## **ROSTERS**

### **MONARTO:**

20th Nov Warden: Klaus & Jan Reader: R Hein Cuppa: J&T Paech

27th Nov Warden: M Paech Reader: T Hilton

### **HOLY CROSS**

### CHIRST CHURCH

	20th Nov 10.30am LR	27th Nov 9am HC		9am Church	10:30am JDH	10:30am JDH
Greeters	K Pfeiffer	В&К		20-Nov	20-Nov	27-Nov
Greeters	L Rosenzweig	Stoddart	Pastoral	J Traeger	G Schubert	J Pohl
LS Server	N/A	R Paech	Assist			
Lector:	K Coventry	J Sacco	Wardens	J&G Pohl	K Franklin B Mann	P&V Jaensch
			Greeters	D Schmerl	S Kuchel	I Schulte
PA / MM	A Gates	B Kuchel	Crectors	J Bahr	A Korzeba	C Coulter
VC:	N/A	J Kuchel	Tea / Coffee	S Jericho Carlene Schultz		J Traeger Y Stiller
	J Sacco	R & D	PA	Wes	Nathanael	Roger
Ushers	K Lienert	Paech	Data Projector	C Mattner	E Mann	B Mann
Bell	B Kuchel	R Paech	Reader	B Lablack	S Kuchel	L Zadow
Altar Guild	N/A	J Sacco	Organist	Glynniss		
Musi-		E Paech	Video	Ron	Ron	
cians	J Fabich	H Carroll	Flowers	G Taylor		V Jaensch
Flowers	P Altmann	J Kuchel	Counter	G Traeger	D Schiller	V Jaensch
Morning Tea	9.45am F & J Henschke R Packer	M Steinert D Pfeiffer	Grounds Roster	J&G Pohl	J&G Pohl	J&G Pohl
Ministry Team	E & P Welke	D Schirmer	Water & Care	T Koch		H Schulte







Christ Church 31 Swanport Rd Murray Bridge 8532 6553 Holy Cross 31 Florence St Murray Bridge 8532 4577

**Zion Monarto** 427 Schenscher Rd Monarto *contact Christ Church* 

### Sunday 20th November

Monarto - LR (morning tea following)
Christ Church—(Church) (Coffee from 10am)
Christ Church—(Hall)
Holy Cross—LR (morning tea from 9.45am)

### Sunday 27th November

9am	Holy Cross - HC (morning tea from 9.45am)
10.30am	Christ Church (Hall) - LR (Coffee from 10am)
10.30am	Monarto - HC

Pastor Paul is on holidays up to and including 20th November.

Please contact Past David or David Schirmer 0459 943 682 in this time.

### Annette (Holy Cross office) on leave 23rd - 24th November.

Pastor David Kuss contact details: Mobile: 0474 229 959, email <u>david.kuss@lca.org.au</u>

Pastor Paul Calnan contact details: Mobile 0417 466 611, email <u>paul.calnan@lca.org.au</u>

Christ Church Office hours: Mon-Fri 9-12noon 5 Marchand St, Murray Bridge Ph 8532 6553 email: christchurch.murraybridge.sa@lca.org.au Website: <u>www.cclutheranmb.org.au</u>

Holy Cross office hours: Tues, Wed, 9.30-1.30pm; Thurs, Fri 9-2pm Closed Monday. 31 Florence St, Murray Bridge. Ph 8532 4577. Email: hcoffice@internode.on.net

Find us on Facebook

# PRAYER:

Compassionate God, source of all comfort, we pray all who have affected by rain and flood and other disasters in our nation and throughout the world, bring them comfort. Protect the vulnerable, strengthen the weak, keep at bay the spread of disease. Be with all who work to rescue the stranded and to feed the hungry. May our response to their suffering be generous and bring you praise.

