



# The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

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

## Reign of Christ

26 November 2023



Welcome: Lynsay & Jenny Dunning  
 Flowers: Peter Punch  
 Coffee/Tea: Judy Law & Kerry Lawson  
 Reader: Pauline Terblanche  
 Kids Church: Kerry Lawson  
 Church Rep: Andrew Telfer  
 Worship Leader: Andrew Telfer  
 Speaker: Rev. Mike Fawcett & Tony McAlinden

## Advent 1

3 December 2023

Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking  
 Flowers: Barbara Smith  
 Coffee/Tea: Lynsay & Jenny Dunning  
 Reader: Sue Lawrence  
 Kids Church: Anita Alberastine  
 Church Rep: Raelyn Punch  
 Worship Leader: Frances Davy  
 Speaker: Yoy Alberastine



## Readings from the Lectionary

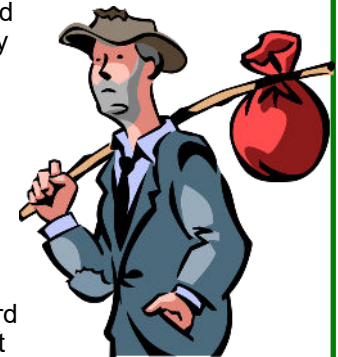
Ez 34:11-16, 20-24  
 Ps 100  
 Eph 1:15-23  
 Mt 25:31-46

Is 64:1-9  
 Ps 80:1-7, 17-19  
 1 Cor 1:3-9  
 Mk 13:24-37

## A Small Act of Kindness

Let me suggest that you try something that never gets old or stale or unsatisfying. Do something for somebody truly in need.

Let me tell you about a man named Floyd. According to our contemporary standards, Floyd was a nobody. He travelled around the country looking for work at harvest time. Floyd had no home and no place to go. A couple invited him into their home and gave him a home-cooked dinner. Floyd said very little as they ate. The wife, Nancy, offered to wash his clothes for him but Floyd declined the offer. He picked cherries in the orchard next to their home that day and slept under the trees that gave him his livelihood.



Early the next morning Floyd returned to the couple who had shown him kindness. While he finished one last project in the orchard, Nancy, on an impulse, wrote him a letter telling of God's love. Then she tucked it with a little cash into a New Testament. She found his backpack in the yard, and stuck the packet inside. She imagined him traveling that day looking for work and at the end of the day bedding down somewhere under the stars, weary and all alone. She was warmed by the thought of Floyd's surprise when he discovered her note, the New Testament and the cash she had planted in his backpack.

This Christian couple never saw Floyd again. Four years later Floyd's sister wrote to the them, telling of his death. As Floyd's sister was going through his few belongings she found the New Testament and the letter Nancy wrote telling of God's love. "They must have been very dear to his heart," Floyd's sister concluded, "for he carried them with him until he died."

It was such a simple gesture "a note, a Bible and a little cash" but little counts for a lot in the kingdom of God. I don't know about you, but I want to be surprised at finding myself among the sheep on that day of judgment. More importantly, want to possess a faith that's real. I want to take advantage of one of the most joyous opportunities Christ gives us, to minister to him.

Nancy Leman, Traveling Friend, Adapted by King Duncan, [www.Sermons.com](http://www.Sermons.com) (edited)



## South Mandurah Uniting Church

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E: [fawcettmichael176@gmail.com](mailto:fawcettmichael176@gmail.com)

Or any member of the Leadership Team

Pastor: Yoy Alberastine M: 0421 793 562 E: [yoyea1210@gmail.com](mailto:yoyea1210@gmail.com)

Leadership Team Chair: Raelyn Punch 0429 685 908 E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au)

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Members of the Leadership Team: Raelyn Punch, 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.



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

## URGENT - PLEASE HELP!!

It is only **ONE WEEK** until our annual Advent celebration/ Christmas Concert.

**RSVP:** Thank to everyone who has already RSVP'd. Could everyone who has not yet indicated whether they're coming, (including church members), please help by sending a **RSVP as soon as possible** advising how many people you think are coming and what food you will bring to share on the night. This will help Raelyn coordinate the catering and work out how many sausages and buns to buy for dinner. Raelyn can be contacted via E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au) or M: 0429 685 908. **Please note** unexpected guests will be very welcome as there will be plenty of food for everyone.



## 1st Quarter 2024 Enablers' List

Thank you to everyone who volunteers to join the 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 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 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 join the Enablers' List please email Peter at [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au) by **5pm Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** advising when you are **not** available and the Enablers' roles you are happy to accept (greeting, flowers, morning tea, reader and/or kids church).

Please also consider joining our wonderful musicians, whether as a singer or playing an instrument. For more information contact Ken at M: 0417 955 149 or E: [kenneth.lehmann@bigpond.com](mailto:kenneth.lehmann@bigpond.com)



## Pastoral Care

For pastoral care or spiritual guidance please contact:

**Rev. Mike Fawcett**  
M: 0412 243 677  
E: [fawcettmichael176@gmail.com](mailto:fawcettmichael176@gmail.com)

**OR** Any member of the leadership team (their names are overleaf)



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Desney Gordon** Thursday 30 November  
*God Bless and warm wishes  
To you 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.*



## For Your Diary

### ◆ Advent/Christmas Concert & Supper

Our very popular Advent Concert will be held **Saturday evening 2<sup>nd</sup> December, with dinner starting at 5-30pm.**

The church will provide barbecued sausages, tea and coffee. Members are asked to bring a plate of their favourite salad or dessert to share. Please invite guests - neighbours, family and friends to join us for a fun filled evening. Ken Lehmann will be the MC and is organising the event. Please contact Ken if you would like to join the singers or musicians  
M: 0417 955 149 or E: [kenneth.lehmann@bigpond.com](mailto:kenneth.lehmann@bigpond.com)



### ◆ Ladies' Christmas Luncheon

The Ladies coffee group will meet at the Mei Jing Chinese Restaurant, **midday Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December** for an early Christmas lunch (instead of meeting for morning tea in Falcon.) The Mei Jing Chinese restaurant is at 93 Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah, Ph: 9581 3626. Guests are very welcome.

**RSVP:** To confirm the booking please RSVP by 1<sup>st</sup> December to Robyn M: 0417 962 435



### ◆ Compassionate Friends Service

The Compassionate Friends Annual Service is being held at our church on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 6-30pm for a 7pm start.** Compassionate Friends is a charity aimed at supporting parents, siblings and grandparents who have lost a child. Yoy Alberastine will be conducting the service and will need some volunteers on the evening. Please contact Yoy if you would like to help.

M: 0421 793 562; [yoyea1210@gmail.com](mailto:yoyea1210@gmail.com)



### ◆ Christmas Eve Service

There will be a special Christmas Eve Service held on **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December**, led by Yoy Alberastine. Check future Messengers for more details.



## Toys & Books for the Children of Dads who are in Prison

Thank you to everyone who has already donated toys. Please continue to donate toys or books for the children whose dads are in prison. The toys or books should be new, or near new, and suitable for children up to 14 years. Please put them in the decorated boxes in the church foyer. They don't need to be expensive or gift wrapped, but if batteries are needed please include them with the toy. Through your generosity we can help make a difference for these children and their fathers this Christmas.

For more information, please speak to Raelyn M: 0429 685 908 or E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au)

