

# NEWSLETTER

## South Perth Uniting Church



Uniting Church in Australia  
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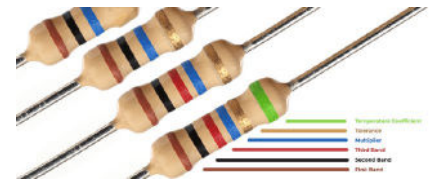
Sandgate and Angelo Street  
Sunday Worship 9:30am

**7 APRIL 2024**

**Bible Readings: Genesis 8:13-9:17; Ezekiel 1:1, 26-28; Revelation 4:1-3**

I don't think I've ever seen a rainbow where someone didn't point up to the sky and say, "Look, a rainbow!" And typically, the brighter and more colourful the rainbow is, the louder people, including myself, wonder over it.

Rainbows contain a continuum of around 1 million colours that are indistinguishable with the human eye. Instead, we can only really see seven colour hues: Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet (ROYGBiV). I had to know these colours in order to identify electronic resistor values in Engineering, though Indigo wasn't used.



You will remember of course that a rainbow is a central element of the Ark and the Flood story in Genesis 6-9, with God pointing out the Rainbow in the sky and saying:

*"This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my **BOW** in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the **BOW** is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the **BOW** is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." (Genesis 9:12-16)*

**Wait, what? Did you read the verses above?  
Was the word "rainbow" even in it? Nope.**

The Hebrew word translated as "rainbow," *qeshet* (קֶשֶׁת), simply means a bow, as in "bow and arrows." The noun *qeshet*, which occurs about 75 times in the Old Testament, refers almost without exception to the arrow-shooting war-bow.



Note the direction of the bow in the sky. It's pointed heavenward, not earthward. It's no longer waving in humanity's face with the threat that it could be reloaded at any point.

With that in mind, over the centuries scholars have suggested that if God has thrown His bow into the sky that way, the only place the arrow could have gone is into His own heart.

I wonder if Noah ever pondered, *'If God has thrown His bow into the sky, where is His arrow? And why does it point heavenward into His heart?'* And, of course, the rest of the Bible story will pick up on that idea - it's only as God takes the judgment of evil and disorder to Himself, into His Son Jesus Christ, that we might enjoy full and final reconciliation with Him.

With grace and peace, Mark

**Mission statement** - We are a people of God whose mission is to love and serve our congregation, our community and the World

**Vision statement** - We will show God's love, follow the teachings of Jesus and extend our faith journey. We will actively care for our community and world, and work to bring others into a relationship with God

❖ **Happy birthday** to those who celebrate their birthdays this week – Sunhee Siddons (10<sup>th</sup>), Max Hansen (11<sup>th</sup>), Gill Amos and David Davidson (13<sup>th</sup>). May you be blessed with love and peace over the coming year.



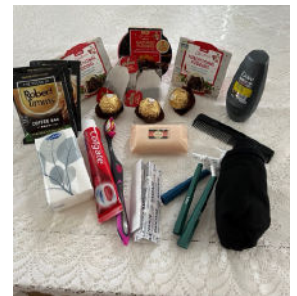
❖ **Wednesday Morning Prayer Meeting** (7.30-8.30am). Come join us in this informal time of devotion and prayer for our community, friends, family, the world and whatever is on your heart. Prayer requests can be sent to [spertthuc@gmail.com](mailto:spertthuc@gmail.com).

❖ **Dear Lord**, today we pray for those who are hurting, comfort and heal them. Today we pray for those weak and facing challenges, strengthen and sustain them. Today we pray for those who mourn and are affected by natural disasters, by wars and conflicts around the world, grant them Your Peace and Courage.



Lord, we thank you for Your Guidance and Provisions during these challenging times. We lift to You every one of those who thirst for You and Your Presence. May each of these precious ones be wrapped in Your Amazing Grace and be filled with Your Amazing Love. **In Jesus' name.** Amen.

❖ **Collections for the homeless:** Winter is coming. Do you have any **spare blankets / warm clothing** such as men's jumpers / jackets/ beanies / socks? Mainly for men although some ladies do come in to the Soup Kitchen. Please put them in the box provided in the church's foyer.

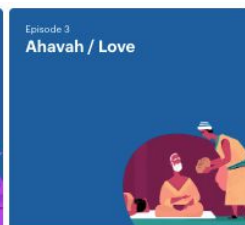
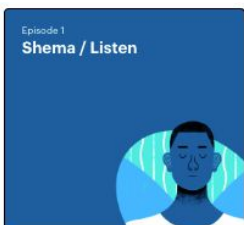


**Toiletries Care Packs** for the homeless: soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razor blades, small packs of tissues, etc. (*Photo is only a guide*)

*Chris Kortas will collect them and pass them to the homeless via Soup Kitchen.*

❖ **Term 2 Bible Studies:** Tuesdays 7pm (**from 16th April**) and Thursdays 1pm (**from 18th April**). We will be studying the famous Jewish prayer called the "Shema". We will meditate on each of its ancient words and learn more about what it means to love and serve God.

