NEWS & NOTES

SUNDAY 26 JANUARY 2025 - AFTER EPIPHANY 3

Nehemiah A Story About Leadership Vision and Accomplishments

The book of Nehemiah and Ezra in the Hebrew scriptures are just one



book, in our bibles they are two with much of the book written from his first-person perspective.

Nothing is known about his youth or

background; we meet him as an adult serving in the Persian royal court as the personal cupbearer to King Artaxerxes (Nehemiah 1:11–2:1). This prestigious position reveals something of Nehemiah's upright character. Though he remained in Persia after the exiles had been allowed to go home, he was highly interested in the state of affairs in Judah (his brother Hanani [1:2] had returned there earlier).

The book of Nehemiah opens in the Persian city of Susa in the year 444 BC. Later that year, Nehemiah travelled to Israel, leading the third of three returns by the Jewish people following their seventy years of exile in Babylon. Most of the book centres on events in Jerusalem. The narrative concludes around the year 430 BC, and scholars believe the book was written shortly thereafter.



OUR CHURCH LIFE

To contact Rev Reuben Edmonds, Minister of All Saints Floreat Uniting Church, please email: minister@allsaintsfloreat.com.au or telephone: 0404 935 167.

Sunday 26 January			Sunday 2 February			
After Epiphany 3			After Epiphany 4			
9:30am Family Service			9:30am Communion Service Rev Dr Ian Tozer			
Rev Brian Carey				Kev Dr Ian Tozel		
* Nehemiah 8:1-10 P.485			Jeremiah 1:4-10	P.730		
Psalm 19 P.547 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 P.216			1	Psalm 71:1-6 P.579 Corinthians 13:1-13 P.217		
		P.78			P.79	
* Included in Service						
Hymns Sunday 26 January 2025						
TiS 188	Where Wide Sky Rolls Down					
TiS 672	Lord of Earth and All Creation					
TiS 615	Almighty God, Lift Up Our Eyes					
TiS 687	God Gives Us A Future					
Overhead	I Am Australian					
	Sunday 26 January		Sunday 2 February			
Welcomer	Dorothy Carey		Lee-Anne Burnett			
Door Steward	Margie & Bruce Dangerfield		Beth McKechnie			
Church Council	Anne van Drunen		Marie Yunken			
Bible Reader	Lee-Anne Burnett		Michael van Drunen			
Flowers	-		Marie Yuncken			
Morning Tea/ Supper	Beth & John McKechnie Lee-Anne Burnett		Heather Booth Oli Raynor Jean Read			
Music	Anne van Drunen - Piano Joseph Lunardi - Violin		Glenn Coughlan - Organ Joseph Lunardi - Violin			
Multimedia	Michael van Drunen		Rhondda Tilbrook			
Media Clicker	Christine Ryan		Lillian Hadley			

OUR CHURCH LIFE

Prayers

From The WA Synod: Gingin Uniting Church, St Stephen's School Carramar

and Duncraig

Ecumenical Prayer will be for: Cyprus, Greece, Turkey

Our local prayers will be for: Church Council

All Saints Floreat UC Events This Week					
Church Council Meeting	Tuesday, 28 January	6:00pm - Page Room			
Worship Committee Meeting	Thursday, 30 January	2:00pm - Vestry			
60th Ordination Anniversary for Rev Des Cousins	Sunday, 2 February	9:30am - Sanctuary			

Seeking Accommodation

Rev Dr Geoff Lilburne is asking if anyone in our community knows of possible accommodation for 12 months in our area for his daughter, Creina and granddaughter, Grace. They are here from the UK for 2025 to spend time with Peta, and Creina is hoping that Grace will be able to attend Shenton College.

The rental market is very tight at the moment so if you know of any granny flats or other possibilities please contact Geoff on 0429017317.

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

Nehemiah is the last historical book of the Old Testament. Although the book of Esther appears after Nehemiah in the canon, the events in Esther occurred in the time period between Ezra 6 and 7, between the first and second returns of the people to Israel. The prophet Malachi was a contemporary of Nehemiah.

