

NEWS & NOTES

SUNDAY 7 JANUARY 2024 - BAPTISM OF JESUS

What Holy Communion Means to Me

Traditionally in our church, here at Floreat, we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month.

Recently the format has changed, and instead of being served as we remain seated, we now walk to the front of the church to receive the elements from the four designated Elders. (Those who prefer to remain seated and are served in their seats.)

The same format was used in Wesley Church on the day of Reuben's Ordination. We all walked forward in line, and when I reached the front, the Minister who was serving the bread, was unfamiliar to me...but he glanced at my name-badge, and then looked back to me and said... "Maxine, this is the body of Christ, broken for you."

I had not expected such an intimate and personal invitation. But there it was...and suddenly, in that special moment...I felt as though a 'bubble of grace' surrounded us both... 'the giver...and the receiver'.

Such a spiritual connection surprised me and created an unforgettable, watershed moment for me.

So now, on Communion Sunday, I have a new awareness of how the act of 'going forward' creates an opportunity for us to actively prepare ourselves to be ready for that intimate moment of 'giving and receiving' ...when we invite the Holy Spirit into our lives and we receive the blessing of His abundant and unconditional gift of Grace and Peace.

Maxine Davies

It is always wonderful to hear from our congregation members. Please speak to me in person or by email if you might like to write a reflection on faith, church, or discipleship for the News & Notes. *Rev Reuben*



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 7 JANUARY BAPTISM OF JESUS 9:30 Communion Service Rev Reuben Edmonds	SUNDAY 14 JANUARY EPIPHANY 2 9:30 Family Service Rev Reuben Edmonds
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*Genesis 1:1-5 (6-8) Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 *Mark 1: (1-3) 4-11 * Included in today's service	1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20) Psalm 139 :1-6, 13-18 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51
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HYMNS SUNDAY 7 JANUARY

TiS 179	Praise With Joy The World's Creator
TiS 418	She Sits Like A Bird
SoG 821	All Are Welcome
TiS 690	Beauty For Brokenness
Overhead	For You Deep Stillness

	SUNDAY 7 JANUARY	SUNDAY 14 JANUARY
WELCOMER		
DOOR STEWARD		Beth McKechnie
ELDER	Lee-Anne Burnett	Jill Heaney
BIBLE READER	Helen Bloomfield	Philip Smith
FLOWERS	Margaret Oliver	
MORNING TEA	Beth McKechnie	Margaret Smithson Margaret Oliver
MUSIC	Glenn Coughlan Joseph Lunardi	Christine Ryan, Joseph Lunardi, & Felicity Taylor
MULTIMEDIA	James Millar	Richard Smith
MEDIA CLICKER	Els Mengler	Michael van Drunen

OUR CHURCH LIFE

Prayers

This week we pray for Dongara and Geraldton Lighthouse Uniting Churches
UCA Redress Ltd and the Protestant Christian Church in Bali

Our local prayers will be for Ladies Bookclub and KYB (Know Your Bible)

Your offering today will go to the Community Relief Fund

From time to time members of the community approach the church seeking assistance. The congregation maintains a "Community Relief Fund" which is used to acquire food-only vouchers.

These are distributed at the ministers' discretion to support those in need.

Summer Spirit 2024

**SAVE THE DATE -
9 & 10 February 2024**

**To be held at All Saints Floreat
Uniting Church**

Join us at **Summer Spirit 2024** for a two day event that unites the community of the Uniting Church in Western Australia around the theme: *True to Yourself, True to Your Faith: Navigating Authenticity in a Diverse World.*

For more information see:
[Summer Spirit 2024 – Uniting Church Western Australia \(unitingchurchwa.org.au\)](https://www.unitingchurchwa.org.au)



To contact Rev Reuben Edmonds,
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CHURCH NEWS & INFORMATION

Donation of Together in Song Hymn Books

All Saints Floreat UC recently advertised in the UC News & Notes that we had excess copies of the Together in Song Hymn Book available. We have been able to donate some of them to three UC congregations and the Anglican Parish of West Nedlands who sent the following message.



Dear Reverend Reuben and people of All Saints Floreat,

Thank you so much for the gift of hymn books. They will be much appreciated and used here at St Andrew's West Nedlands.

Wishing you a blessed end to Advent, and a joyous Christmas, Sarah and the people of St Andrew's.

The Reverend Sarah Stapleton

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