



NEWS & NOTES

SUNDAY 20 AUGUST 2023 - PENTECOST 12

Was she a dog? A reflection on the Gospel reading for the day.

In Matthew 15:21–28, Jesus encounters a Canaanite (Syrophenician) woman who begs Him to cure her daughter. Jesus initially refuses her request by saying, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs” (Matthew 15:26). Taken out of context, and especially in English, it’s easy to mistake this for an insult. In the flow of the story, however, it is clear Jesus is creating a metaphor meant to explain the priorities of His ministry. He is also teaching an important lesson to His disciples.

Jews in Jesus’ day sometimes referred to Gentiles as “dogs.” Non-Jews were considered so unspiritual that even being in their presence could make a person ceremonially unclean. Much of Jesus’ ministry, however, involved turning expectations and prejudices on their head. According to Matthew’s narrative, Jesus left Israel and went into Tyre and Sidon, which was Gentile territory (Matthew 15:21). When the Canaanite woman approached and repeatedly asked for healing, the disciples were annoyed and asked Jesus to send her away (Matthew 15:23).

At this point, Jesus explained His current ministry in a way that both the woman and the watching disciples could understand. At that time, His duty was to the people of Israel, not to the Gentiles (Matthew 15:24). Recklessly taking His attention from Israel, in violation of His mission, would be like a father taking food from his children in order to throw it to their pets (Matthews 15:26). The exact word Jesus used here, in Greek, was *kunarion*, meaning “small dog” or “pet dog.” This is a completely different word from the term *kuon*, used to refer to unspiritual people or to an “unclean” animal.

Continued on Page 3

OUR CHURCH LIFE



A warm welcome to visitors worshipping with us today. We invite you to join us in the Hall after the service for Morning Tea and a time of fellowship.

SUNDAY 20 AUGUST
PENTECOST 12
 9.30am Family Service
 Rev Brian Carey

SUNDAY 27 AUGUST
PENTECOST 13

NO SERVICE AT FLOREAT
 (See Page 4 for details of
 service at
 St Aidan's UC, Claremont)

BIBLE READINGS:

Genesis 45:1-15	P.49
Matthew 15:21-28	P.22

HYMNS SUNDAY 20 AUGUST

TiS 111	Praise to the Lord the Almighty
TiS 254	O changeless Christ, for ever new
Overhead	She Came to Jesus (Tune TiS 547)
TiS 648	Help us to help each other Lord

	SUNDAY 20 AUGUST	SUNDAY 27 AUGUST
WELCOMER		
DOOR STEWARDS	Martin Bawden	
ELDER	Jill Heaney	
BIBLE READER	Lee-Anne Burnett	
FLOWERS	Debbie Thornton	
MORNING TEA	Rhonda Tilbrook	
MUSIC	Geoff Hadley Joseph Lundardi	
MULTIMEDIA	Deborah Marshall	

OUR CHURCH LIFE

Continued from Page 1

Jesus frequently tested people to prove their intentions, often through response questions or challenges. His response to the Canaanite woman is similar. In testing her, Jesus declined her request and explained that she had no legitimate expectation of His help. The woman, however, lived out the principle Jesus Himself taught in the parable of the persistent widow. Her response proved that she understood fully what Jesus was saying, yet had enough conviction to ask anyway (Matthew 15:27). Jesus acknowledged her faith - calling it “great” - and granted her request (Matthew 15:28).

So, according to both the context and language involved, Jesus wasn't referring to the Canaanite woman as a “dog,” either directly or indirectly. He wasn't using an epithet or racial slur but making a point about the priorities He'd been given by God. He was also testing the faith of the woman and teaching an important lesson to His disciples.

A Benediction for These Times (A Benedictine Prayer)

May God bless you with a restless discomfort about easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that you may seek truth boldly and love deep within your heart.

May God bless you with a holy anger toward injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may tirelessly work for justice, freedom, and peace among all people.

May God bless you with the gift of tears to shed with those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, or the loss of all that they cherish, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and transform their pain into joy.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you really can make a difference in this world, so that you are able, with God's grace, to do what others claim cannot be done.

Brian Carey

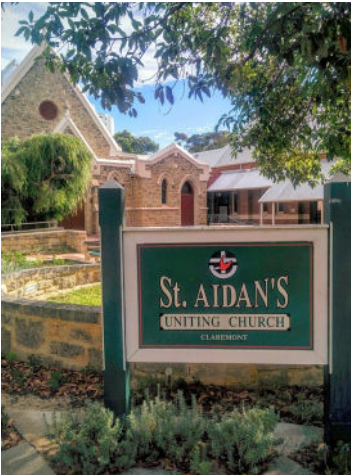
CHURCH NEWS & INFORMATION

Prayers

This week we pray for Penrhos College, Wesley College and Hospital Chaplains and Northern Synod .