The Importance of Nehemiah

Nehemiah was a layman, not a priest like Ezra nor a prophet like Malachi. He served the Persian king in a secular position before leading a group of Jews to Jerusalem in order to rebuild the city walls. "Nehemiah's expertise in the king's court equipped him adequately for the political and physical reconstruction necessary for the remnant to survive." 1 Under Nehemiah's leadership, the Jews withstood opposition and came together to accomplish their goal. He partnered with Ezra, who also appears in this book, to solidify the political and spiritual foundations of the people. Nehemiah's humility before God provided an example for the people. He did not claim glory for himself but always gave God the credit for his successes.

Nehemiah recorded the reconstruction of the wall of Jerusalem, Judah's capital city. Together, he and Ezra, who led the spiritual revival of the people, directed the political and religious restoration of the Jews in their homeland after the Babylonian captivity.

Nehemiah's life provides a fine study on leadership. He overcame opposition from outsiders as well as internal turmoil. He exercised his administrative skills in his strategy to use half the people for building while the other half kept watch for the Samaritans who, under Sanballat, threatened attack (Nehemiah 4–7). As governor, Nehemiah negotiated peace among the Jews who were unhappy with Persian taxes. He exhibited a steadfast determination to complete his goals. Accomplishing those goals resulted in a people encouraged, renewed, and excited about their future.

Continued on Page 5

The book of Nehemiah shows us the kind of significant impact one individual can have on a nation. Nehemiah served in secular offices, using his position to bring back to the Jews order, stability, and proper focus on God. On Australia Day we can reflect on the nature of leadership in this country and how we can grow the core values of the Christian faith to enhance our sense of unity and purpose

Rev Brian Carey

Was one of your New Year's Resolutions to move and exercise more?? (but somehow you just haven't got around to it)

Prime Movers will recommence their exercise class on Friday, 7 February 2025 in our Church Hall.



The classes run regularly every Friday from 9:30am to 10:30am. The classes are structured for the active older adult to ensure safe exercising.

For more information, please see the poster on the noticeboard in the foyer or visit their website at: https://www.primemovers-exercise.com.au/



Prayer Chain

If you would like to join All Saints Floreat Prayer Chain or have any prayer requests for the chain, please contact Rev Reuben. Thank you.



SUPPORT UNITING AID! BRING YOUR
WEET-BIX & ROLLED OATS
TO CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

Time to Celebrate

Rev Des Cousins will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of his ordination on Sunday 2nd of February.

All Saints is fortunate to be hosting this celebration as part of our morning worship service. Rev Dr Ian Tozer will be preaching, and Rev Des and Rev Reuben will be co-presiding over communion together. As it is a celebration of ordination, you are invited to wear something red We are expecting many visitors so additional contributions to morning tea would be appreciated, please speak with Beth if you can help.

World Day of Prayer



Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Doubleview invites you to attend the World Day of Prayer Cook Islands on Friday, 7th March 2025 at 10 am at:

Our Lady of the Rosary Church 17 Angelico St Doubleview WA 6018

The service will be followed by morning tea at the Rosary Community Centre.

We look forward to sharing this service with you.

Our Lady of the Rosary Church is keen to get other churches involved in the prayer service, in particular to read a bible reading and story. If you would like to take on this role please contact Doris Zambonetti at doriszambonetti@gmail.com by 31 January 2025. Thank you.

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

EVERY MONDAY 2:00PM

IN THE PAGE ROOM

Each week we read through the four assigned readings for the coming Sunday and discuss their relationship to each other and their relevance to us as a community today.

No preparation needed. Come every week or when you can.



For more information, please speak to Rev Reuben

ALL SAINTS . SING ALONG

Our monthly Sing Along is the perfect blend of fun and harmony.

Come and sing your favourite tunes on the third Thursday of every month.

2:00pm to 4:00pm

20 February

20 March

17 April

15 May

19 June

17 July

21 August

18 September

16 October

20 November

18 December

Create unforgettable memories and build a community through the joy of singing.

No auditions. No need to read music.

Afternoon Tea provided.

Gold Coin Donation.

All Saints Floreat Uniting Church 48-50 Berkeley Crescent, Floreat