### Please Pray for the following people and their carers:

Martha Aartsen, Stella Altmann, Ian & Fay Baxter, Judy Brereton, Tony & Rosy Budarick, Olga Burgemeister, Lores Frahn, John Fournier, Pastor Andy Gierus, Maxine Gogler, Trevor & Kyle Hage, Bert & Nita Hyam, Flo Kerkham, Glen Koop, Irene Kuchel, Bryan Lees, Joy Leighton, Audrey Leske, Erin, Travis, Cooper, Brady & Taylor Lienert, Joy Lienert, Lynette & Terry Little, Andy & Colleen Nicholls, Brenda O'Reilly, Jim Poole, Jan Richards, Erwin Rohrlach, Neil Schubert, Vena Shinnick, Barbara Taylor, Sandra Thiele, Clarita Venn, Christine Vigar, June Walker, Jeannette Zanker. **Resthaven:** Pam Altmann, Norm Bensch, Pat Jenke, Joan Kluge,

Leila Koehler, Murray Piltz, Reg Schwartz.

**Lerwin:** Glad Haeusler, Stewart Jaensch, Margaret Jenke, Alice Kowald, Eric Kuss, Betty Paech, Stan and Lorna Peltz.

Murray Bridge Hospital: Lila Grocke, Helen Hueppauff, Royal Adelaide Hospital: Yvonne Lablack Craigmore Resthaven: Ivy Roennfeldt Golden Grove Helping Hand: Joyleen Rosenzweig Meningie Hospital Aged Care: Kurt Unger, Felicity Woods St Paul's Aged Care, Hahndorf: Margaret Pfeiffer Tailem Bend Hospital: Bevan Schulz

<u>REG:</u> Christ Church	Holy Cross	Music Ministry
BSB 704942	BSB 704942	BSB 704942
ACC# 100311504	ACC# 51176	ACC# 100828957

## **MVLC Baptismal Birthday Celebrations**

21st	Hannah Waltrovitz
23rd	Rob Frahn
	Sam Walding
25th	Sydney Wohlfeil
26th	Liam Joppich
	Kirsty Pilmore
	James Stiller

27th Trinity Dunning Simon Franke Joan Kluge Valma Kuchel Joy Lienert

If you would like to be included in our Prayers above or have your Birthday, Anniversary or any other special occasion announced in the fortnightly Newsletter, please email or call your church office.

### **Diary Dates:**

Diary Dates:	
20th Nov	MVLC Presentation at Christ Church 1.30pm Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo @Cameo and afternoon tea @Christ Church
22nd Nov	4pm Combined Ministry/Pastoral Assistants - Concordia Hall
24th Nov	1:30pm Communion Service at Holy Cross 7pm CC Leadership meet
27th Nov	<ul> <li>HC Nominations and Special Congregation meeting - pooled lunch</li> <li>5pm Youth Christmas Party @ Sandra Gate's house</li> <li>Advent Tea @ Christ Church more info to come</li> </ul>
29th Nov	12noon HC Office closed local LCC/Office Christmas Lunch
1st Dec	10:30am Lerwin Ecumenical Service (by CC)
	11:15am Concordia Christmas Story and Bible presentations led by <b>Time Out at 10</b> on both days @ Concordia Hall
4th Dec	6:30pm MB Christmas Carols, food from 5pm, LeMessuier Oval (Ramblers)
Weekly:	
Mon: 9:30am 10am	Cards and Coffee, Ed Centre, Christ Church Bible Study, Holy Cross
Tues: 10am	Bible Study, Ed Centre, Christ Church
Wed: 9:30am	Crafty Capers, Holy Cross
4pm	MVLC Prayer Time, Christ Church (in the church)
Fri: 10am	Time Out at 10 ~ November at JD Hall
Sat	1.30pm Cards at Concordia Hall (cancelled on 19th)
	- come along and join in the fellowship of these groups Cut off time for notices for the bulletin is midday on Thursdays

# 20th November Readings & Songs

Psalm 46 (HC); Jeremiah 23:1-6; Colossians 1:11-20 (CC, Mon), Romans 5:1-5 (HC); Luke 19:11-27 (CC, Mon); Luke 23: 23-43(HC)

to either office. (Newsletter is Wednesday 10am)

**Songs**: <u>CC & Mon</u>: A mighty fortress. <u>CC 9am & Mon</u>: In the Cross of Christ I glory; <u>CC 9am</u>: Lord Jesus we give thanks for thee; Stand up stand up for Jesus; Today thy mercy calls us; On now what has been sown. <u>CC 10:30am</u>: The What a beautiful name; Make me a channel; Jesus God's righteousness; Crown him with many crowns. <u>Mon</u>: Christ is the World's light; O bring to the Lord your tribute of praise; On now what has been sown.

