

5 May 2024



# The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

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



## Shaped by the Winds of God

Often when I'm called to conduct a funeral of a loved one from the church, I'm asked by the funeral director if I'd like to ride with them rather than to drive my own car. Most of the times I accept the offer because it is more relaxing not to have to worry about driving. I must say that I've had some interesting and informative drives out to the cemetery. One director told me about the effect God's Wind has on things that grow. It seems that over time, trees that have to stand out in the open become shaped in the direction the wind is blowing. Unless there are other trees around to block it from happening, a tree will eventually be shaped by the force and direction of the wind. Then, as living proof, the funeral director began to point out to me tree after tree that had all been shaped in this way; trees that I confess I had passed by many times, but had never really seen until then. Once this was pointed out to me, I began to see them everywhere. The cemetery was literally filled with them! All shaped by the Winds of God!



I leave you with this question. Like those trees in the cemetery, do we, as individuals, and as a congregation, show any evidence of being shaped by the Winds of God's Spirit? Is the new beginning of the Pentecostal experience a fresh, yet continuing presence in our lives?

David R. Cartwright, Sermons for Sundays after Pentecost (First Third): Guided by the Spirit, CSS Publishing Company, Inc. (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



## Pentecost 19 May 2024



Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking  
 Flowers: Kerry Lawson  
 Coffee/Tea: Brian & Barbara Smith  
 Reader: Cynthia Falconer  
 Kids Church: Kerry Lawson  
 Church Rep: Andrew Telfer  
 Worship Leader: Andrew Telfer  
 Speaker: Piet Speyers

## Trinity Sunday 26 May 2024

Welcome: Peter & Raelyn Punch  
 Flowers: Barbara Smith  
 Coffee/Tea: Ken & Julie Lehmann  
 Reader: Ken Lehmann  
 Kids Church: Judy Smith  
 Church Rep: Rev. Mike Fawcett  
 Worship Leader: Rev. Mike Fawcett  
 Speaker: Rudolf van Noppen



## Readings from the Lectionary

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek 37:1-14  
 Ps 104:24-34, 35b  
 Rom 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21  
 Jn 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Is 6:1-8  
 Ps 29  
 Rom 8:12-17  
 Jn 3:1-17



## 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)

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 Editor of the Messenger: Peter Punch 0427 685 908 E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au)  
 Prayer Circle Leader: Frances Davy 0488 906 280 E: [2davyfamily@gmail.com](mailto:2davyfamily@gmail.com)

Members of the Leadership Team: Rev. Mike Fawcett, Ps. Yoy Alberastine, Kerry Lawson, Sheryl 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."

## Control

A wealthy Dalkeith family used to take a month's vacation every summer at Bunkers Bay, near Dunsborough, taking their maid with them. The maid had an annual ritual at the beach. She wore an old fashioned bathing suit, complete with a little white hat, and carried enough paraphernalia to stock K-Mart. She would settle herself on the beach, cover every inch of her exposed flesh with copious amounts of sunscreen and then wander down to the water's edge. There she would hesitate while taking deep breaths, working up her courage to enter the icy-cold water. Finally, she would daintily extend one foot and lower it slowly into the water until she barely had her big toe submerged and then she repeated the act with the other foot. Having satisfied her minimal urge for a swim, she would retreat to her chair under the umbrella and spend the remainder of the vacation curled around a book.



I'm afraid that may be a parable of our Christian commitment. Are we afraid to give in to the Pentecost experience, fearful that we might lose control? That's what it is really all about, isn't it? Control. We want to be in control. Well, if Pentecost is to do nothing else, it should remind us that we are not in control, not even - or perhaps I should say especially - of ourselves.

Randy L. Hyde, *Time to Deliver* (Edited)

## A Pentecostal Prayer of Thanks to God

God, thank you for your great love and blessing over our lives. Thank you that your favour has no end but lasts our entire lifetime. Forgive us for sometimes forgetting that you are intimately acquainted with all of our ways, know what concerns us, and cover us with a shield.

We ask that we walk in your blessing and goodness today. That your face would shine on us. That you would open the right doors for our lives and our loved ones, that you would close the wrong doors and protect us from those we need to walk away from.

Establish the work of our hands and bring to fulfilment all that you have given us to do in our lives. We pray that you would make our way purposeful and our footsteps firm out of your goodness and love. Give us a heart of wisdom to hear your voice, and make us strong in our faith. We ask all this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Debbie McDaniel <https://www.christianity.com/> (Edited)



## 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)



## Fund Raising for a Defibrillator

You may recall that the congregation agreed to support a proposal that SMUC purchase a defibrillator which will be mounted on the outside wall of the church so that it is available for church attendees and any nearby members of our community.

The cost of the unit is \$3,002 and to date we have received donations totalling \$1,250 and the Leadership Team have agreed to contribute \$1000 from church funds, leaving \$752 still to be raised.

The Leadership Team invite you to consider making a donation towards the purchase of the defibrillator. To make a donation please transfer the money electronically to the church's bank account (the account details are on the back page of the newsletter) and identify the donation as DEFIB and your name.

For more information, please speak to any member of the Leadership Team. Details of the G5 Defibrillator will be on the notice board in the church foyer for everyone to read.



## Luncheon Sunday 19 May

This Sunday we hope you will stay on and join us for a light luncheon. Everyone is invited, and we ask you to bring a plate of your favourite finger food to share.

Lunch will follow the wind up prayers for this year's Prayer room, which will be held in the Church after morning tea. Everyone is invited to participate, regardless of whether you joined the Prayer Room Roster. (Alternatively you can continue to chat in the fellowship room until lunch is served.)

For more information please contact:

Frances Davy M: 0488 906 280 E: [2davyfamily@gmail.com](mailto:2davyfamily@gmail.com) or

Sherryl Smith M: 0409 305 910 E: [sherrylsa60@gmail.com](mailto:sherrylsa60@gmail.com)



## Fellowship Meal



**Blessings & Congratulations To:**  
**John & Alison Yule**

**Celebrating their 52<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary**  
**On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May**



**Peter Punch** Thursday 23 May

**John Cowdell** Friday 24 May

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