

3 September 2023



The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

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



Pentecost 14 3 September 2023



Pentecost 15 10 September 2023

Welcome: Lynsay & Jenny Dunning
 Flowers: Debby Hardy
 Coffee/Tea: Lynsay & Jenny Dunning
 Reader: Ken Lehmann
 Kids Church: Anita Alberastine
 Church Rep: Sherryl Smith
 Worship Leader: Ken Lehmann
 Speaker: Piet Speyers

Welcome: John & Sue Lawrence
 Flowers: Sue Lawrence
 Coffee/Tea: Keith & Jaren Picking
 Reader: Sue Lawrence
 Kids Church: Jan Fawcett
 Church Rep: Jenni Anderson
 Worship Leader: Yoy Alberastine
 Speaker: Rev. Mike Fawcett
 (Communion)



Readings from the Lectionary

Ex 1:8-2:10
 Ps 124
 Rom 12:1-8
 Mt 16:13-20

Ex 3:1-15
 Ps 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b
 Rom 12:9-21
 Mt 16:21-28



South Mandurah Uniting Church

2-4 Rees Place Wannanup
 PO Box 5290 FALCON WA 6210

Website: <https://southmandurah.ucwa.au>

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

It is optional whether you include your name as a reference for the payment.

Your Place Is Behind Jesus (Mt 16:21-28)

Origen of Alexandria, also known as Origen Adamantius (AD 185—AD 253), was an early Christian scholar, ascetic and theologian. He was a prolific writer, producing about 2000 treatises in multiple branches of theology. One of them, the treatise On the First Principles systematically laid out the principles of Christian theology and became the foundation for later theological writings and he also significantly contributed to the development of the concept of the Trinity. Sadly he died as a result of injuries inflicted by the Romans during the Decian persecution when he refused to perform the sacrifices demanded by Emperor Decius. (There is more information about Origen in Wikipedia).



In his writings Origen suggested that when Jesus said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan," what he actually meant was, "Peter, your place is behind me, not in front of me. It's your job to follow me in the way I choose, not to try to lead me in the way YOU would like me to go." Certainly what Jesus said immediately after his rebuke of Peter would support that interpretation. He told all of his disciples, including Peter, that not only did HE have a task that was set before him by God, but that THEY also had work to do. "Deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow me," Jesus said. "Get on this new thrill ride with me. There will be many dangerous twists and turns in the tracks, but I promise you it will never be dull. It will mean putting someone other than yourself first, being concerned not so much with what YOU want, but what God wants for you. It won't be easy and sometimes it won't be much fun, but it will never be boring."

Johnny Dean, *Life on the Roller Coaster* (Edited)
 Origen - Wikipedia (Edited)



Our Vision: "United in Christ we reach out to build loving relationships that deepen faith and enrich lives."

The Enablers List

Thank you to everyone who volunteers to join our church's Enablers' List. Without your help our church services would be a sad reflection of the joyous celebration of God's Love that we enjoy and share every Sunday.

It is now time to start compiling the Enablers' List for the 1st October to 31st December 2023 quarter. If you haven't been on the Enablers' List previously, or have taken a break from the List, please join in.

You can get more information from any of the Leadership Team. Could all new and existing congregational members willing to serve on the Enablers' List please email Peter at prpunch@lasar.net.au by **5pm Thursday 21st September** advising when you are **not** available and the Enablers' roles you are happy to accept (greeting, flowers, morning tea, reader and/or kids church).



Reminder: CampFIRE 2023

A reminder has been received from the organisers of CampFIRE 2023 asking for people to register as soon as possible.

CampFIRE will be held at Lake Yealering from 22 to 25 September.

To register go to <https://forms.gle/TenBqhYktGdr98Md8>

OR email Peter for a copy of the brochure at prpunch@lasar.net.au

For more information:

Contact Dave Gardner E: dave@peaksite.com or M: 0414 989 441



Share With Yoy!

Yoy is 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 Saturday afternoons between midday and 3pm, he can be contacted via email: yoyea1210@gmail.com or M: 0421 793 562.



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

Julie Lehmann Monday 4 September

Barbara Smith Saturday 9 September

*God Bless and warm wishes
To you all upon your birthdays*

Fellowship Luncheon

A Bring and Share Luncheon will follow the service on Sunday 17 September. Why have a luncheon? To celebrate our fellowship, our shared love of God and to share a meal with the members of the Billabong Church who will lead the service that Sunday. Please bring your favourite dish, whether it is a savoury dish or dessert, to share with our church family.

If you have any questions please speak to any of the members of our Leadership Team (there names are on the back page).



Prayer & Worship Night

You are invited to join the Southern Corridor Concert of Prayer. The event has been organised as part of the World Prayer Assembly. Everyone is welcome.

When: 5-30 to 7-30pm Sunday 17 September

Where: Lakes Theatre, 22 Catalina Drive, Lakelands

More information about the World Prayer Assembly can be found at:

<https://reg.wpa2023au.org> A copy of the brochure has been emailed with the Messenger.



You Can't Take the Cross!

A church wanted to improve attendance at their worship services, so they hired a highly regarded advertising agency to come in, study their situation, and make recommendations. The ad agency did their research and then suggested to the church leadership team that they should get rid of all the crosses in the church. Their reasoning was that the crosses might send a negative message to prospective young worshipers!

Now, I'm sure that in its history, that advertising agency has come up with some brilliant ideas; but that's not one of them! We can't get rid of the cross! We don't want to get rid of the cross. The cross is the dramatic symbol of our faith, hope, love, and forgiveness. The cross is the powerful reminder of God's sacrificial and redemptive love for us, and the cross is the constant signal to us of how God wants us to live and love today; as sacrificial servants. We are not called to be prima donnas, we are called to be servants. We are called to take up the mission of Christ and to emulate the servant spirit of our Lord.

James Moore, Choosing the Way to the Cross (Edited)



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.

