



# The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

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



## Pentecost 7

7 July 2024

Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking  
Flowers: Kerry Lawson  
Coffee/Tea: Peter & Cath Salisbury  
Reader: John Lawrence  
Kids Church: Anita Alberastine  
Church Rep: Yoy Alberastine  
Worship Leader: Piet Speyers  
Speaker: Yoy Alberastine



## Pentecost 8

14 July 2024

Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking  
Flowers: Flowers kindly donated  
Coffee/Tea: Cynthia & David Clive  
Reader: Racquel Gunter  
Kids Church: Anita Alberastine  
Church Rep: Rev. Mike Fawcett  
Worship Leader: Yoy Alberastine  
Speaker: Rev. Mike Fawcett  
(Communion)



### Readings from the Lectionary

2 Sm 5:1-5, 9-10  
Ps 48  
2 Cor 12:2-10  
Mk 6:1-13

2 Sm 6:1-5, 12b-19  
Ps 24  
Eph 1:3-14  
Mk 6:14-29



## 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: Rev. Mike Fawcett

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, 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."*

## Ignoring the Play (Mk 6:1-13)

When I attended primary school in Falcon, I remember when all the kids in the neighbourhood got together and put on a show. We rigged up a curtain of sorts by hanging an old bedspread across the porch of my parents house, and arranged folding chairs for the audience on the front lawn. Then we practiced a small play, and added in a few musical solos, for which I played the piano. (The piano was in our lounge room and because we couldn't move it closer to the front porch, I had to play it very loudly, and even then it was barely audible.) As I remember it, the entire production was a prodigious feat for little kids like us.



We invited all our mothers to come to our performance. (This was back in the 1950's when most mothers stayed home to look after their children.) Although we did not charge admission, we went through the motions of collecting tickets and ushering our guests to their seats. Our audience was charmed by how cute that was. Then we put on our play.

We put a lot of work into our play. We had to invent everything from scratch and improvise sets and costumes from things our mothers reluctantly loaned us, and yet they didn't pay attention! They sat there and gossiped with each other, commenting on whether this kid was a natural singer or that kid was terminally shy. At the end, they retained nothing of the plot or the story of our play; they just told us how cute we were. Cute! The word stung! We wanted them to take us seriously, as if we were adults putting on a play. But they were so well acquainted with us that all they saw were cute little kids, and no play at all.

Well, that is pretty much what happened to Jesus in today's reading. Jesus went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples but instead of recognising him as the Son of God, they took offense at him because he was "just Mary's son". Much like the mothers at the play, they were so well acquainted with him and his family that they were unable to see the bigger picture. The consequences are unthinkable. If no one had believed in Jesus, the Gospels may never have been written

Ken Collins, No Honour in His Own Country (Edited)

## Glued To Our Faults

James S. Hewett, (the author, not the James Hewett who earned infamy through his relationship with Princess Diana), once gave an apt example of people not getting the respect they deserve. Especially young people. He tells about his son, who was using one of those super-adhesive glues on a model airplane he was building. "In less than three minutes," says James Hewett, "his right index finger was bonded to a shiny silver wing of his Douglas Dakota DC-3. He tried to free it. He tugged it, pulled it, waved it frantically, but he couldn't budge his finger free." Soon, they located a solvent that did the job and ended their moment of crisis. Then James Hewitt writes this: "Last night I remembered that scene when I visited a new family in our neighbourhood. The father of the family introduced his children: 'This is Pete. He's the clumsy one of the lot.' 'That's Kathy coming in with mud on her shoes. She's the sloppy one.' 'As always, Mike is last. He'll be late for his own funeral, I promise you.'"



James Hewett goes on to say, "The dad did a thorough job of gluing his children to their faults and mistakes. People do it to us all the time. They remind us of our failures, our errors, our sins, and they won't let us live them down. Like my son trying frantically to free his finger from the plane, there are people who try, sometimes desperately, to free themselves from their past. They would love a chance to begin again. When we don't let people forget their past, when we don't forgive, we glue them to their mistakes and refuse to see them as more than something they have done. However, when we forgive, we gently pry the doer of the hurtful deed from the deed itself, and we say that the past is just that--the past--over and done with . . ."

King Duncan, Collected Sermons, [www.Sermons.com](http://www.Sermons.com) (Edited)

## Genius After Failure

When we listen to the exalting music of Handel's Messiah we usually assume it was surely written by a man at the pinnacle of his success, but that is not the case. In fact, it was written after he had suffered a stroke. It was written while Handel lived in poverty amid bleak surroundings. He had suffered through a particularly deep night of gloom and despair over his failure as a musician, and the next morning he unleashed his creative genius in a musical score that continues to thrill and inspire us generations later. *Editor's Note:* You can watch Handel's Messiah as it was performed at the Sydney Opera House: <https://youtu.be/BR0cEOTpYSk>

Mickey Anders, The Sacrament of Failure (Peter Rhea Jones, Ministers Manual 1991, p. 58). (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*



## Wanted!!! Sunday School Teachers

We have been blessed during the past few months to have more young people attending our church, and they've really been enjoying "Kids church". Unfortunately in the next quarter (1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> September) some of our regular Sunday school teachers are not available.

**More Sunday School Teachers are urgently needed.** If you can help out (even if only once a month or once every two months), or you would like more information please speak to any of the Leadership Team, Anita Alberastine, Kerry Lawson or contact Peter Punch via email E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au)



## 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 - 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024**  
at the **NEW** Taste of Italy Café in the Halls Head Shopping Centre

**For more information** please contact Peter M: 0427 685 908 or Raelyn Punch M: 0429 685 908, E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au)



## Pastoral Visits & Open House

Pastor Yoy is at our church the first and second Saturday of every month from 9am to midday or by appointment in the afternoons. He would welcome the opportunity to share a time of prayer or a chat over a cup of coffee with you. Yoy can be contacted via email: [yoyea1210@gmail.com](mailto:yoyea1210@gmail.com) or M: 0421 793 562.

Ps Yoy and Rev Mike are also conducting pastoral visits every second Thursday. If you would like a visit please contact Ps Yoy (details above) or Rev. Mike M: 0412 243 677 E: [fawcettmichael176@gmail.com](mailto:fawcettmichael176@gmail.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)



## Your Messenger

If you are not receiving this Newsletter by email and wish to do so, please contact Peter at: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au)

Any articles, notices or prayer requests for the Messenger should be emailed to Peter no later than **5pm Wednesdays**

*Thank you*

