



The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

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



Pentecost 4

25 June 2023

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



Pentecost 5

2 July 2023

Welcome: Peter & Raelyn Punch
Flowers: Peter Punch
Coffee/Tea: Peter & Cath Salisbury
Reader: Cynthia Clive
Kids Church: TBA
Church Rep: Jenni Anderson
Worship Leader: Ken Lehmann
Speaker: Yoy Alberastine



Readings from the Lectionary

Gen 21:8-21
Ps 86:1-10, 16-17
Rom 6:1b-11
Mt 10:24-39

Gen 22:1-14
Ps 13
Rom 6:12-23
Mt 10:40-42



South Mandurah Uniting Church

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E: fawcettmichael176@gmail.com

Or any member of the Leadership Team

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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 Fork in the Path (Mt:10:24-39)

"Your mission, if you choose to accept it..."

Everyone knows this famous line from the show "Mission Impossible." In the show, Phelps receives his challenge mission via some kind of device. After he's heard it, the device explodes or evaporates or otherwise disappears. From there, he must either accept the mission and go forward into his next adventure. Or he can apparently decline. The choice is inferred in that opening sentence. In the show, however, he never declines. If he did, we would have no show that week! The excitement lies in what each new mission's requirements will unfold.



Each time, Phelps accepts a mission, he already knows it will be dangerous. Danger is always a given. Attacks on his life, death threats, dangerous pursuits, evil villains, astute adversaries, assassination attempts—Phelps knows the reality of the mission he is about to undertake. And yet, he accepts each one. Why? Well, aside from it being a television show, and the writers need a new plot each week, in the realm of the imagination, Phelps accepts his challenges, because he is deeply invested in loyalty to his organization and country and his sense of good and right for the world. He wants to defeat evil and corruption. He wants to restore peace and order. His rewards are not monetary or status based. His missions are top secret. His reward comes in knowing he has done the right thing, that he has protected the world from people who would seek to control and harm.

In each episode, there comes a moment of reckoning, in which the tables could turn either way. He could be defeated. Or he could prevail. Of course, in the series, he always prevails. That is the hope of any mission. Otherwise, why undertake it?

In our scripture for today, Jesus is preparing his disciples up for a similar kind of mission, a challenging mission, a dangerous mission. He is not pulling any punches. He tells is straight as it is. If they accept this mission, they will encounter trouble, peril, death threats, or worse. And yet, he hopes they will carry it out just the same. For this mission makes the difference in the world. It is a saving kind of mission.

Continued overleaf

The Fork in the Path (Continued)

The question: "Will you accept this mission?" Or in other terms, "Are you with me, ...or not?" needs an answer. If you were a fisherman or tax collector when Jesus was on earth and he said to you "follow me" would you abandon your job and your family to follow Jesus? Would you risk your life to spread the word of Jesus and God In the knowledge that you would have eternal life? There are still places in the world where you are taking your life in your hands if you dare to share the gospel.

So you have chosen to be a Christian? You've committed to a fork in the path from the agnostics, atheists and heretics; but what next? Where will the path take you in your quest to follow Christ? He will know, but we can't see the future and have to trust in Him. Take some time to sit on a bench under your favourite tree with a pen and paper to write down your plans for the future as a committed Christian. Start with "What is your mission?"

Sermons.com (Edited)



"Who Am I To Be Brilliant?"

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.

It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us.
We ask ourselves, "Who am I to be brilliant?"
Actually, who are you NOT to be?
You are a child of God.

Your playing small doesn't serve the world.
There's nothing enlightened about shrinking
So that other people won't feel insecure around you.
We are born to make manifest the Glory of God that is within us.

It is not just in some of us; it's in everyone.
And as we let our light shine,
We unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.



Inaugural Speech: Nelson Mandela (1994)



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.



Thank you

Thank you to everyone who attended the busy bee last Saturday. Thank you also to Jan Fawcett for providing morning tea for everyone who was working in the yard. You've done an awesome job and the yard looks much better.



The Enablers' List

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to join the Enablers List and a special thank you to those who have joined the list for the first time. The List was circulated by email on 21 June 2023. If you have not received the list please contact Peter and ask for another copy to be sent. E: prpunch@lasar.net.au



Whirlwind Spirit

Whirlwind Spirit of God,
Roar through our timidities and fears,
Shake the foundations of our ill-placed securities,
Sweep away the cobwebs of our apathy,
Blow down the walls that separate us, one from another.

Then into all our empty spaces, breathe
Re-strengthened courage to challenge injustice,
Renewed belief in the urgency of our vocation,
Revitalised passion to change our lifestyles,
Re-dedication to speak only words that build and unit.

Let gentle breeze and still small voice
Become in us today
Mighty wind and loud proclamation.
Make of us a Pentecost people!

Amen

Kathleen O'Brien <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/pray-resources/>



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)



Your Messenger

If you have any articles, notices or prayer requests please email them by **5pm Tuesday** to prpunch@lasar.net.au

Also, if you would like to receive an email copy of the weekly Uniting Church News & Notes please contact me.

Peter