<u>HC</u>: Make me a channel of Your peace; My peace I give to you; Prayer of peace; There'll be peace; Peace be with you; Lead us heavenly Father, lead us.

## "LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



## A NEW DAWNING

There he is again! A descendant of the first blackbird brought to Melbourne in 1857 by a visiting bird dealer is singing his little heart out. From experience, it is pointless even to consider going back to sleep. Every morning, just as the first light of dawn pushes its way around the sides of the window blind, he starts up.

As I lay there still half asleep, I start to consider....

While the sun has not risen, from the enthusiastic trilling of my feathered "friend", one would have to conclude that he is confident that the sun will rise and bring a new day. A new day full of untapped potential.

Then came the thought, "How was "I" looking toward this new day? Would I recognise and enjoy the uniqueness and beauty of the world around me? Created and developed to meet all my needs? Would I take time to enjoy and wonder at the rosebud coming into full flower? Would I let a neighbour's friendly "Good-aye" lift my spirits? What would be my response to the sunbeam angling through the window and splintering into a rainbow across the wall?

How often do we not recognise a day's promising, exciting, uplifting happenings because we don't even consider that a God of love has placed these things into our day for our enjoyment? Put into our day regardless of our attitude toward him. Through His words in the Bible, we learn, "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, (God) who does not change like shifting shadows." (James 1:17)

Do we let "events of yesterday" colour our "expectations for today"? Do we let our fears for the day ahead cause worry before our feet even hit the bedroom floor? There is no need to because God promises, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10)

Have you ever noticed that birds generally only sing when they are still? Maybe they listened to God when he said, "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10). Today, we might say, "Stop flapping about and trust God and his love".

An interesting aside, Cat Stevens reworked a 1931 children's hymn by Eleanor Farjeon and had a hit song (Morning has broken) with lyrics referencing "Genesis", the first book in the Bible, where God created Earth on the "first morning". https://youtu.be/qeXoQFXNkoA

You may never know what great things God has planned for your day unless you talk to him about it.

God bless and enjoy your new day – and all the days to come, Kevin.



SHARE

Share your highs and lows of the

day, or respond

to the following

avestions:

Imagine that a

king is coming

to your house today. How will

vou prepare for

his visit?

2

How is Jesus

like an earthly

king? How is he

different?

3

What does it

mean to have

Jesus as your

King?

Caring Conversations

### 20th November 2022

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – PROPER 29

King of Kings

SUNDAYS After Pentecost GREEN is a sign of life and nature and as such represents growth, life and hope.

verse for the week

For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins. COLOSSIANS 1:13-14



As this church year ends, plan to say thank you to those in the church who have served you in God's name – pastors, lay ministry staff, church leaders, musicians, program leaders etc.

GrowMinistries

### mealtime prayer

Lord of lords and King of kings, to you our thanks and praise we bring, for health and food and all you give, for every moment that we live. Amen.

Devotions

READ Daily Bible Readings

S	Luke 23:33-43	Christ the crucified king
М	Matthew 2:1-6	The one born king
Т	Luke 19:28-38	Blessed is the king
W	Colossians 1:11-20	Christ Is supreme
Т	Revelation 19:11-16	King of kings, Lord of lords
F	1 Timothy 6:11-16	Fight the good fight
S	Psalm 24	The king of glory comes
S	Matthew 24:36-44	The sudden coming of salvation

Talk about the Bible verse. What Word or phrase was important to you as you read these verses?

BLESS

May God make you

patient and strong,

so that you never

give up.