Our local prayers will be for Open House Playgroup.

Sunday Service at St Aidens, Claremont - 27 August 2023



There will be **NO SERVICE** at All Saints Floreat Uniting Church on 27 August 2023.

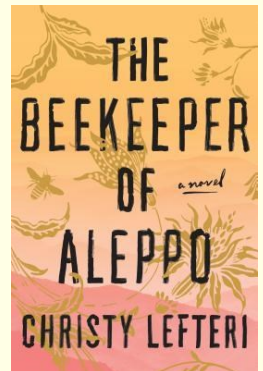
Rev Elaine Ledgerwood at St Aidan's Uniting Church, 26 Princess Road, Claremont invites anyone who wishes to attend a service that day to join the Service at St Aidan's. You will be most welcome.

Worship at St Aidan's commences at 9:30am.

Ladies Bookclub

Our August meeting will be held on
Monday, 21 August at 7.45 pm
at Rhondda's home.

Our book for discussion is
"The Beekeeper of Aleppo" by Christy Lefteri



CHURCH NEWS & INFORMATION

Social Day Outing & Going places

A Social lunch gathering has been arranged at the
Wembley Food Hall,
Cambridge Street Wembley at
12-00PM on THURSDAY 24nd AUGUST 2023



This will be a special occasion where we can meet close to home and enjoy a lunch of your choice at the Wembley Food Hall. A special table has been booked on a raised platform on the right hand side as you enter the Food Hall. Please place this date in your diary as we would love you to come and join in this time of fellowship.

For more information please contact

Bob Sumner: 0439 875 818 or Bill Gamel : 9243 4010.

***Do you have a spare copy of the King James Bible
that you no longer use and would like to donate to the church?***

*If so, please contact Marie Yuncken
Thank you*

Help Please for City To Surf Hospitality Event Sunday, 27 August 2023



In just one weeks' time we will provide worship in the form of hospitality to the participants in the City To Surf event happening on our doorstep.

Preparation will be done on the Saturday afternoon. We will provide a sausage sizzle, fruit kebabs, cake and hot and cold drinks.

Dear bakers we'd love to have home-made goodies to share, these can be brought to church on Saturday if you are not able to get through on Sunday. **Please see the notice on the board in the foyer and put your name down where you can help.**

It will be a wonderful occasion as in the past, weather permitting!

Thank you,

Deborah Marshall



*For information on Baptism, Confirmation or Church
Membership, please contact The Church Office
Phone: 9387 6371*

*****Save The Date*****

*****Friday 8 September 2023 at 7:00pm*****

Uniting Church 46th Annual Synod of Western Australia
Worship **here** at All Saints at 7:00pm

Rev Dr Ian Tozer will be

Installed as Moderator, the public leader and spokesperson of
the Uniting Church in Australia, (UCA), Synod of Western
Australia for the triennium 2023 to 2026

**Wednesday Morning Playgroup
Get Behind the Matildas**

The children at the Wednesday morning playgroup gave their full support to the Matilda's leading up to their game against England in the Women's FIFA World Cup semi-finals on Wednesday evening.

The playgroup meets every Wednesday morning during term time and is open to all pre-school children and their carers.

All are welcome.



For more information, please contact **Val Chew** on 0411 478 833

CHURCH NEWS & INFORMATION

Can You Help in the Church Office? Vacation Cover Required

Marika will be on vacation from Monday, 4 September to Friday, 15 September inclusive. Assistance during that time is required to check emails and compile News & Notes. There may also be a need to set up PowerPoint slides for the Sunday service.

If you are familiar with Microsoft Outlook, Publisher and PowerPoint and would like to assist, please contact Michael van Drunen, Chair, Church Council. Marika is happy to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you.

Michael van Drunen

Chair – Church Council

PERTH INNER CITY YOUTH SERVICES

Friday 25 August 2023—PICYS Food Pick-Up Floreat

(A) Coral Lalich 93812 8594

(B) Lynn Jackson 9446 5319



Sunday Services at All Saints are Live Streamed
and may be viewed via YouTube at 9:30am each Sunday.

If you attend our services and would prefer not to be filmed,
please avoid the front four rows of pews.

Thank you