We would love to share something significant that has been taking place in Bendigo over Easter for the past two years and will continue again this year.

Believers from across our city gather to read the entire Bible aloud (but not amplified) - cover to cover, non-stop - as a declaration over Bendigo in faith. Together, we proclaim God's Word as sovereign over this region, trusting that as it is spoken, it carries weight and authority in the spiritual realm (Isaiah 55:11, Hebrews 4:12).

The reading begins on Easter Thursday and continues 24/7 until its completion on Sunday afternoon (approximately 80 hours later). Throughout the reading, participants tag-team each hour, ensuring the Word of God is continually proclaimed without pause.

In the three weeks leading up to the reading - beginning Thursday 11th March - believers will also gather every evening for 21 consecutive days of prayer at the Rosalind Park Poppet Head.

Our heart is that it will till the spiritual ground before planting the Word of God, and to create space for the Church across Bendigo to stand united in faith-filled prayer. We believe there is something powerful that happens when the Body of Christ gathers together across congregations to seek the Lord and intercede for our city.

We would be honoured if you would consider extending this invitation to your church community.

Prayer will begin at 7:00pm each evening.

It truly excites us to imagine believers from many churches making their way up to the Poppet Head together - seeking the Lord, interceding for Bendigo, and strengthening the Bride of Christ in the process.

Thank you for your faithful leadership and for all you do in serving the Body of Christ in Bendigo. We deeply value the role you play in our city and would love to stand alongside you in this.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you would like any further information.

For more details about the Bible reading (including signing up for a reading spot), and the 21 days of prayer, please search the Facebook page: 'Bible Reading for Bendigo 2026'.

Many blessings,

Brock and Breanna Gravener 0439 349 821

Eaglehawk



EASTER @ EAGLEHAWK

Sunday 8 March 3rd week Lent I AM the Door

Sunday 15 March 4th week Lent I AM the Good Shepherd

Sunday 22 March 5th week Lent I am the Vine

Sunday 29 March Palm Sunday

Sunday 29 March Passover Meal at 7:30pm

All welcome. Please contact Major Karen to RSVP by March 24

HOLY WEEK Prayer and Scripture Reading

Monday to Thursday at 8:30am each morning.

On the Thursday will be lead by Major Robert Evans

Friday 3rd April Good Friday

St Peter's Anglican church Eaglehawk, 63 High St, Eaglehawk

Followed by Fish Fingers in buns at Eaglehawk Salvos

Sunday 5th April Easter Sunday

Combined Sunrise Service with the churches of Eaglehawk at Lake Neranga

10am He is Risen worship service at Eaglehawk Salvos I AM the Resurrection and the Life.

All at 51 Church Street,
Eaglehawk



EAGLEHAWK DAHLIA & ARTS FESTIVAL



**Empowering
EAGLEHAWK**
"Building Eaglehawk Together"

Sunday Family Day

22nd March 2026

Canterbury Park Gardens.

All Activities are free!!

So come along and have some fun in the GARDENS.

Table tennis; Chocolate Scramble, Painting

Connected Circus Fun; Sandcastle building;

Face-painting; Fire Brigade with Water!!!

Our theme is HARVEST so have a go at making a SCARECROW.



Then head over to the **EVENTS SPACE** & enjoy
Kelly Sports, Baseball; Rides, Archery, Slot Cars & the fabulous Climbing Wall.

Plus....the animals are back from the fabulous **Animals 2U**

BBQ & drinks provided by EH Scouts & EH Y's Men for a small cost,
or bring your own picnic !

MUSIC IN ACTION

Eaglehawk Corps extend an open invitation to anyone in the community who is interested in playing, or learning to play, a brass instrument

Brass Practice: every Thursday pm & plays every Sunday.

If you are interested please call 5459 0507 & press 1

Ask to speak with Darren Dunn.

Beginners are warmly welcomed, with support and mentoring available.