# Rituals and Traditions

PRAY

Lord Jesus, King of kings, come and rule over us. Amen.

# Creative Response

This is the last week of the church year. Next Sunday we enter Advent.

Take some time to share household memories of your involvement in the church this past year.

- What were some highlights?
- What did you learn this last year?
- In what ways did you grow?
- Whom did you get to know better?
- Whom were you blessed by or through?

Share your hopes for your involvement in the church in this coming year.

Say a prayer of thanks for your church and for God's work in and through it over the last 12 months.

# Murray Valley Lutheran Community

# **CommUnity Chatter**

# Sunday 20th November 2022

**Christ Church Lutheran** 31 Swanport Rd Murray Bridge Holy Cross Lutheran 31 Florence St Murray Bridge

**Zion Monarto** 427 Schenscher Road Monarto

### We want everyone in the Murray Bridge regional communities to know the love of Jesus and be in a saving relationship with Him.

WELCOME... TO OUR 14TH NEWSLETTER.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND LEAVE YOU STRENGTHENED FOR THE CHALLENGES AND JOYS OF THE COMING WEEK!

**BULLETINS / NEWSLETTERS** \*\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*\* The bulletin with service / contacts / prayers and diary dates will come out weekly and the Newsletter every 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Thank you to everyone who has been contributing photos and articles for the newsletter, keep them coming in. Please remember to submit notices /articles/photos for the newsletter to either office in advance to ensure it is included for the date you require by 12pm the Wednesday preceding.

**ROSTERS:** Holy Cross: Nov/Dec roster is now available—please let the office now if you are unavailable Jan-March 2023 as next roster is being worked on . Christ Church: New roster until end of Feb is now available .

### **MUSIC MINISTRY:** Your opportunity to **Engage in the Mission** is now easier.

As you continue your prayerful support, you are invited to be part of what we are we're are doing at Music Ministry with your financial support.

You're generosity, enables countless people in the wider community to experience God's blessings. The LLL account for Music Ministry is: BSB 704-942 Account #100828957

### TIME OUT AT 10 on FRIDAYS

Drop the tools, forget the housework and come in for a coffee/tea and chat (bring plate of morning tea to share.) Come and join us for a chinwag and morning tea. November at JD Hall, December Concordia Hall

<u>CHAPLAINS IN HOSPITALS</u> Did you know that if you are in hospital and would like a visit from a Pastor or Chaplain you need to let the hospital staff know. Pastors and Chaplains are unable to visit unless you have expressed your wishes that you would like to see one.

**<u>CONFIRMATION</u>**: If there is anyone interested in commencing pre communion/Step Up confirmation classes please contact Pastor David, Pastor Paul or the office staff.

<u>Thursday Communion Services</u> ~ Thursday Communion services will no longer be held at Christ Church. Please note the next Thursday Communion service will be at Concordia Hall, Holy Cross on 24th November @ 1.30pm

Please remember to turn off all lights and heaters, if you are the last one leaving any of the buildings

**YOUTH MEET** every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month 6-8.30pm at JD Hall as well as the 4th Sunday of the month.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES**: Christ Church and Holy Cross offering envelopes are now available. Please pick up from the offices.

**LUTHERAN ARCHIVES** is holding a Christmas Book Fair on **Saturday 3 December, 9:30am-1:00pm**, at **Lutheran Archives, 27 Fourth St, Bowden**. Material available for purchase or by donation includes family histories, church histories (congregations, schools, missions), historical Bibles, hymn books, devotional books, Lutheran publications and periodicals, South Australian histories, duplicate photographs, second-hand sheet music, and more.

### YOUTUBE LINKS TO VIEW OUR SERVICES ONLINE:

Holy Cross Murray Bridge https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1o3Cy-fGMCsEoTtn9kwkgQ Christ Church Murray Bridge https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGGccwtvzlvNOA302m1TjGw Music Ministry Online https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDoA2JRIV7vHNT0oceDkibg Christ Church Web Page: http://www.cclutheranmb.org.au/

Music Ministry email: musicministrymb@gmail.com

Other Livestreamed Services etc – Go to LCA Church@Home: https://www.lca.org.au/worship/wpp/ churchhome/click on View@Home to see services online, Pray@Home for prayer resources and Faith@Home for other options.

