

Easter 4
30 April 2023



Easter 5
7 May 2023

Welcome: Lynsay & Jenny Dunning
Flowers: Sue Lawrence
Coffee/Tea: Averil & Cliff Clark & Kathy McGoldrick
Reader: John Lawrence
Kids Church: Raelyn Punch
Church Rep: Jenni Anderson
Worship Leader: Cynthia Clive
Speaker: Frances Davy

Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking
Flowers: Debby Hardy
Coffee/Tea: Cynthia & David Clive & Rosemary Sharp
Reader: Sherryl Smith
Kids Church: TBA
Church Rep: Andrew Telfer
Worship Leader: Jenni Anderson
Speaker: Rev. Rob Douglas



Readings from the Lectionary

Acts 2:42-47
Ps 23
1Peter 12:19-25
Jn 10:1-10

Acts 7:55-60
Ps 31:1-5, 15-16
1Peter 2:2-10
Jn 14:1-14



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 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."



30 April 2023



The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

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

A Shepherd to Lead Us

Leadership. We all want good leadership. Good shepherds to lead us in and out of green pasture. We vote hoping to elect it, we apply for jobs hoping to work for it, and we go to school hoping to be educated by it. But we do not always find it. The trust we place in our leaders can be broken. So what are we to do? John 10 holds the answer.

Look at the picture Jesus gives us in John 10: This wonderfully vivid portrait of a shepherd caring for his sheep. The shepherd would lead his sheep out to distant areas and stay there for days. Being a good shepherd he created a temporary shelter, a pen to keep the sheep in when they were not grazing. Using the crude stones of the field a shepherd could quickly put together such a structure and at night he would lie across the opening of this shelter making himself the door. No sheep could wonder away at night unless it stepped over the sleeping shepherd and no wolf could come in to do harm without waking the shepherd. He is the gate.



Do you see what is happening here? More than any other duty the goal of the shepherd is to protect the sheep. How do you know whether he is a good shepherd? You know by looking at the sheep. Continuing the analogy, the sheep which are looked after by a good shepherd will be content and well fed, trusting their shepherd to keep them safe and lead them to new pastures.

Why did Jesus use this analogy, telling us he is the gate for his sheep? There are books written on this subject but let's do a brief summary. A shepherd has the best interests of his flock at his heart. Can you think of anyone else who has so amply demonstrated their interests in their flock and their commitment to our well being? Jesus said (Jn 10:5) "...they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they not recognize a stranger's voice." Those who are committed to our Lord, know what he told us in the Gospels, and will only follow Him as he showed us his love and commitment through his death and resurrection. Through his actions and his love, we are the flock of Jesus Christ. Trust in Him, follow him and he will lead us to new pastures.

www.sermons.com (Edited)

“What’s the Catch?”

For many years one of the Catholic Churches in Perth’s CBD served meals to people in need. Over the doorway to its dining room the church had posted a sign bearing the inscription: “*Caritate Dei*”. One day a young mechanic, just released from jail and new to the church, entered the dining room and sat down for a meal. A woman was busy cleaning the adjoining table. “When do we get on our knees and do the chores, lady?” he asked.



“You don’t,” she replied. “Then when’s the sermon comin’?” he inquired. “There aren’t any,” she said. “How ‘bout the lecture on life, huh?” “Not here,” she said.

The man was suspicious. “Then what’s the catch?” The woman pointed to the inscription over the door. He squinted at the sign. “What’s it mean, lady?” “Out of love for God,” she said with a smile, and moved on to another table.

Check out the inscription over the next door in your life. If it has to do with genuine love for God, you won’t go wrong.

Peter W. Marty, *The Door to Abundant Life* (edited)

Beyond Fleecing



Rev. Potts was the minister of a rich parish in the western suburbs of Perth was speaking with the Sunday school kids. He told them that as the church’s minister he was like a shepherd and the members of his congregation were the sheep.



Rev. Potts then put this question to the children: “What does the shepherd do for the sheep?” A little fellow in sitting on the floor in front of him raised his hand and answered, “He fleeces them.” True enough, shepherds go into the business for the purpose of fleecing, milking and feeding on the sheep. But when the Bible speaks of the leaders of God’s people as shepherds, it envisions leaders who feed, protect and feel with the people as a good shepherd does for his flock.

Fr. Munachi Ezeogu, *Jesus, the Good Shepherd* (Edited)

We Are One with the Risen Christ

Lord we lift our hearts to you. As the dawn breaks, may we carry the unity we share into every moment knowing that we are one with the risen Christ. Lord, we lift our eyes to you. As the sunrises, may this moment stay with us, reminding us to look for the beautiful colours of promise in your word. Lord, we lift our prayers to you. As the dew air falls, may we breathe this morning in and know that like the earth, you sustain us, keep us and work within us always. And so, we lift our voices to you. We celebrate the greatest day in history, when Jesus rose from death, defeated darkness and bathed the world in stunning resurrection light. May we ever live to praise you!



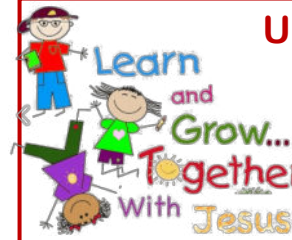
Amen.

(Author Unknown)

www.countryliving.com/life/g30679333/easter-prayers/ (Edited)

Uniting Generations Network

You’re invited to join theUCAWA Presbytery to share their dreams and vision for children, families, youth, young adults and intergenerational Ministry in the Uniting Church.



Venue: Nedlands Uniting Church, 237 Princess Rd, Nedlands

Date & Time: Saturday 20th May, 9:00 am to midday.

For more information:

Julie Ridden M: 0404 238 673 E: julie.ridden@wa.uca.org.au

You can attend the meeting via **Zoom:** ID 817 5710 8976 Password: 252004

Your Donations Make a Difference

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to support the disadvantaged. Please continue supporting these worthwhile projects by:

- ◆ **Food Drive For Those in Need** - putting non- perishable food items in the box in the foyer. For more information please contact Sherryl Smith M: 0409 305 910 or :sherrylsa60@gmail.com
- ◆ **Containers For Change** - placing your recyclable cans and bottles in the bin in the foyer. The money raised is going to local charities. For more information please speak to Cliff or Averil Clark M: 0408 475 394 E: ca.clark2@bigpond.com
- ◆ **Bread Tags for Wheelchairs** - saving the plastic tags from your bread bags (no cardboard tags please) and putting them in the jar in the church foyer. The bread tags are recycled to fund the purchase of wheelchairs. For more information speak to Raelyn Punch E: punch@lasar.net.au or M: 0429 685 908.



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

Linda Thompson Sunday 30 April

Michael Punch Thursday 4 May

God Bless and warm wishes

To you both upon your birthdays

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.

