



The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

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



The Way

We love maps. Our navigations systems. Our GPS. GPS stands for "Global Positioning System." 31 Global Satellites provide users with correct directional information 95% of the time anywhere on the surface of the earth. We depend Upon those satellites to lead us in the right ways to go. All we need to do is plug into our navigation system of choice, follow the directions, and we arrive at our destination stress-free.



Our navigation systems give us a sense of security, of control, of comfort, and of assurance that we will get where we want to go. They also allow us to keep our brains in partial gear. This makes navigating our journeys easy-peasy. Using our GPS makes sense to us. Maps make sense to us. Directions feel rational and help us feel that we are getting somewhere, that we have a destination, and that we can reach it with no hassle or fret. We barely need to think about it.

Our navigation systems don't require us to tap into our emotions, to commit to anything much, or to invest a whole lot on our journey, except to keep our eyes on the road and to follow directions.

We want directional indicators for our cars. We would also like to have directional indicators for our lives. How easy it would be if we could just follow directions (as though we are putting together a bookshelf with all of the parts and tools handed to us), and voila! We've got jobs, marriages, careers, everything in the bag! How handy would it be if we could do the same thing with our faith! Follow steps 1, 2, and 3, and presto! You've made it to heaven. Abide by a group of "dos and don'ts" and bingo! You've won a free trip to the City of Light! And no! Not Paris!

How nice would it be if life were that simple! How even nicer would it be if faith were that simple! But it's not. We have guide books (they're called the Gospels) and a very special guide, our Lord, Jesus Christ, but the Books are open to interpretation, and much of what Jesus taught was in parables. It isn't enough to simply attend church on Sundays. To truly find the way takes commitment - it isn't always easy and the learning is life long. Jesus told us "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live even though they die" (John 11:25). Later He said "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6). The instructions seem simple, its finding the way that is the challenge!

Sermons.com (Edited)

Easter 5 28 April 2024



Welcome: Peter & Raelyn Punch
Flowers: Peter Punch
Coffee/Tea: Judy Law & Raelyn Punch
Reader: Sherryl Smith
Kids Church: Raelyn Punch
Church Rep: Raelyn Punch
Worship Leader: Cynthia Clive
Speaker: Yoy Alberastine

Easter 6 5 May 2024

Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking
Flowers: Cynthia Falconer
Coffee/Tea: Andrew & Jan Gibson & Rosie Sharp
Reader: Piet Speyers
Kids Church: Anita Alberastine
Church Rep: Sherryl Smith
Worship Leader: Piet Speyers
Speaker: Yoy Alberastine



Readings from the Lectionary

Acts 8:26-40
Ps 22:25-31
1 Jn 4:7-21
Jn 15:1-8

Acts 10:44-48
Ps 98
1 Jn 5:1-6
Jn 15:9-17



South Mandurah Uniting Church

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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: Rev. Mike Fawcett

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: Rev. Mike Fawcett, Ps. Yoy Alberastine, Kerry Lawson, Sherryl Smith, Andrew Telfer & Raelyn Punch

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."

Welcome!

At a recent Sunday service Chris and Evelyn Ashley were formally welcomed to South Mandurah Uniting Church. We are blessed to have them join us as members of our congregation and we look forward to sharing their journey in faith through our Lord Jesus Christ.



Annual Contact List

The annual Contact List has (finally) been completed and will be circulated by email to all those whose names are in the List. As with last year, to protect privacy, email addresses have not been included in the List which will be circulated. (A list of email addresses has been made available to the Leadership Team, Rev. Mike and Ps Yoy to assist them communicating with our congregation). Please contact Peter if you have not received the list by Sunday 28th April at prpunch@lasar.net.au



The Wednesday Worry Box

Sometimes, if you will just wait, problems take care of themselves. J. Arthur Rank had a system for doing that. He was one of the early pioneers of the film industry in Great Britain, and he also happened to be a devout Christian.

Rank found he couldn't push his worries out of his mind completely; they were always slipping back in. So he finally made a pact with God to limit his worrying to Wednesday. He even made himself a little Wednesday Worry Box and he placed it on his desk. Whenever a worry cropped up, Rank wrote it out and dropped it into the Wednesday Worry Box.

Would you like to know his amazing discovery? When Wednesday rolled around, he would open that box to find that only a third of the items he had written down were still worth worrying about. The rest had managed to resolve themselves.

If you have a troubled heart, ask God to give you a new perspective. Also ask him to give you patience so that you do not jump ahead and worry about a problem that may never come. But most important of all, ask God for more faith. Faith in God is the best remedy for all our problems. Jesus put it plainly, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me."

King Duncan, Collected Sermons, adapted from Daily Bread, 11 December 1999. Cited by David Jeremiah, Slaying The Giants In Your Life (Nashville: W Publishing Group, 2001), pp. 67-68.



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



"THY KINGDOM COME" PRAYER ROOM

Following the success of the last two years, we are excited that our Prayer Room is happening again this year. We will join with many other churches around Australia and the world in the Global Prayer Movement called "Thy Kingdom Come." More information can be found at [https:// www.thykingdomcome.global](https://www.thykingdomcome.global)



The Prayer Room will held every morning **9am to midday Wednesday 15th May to Friday 17th May and Saturday 18th May 10am -1pm** for people to come either individually or in a group to spend a quiet time with God and pray. There will be ideas for prayer as well as written prayers at the church. When you are not at the Church we hope you will put some additional time aside to pray at home. Please indicate which day you will come, so we have people praying at church each day. An invitation to join us has been extended to other churches in our area.

On **19 May Pentecost Sunday** after morning tea we will gather in the Church for a short time of prayer. The focus will be praying for the prayer requests from the prayer room. A light lunch will follow. Please bring finger food to share.

"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and transformation of communities." (Archbishop Justin Welby)

For more information please contact:

Frances Davy M: 0488 906 280 E: 2davyfamily@gmail.com or
Sherryl Smith M: 0409 305 910 E: sherrylsa60@gmail.com

Coffee, Cake & Fellowship

You are invited to join the ladies or gentlemen respectively for coffee, delicious pastries and scintillating conversation:

For Ladies: She Brews - 9-30am every Wednesday

Café Coast, 45 Rees Pl, Port Bouvard Marina, Wannanup

For Gentlemen: Espresso - 9-30am Fortnightly on Tuesdays - 30th April 2024

PLEASE NOTE: the Taste of Italy Café has closed and the **NEW VENUE** is **Lazy Jane's Café**, Shop 12, Miami Plaza, Falcon

For more information please contact Peter M: 0427 685 908 or Raelyn Punch M: 0429 685 908, E: prpunch@lasar.net.au



**Happy
birthday**

Michael Punch Saturday 4 May
*God Bless and warm wishes
To you upon your birthday*

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)

