

NEWS & NOTES

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER 2025 - ADVENT 3



Mary's Yes by *Lisle Gwynn Garrity* *Inspired by Luke 1:26-39* *Photography with digital drawing*

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, the angel goes to Nazareth to find Mary. I was six months pregnant with my second daughter when I reread this scripture and began this image, so at first, this detail seemed like a happy coincidence. But as I pondered it, I wondered if Elizabeth's pregnancy might have everything to do with Mary's willingness to say yes to this wild, wonderful—but risky and terrifying—undertaking.

Elizabeth's pregnancy provides reassurance that Mary can trust the angel's impossible news. By the sixth month, Mary will be able to see for herself that Elizabeth is truly pregnant. By the sixth month, Mary can place her hands on Elizabeth's belly and giggle as the baby leaps and kicks. By the sixth month, the risk of miscarriage has significantly decreased. By the sixth month, Elizabeth will be emotionally, mentally, and physically preparing for birth. Her miracle is real, even as it is yet to be born. Therefore, Mary can rest her hope in an emerging—not empty—promise.

Mary's willingness to say "yes" is also fortified by the assurance that she is not stepping forward alone. Even as fears surely surround her,

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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 Service 9:30am Sunday, 14 December Advent 3 Rev Reuben Edmonds		Sunday Service 9:30am Sunday, 21 December Advent 4 Rev Reuben Edmonds	
Isaiah 35:1-10 Psalm 146:5-10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11 * Luke 1:26-39 * Jeremiah 1:4-10 * Included in Service	P.679 P.580 P.202 P.5 P.16 P.706	Isaiah 7:10-16 Psalm 80-7, 17-19:5-10 Romans 1:1-7 * Matthew 1:18-25 * Isaiah 41:5-10 * Included in Service	P.675 P.587 P.187 P.4 P.702
HYMNS SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER			
Overhead	The Candle of Hope (Tune TiS 133)		
TiS 629	When I Needed a Neighbour		
TiS 658	Here I Am, Lord		
TiS 650	Brother Sister Let me Serve You		
TiS 778	Shalom		
	SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER	SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER	
Welcomer	Shyrelle Bennett	Oli Raynor	
Door Steward	Zoe Hewitt-Dutton	David Saggars	
Church Council	Lee-Anne Burnett	Anne van Drunen	
Bible Reader	Lee-Anne Bennett	Geoff Hadley	
Flowers	Marie Yuncken	Linda Harris	
Morning Tea	Jean Read Marie Yuncken	Els Mengler Lee-Anne Bennett	
Music	Geoff Hadley - Piano Joseph Lunardi - Violin	Christine Ryan - Piano Joseph Lunardi - Violin	
Multimedia	Deborah Marshall	Rhondda Tilbrook	
Media Clicker	Rhondda Tilbrook	Sue Talbert	

OUR CHURCH LIFE

Prayers

From The WA Synod: Geraldton Lighthouse Uniting Church

UCA Redress Ltd and the Protestant Christian Church in Bali

Ecumenical Prayer will be for: Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam

Our local prayers will be for: Church Hospitality

All Saints Floreat UC Events This Week

Lectionary Bible Study	Monday, 15 December	2:00pm - Page Room
Festival of Carols	Tuesday, 16 December	7:00pm - Sanctuary
KIT (Keeping in Touch) Group	Wednesday, 17 December	1:00pm - Vestry
All Saints Singalong	Thursday, 18 December	2:00pm - Hall
Blue Christmas Service	Sunday, 21 December	5:00pm - Sanctuary

Mary's Yes by Lisle Gwynn Garrity cont..

Mary will go to Elizabeth for protection and comfort. She won't fulfill her calling without support. Her hope will be strengthened in solidarity.

In this image, we see the angel greeting Mary in the form of dappled light. Mary's back is turned to the angel, but we see her in the process of pivoting toward the warmth of the cascading light. I imagine this is the moment after the angel responds to her initial question, "How can this be?" After hearing the angel's response, Mary closes her eyes, imagining her cousin Elizabeth and perhaps her many ancestors holding her up as she prepares to step forward. The wrap around her head carries the angel's good news, anointing her with the promise that fear won't stop her. Embroidered along her neckline is Mary's willing response: "Here I am." Her lantern earring is a sign to each of us, to anyone who is fearful. It's as if Mary herself becomes a lantern, emanating courage in the face of a fearful calling, lighting a way forward.

Ladies Bookclub

The ladies celebrated another successful year of reading and discussions about a range of books at High Tea at Lavender Bistro in the Swan Valley on Saturday 6 December



Kids Hope - Need for More Mentors



Amanda Brown and Rhondra Tilbrook met Esther Longhurst, the chaplain at Floreat Park Primary School, to discuss Kids Hope and the need for more mentors. If you would like to hear more about this important outreach program please speak to Amanda, Richard or Rhondra

A BIG Thank You!!



Thank you to everyone for the enormous effort made in filling the Christmas Bags for Uniting Aid.

The bags have been delivered and we have received the following message from Bonnie Yau, CEO of Uniting Aid:

“Thank you sincerely for your generous donation and for the thoughtful preparation of the Christmas gifts that you and Rhondda so kindly brought in for those in need. The care and attention you have given to each gift reflect a deep compassion, sharing love and bringing hope to many vulnerable individuals and families within our community.

At a time when the rising cost of living has made it difficult for many to afford even a small present, your kindness has made a truly meaningful difference. Your generosity and compassion remind people that they are valued and not forgotten.

We are deeply grateful and blessed for your continued support and the admirable work you do. Thank you once again for your commitment to caring for others. Please continue the wonderful work you are doing.”

May God bless you all with good health, and may you have a very Merry Christmas.”

*Blessings
Bonnie”*

Out of Office

Marika will be taking a break from the office from Monday, 22 December to Friday, 2 January inclusive.



*Join us at
All Saints Floreat UC
this Christmas Season.
All are welcome.*

**FESTIVAL OF CAROLS
TUESDAY, 16 DECEMBER
7:00PM**

**BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE
SUNDAY, 21 DECEMBER
5:00PM**

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
THURSDAY, 25 DECEMBER
9:00AM**

**All Saints Floreat Uniting Church
50 Berkeley Cresnet, Floreat
Tel: (08) 6168 1116**

Donations towards Cost of Choir for Festival of Carols Tuesday, 16 December 2025

For our Carol Service, we have an 8-person choir, and organist and conductor, Angela Currie. Angela is kindly volunteering her time for the service. However we are providing a fee for each of our choristers. We are keen to enable this to be a free event for all who come.

If you are able, donations towards the cost of the choir would be appreciated. Please include 'choir' in the description of an electronic donation or you can donate via the church offering on Sunday in a marked envelope or pay by card. Bank Details for payment by bank transfer are: BSB – 036 063, Account – 122093.

Thank you for your support.

Closure of One of the CLC Bank Accounts



The CLC has two bank accounts which will be rolled into one account number. Therefore one account will be closed and will no longer receive payments.

The continuing account is: BSB: 036 063 Account: 368982

Could you please ensure you are donating to this account.

Many thanks for your continuing support of the CLC.

Marie Yuncken
CLC Secretary.



ALL SAINTS SING ALONG

Thursday, 18 December

2:00pm

Including Christmas Songs
and Carols

Joseph will be joining Anne for the Carols - An extra reason to join us this festive season as we celebrate the end of another year.

Thank you Anne, Christine and Rachel for the music and Maxine, Dot, Lee-Anne and Margaret for help with the afternoon teas at the Sing Along sessions this year.

We really appreciate it.

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