

9 April 2023



The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

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



Easter Sunday 9 April 2023

Welcome: Peter Punch & Kerry Lawson
 Flowers: **Everyone**
 Coffee/Tea: Raelyn Punch & Kerry Lawson
 Reader: Frances Davy
 Kids Church: Raelyn Punch
 Church Rep: Andrew Telfer
 Worship Leader: Andrew Telfer
 Speaker: Rev. Mike Fawcett (Communion)



Easter 2 16 April 2023

Welcome: Brian & Barbara Smith
 Flowers: Judy Law
 Coffee/Tea: Ken & Julie Lehmann
 Reader: Keith Picking
 Kids Church: Julie Lehmann
 Church Rep: Sherryl Smith
 Worship Leader: Ken Lehmann
 Speaker: Rev. Mike Fawcett



Readings from the Lectionary

Acts 10:34-43 or Jer 31:1-6
 Ps 118:1-2, 14-24
 Col 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43
 Jn 20:1-18 or Mt 28:1-10

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
 Ps 16
 1Peter 1:3-9
 Jn 20:19-31



South Mandurah Uniting Church

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 PO Box 5290 FALCON WA 6210
 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 Coordinator: 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."

The Stone

Stones. They fascinate us. We love to look at them. We assemble collections of them. We place them into museums of natural history. We chisel them. We wear them. We admire them. We love to identify their types and origins. Whole fields of science have been dedicated just to the study of rocks. Rocks even hold various meanings. Rock types, rock formations, surface rock, layered rocks, volcanic rocks, gemstones. Stone masonry, stone homes, stone wells, arrowheads, stepping-stones. Since the beginning of time, we've been in an interesting relationship with stones.

It's no wonder then that stones represent a major metaphor in scripture. Think for a moment of the kinds of stones you remember from the Bible....

Stone altars.

Ten commandments written into stone.

The stone upon which Jacob rests his head before seeing the ladder of God.

The smooth stones David used to slay Goliath.

The stone formations from the Jordan River, signifying the arrival to the Promised Land.

The stone Moses strikes at Horeb.

The stones rolled away; both from Lazarus' and Jesus' tombs.

In John's gospel, we merely read that the stone had been removed from the tomb of Jesus when Mary Magdalene came. But Matthew calls more attention to the meaning of the "stone." We say stone here, but actually, we are talking about a pretty sizeable boulder. It was large enough to close the entry to the tomb but its size and weight was insignificant compared to the power of one of our Lord's angels



who "came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it." (Mt 28:1-10) This sight must have been terrifying to the two women who met the angel, and yet they found the courage to converse with the angel and check the tomb as they were instructed. In resurrecting Jesus and sending an angel to roll back the stone and reveal the empty tomb, God showed his love for his people and at the same time confirmed to all that He is the true God, the one and only, with power over life and death. Praise God. Amen.

www.sermons.com (Edited)

Celebrate Easter

Let's celebrate Easter with flowers. Peter is on the roster for flowers, but let's really brighten up the church with lots of flowers. Regardless of whether it is a few daisies, some natives or a bunch of roses, please bring some flowers to decorate our church and let's celebrate Easter together.



New Website

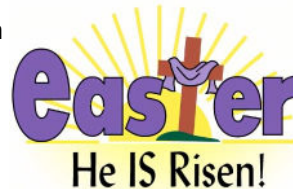
Last Friday representatives from our congregation met with staff at the UCAWA office to discuss a new website for South Mandurah. UCA has offered to host the website, which will be based on a custom built template, and using information and photographs provided by our church. The example websites which were shown to were excellent and the Leadership Team believe this is an exciting opportunity for our congregation.



Peter and Raelyn have a considerable library of photographs from church events but in order to use the images on the website our church needs signed "media consent" forms from our members. If you have not already signed a form, please fill one out at church or email Raelyn for one and send it back as soon as possible. E: prpunch@lasar.net.au

He is Risen

You probably do not remember the name Nikolai Ivanovich Bukharin. During his day he was as powerful a man as there was on earth. A Russian Communist leader he took part in the Bolshevik Revolution 1917, was editor of the Soviet newspaper Pravda (which by the way means truth), and was a full member of the Politburo. His works on economics and political science are still read today.



There is a story told about a journey he took from Moscow to Kiev in 1930 to address a huge assembly on the subject of atheism. Addressing the crowd he aimed his heavy artillery at Christianity hurling insult, argument, and proof against it.

An hour later he was finished. He looked out at what seemed to be the smouldering ashes of men's faith. "Are there any questions?" Bukharin demanded. Deafening silence filled the auditorium but then one man approached the platform and mounted the lectern standing near the communist leader. He surveyed the crowd first to the left then to the right. Finally he shouted the ancient greeting known well in the Russian Orthodox Church: "CHRIST IS RISEN!" En masse the crowd arose as one man and the response came crashing like the sound of thunder: "HE IS RISEN INDEED!"

I say to you today: CHRIST IS RISEN! I am convinced! I have faith that Christ was dead and he was buried and his resurrection has changed history and the future of humankind forever.

www.sermons.com (Edited)

Thank You Everyone

A very warm thank you has been receiving from Uniting Aid for the donations of sheets and towels and Easter Eggs for distribution to the homeless. For now no further sheets or towels are required as Uniting Aid has received sufficient donations to meet the needs of their clients. Thank you everyone for your generous support of this worthwhile appeal.



If you have any questions please speak to Jenni Anderson
M: 0429 120 658 E: jenni.anderson@internode.on.net

Coffee, Cake & Fellowship

Neighbours, friends and family are very well welcome to join the ladies or gentlemen respectively for coffee, cake and fellowship on the following days:

For Ladies: She Brews - 9-30am every Wednesday

Change of Venue: Seven Trees Café, 11 Galbraith Loop, Falcon.

For Gentlemen: Espresso Yourself - 9-30am Tuesday 11th April
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



Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped make last Saturday's movie night a great success. Thanks to everyone who came and particularly those who brought guests. A special thank you to Kerry Lawson for organising the evening, and to everyone who helped on the night with the food and cleaning up afterwards. We can't run these evenings without your help and your efforts are greatly appreciated.



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)



Judy Law Tuesday 11 April

Frances Davy Saturday 15 April

God Bless and warm wishes

To you both upon your birthdays



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.

