



# NEWS & NOTES

SUNDAY 4 JANUARY 2026 - EPIPHANY



## *King Tingz* *by Nicolette Faison*

Inspired by Matthew 2:1-12, 16-18

Acrylic, paper, markers, synthetic hair on canvas

If there is one thing I can't stand, it is when people disregard the spiritual use of herbs, metals, and the stars.

For years, there has been a nasty practice of shaming indigenous practices, such as the usage of sage,

when high church settings actively use incense in worship. We have come to a tension where anything that does not look like a particular type of Christian practice is perceived as pagan or satanic.

For years, I have been reminding people that Jesus was gifted gold, frankincense, and myrrh by people who followed the stars to find him. That is the heart of my piece, *King Tingz*. I wanted to emphasize the sky and the importance of the stars, a reminder that this was essential to their witness. I wanted to bless each king with a different gift which is found in different places of their attire.

Of the magi, the one bowing is marked with the flower of frankincense on their robe. On their left shoulder is a map of modern Persia, reminding us of their journey back home having to take a new route because they defied the request of Herod.

*Continued on Page 4*

## OUR CHURCH LIFE

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

<b>Communion Service</b> <b>9:30am Sunday, 4 January</b> <b>Epiphany</b> <b>Rev Reuben Edmonds</b>		<b>Sunday Service</b> <b>9:30am Sunday, 11 January</b> <b>Baptism of Jesus</b> <b>Rev Reuben Edmonds</b>	
Isaiah 60:1-6	P.722	Isaiah 42:1-9	P.704
Psalms 72:1-7,10-14	P.579	Psalms 29	P.552
Ephesians 3:1-12	P.241	Acts 10:34-43	P.162
* Matthew 2:1-12 & 16-18	P.4	Matthew 3:13-17	P.5
* Included in Service		* Included in Service	

### HYMNS SUNDAY 4 JANUARY

<b>Overhead</b>	<b>A Star Shone Bright (Tune: TiS 654)</b>
<b>TiS 674</b>	<b>Inspired by Love and Anger</b>
<b>TiS 538</b>	<b>Feed Us Now</b>
<b>TiS 691</b>	<b>Faith Will Not Grow From Words Alone</b>
<b>TiS 778</b>	<b>Shalom</b>

	<b>SUNDAY 4 JANUARY</b>	<b>SUNDAY 11 JANUARY</b>
<b>Welcomer</b>	<b>Lee-Anne Burnett</b>	<b>Debbie Thornton</b>
<b>Door Steward</b>	<b>Beth McKechnie</b>	<b>Jean Read</b>
<b>Church Council</b>	<b>Michael van Drunen</b>	<b>Debbie Thornton</b>
<b>Bible Reader</b>	<b>Sue Talbert</b>	<b>Carmen Savundra</b>
<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Pot Plants</b>	<b>Pot Plants</b>
<b>Morning Tea</b>	<b>Oli Raynor Cathy Smith</b>	<b>Carol Brearley Margaret Oliver</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>Glenn Coughlan - Organ Joseph Lunardi - Violin</b>	<b>Anne van Drunen - Piano Joseph Lunardi - Violin</b>
<b>Multimedia</b>	<b>Deborah Marshall</b>	<b>Michael van Drunen</b>
<b>Media Clicker</b>	<b>Lillian Hadley</b>	<b>Deborah Marshall</b>

## OUR CHURCH LIFE

### *Prayers*

**From The WA Synod:** Maylands-Mt Lawley and Noranda Uniting Churches  
Assembly Circle of Interest: Working for Justice

**Ecumenical Prayer will be for:** Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine

**Our local prayers will be for:** UCA Assembly.

### **All Saints Floreat UC Events This Week**

Lectionary Bible Study

Monday, 5 January 2026

2:00pm - Page Room

### ***Call for Volunteers to Join the Media Roster***

As many of you know, at All Saints Floreat we stream all our services. This is a wonderful way for people to attend our service from afar or while ill. However, this service requires volunteers to run the sound and adjust the camera. It is simpler than you think and the iPad is easy to use. I encourage you to answer this call and speak with our Media coordinator, Rhondda Tilbrook.

You would be welcome to sit alongside one of our volunteers during a service to see how it works.

Thank you.

***Rev Reuben***

### ***Offerings***



Offerings to All Saints Floreat Uniting Church may be made by bank transfer to:

BSB – 036 063, Account Number – 122093.

Thank you.

## *King Tingz by Nicolette Faison*

They are crowned with cornrows and covered with more greenery because of their position to the ground. While we celebrate the stars, I wanted there to be some grounding to the earth. As Jesus is both divine and human, he holds space in both worlds.