Sermons4Kids- Stories of the Bible: https://sermons4kids.com/

## LLL Interest Rate Update

Product/s	Current	Change	New
LLL Savings Accounts	1.20% p.a.	-	1.20% p.a.
LLL Term Deposit – 6 months	1.85% p.a.	+0.10%	1.95% p.a.
LLL Term Deposit – 12 months	-	-	2.95% p.a.

**SECURITY:** from 27<sup>th</sup> November Holy Cross church access will only be via the Vestry Door as the front and side doors will be double bolted.

### HOLY CROSS NOMINATIONS MEETING and SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday 27th November in Concordia Hall following the 9am service. Our current constitution states we muse have a Nominations meeting in November. This should be a guick, straight forward meeting due to the possibility of Murray Valley Lutheran Community (MVLC) being officially formed in 2023.

Pooled Lunch-bring a plate of savoury and sweet to share.

Holy Cross Church Council advises there will be a **Special Congregational meeting** following the Nominations meeting on 27th November to seek permission from Holy Cross members to used existing Church funds to build/construct the servery in Concordia Hall as we were unable to source any grants.

The Holy Cross Church Council is looking into what repairs or upgrades that need to be done on our 4 buildings to bring them up to a suitable building standard. We are looking into improvements to the Office complex to make it more viable, useable and safe for the current tenants that rent rooms and for the office staff and Pastors. Quotes are being collected and details will be made available in the very near future.

**TEEN CHALLENGE:** Are planning their Christmas Hamper program as well as their regular on going emergency food. They are seeking help in providing Christmas treats to those families and individuals who are struggling and unable to afford them, everyone deserves to eat a Christmas meal!

### Below is a list you may find helpful:

Christmas Puddings Custard & Jellies Cans of Fruit Salad Christmas Cakes-any size Cans of Ham or Turkey

Soft Drinks or juices

Cans of Beetroot Cans of Peas & corn Short Bread biscuits Christmas Lollies Fresh carrots and potatoes can be helpful

### Christmas Day Lunch 25-11-2022 – 12.00 p.m. at the Uniting Church Narooma Boulevard, Murray Bridge



There will be a free luncheon provided on Christmas Day for people that will be on their own and want some fellowship and company. This year it is at the Uniting Church, Narooma Boulevard. The Catholic Church are the lead church working with the Uniting Church to put this luncheon on. All welcome. Please contact the Catholic Church Parish office 8531 1699 or Rev Darren Lovell -Uniting Church 0466 411 784 to advise that you are coming and how many are coming, to assist with catering.

KINDY PEN PALS: We have received replies from Concordia Kindergarten to your letters including an invitation to attend the Nativity Presentation on either 1st or 2nd December. Please collect your letters from Church or the Offices.

Come and join us for ADVENT TEA/EVENING on 27th November 6pm at Christ Church. Bring a plate of savoury and or sweets to share as we begin our Advent journey to Christmas.



**The Advent Wreath** is a prominent symbol of the Advent Season. It is usually made up of evergreen branches placed in a circle, representing eternity. Set on the branches are four candles: three purple candles and one pink candle, and a white candle in the centre. As a whole, these candles represent the coming of the light of Christ into the world. We use the Advent wreath as a way to prayerfully reflect the passage of the Advent season, each candle representing an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

1" Sunday — Candle of **HOPE** (purple) 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday — Candle of **LOVE** (purple) 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday — Candle of **JOY** (pink) 4th Sunday — Candle of PEACE (purple) Christmas — Candle of CHRIST (white)

Happyland Online Advent Calendar. Open stars to reveal

activities, videos, and the Christmas story. Fun for families at www.happyland.com.au. There are also free Christmas cards available



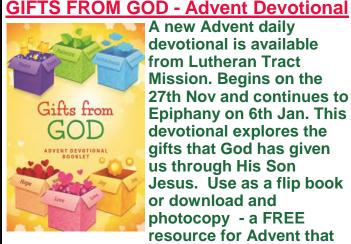


Messages of Hope Christmas Cards. Hope-filled cards for Christmas, with Bible verse and greeting.

