



The Uniting Church in the Eastern Wheatbelt

SUNDAY 2nd August 2020

CHAIRPERSON

Steve Higgins

SECRETARY

Bob French

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www.merredununitingchurch.org

Grace and peace to you all.

Today Mike will preach from the well-known story of Jesus's miraculous feeding of five thousand men, as well as an undisclosed number of women and children. This feeding can be thought of as occurring at a number of levels, physical as well as spiritual, and we are told that all those present were satisfied. While this suggests modern Christians should be prepared to minister to a wide range of people's needs, I was struck by the context of the story.

Jesus had withdrawn himself after hearing his cousin John the Baptist had been beheaded by Herod to fulfill a trivial promise to his daughter. He wanted privacy, no doubt wanted to grieve, and he was also probably worried about his own safety. But the crowds took the trouble to seek him out, and follow him. Was he annoyed that they disturbed his desire for privacy and need for some "me-time"? No; he was filled with compassion for them, healed their sick, and fed them as we have heard.

Modern Christians often feel exhausted, and uneasy about the world's reaction to them, and want to withdraw. But people's needs, both spiritual and physical, can be urgent. We should be prepared to respond when called upon as Jesus did; often this will lead to miraculous outcomes.

Until then, stay blessed

Bob French

SERVING IN MERREDIN

	Today	Next Sunday
Preacher	Mike Fawcett (Westonia)	Paul Marais
Worship Leader	Kerry Hermon	Louise French
Elder	Debbie Tengvall	Kerry Hermon
Musician	Sal Marais	Sal Marais
Greeters	Kerry and Doug Hermon	Cathy and Neville Jolly
Readers	TBA	Cathy Jolly Dianne Wright
Offering & Counting	TBA	Neville Jolly Debbie Tengvall
Sound	TBA	Tom Higgins
Projection	TBA	François Marais

Note: if you are unable to fulfil your rostered duty please organise a substitute and inform the Worship Leader and the Newsletter Editor

Next week at Merredin:

Laptop prep: Sal Marais

Cleaning: Cathy Jolly

News and Coming Events

Changed service times at Merredin

Starting from next Sunday 9th August the regular Sunday morning worship service will begin at 10 am. Prior to this will be a prayer meeting in the Sunday School room starting at 9.30 am

for those interested.

Merredin Ladies' Guild

The August meeting of the Ladies' Guild will be held at the Marais home at 1338 Merredin-Chandler Rd in Merredin on Tuesday 4th August at 10 am to watch a DVD. All welcome.



prayers

A Prayer for the Uniting Church in Western Australia

God of Grace and truth, renew and revive your church,
Deepen our love for you and others,
Broaden our love for our church, our neighbours and your mission in the world,
Holy Spirit breathe new life into us.
In the name of Christ who loves us beyond measure.

AMEN

Intercession

Pray for ...

- * Suzette Coetzee's dad in South Africa has lung cancer. Please pray for him as well as Suzette, Fanie, and family.
- * Luke Higgins, Sarah, and family.
- * People isolated in aged care homes as a result of COVID-19.
- * For chaplaincy in Eastern Wheatbelt schools: Merredin, Bruce Rock, and Mukinbudin. Pray for staff, students, and chaplains.
- * For the Prime Minister and members of the Australian Parliament, the WA Premier and members of State Parliament, and the Police Force.

From the Synod Prayer Calendar ...

- * St Andrews Perth Uniting Church and Uniting Church in the City. Please also pray for Uniting Network.

Do you have a special need for prayer? Remember the Elders are always available for one on one prayer following services at Merredin, and while we are isolating are only a phone call or email away.

ELDERS CONTACT DETAILS

Bob French	9041 1780	Sal Marais	9041 2473
(mobile)	0428 125 613	(mobile)	0427 788 809
Louise French	9041 1780	Steve Higgins	9041 5080
(mobile)	0438 337 490	(mobile)	0476 231 928
Kerry Hermon	0409 400 153	Debbie Tengvall	90443269
Gordon Jones	9047 1073	(mobile)	0459 579417
(mobile)	0417 848 793		

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 26th July

Westonia Miners' Hall	9.30 am	Morning Worship Mike Fawcett (Communion)
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MONDAY 27th July

Merredin church	5.30 pm	Ladies Bible Study (see Debbie Tengvall for details)
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TUESDAY 28th July

Marais home	10.00 am	Merredin Ladies Guild meet
Merredin church	5.30 pm	Merredin Elders meet

WEDNESDAY 29th July

Northside Tavern	7.00 pm	Who Let The Blokes Out? We will meet for dinner—see Bob French for details
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THURSDAY 30th July

Zoom	7.00 pm	Merredin Prayer meeting (see Bob French for details)
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FRIDAY 31st July

SATURDAY 1st August

SUNDAY 2nd August

Merredin Church	10.00 am	Morning Worship Paul Marais preaching
Mukinbudin Church	10.00 am	Morning Worship Joy Jones

Items for Newsletter:

If there is anything you would like included in the next newsletter, including prayer requests, please let Bob French know on 9041 1780, 0428 125 613, or robert.french1@bigpond.com