Romans 8: 18-27
Future Glory

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, 20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, 23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in[a] hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes[b] with groanings too deep for words. 27 And God,[c] who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit[d] intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Matthew 3:13-4:1

The Baptism of Jesus

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. 14 John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" 15 But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. 16 And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved,[a] with whom I am well pleased."

The Testing of Jesus

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil.

Merimbula Uniting Church

(PART OF SAPPHIRE COAST UNITING CHURCHES)

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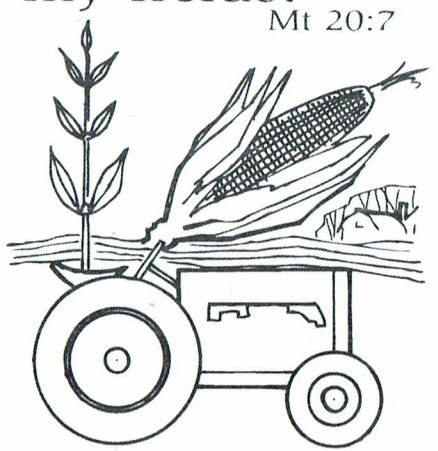
Facebook: Sapphire Coast Uniting Church
Instagram: sapphirecoastuniting

Rev. Andrew Collis
Mobile: 0438719470

'Creating a caring, nurturing community'

Go and join the others in my fields.
Mt 20:7



Morning Worship: Roster

	20th September 2026	27th September 2026
Leader	Rev Andrew Collis	Rev Andrew Collis
Music	Corinne Nicolson	Rosemary Akesson
Entry of Bible	Ailsa Liffman	Julie Russell
Acknowledgement of Country	Rev Andrew Collis	Tony Olinsky
Stewards	Robyn Herdegen & Anne Olinsky	Ailsa Liffman & Ana Topic
Reader	Elizabeth Prosser	Shirley Bazley
Pastoral Prayer	Ailsa Liffman	?
Morning Tea	Wendy & Larry Huland	Anne & Tony Olinsky
Projection	Tony Olinsky	Jeff Haynes
Flowers	Robyn Herdegen	Rev Andrew Collis
Lectionary	Romans 8: 18-27 Matthew 3: 13-4:1	Exodus 17:1-7 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32

Regular Activities

Morning Worship: 1st, 2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday/month: - 10am
Holy Communion: 3rd Sunday/month - 10am and 2:30pm at Wyndham
Imlay House Service: 2:00pm, 4th Thursday of the month – helpers would be appreciated.
Tura Beach Op Shop: Open Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm.
Uniting Church Tai Chi 108: Thursday 10-11am in the hall. Contact Shirley
Uniting Church Dance Group: Tuesday evenings at 7 pm and Friday mornings at 9 am Contact Jeff Haynes on 0402 384 535 for details.
'Blokes United' Coffee Morning - 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday each month - 10am at The Eddy
Ladies Friendship Coffee Afternoon – 2nd Wednesday of the month – 2pm at RSL
Church Bring-and-Share Brunch – 1st Sunday/month (Feb, May, Aug, Nov.)

Marg Turnbull – 20th

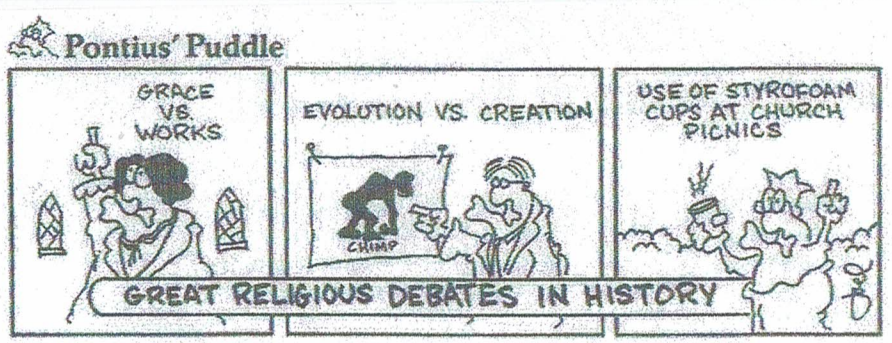
For those who would like to make their offering anonymously via regular direct bank transfer, our banking details for Giving Direct are: **Acc Name** Sapphire Coast Uniting Church **BSB** 634-634 **Acc No** 100037934

Next weekend

Saturday 26th September -Culture of Safety Workshop for members of council and leaders 9:00am to 4:00pm in church hall.

Sunday 27th September – Picnic with our Eden friends, at **Ford Park, at 12 noon.** Bring picnic food, folding chairs, musical instruments & simple games.

DISCIPLESHIP THOUGHT

This story, like Jesus' other parables, provokes plenty of debate when heard in a contemporary context. However, basic human responses continue to shine through.

Labourers were hired on a daily basis from a central location in a village, standard daily wages were accepted and verbal agreements based on trust and honour. This employer demonstrates a surprising degree of commitment to the unemployed, who in turn display commitment to their families as they try to earn enough money to buy food. Why does the employer offer all the same remuneration, irrespective of hours worked? Why does he send his steward to oversee the payments? What would be our response if we had worked very short hours yet received a day's wage? Or if we had worked hard all day in the hot sun but been paid no more than those recently engaged? Is the employer deceitful or generous? Are the full day workers too self-centred to celebrate the benefit to the whole community when all have enough to feed their families and find well-being? With which character do you have most empathy? What does generosity look like for you?