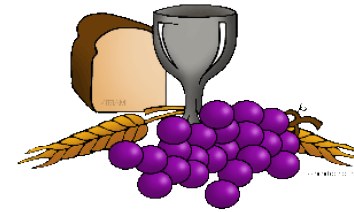




# The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter



*Please Join Us For  
Communion This Sunday*

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

## Pentecost 25 10 November 2024



Welcome: Brian & Barbara Smith  
Flowers: Barbara Smith  
Coffee/Tea: Brian & Debby Hardy  
Reader: Chris Ashley  
Kids Church: TBA  
Music: Jim McWhinnie  
Church Rep: Rev. Mike Fawcett  
Worship Leader: John Lawrence  
Speaker: Rev. Mike Fawcett  
(Communion)

## Pentecost 26 17 November 2024

Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking  
Flowers: Flowers Kindly Donated  
Coffee/Tea: Judy Law & Sherryl Smith  
Reader: Cynthia Falconer  
Kids Church: Kerry Lawson  
Music: Sherryl Smith  
Church Rep: Sherryl Smith  
Worship Leader: Piet Speyers  
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Ian Tozer



### Readings from the Lectionary

Ru 3:1-5, 4:13-17  
Ps 127  
Heb 9:24-28  
Mk 12:38-44

1 Sm 1:4-20  
1 Sm 2:1-10  
Heb 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25  
Mk 13:1-8



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

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, 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.

### 7 Things C. S. Lewis Taught Us About Faith

Clive Staples Lewis (29 Nov 1898—22 Nov 1963) was a British writer, literary scholar and theologian. Best known as the author of *The Chronicles of Narnia*, Lewis became a devout Christian when he was 32 years old and was highly respected for his wartime radio broadcasts and philosophical writings on Christianity.

When times are tough, it may help to reflect on the lessons which were taught by C.S. Lewis:

- (1) Faith is the art of holding on to things in spite of your changing moods and circumstances." Even when the plans we envision for our life fall through or turn a different direction, we must cling to faith in a higher power and trust that things will be better.
- (2) You may forget that you are at every moment totally dependent on God." We often forget the significance that we truly do rely on God. It's critical to realize that we rely on him for our very life — for the breath we breathe each second. The challenges we face are shaping and moulding us. With his help, we have the capability to succeed beyond our own imagination.
- (3) "When we lose one blessing, another is often most unexpectedly given in its place." When life turns out differently than we expected, remember that closed doors allow us to see the hand of God. These lost blessings yield new, unforeseen blessings and opportunities in their place.
- (4) "God allows us to experience the low points of life in order to teach us lessons that we could learn no other way." Why do we face hard things? Why is there opposition? God uses challenges to mould us — these trials teach us what we could not learn without them. Through these difficulties, God pulls us closer to Him. In these trying times, he is our tutor.
- (5) "Though our feelings come and go, God's love for us does not." Though our circumstances change, God's love is unchanging. His love is perfect and will always exist.
- (6) "You are never too old to set another goal or dream a new dream." What defines you? What fears hold you back? With faith in God, all things are possible.



(Continued overleaf)



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

### C.S. Lewis (continued)

(7) "There are far better things ahead than any we leave behind." We all make sacrifices. Decisions come and we must choose. But God has good things in store for us — better than any sacrifices He asks us to make. Remember these lessons when life, as we often find it, seems too overwhelming. Challenges come and go, but these principles are constant and true. Let your faith in God carry you through, remember how much you rely on him, trust that another door will open, try to learn a lesson from the challenge, and never forget that God's love is perfect and endures forever. Dream new dreams and believe there are better things to come.

By Cheri Peacock, FaithCounts.com contributor (Edited)

## The Widows-On-Fixed-Income Infection

The minister of a large church in Dalkeith hired a professional fund-raiser to direct their ambitious financial campaign to renovate and extend the church. The fund-raiser carefully prepared a proposal and submitted his strategy to the church management committee. He wanted the members to visit every home. He was met with immediate resistance.



One cynic at the meeting told the fund raiser that this church had a high percentage of retired people on fixed incomes. They could not be expected to make a pledge towards the building project the cynic argued.

The fund-raiser asked for permission to see in confidence the list of major givers for the church. At the next meeting he told the management committee that he had completed an analysis of the church's giving patterns. "Please note that the majority of your top fifty contributors are widows on fixed incomes" he told the meeting. "Also I can inform you that, according to my calculations, those widows on fixed incomes pay about sixty percent of this congregation's annual budget. I'd say if you want to improve the giving in this congregation, you need to talk to those women first, find out why they give, then try to infect the rest of the congregation with the faith of these widows on fixed incomes."

William H. Willimon, Pulpit Resource (Volume 28, no. 4; October-December), p. 30 (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)



**Happy birthday**

**Cher Pajic** Monday 11 November  
*God Bless and warm wishes  
To you upon your birthday*

## Annual Christmas Concert Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November

We will be celebrating the start of Advent with our traditional annual Christmas Concert on Saturday evening 30<sup>th</sup> November. music, singing and lots of fun.

Make sure you write the date in your diaries and tell all your friends and family to save the date. This is our most popular event of the year and we want even more people to come than last year. More information will be published in the Messenger as it becomes available.



## Join A Homegroup?

Chris and Evelyn are hosting a get together 7pm Friday 15 November to discuss the possibility of starting a new homegroup. If you are interested in being part of the homegroup, please contact Evelyn. M: 0412 852 259 or [evelyn.ashley@iinent.net.au](mailto:evelyn.ashley@iinent.net.au)



## Christmas Appeal—Toys for Fathers in Prison

We are collecting toys for children whose fathers are in the Bunbury Prison. This year we are collecting toys for children who are no more than 10 years old. The toys need to be in extremely good condition or preferably new. A box will be placed in the church forum where you can place the presents. For more information please contact Peter or Raelyn Punch 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 Tuesday**

**12th November** at the Taste of Italy Café in the Halls Head Shopping Centre

**More information?** Contact Peter M: 0427 685 908 E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au)



*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*

