



The Uniting Church in the Eastern Wheatbelt

SUNDAY 24th May 2026

SECRETARY

Bob French

PASTORAL CARE &
SUPPORT

Joel Hammen



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Grace and peace to you all.

Today is Pentecost when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit in great power to the early church. Last Sunday we focused on the ascension of the resurrected Jesus into heaven and the bewilderment of the disciples facing the prospect of continuing to spread the gospel message on their own. Today we are reminded of the great transformation the coming of the Holy Spirit wrought on their outlook and boldness in that cause, and the power that is available to us as Christians.

The Holy Spirit had been active in the world since the beginning but was only recognised by a few people. To the vast majority God was remote, frightening and only approachable through the priest as intermediary. When Moses led Israel through the wilderness he only approached God alone. But God's Spirit did fall on others, and today's reading from Numbers 11 tells how he fell on two men who began to prophesy in the camp in the midst

of the people. This was shocking to Joshua who asked Moses to stop them, but Moses responded that he wished the Holy Spirit would fall on all people. Well, Pentecost is the time when the Holy Spirit fell upon the disciples, and began to fall upon people of all nations. We often focus on the proclamation of the gospel in diverse tongues at Pentecost as a gift to the speakers, but it also indicates the universality of the gospel message and that the Holy Spirit is available to all irrespective of race, nation, culture and station in society.

The Holy Spirit remains active in the world today, and he remains active in the Eastern Wheatbelt. Paul makes clear in Corinthians 12 there are many gifts and not all are as spectacular as tongues and prophecy. But whatever gift or service you render the church, however humble, comes from the same Holy Spirit, and is something to be thankful for..

Until then, stay blessed

Bob French

SERVING IN MERREDIN

	Today	Next Sunday
Preacher	Mark Beadle	Zak Cronjé
Worship Leader	Sal Marais	Debbie Tengvall
Elder	Kevin Tengvall	Joel Hammen
Musician	Tom Higgins	Sal Marais
Greeters	Norm and Val Hooper	Louise French and Betty Iburg
Readers	Val Hooper Hayley Higgins	Louise French Jill Tennent
Offering & Counting	Kobus Marais Norm Hooper	Steve Higgins Luke Higgins
Sound/Video	Matt McCubbin	Sarah Higgins
Projection/Lap Top	Debbie Tengvall	Bob French
Cleaner		Tania Higgins
<p><i>Note: if you are unable to fulfil your rostered duty please organise a substitute and inform the Worship Leader and the Newsletter Editor</i></p>		

News and Coming Events

Passing of Alan Pederick

Alan Pederick, who was minister in the Eastern Wheatbelt from 1991 to 1996, died last week on Friday 15 May. Alan was ordained by the Methodist 1965 and served all of his career in country parishes, including Kellerberrin, Esperance, Wongan/ Goomalling, Northam, Bunbury, Albany and, of course, Merredin. He also served the wider church as Chair of the Presbytery of Swan, and on several Presbytery committees. His funeral will be held on Thursday 28 May, 10.30am at Bunbury St Augustine Uniting Church Worship and Community Centre, 119 Mangles St, South Bunbury, followed by

lunch and then a private cremation. It will also be livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/@bunburyunitingchurch8301/streams>

Coming Meetings

The next Merredin Congregational Meeting will be held after the worship service on 31 May, and the next Eastern Wheatbelt Church Council meeting will be held at 9 am on Saturday 6 June in Merredin. Please send agenda items to Bob French.

Remember that you can view recordings of previous Merredin worship services on the [Merredin Church YouTube channel here.](#)

prayers

Our Church Family

This week we are praying for ...

- * Jill Tennent.

Intercession

Pray for ...

- * Enid Crook in hospital.
- * Steve Higgins's dad looking at moving into care.
- * Neville and Cathy Jolly.
- * People suffering as a result of recent floods in South Africa.
- * The Food Ministry run by the UCA in Merredin and other similar ministries run by other Merredin churches.
- * School chaplains, especially in Merredin College and schools in Mukinbudin, Southern Cross and Moorine Rock, as they try to shine the light of Christ into those school communities.
- * The Moderator of UCA WA David Jackson as he leads the people of the church into the future.
- * The Prime Minister and members of the Australian Parliament, the WA Premier and members of State Parliament, and the Police Force.

From the Synod Prayer Calendar ...

- * Presbytery Standing Committee and Presbytery Property Committee.

Do you have a special need for prayer? Remember the Elders are always available for one on one prayer following services at Merredin, and are only a phone call or email away at other times.

ELDERS CONTACT DETAILS

Bob French	0428 125 613	Tania Higgins	9041 5080
Louise French	0438 337 490	(mobile)	0457 106 596
Gordon Jones	9047 1073	Tom Higgins	0427 510 160
(mobile)	0417 848 793	Sal Marais	0427 788 809
Steve Higgins	9041 5080	Debbie Tengvall	0459 579 417
(mobile)	0473 231 928	Kevin Tengvall	0459 835 521

THIS WEEK

PENTECOST SUNDAY 24th May

Merredin Sunday School Hall 9.30 am Pre-service prayer gathering

Merredin Church 10.00 am Morning Worship Kevin Tengvall (Communion)

MONDAY 25th May

Merredin Church 5.30 pm Ladies' KYB Bible Study. See Debbie Tengvall for more details.

TUESDAY 26th May

Merredin Church 7.00 pm Men's Bible study "Unveiled. A Christian Study of Islam". See Luke Higgins for more details

WEDNESDAY 27th May

Palace Chinese Restaurant 6.30 pm Who Let the Blokes Out? Join other men for a meal and fellowship. See Kevin Tengvall for more details.

THURSDAY 28th May

St Marys Catholic Church 7.00 pm Merredin United in Prayer

FRIDAY 29th May

Merredin Church 9.30 am Ladies' Bible Study. See Tania Higgins for more details.

SATURDAY 30th May

Merredin Church 2.00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous group meets.

TRINITY SUNDAY 31st May

Merredin Sunday School Hall 9.30 am Pre-service prayer gathering

Merredin Church 10.00 am Morning Worship Zak Cronjé

Moorditj Mia 2.00 pm Monthly Berringa and Moorditj Mia service

You can make an on-line contribution to the church's finances using direct debit. Why not set up a regular contribution? The account details are: BSB: 036-105 Account number: 920019 Account name: Uniting Church in Australia Eastern Wheatbelt Parish

Numbers 11 : 29

"But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put his spirit upon them!"

Items for Newsletter:

If there is anything you would like included in the next newsletter, including prayer requests, please let Bob French know on 0428 125 613, or robert.french1@bigpond.com