The king to the right has soft myrrh flowers on her elbow and collar. Her outer arm is holding an infant, not Jesus, while her sleeve holds the Palestinian flag with the Arabic word Nakba, reminding us of the genocide of 1947. She is weeping for the children that Herod commits to murdering because of their defiance. She holds a child in the palm of her hand with deep lament. Her golden crown is surrounded by a blue bandana, a quiet nod to Chola culture found on the West Coast, as Latino Christians have always emphasized the importance of los reyes.

The one to the left is dripped in a starry durag and plated in gold. He has a subtle gold bottom grill and his face is celebrated in a gold pattern. He looks up to the sky, more concerned about navigation, as he is the guiding force for the three of them. I gave this king a durag after some research on Persian magi showed me variations of headwear or turbans that emulated that of a durag.

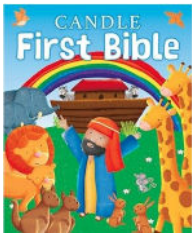
Above all, if there is something I have learned from living in a Hispanic community and attending a Spanish-speaking church, it is that BIPOC communities do not play about los reyes. I wanted aspects of my culture and other American subcultures to be able to see bits and pieces of themselves in this art. But to also see our connection to the stars and the earth alike. I urge this to be a reminder that even if your church does not celebrate herbs, crystals, metals, and the stars, that does not mean they are not Christian practices nor that they are satanic.

*Rev. Nicolette Faison*

## *Call for Donations*

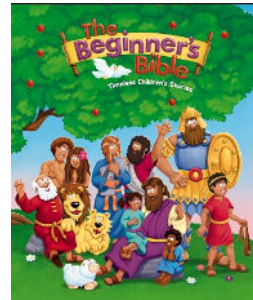
The chaplains at Perth Children's Hospital, where we donate our teddy bears, are asking for donations of children's bibles that they can use and give to children in the hospital.

They would like 5-10 copies of three different Bibles for different age ranges:



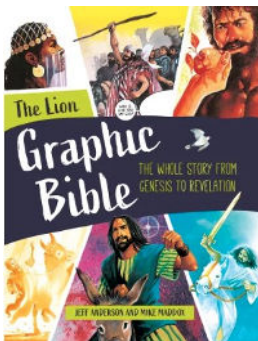
'Candle First Bible' (2023) by Karen Williamson (Author) and Sarah Conner (Illustrator) for ages 2+.

It costs approximately \$25.



'The Beginner's Bible (Timeless Children's Stories)' 2017 for primary school children.

It costs approximately \$30.



'The Lion Graphic Bible: The Whole Story From Genesis to Revelation' 2021 by Geoff Anderson and Mike Maddox for teenagers. It costs approximately \$35.

All donations can be given to Carol Brearley and she will drop them to the hospital for you. Alternatively you can offer Carol a cash donation and she will purchase the Bible on your behalf.

Thank you for considering this request.

*Carol Brearley*

## *A Personal Reflection*

On Wednesday 17th December 2025, I flew from Perth to Sydney to join my daughter, Kirsty, who lives in America, my granddaughter Katharine, grandson Cormac, and two English granddaughters, Eliza and Tamsin, for our Christmas celebrations. Eliza lives in Bondi Beach and Katharine lives in Marrickville; both in Sydney.

In the early evening of Sunday the 14th of December 2025, Eliza, who normally swims twice a day at Bondi, was at home and was disturbed by frantic knocking on her front door. On opening the door, she was greeted with ten panic-stricken people. Standing there were a husband and wife, brother and a small hysterical child, two French tourists and four young people, all of whom had come to join the first evening of a Hanukkah celebration at Bondi Beach.

Eliza settled the family in one room and calmed the group, making pasta to feed them as they waited for three hours until the police indicated it was safe for the visitors to leave. For Katharine, the Bondi attack brought back the trauma of losing a close Jewish friend from Kansas, who was murdered in Washington DC earlier this year. She responded to the situation by going early on Monday morning to give her blood to help the victims.

During the following week Eliza attended a service for the victims and families. Five thousand people, including Eliza, paddled out to sea to honour the victims. On Sunday 21st December, along with thousands of other Sydneysiders, we lit a candle at 6.47pm in memory of the victims. Thereafter, each night during our holiday before dinner, we created a ritual of lighting a special candle. Each family member spoke, praying, and remembering the grieving families, the homeless, the hungry and those who died during the terrorist attack.

## CHURCH NEWS & INFORMATION

In the past year I have been experiencing the personal loss of my husband and encountered love and support through this process. Observing the caring instincts of my granddaughters and the bravery and love shown by Sydney-siders, I am moved by the spontaneous kindness and humanity shown. At this Christmas time, this fills me with hope in the wake of these times of grief and loss.

