



The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

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



Pentecost 2

11 June 2023

Welcome: John & Sue Lawrence
Flowers: Sue Lawrence
Coffee/Tea: Andrew & Jan Gibson
& Jan Robinson
Reader: Jan Gibson
Kids Church: Judy Law
Church Rep: Andrew Telfer
Worship Leader: Andrew Telfer
Speaker: Yoy Alberastine



Pentecost 3

18 June 2023

Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking
Flowers: Debby Hardy
Coffee/Tea: Brian & Barbara Smith
Reader: Sue Lawrence
Kids Church: Julie Lehmann
Church Rep: Raelyn Punch
Worship Leader: Jenni Anderson
Speaker: Frances Davy



Readings from the Lectionary

Gen 12:1-9
Ps 33:1-12
Rom 4:13-25
Mt 9:9-13, 18-26

Gen 18:1-15, (21:1-7)
Ps 116:1-2, 12-19
Rom 5:1-8
Mt 9:35-10:8, (9-23)



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

Pastor: Yoy Alberastine M: 0421 793 562 E: yoyea1210@gmail.com

Leadership Team Chair: Raelyn Punch 0429 685 908 E: prpunch@lasar.net.au
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."

Matthew 9:9-26

Harry Truman is said to have loved telling a story about a man who had been hit on the head at work. The blow was so severe that the man was knocked unconscious for an extended period of time. His family, convinced he was dead, asked the funeral directors to come and pick up the body, which the funeral director did. Early the next morning the man awoke and sat up in the casket. Puzzled, he looked around, trying to understand what was happening. The man thought to himself, "If I'm alive, what in the world am I doing in this satin lined coffin, and if I'm dead, why do I have to go to the bathroom?"



Clearly the man was confused and our Gospel text for today, concerning the call of the disciple Matthew, has often confused people as to how we might follow and obey the Word of God. To begin with, Matthew would probably not be the type of person most of us would attempt to recruit for ministry because he did not meet our expectation of what a good disciple of Jesus Christ should be. Matthew was not well liked because he collected taxes and everyone knew that the tax collectors in the Roman Empire were corrupt. Tax collectors were greedy and known to have their fingers in every aspect of the citizens' daily lives.

Matthew was a tax collector in the town of Capernaum, a small fishing village. When the local fishermen returned to port from a fishing trip Matthew was there to tax their catch. He even taxed the number of nets they had on their boats to catch the fish. He was known to tax more than what he would give to the Roman government so that he could put money in his own pockets. It is little wonder that the tax collectors were hated and that Matthew would not meet the approval of the Pharisees who were watching Jesus when He called Matthew to "Follow Him."

So when Matthew got up and walked away from his tax collecting booth, and was seen in the presence of Jesus and other tax collectors and sinners the Pharisees naturally asked the disciples: "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" After all, this is not how good and proper followers of the law behave. The Pharisees did not like anything less than the very perfection they thought they personified. We know this because their very name set them apart, for the term Pharisee literally means: "The Separated Ones." Scripture informs us that the Pharisees separated themselves from the common folk, tax collectors and other

Continued Overleaf

Matthew 9:9-26 (continued)

public sinners. In fact the Pharisees separated themselves from anyone who was not like them.

The questions we must ask ourselves are "Why did Jesus eat with these sinner", and "Why did Jesus associate with these social outcasts?" The answer Jesus provides is: "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. Go and learn the meaning of the words, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."



The fact of the matter is we are all sinners. St. Paul's letter to the Romans states: "All have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) Paul did not state that just the tax collectors have sinned, or the thieves or murderers or adulterers have sinned. Paul said ALL HAVE SINNED and that means everyone. Unfortunately the Pharisees were unable to understand that nobody (including themselves) could be made right before God through their own efforts. The Pharisees were so caught up in all the things that they did for God that they believed God was in debt to them. This also meant they had no time and no place or purpose for a person such as Matthew. However Jesus viewed things from a different perspective when He was with us. He went to Matthew, looked him in the eye and said, "Follow me", and Mathew got up and followed Jesus. That, my friends, is the same call Jesus gives to you and to me, and if anyone should ever ask you how God has called you; you can proclaim that God has called me, a poor sinner, to be His disciple in His creation.

www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/follow-me-paul-zwarich (Edited)

A Prayer For Pentecost

Dear God, when Christ ascended into heaven to reign with you in power and glory, you sent the Spirit of truth to guide us into the way, the truth, and the life of Christ. Let your Spirit, our Advocate, guide us still preserving us from judgment, protecting us from sin, and leading us into righteousness, so that we may testify to the good news: fullness of life and joy for all; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.



<https://prayers.com/prayer/pentecost> (edited)

On Line Giving

Please consider using on line giving direct to our church's bank account rather than via the open plate on Sundays. Our church's banking details are listed below:



Bank: Halls Head Bendigo Bank
A/C Name: Uniting Church in Australia - South Mandurah Congregation
BSB: 633-000 **Account Number:** 117072207

Please include your name as a reference when you make an electronic payment. If you have any questions please speak with any member of the Leadership Team.

Yoy's News

Yoy will be at our church the first and second Saturday of every month from 9am to midday or by appointment in the afternoons. Please drop in to share a time of prayer with Yoy, or for a chat or a more in depth conversation over a cup of coffee. If you want to make an appointment for a confidential meeting with Yoy on the Saturday afternoons between midday and 3pm he can be contacted via email: yoyea1210@gmail.com or M: 0421 793 562.



Busy Bee!

Six or more volunteers are needed for a busy bee which, weather permitting, will be held at the church this **Saturday, 17th June, from 9-00 am** for 2-3 hours.

The aim is to start tidying up and preparing the paved area at the north end of the church for a service to be held outdoors at a later date. (It is anticipated that a second busy bee will be required closer to the event).

Please contact Keith Johnston if you are able to come or you need more information on M: 0419 641 055 or E: kjohnston140@gmail.com On the day, please bring gardening gloves and any of the following gear which you may have: a shovel, pruning equipment, and/or tools for laying paving bricks.



Volunteers Needed

Thank you to everyone who has let Peter know your dates for the July-September Quarter's Enablers' List. If you haven't already, please let Peter Punch know by **14th June** your availability and which roles you would like to volunteer for. Peter's email address is: 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

Christine Hickson Friday 16 June
*God Bless and warm wishes
To you upon your birthday*



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.