*"Hear O Israel, the LORD is our God, the Lord is one, and as for you, you shall love the LORD your God with all of your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength." Deuteronomy 6:4-5*



❖ A little **update from Ronnie Naughton** from the UK: Geoff and I send Easter greetings to all SPUC and wish you all well. This morning we attended a service in a 500-year old village church and took part in an egg rolling competition which is the tradition here in the village of Trusham in Devon. Our raw eggs cracked on the way down the hill and only the soft boiled ones reached the bottom. Blessings to all, Ronnie and Geoff





Carolyn Dowley is working on researching and telling the story of **Sadie Canning, WA's very first Aboriginal nurse and Matron** for thirty-two years in the remote WA town of Leonora. The biography of Sadie Canning will tell a joyous, nationally significant story of a strong, compassionate woman and her work for the healing of the nation.



Carolyn's project now qualifies for a Government dollar-for-dollar matching grant.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to this work please use the QR code or go to: <https://artists.australianculturalfund.org.au/s/project/a2EMn0000046r5IMAA/sadie-canning-biography-project>

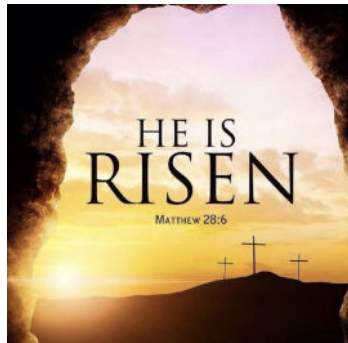
*You're invited to the **Alpha Marriage Course***

**Whether you've been married six months or 40+ years, whether you're in a good place or struggling. There are seven (7) sessions each starting Term 3 **Wednesday starting 24th July 7pm to 9:30pm** (dessert included!)**

There is NO group work, rather each couple will have their own table to discuss ideas and questions raised by a short video (10-20 minutes) and guided by the course facilitators (Mark and Deb). For more information or to register your interest contact Mark or Deb or [spertduc@gmail.com](mailto:spertduc@gmail.com)



❖ If you missed our Easter Morning Services, here are some photos *(courtesy of Swee)*

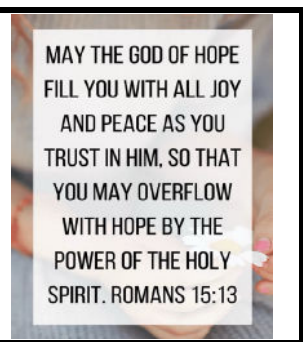


June Wade made a delicious Easter Simnel Cake for Morning Tea. If you'd like a copy of the recipe please ask her or Mark for the old family recipe converted to metric!



❖ Looking for friends? Or looking for someone to chat? Or having a free morning? Come join us this **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April** (10 am) in the Prayer Room for our **Fellowship Morning Tea**.

Position	Sunday 7 April	Sunday 14 April
Speaker	Mark Illingworth	Rev Trevor Waters
Welcomer	Linda Lim-Lee	Linda Lim-Lee
Bible Reading	Sarah Shipman	Grae Garl
Flowers	Nancy Long	Carolyn Dickie
Pre-Sunday Tea Set up	Meredith Jackson	Fiona Paice
Sunday Tea Serving	Petro & Edward	Fiona & Peter
Sunday Club	School Holidays	School Holidays



### Weekly Diary

Worship Service	Sun 9:30am (Church)	Mark Illingworth
Bible Study	Tues 7-8:30pm (Room 1)	16 <sup>th</sup> April
	Thur 1-2:30pm (Board Rm)	18 <sup>th</sup> April
Prayer Meeting	Wed 7:30am (Room 1)	Judy Siddins
Music Practice	Usually 4:30pm Saturday	Ron Craig
English Conversation Class	Monday 10 am (Hall)	15 <sup>th</sup> April

### Monthly Diary

Church Council 7pm	Usually 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed of the Month	1 <sup>st</sup> May 2024
brite* 6 – 7.30pm (yrs K to 4 and yrs 5 to 9)	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays of Month (Hall)	In Recess
Fellowship Morning Tea	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday of Month	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
Friday Worship 7:00pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday in April	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
Craft & Boardgames Workshops 1-4pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of Month	27 <sup>th</sup> April 2024

If South Perth  
Uniting Church is  
your church  
family you  
are invited to  
give regularly via  
Direct Debit:

BSB 036 050

Account Number  
862121

Direct Debit giving  
cards available

**Love the Lord your  
God with all your  
heart and with  
all your soul  
and with all your  
strength.**

DEUTERONOMY 6:5



#### Minister

Rev Mark Illingworth  
(0408 118 898)

#### Church Council

Carolyn Dickie  
(0478 485 654)

#### Children Ministry

Carol Dombrose (0419 849 387)

#### English Conversation Class

Swee Lee (0417 911 270)

#### Venue Hire

Vida Corbett (0448 334 855)

#### Online

[sperthuc@gmail.com](mailto:sperthuc@gmail.com)  
<https://southperth.ucwa.au/>  
[www.facebook.com/sperthuc](https://www.facebook.com/sperthuc)

#### Zoom Meeting

ID 274 894 206 Code: 061510  
<https://bit.ly/4aLiXyl>