*Elaine Melville*

### **Your Retiring Offering on Sunday 11 January will go towards the All Saints Floreat Uniting Church 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 \$50 vouchers that can be used to purchase food, fuel and other items (excluding alcohol and tobacco) from Woolworths, Big W, or EG fuel stations.

These vouchers are distributed by the minister, treasurer or our administrator to support those in need. Folk seeking assistance are required to have a Centrelink card and can only request assistance once every 3 months.

Thank you for your generous support. Donations can be made in cash on the day or via our EFTPOS machine after the service.

## ***With Love to The World - Time to Subscribe***



With Love to the World is a quarterly daily devotional guide that provides a reflection on a Bible passage for each day of the year. Bible readings used in WLW are based on the Revised Common Lectionary. Each week, four of the readings come from the lectionary, and the others are chosen to provide context and background.

In this way, daily devotions prepare readers for Sunday worship. The resource is primarily intended for daily personal devotional time. Our commentaries take seriously both biblical scholarship and an engagement with the hopes and hurts of everyday living—to nurture and encourage readers in their faith. Our latest edition on Creation, featured commentaries by our very own Rev Reuben!

We offer grateful thanks to Sylvia Ryan who has been coordinating the ordering and delivery of With Love to the World for so many years, but who now wishes to step back from this role. Many thanks Sylvia! You will be a hard act to follow.

If you would like to subscribe to receive With Love to the World in 2026, please contact Dot Lewis or Rev Reuben. Orders need to be made by January 11, 2026 to meet the publisher's deadline and the cost is \$28 for 4 issues across the year. Payment may be made through the Church's EFTPOS machine, in the office or on Sundays after Church. Subscribers without credit cards can pay Dot and she will make the contribution for you.

*Continued on Page 5*



## CHURCH NEWS & INFORMATION

If paper is not your vibe With Love to the World is also available as an App on your device, from the Google Play Store and Apple App Store. It's \$28 for an annual subscription, the same price as the physical copy.

Dot is thoroughly enjoying her subscription and has no hesitation in recommending it as a daily reading resource.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards

*Dot Lewis and Rev Reuben*

### ***Prodigal Administrator Returns***

Marika will be back from holidays on Monday the 5th of January 2026 ("what a relief!" - Rev Reuben) and the church will be open from 9am to 12pm Monday to Friday once again.

### **Sunday Services at All Saints are Live Streamed**

and may be viewed via YouTube at 9:30am each Sunday.

<https://www.youtube.com/@floreatunitingchurch4997/streams>

### ***Vale Cecily Hicks***

Cecily Hicks, a long-standing member of our church passed away on the 24th of December, aged 101.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to all the Hicks family.



## *Would you like to make a difference with a primary school student?*



**FLOREAT PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
COURTESY - CONSIDERATION - COOPERATION

Floreat Park Primary School is seeking more caring adults to work with students who

could benefit from having another adult as part of their lives?

Would you be able to fill this role by spending one hour per week with a student at the school?

The Kids Hope Program, which is one of the outreach programs of All Saints, is a structured program which provides initial training for Mentors and on an ongoing basis provides resources and suggestions for how to engage with students. During the hour a Mentor meets with their specific child they can do some academic work as well as activities such as playing games, doing puzzles or craft, or exploring the school grounds.

If you would like to know more about how you can help, please speak to Amanda Brown, Richard Smith or Rhondda Tilbrook.

## **Do you have an article, story, recipe or other item that may be of interest to the Church community?**

If so, we would be very Interested in considering it  
for publication in future editions of the News & Notes.

Please submit your item to Marika Leonard,  
Office Administrator at [office@allsaintsfloreat.com.au](mailto:office@allsaintsfloreat.com.au).

Thank you

# 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

**2026**

- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| • 15 January  | • 16 April |
| • 19 February | • 21 May   |
| • 19 March    | • 18 June  |

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



# **SUMMER SPIRIT 2026**

## **Walking Together, Covenanting Together**

### **20 & 21 February 2026**

Lake Gwelup & All Saints Floreat Uniting Church

**Friday Evening - Walking on Country with Len Yarran**

**Saturday - Keynote Speaker Rev Ken Sumner, UAICC  
(plus elective sessions & community sharing)**

Last year we celebrated 30 years of the Covenant between the Uniting Church in Australia and the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC). Summer Spirit 2026 will give us an opportunity to hear the story of Congress, listen to the joys and challenges of First Peoples, and renew our commitment to the Covenanting process.  
Put the dates in your diary now and let us walk and covenant together.



Uniting Church in Australia  
Western Australia



A WELCOMING  
CHRISTIAN  
COMMUNITY