Castlemaine

Castlemaine Sunday Meetings March			
Mar 8	Mt 7v1-5	Logs and Specks – handling criticism	Labour Day weekend
Mar 15	Mt 7v7-12	Ask, Seek, Knock – handling need	Corps Lunch
Mar 22	Mt 7v24-29	Rock & Sand – handling opportunity	Maj. Rob Evans
Mar 29	Mt 21v12-17	Pigeons and Prayers – handling anger	Preparing for Easter

Bendigo



EASTER @ BENDIGO

SELF-DENIAL ALTER SERVICE - 22ND MARCH

PALM SUNDAY - 29TH MARCH
9:35am - Procession (onsite)
10.00am - Service

PASS OVER - 2ND APRIL
11:00am - Service

GOOD FRIDAY - 3RD APRIL
10.00am - Reflective Service

EASTER SATURDAY - 4TH APRIL
7.30pm - Easter Torchlight Parade Bendigo
To join in the Parade please meet at the QEO car park at 5.00pm for more information please see Captain Ashir.

EASTER SUNDAY - 5TH APRIL
10.00am Service

Worship Centre
Gate 1
65-71 Mundy St,
Bendigo



Chapel Service

Join us for a half hour chapel service where we discover how the bible relates to us now. A relaxed discussion and fellowship time.

Thursdays, 11:00am
Bendigo Salvo's 65-71 Mundy St
Worship Centre, Gate 1





THE BENDIGO SALVATION ARMY SMALL GROUPS

Join one of our small groups to take part in 9 weeks of exploring faith, the bible, and community.

Salvation group
beginners who want to learn about God

Discipleship group
people who want to grow their faith

Starting Thursday March 19th 6:30pm

Starting Sunday March 22nd 4:00pm

If you're not sure which group would suit you, please call our reception and have a chat with Captain Ashir Morris (03) 5440 8410

The Salvation Army, 65-71 Mundy st, gate 1



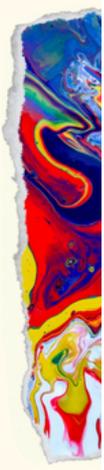
BENDIGO ART SPACE



A free, relaxed drop-in art space. Inspired by starting afresh and discovering how the Master Creator can do something new within us. Come, be inspired and create with us!

65-71 Mundy Street
In shelter Shed
(opposite Café)

Monday 1.00pm - 3.00pm
Thursday 1.00pm - 3.00pm



Maryborough



CAR WASH | 13 March
6pm-7pm
27 Wills St
Maryborough

a fundraiser for our Red Shield Appeal

\$2 SNAG

\$10 CAR/UTE

\$15 BUS

THE SALVATION ARMY

The poster features a cartoon illustration of a blue car being washed by a hand with soap suds. A sign on the car says '\$10 CAR/UTE'. A sign on the hand says '\$15 BUS'. A sign on the soap says '\$2 SNAG'. The Salvation Army logo is in the bottom right corner.



On the 21st Feb Maryborough's families team took 17 youth and 7 leaders to the divisional youth event at Gumbuya world where we met up with other youth groups across Victoria for a fun day going on water slides, visiting the animals and trying out the really big rides. Afterwards we all traveled down to Pakenham Salvation Army for a youth worship service and message given by the SYU band and Heather Stamp who shared The Salvation Army's new vision of this is The Way.



THE SALVATION ARMY
Maryborough

EASTER @ MARYBOROUGH

PALM SUNDAY - 29TH MARCH
10.00am Service

GOOD FRIDAY - 3RD APRIL
Reflective Service: 10.00am
Hot Cross Bun morning tea

EASTER SATURDAY - 4TH APRIL
Easter Torchlight Parade Bendigo
More details to come.

EASTER SUNDAY - 5TH APRIL
Dawn Service - Bristol Hill
Morning Service
10.00am
followed by Easter Egg Hunt

27 Wills Street
Maryborough

THE SALVATION ARMY

The poster features a blue sky background with a white cross and flowers in the bottom right corner. The text is centered and uses various font sizes and weights to highlight the dates and services.



Thrift Shops

BENDIGO THRIFT SHOP

2B Thistle Street, Golden Square
Ph: (03) 5459 0504

Open Hours:

9am-4:30pm Monday to Friday
9am-2pm Saturday

BENDIGO CBD THRIFT SHOP

18 Pall Mall, Bendigo
Ph: (03) 5459 0509

Open Hours:

9:30am-4:00pm
Monday to Saturday

EAGLEHAWK THRIFT SHOP

4 Marong Rd, Ironbark
Ph: (03) 5459 0508

Open Hours:

9:30am-5pm Monday to Friday
9:30am-4pm Saturday

CASTLEMAINE THRIFT SHOP

46 Forest Street, Castlemaine
Ph: (03) 5459 0506

Open Hours:

