



The Messenger

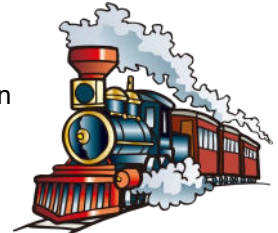
South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

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



A New Creation

Many years ago there was a man on a train going across the Nullabor plains in the middle of summer. He was the only person in the carriage who had not pulled down the blind to keep out the glare of the hot sun on the parched earth. In contrast to the other passengers, he kept looking out his window, and seemed to actually enjoy the desolate scene.



After a while the curious man seated across the aisle, asked, "Excuse me mate, what are you looking at in the desert that makes you smile?"

"Oh," he replied, "I'm an irrigation engineer, and I was thinking if we could only get water to this land that the Nullabor would become a garden."

That's what Jesus is teaching His disciples. He wants us to see the world's people as He sees them. Every one of them is precious in His sight. By divine grace, they can become a new creation, made beautiful in holiness.

Robert E. Coleman, *Evangelism: Behold the Harvest!* (Edited)

Some Things Must be Shared

A Mercedes-Benz TV commercial shows one of their cars colliding with a concrete wall during a safety test. Someone then asks a Mercedes engineer why their company doesn't enforce their patent on their car's energy-absorbing car body. The Mercedes' design has been copied by almost every other car maker in the world in spite of the fact that they have an exclusive patent.



The engineer replies in a clipped German accent, "Because in life, some things are just too important not to share."

Wow! What a great statement. Some things are just too important not to share. As Christians we believe that the good news of Jesus Christ is one of those things that is too important not to share. No, that is an understatement. We believe that Jesus Christ **MUST** be shared with our friends, our neighbours, the world. The work of sharing the news of Jesus Christ we call evangelism. The Christian faith has been advanced through the ages by people who were willing to take upon themselves the responsibility of being evangelists - those who spread the good news of Christ.

King Duncan, *Collected Sermons, www.Sermons.com* (Edited)

Lent 3 12 March 2023



Lent 4 19 March 2023

Welcome: John & Sue Lawrence
Flowers: Jan Gibson
Coffee/Tea: Brian & Barbara Smith & Rosemary Sharp
Reader: Judy Law
Kids Church: Kerry Lawson
Church Rep: Raelyn Punch
Worship Leader: Cynthia Clive
Speaker: Rev. Mike Fawcett
(Communion)

Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking
Flowers: Debby Hardy
Coffee/Tea: Debby & Brian Hardy
Reader: Barbara Smith
Kids Church: Kerry Lawson
Church Rep: TBA
Worship Leader: Piet Speyers
Speaker: Tony McAlinden

Readings from the Lectionary

Ex 17:1-7
Ps 95
Rom 5:1-11
Jn 4:5-42

1 Sam 16:1-13
Ps 23
Eph 5:8-14
Jn 9:1-41



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: 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 (Secretary), 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."

Dinner & the Movies

MOVIE NIGHT

Make a date with your beloved to share fish and chips, and a movie on the 1st of April at South Mandurah Uniting Church. (It's little less romantic, but family and friends are welcome too!)

The movie is "The Most Reluctant Convert" and it's the story of C S Lewis's journey from a hard-boiled atheist to a devout Christian.

COST: \$15 per person - includes fish & chips (battered or grilled), popcorn, an ice cream and the movie. Terrific value!

WHEN: 6-00pm fish and chips, movie starts at 6-30, followed by tea or coffee.

RSVP: PLEASE NOTE: To attend you **MUST** book and pay for the fish and chips **by no later than 5pm Sunday 26th March**

BOOK: To book and pay for the fish and chips, or for more information, contact Kerry Lawson E: rk11@bigpond.com, M: 0409 885 988 or H: 9583 3603

A Prayer for Lent

Lord,
Let everything I do this day and in this season of Lent come from you, be inspired by you.
I long to be closer to you.
Help me to remember that nothing is important in my life unless it glorifies you in some way.
It's so easy to get caught up in the day to day of my life and keep saying, "Tomorrow, I will spend more time in prayer," but now my longing meets your love and I want to do it now.
Help me to rely on you for help.

The prayer asks you that I reach perfection.
Please, Lord, remind me that "perfection" isn't the crazy, "successful" way I try to live my life, but a perfection of my most authentic, real self.
My "perfection" might be holding my many flaws in my open hands, asking you to help me accept them.
Heal me, Lord, and help me to find you in the darkness of my life.
Let me reach out in this darkness and feel your hand and love there to guide me.
Amen



(Source: Creighton University Online Ministries)

Food Drive For Those in Need



Thank you for your ongoing support for the needy through your donations of (non-perishable) foodstuffs. Please keep putting your donations in the box in the church foyer as there are many in our community who need our help. For more information please contact Sherryl Smith E: sherrylsa60@gmail.com or M: 0409 305 910

URGENT: The Enablers Roster

Oh no! Very few members have responded to the request in the last 2 notices in the Messenger to advise their availability for the next Enablers' roster for the 1st April to 30th June 2023 quarter.

Could all members please email Peter Punch **ASAP** and let him know if you are available to join the Enablers Roster. Please include the dates you will **NOT** be available and which jobs you'd like to do as an Enabler.

If any new members would like to volunteer as an Enabler (the Enablers' roles include flowers, readings, morning tea, Sunday School and much more), or if you 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.

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**



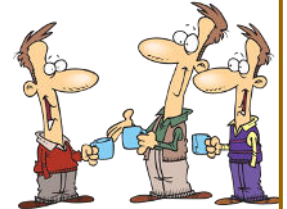
Coffee, Cake & Fellowship

All are welcome to join the ladies or gentlemen respectively for coffee, cake and fellowship:

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

For Gentlemen: Espresso Yourself - 9-30am Tuesday 14th March
Fortnightly at the Taste of Italy Café, Peelwood Parade, Halls Head.

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



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
birthday**

Ashleigh Punch Tuesday 14 March
**God Bless and warm wishes
To you upon your birthday**

WELCOME

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.

