



The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

**Welcome to our Sunday Service of worship,
commencing at 9-30am every Sunday**

Lent 1 26 February 2023

Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking
Flowers: Peter Punch
Coffee/Tea: Sue & John Lawrence
Reader: Keith Picking
Kids Church: Raelyn Punch
Church Rep: Raelyn Punch
Worship Leader: Ken Lehmann
Speaker: Doug Burtenshaw



Lent 2 5 March 2023

Welcome: Brian & Barbara Smith
Flowers: Kerry Lawson
Coffee/Tea: Keith & Jaren Picking
Reader: Jenni Anderson
Kids Church: Raelyn Punch
Church Rep: TBA
Worship Leader: Robyn Speyers
Speaker: Piet Speyers



Readings from the Lectionary

Gen 2:15-17, 3:1-7
Ps 32
Rom 5:12-19
Mt 4:1-11

Gen 2:1-4a
Ps 121
Rom 4:1-5, 13-17
Jn 3:1-17 or Mt 17:1-9



South Mandurah Uniting Church

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Website: <https://southmandurahuc.org>

For pastoral needs please contact:

Rev. Mike Fawcett M: 0412 243 677 E: fawcettmichael176@gmail.com

Or any member of the Leadership Team

Leadership Team Chair: Raelyn Punch 0429 685 908 E: prpunch@lasar.net.au
Small Group Coordinators: Andrew Gibson 0407 985 056 & Raelyn Punch
Editor of the Messenger: Peter Punch 0427 685 908 E: prpunch@lasar.net.au
Prayer Circle Leader: Frances Davy 0488 906 280 E: 2davyfamily@gmail.com

Members of the Leadership Team: Raelyn Punch, Jenni Anderson, Sherryl Smith & Andrew Telfer

Halls Head Bendigo Bank details for electronic transfers:

A/C Name: Uniting Church in Australia-South Mandurah Congregation
BSB: 633-000 **A/C No:** 117072207

Please include your name as a reference for the payment.



Our Vision: "United in Christ we reach out to build loving relationships that deepen faith and enrich lives."

Shiny Objects (Mt 4:1-11)

Have you ever heard of Shiny Object Syndrome? Many of us may suffer from this syndrome and we don't even know what it is. Shiny Object Syndrome is the desire to constantly chase new trends, to try whatever new thing comes along in technology, or management techniques, or fashion or food. There's nothing wrong with jumping on new trends. It's good to be open to change but you know you have Shiny Object Syndrome if you quickly lose interest in each new trend and chase after the next trend that comes along, especially if it becomes a constant distraction in your life. Business entrepreneurs can be particularly susceptible to Shiny Object Syndrome because they have a higher tolerance for risk, for trying new things in general, but most of us are susceptible to Shiny Object Syndrome because we like to go along with the crowd. We are social creatures.



Some research suggests that we are more susceptible to Shiny Object Syndrome when we are facing a big challenge or a big project. The stress of facing a big challenge causes us to look for an easy fix. And the easiest, fastest fix is to drop what we are doing to chase a new trend, a new challenge, a new priority. You feel overwhelmed or you just don't want to persevere in the face of a challenge? Then don't. Pick some new challenge or project. Change course. This becomes an easy way out when we are facing a big challenge, but it's actually a way to give up when the going gets tough.

This morning marks the beginning of the season of Lent in the Christian church. Lent is a period of 40 days set aside specifically for Christians to reflect on the events leading up to the death of Jesus. It is also traditionally a time for more intentional prayer, self-examination, and confession of our sins. These acts prepare us to celebrate Easter in a more meaningful way. So as we reflect on our Bible passage today, I hope we do so in a spirit of self-examination and humility. What is God saying to us through this passage, and how can we translate this knowledge into action? In Mt 4:1-11 Jesus is tempted 3 times—firstly by the wrong use of power, then the wrong way to popularity and finally by the wrong kind of partnership. We have all been exposed to all of these temptations during our lifetimes, and no doubt will be exposed again in the future. Jesus was able to resist Satan through his faith in God the Father. When next tempted with a shiny object, pause and think how Jesus was able to resist far greater temptations than anything we can be offered. What better role model could we find?

AGM

Thank you to the 33 members of our congregation who attended and actively participated in the AGM on the 19th February and who then joined the Leadership Team (LT) at the fellowship luncheon which followed the meeting. Thank you to Kerry Lawson for organising the lunch and to all those who contributed by bringing plates of food or helping tidy up afterwards.

Thank you to the retiring members of the LT - Andrew Gibson, Piet Speyers and Kerry Lawson, all of whom have done an outstanding job for our congregation.

Congratulations and welcome to Jenni Anderson upon her election to the LT.

Raelyn Punch



Coffee, Cake & Fellowship

For Gentlemen: Espresso Yourself - 9-30am Tuesday 28th February Fortnightly at the Taste of Italy Café, Peelwood Parade, Halls Head.

For Ladies: She Brews - 9-30am every Wednesday - New Venue Manhattan Café, 36 Wattle Glen Ave, in the Erskine Shopping Centre.

For more information please contact Peter M: 0427 685 908 or Raelyn Punch M: 0429 685 908, email: prpunch@lasar.net.au



Final Reminder - Heart Beat 45+ Training Session

A Heart Beat 45+ session will be held at **1.30pm Saturday 11th March** at our church. This session is offered to adults aged 45yo and over who would like to learn more about first aid. This is a free event and friends and family are welcome.

To attend the course you **MUST RSVP by 1st March**. For more information please and to register contact Sherryl Smith E: sherrylsa60@gmail.com or M: 0409 305 910.



Lent Prayer for A Clean Heart

Create a clean heart in me, O God: a humble heart, a meek heart, a peaceful heart, a benevolent heart, a devout heart which does evil to no one, which does not repay evil for evil, but overcomes evil with good, which loves you above all things, thinks always about you, speaks about you, gives you thanks, delights in hymns and spiritual songs, and has its citizenship in heaven. **Amen.**

www.christianity.com/wiki/prayer/prayer-for-lent/



A very warm welcome is extended to any visitors. We trust that you will be blessed during this time of worship and invite you to fellowship with us after the service.



The Enablers Roster

Many members of our congregation volunteer to be Enablers, and do a fantastic job helping run the Sunday services in a wide variety of roles including flowers, readings, morning tea, Sunday School and much more.

The next Enablers roster is for the **1st April to 30th June 2023 quarter**. As soon as possible, and **no later than 14th March** could all current Enablers please advise Peter Punch of the dates they will **NOT** be available in the next quarter, and if they are interested in accepting any new roles.

If any new members would like to volunteer as an Enabler, or would like additional information, please speak to any member of the Leadership Team or contact Peter on M: 0427 685 908 or E: prpunch@lasar.net.au



World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "informed Prayer and Prayerful Action", and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries. This year the funds raised will go towards projects in Taiwan

The Mandurah 2023 World Day of Prayer service will be held on Friday 3rd March at Christ's Church, corner of Sholl Street and Pinjarra Road, Mandurah, at 1.00pm.



Happy birthday

David Clive Monday 27 February

Julie Telfer Wednesday 1 March

God Bless and warm wishes

To you both upon your birthdays

Pastoral Care

For pastoral care or spiritual guidance please contact:

Rev. Mike Fawcett

M: 0412 243 677

E: fawcettmichael176@gmail.com

OR Any member of the leadership team (their names are overleaf)



Happy Anniversary



Blessings & Congratulations

To Ron & Kerry Lawson
Celebrating their 46th Anniversary
On Sunday 26th February

& To David & Rhonda Jessup
Celebrating their 54th Anniversary
On Wednesday 1st March