10am-4pm Monday to Friday
10am-3pm Saturday

ST ARNAUD THRIFT SHOP

70-72 Napier Street, St Arnaud
Ph: (03) 5459 0503

Open Hours:

9:30am - 3:30pm Monday to Friday
10am-2pm Saturday

AVOCA THRIFT SHOP

114 High Street, Avoca
Ph: (03) 5459 0502

Open Hours:

10:00am - 3:30pm Mon, Wed, Fri

WEEKLY PROGRAMS & SERVICES

BENDIGO

MONDAY

12.00pm - Community Meal
12.30 to 2.30pm - Clothes Washing
1.00 to 3.00pm - Art Space

THURSDAY

10.30 to 1.30pm - Clothes Washing
11.00am - Chapel
12.00pm - Community Meal
1.00 to 3.00pm - Art Space

SUNDAY

10.00am - Celebration Service
10.30am - Kids School

65-71 Mundy St, Bendigo

EAGLEHAWK

TUESDAYS

8:30am - Weekly Prayers

WEDNESDAY

11am - 12:30pm Weekly Bible Study - BYO lunch

THURSDAY

2.00pm Band Practice
11.00am 3rd of every month - Aged Care Service

FRIDAY

11.00am Creative and Create Hub
finish at your own leisure

SUNDAY

9:40am - prays
10.00am - Celebration Service
3rd Sunday of month is the church/corps come
and share lunch together. starting February to
November.

51 Church St, Eaglehawk

MARYBOROUGH

MONDAY

9:30am to 12.30pm - Community Pantry
10:30am - Women's Fellowship *

WEDNESDAY

9:30am to 12.30pm - Community Pantry

THURSDAY

12.00pm - Noon Prayer
1.30pm - Bowls
4.00pm - Kids Club *

FRIDAY

9:30am to 12.30pm - Community Pantry
5.00pm - Faith Chats *
6.00pm - Youth Group *

SUNDAY

9:15am - Prayer Meeting
10.00am - Celebration Service with Kids
Church

27 Wills St, Maryborough

CASTLEMAINE

MONDAY

10.00am - Playgroup*
3:45pm - 4:45pm: Just Brass

WEDNESDAY

9.30am to 12.00pm Doorways

FRIDAY

9.30am to 12.00pm - Doorways

SUNDAY

10.30am - Worship Service

47 Kennedy St, Castlemaine

*not on during school Holidays



Contact Us

THE SALVATION ARMY CENTRAL VIC SALVOS

BENDIGO

Capt. Ashir Morris and Hummera Ashir
65 – 71 Mundy Street, Bendigo | 03 5440 8431
corpsofficer.bendigo@salvationarmy.org.au

CASTLEMAINE

Beth Waldron Anstice
47 Kennedy Street, Castlemaine | 03 5459 0505
corpsofficer.castlemaine@salvationarmy.org.au

EAGLEHAWK

Major Karen Armstrong
51 Church Street, Eaglehawk | (03) 5459 0507
corpsofficer.eaglehawk@salvationarmy.org.au

MARYBOROUGH

Major Vanessa Evans
27 Wills St, Maryborough | 03 5459 0500
corpsofficer.maryborough@salvationarmy.org.au

2 WAYS TO GIVE

IN PERSON
PLACE YOUR CASH OR ENVELOPES IN THE OFFERING PLATE

ONLINE
VIA BPAY
BILLER CODE: 437855
REFERENCE #: 10009



doorways

Doorways is our Community Support program. It is the entryway through which those experiencing hardship and/or disadvantage can take proactive steps to find the support they need to overcome life's challenges and find long-term solutions. We offer a range of services from emergency relief to case management and more.

If you are experiencing hardship or financial difficulties, please call the Salvos Phone Assistance Line (PAL) on 03 8873 5288.
This service operates Monday to Friday between 9am and 4pm.

Please be aware no assistance interviews will be conducted from our local sites. Community members presenting to any of our Central Vic Salvos sites will be invited to contact Salvos PAL.



The Salvation Army Central Victoria acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung Peoples of the Kulin Nation, the Traditional owners of the land on which we meet and work and pay our respect to Elders past, present and future. We value and include people of all cultures, languages, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions and intersex status. We are committed to providing programs that are fully inclusive. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of people of all ages, particularly children.