



The Uniting Church in the Eastern Wheatbelt

SUNDAY 7th June 2026

SECRETARY

Bob French

PASTORAL CARE &
SUPPORT

Joel Hammen



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Grace and peace to you all.

One of the most misunderstood concepts in Christianity is grace. Two thousand years after Christ it is still commonly believed that the way to be right with God is by behaving the right way. It is as if he is keeping a divine scorecard on which he puts a black mark every time we do something wrong and, if we are lucky, removes it when we do something right. But life is not a game with the object of maximising or minimising the final score. The outcome is completely independent of how many good or bad things we have done along the way. It depends on whether we accept the promise God has given to justify us and make us whole. It is only after this acceptance that God enables us to live in a way that is acceptable to him

Paul, in his letter to the Romans, refers to the case of Abraham to explain this. Abraham willingly left his home in Ur when called by God to travel into completely unknown

country. He had no idea where he was going, no idea what he would find there, and no idea why God wanted him to go. All he knew was that God had called him and that God had promised to bless him and his descendants. He had faith. Abraham was not perfect. More than once he doubted God's ability to protect him and did some pretty reprehensible things. But God did not abandon him. He drew Abraham back into line, yes, but continued to bless him once his faith was restored. Abraham was not justified by God because he was a righteous man but because he had faith, and because of that faith he became a righteous man.

This is the concept of grace. God's grace is that he justifies us when we accept his promise, irrespective of whether we deserve it or not. If we have faith in God's promises like Abraham he will make us into righteous men and women.

Until then, stay blessed

Bob French

SERVING IN MERREDIN

| | Today | Next Sunday |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Preacher | David de Kock (video) | Steve Higgins |
| Worship Leader | Bob French | Tom Higgins |
| Elder | Louise French | Sal Marais |
| Musician | Sal Marais | Bob French |
| Greeters | Cathy and Neville Jolly | Sal and Kobus Marais |
| Readers | Cathy Jolly | Sal Marais |
| | Louise French | Kobus Marais |
| Offering & Counting | Kobus Marais | Norm Hooper |
| | | Luke Higgins |
| Sound/Video | Kevin Tengvall | Hayley Higgins |
| Projection/Lap Top | Debbie Tengvall | Matt McCubbin |
| Cleaner | | Rosey Paterson |
| <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

Merredin Congregational Meeting Today

The congregational meeting planned for last Sunday had to be cancelled due to a lack of a quorum. The meeting will be held after the service today instead, following morning tea.

Church Council Meeting Yesterday

The Eastern Wheatbelt Church Council met in Merredin yesterday and discussed, among other things, a proposal to change the relationship between congregation leadership and that of Church Council. The proposal would have Steve Higgins step down as congregation chair at the August

meeting and a replacement chair elected. The rationale for this will be outlined at today's meeting.

Regional Gathering To Support Congregations

Synod and Presbytery plan to invite other Wheatbelt congregations to Merredin on Saturday 8 August to learn how they can better support the volunteers on whom the church depends. More details will be announced as they become available.

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 ...

- * Betty Iburg.

Intercession

Pray for ...

- * Enid Crook in hospital.
- * Neville and Cathy Jolly.
- * Betty Iburg.
- * 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 ...

- * All Saints Floreat and St Aidan's Claremont Uniting Churches and the President of the Uniting Church in Australia and National Assembly Staff.

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

SUNDAY 7th June

Merredin Sunday School Hall 9.30 am Pre-service prayer gathering
Merredin Church 10.00 am Morning Worship David de Kock "The Call to Faith"

MONDAY 8th June

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

TUESDAY 9th June

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

WEDNESDAY 10th June

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 11th June

FRIDAY 12th June

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

SATURDAY 13th June

Merredin Church 2.00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous group meets.

SUNDAY 14th June

Merredin Sunday School Hall 9.30 am Pre-service prayer gathering
Merredin Church 10.00 am Morning Worship Steve Higgins

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

Genesis 12 : 2, 3

"I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those that bless you, and the one that curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

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