Call 1800 353 350 to order; or place an order online at

www.lutheranmedia.org.au You can give one to all your family & friends

### Shine joy! – Gifts of Grace



A new Advent daily devotional is available from Lutheran Tract Mission. Begins on the 27th Nov and continues to Epiphany on 6th Jan. This devotional explores the gifts that God has given us through His Son Jesus. Use as a flip book or download and photocopy - a FREE resource for Advent that

can be downloaded from LTM website.

Lutheran Tract Mission

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo 2022 is at the Cameo Theatre, Sunday 20th November @ 1:30pm; cost is \$20.00 (payable at Cinema). Afternoon tea will be in the Christ Church Meeting Room afterwards...if you would like to go please contact Yolette @478218769) for catering purposes.



Tired of throwaway Christmas gifts? With ALWS Gifts of Grace. vou shine Christmas joy to family and friends ... and brighten the lives of families in need. 20+ gifts, from just \$4. All tax-deductible. Information & envelopes available at



Offices and in the Holy Cross foyers. Receive Grace Cards to be your Christmas gift. First 500 orders receive a shine tea towel. alws.org.au/grace \* 1300 763 407

## MVLC Women's Guild Christmas Lunch

Wed 14th December 11am for devotion and 12midday lunch at Church of Christ Coffee Shop. Cost is \$30 per person. Please let Eleanor Waldhuter know if you will be attending







Jesus Christ the Saviour is born! MURRAY BRIDGE Consistents Bunday 4th DECEMBER 2022 6:30PM

### <u>Murray Bridge Christmas Carols</u> <u>Change of Venue now at LeMessurier</u> Oval (Ramblers) entry via Ramsey Street Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec, 6:30pm, Food stalls open from 5pm. Bring a chair/rug and enjoy this FREE event for the whole family! More information on posters in offices, JD and Concordia halls

**Birthday congratulations to** Nola McCallum who recently celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday

**Resthaven residential services** are holding a Christmas raffle and are having trouble sourcing appropriate donated gifts. If anyone in our church

community is a contact in a Murray Bridge business who you think might have something to donate, could you please get them to contact Soraya (Lifestyle Coordinator). Resthaven are looking at putting something together in the next fortnight.

Items that might be useful include chocolates, men's and women's socks or handkerchiefs, Christmas ornaments, mugs, tea/coffee sachets, coffee voucher, meal voucher and the like.

If you have made rugs or teddy bears (or similar) and would like to donate them for the Resthaven trading table for residents to purchase they can be dropped off to Resthaven or you can contact Soraya (Lifestyle Coordinator) by email <u>soraya.fitzgerald@resthaven.asn.au</u> or by phone 8532 1969 Resthaven is a not for profit organisation.



### Jelly Cakes – Callington Show

Each year for the last 8 years Heather Courtney and her band of

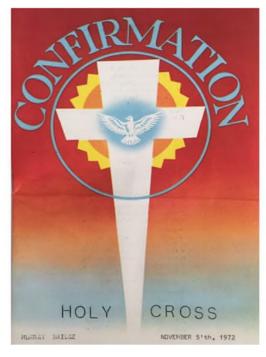
helpers have a fun day of fellowship making 13 dozen jelly cakes for the Callington Show. A great way to share the love of Christ as they make the fresh cakes for sale to the community and raise much needed funds for the Damadi Children's home in Myanmar. Customers come early to the stall to ensure that they don't



miss out. Well done ladies! Your efforts are greatly appreciated.



**The Thrift Shop** was held Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November with a Car Boot Sale on the Saturday also. A big thank you to all who helped in anyway: setting up / packing up / helping on the days / donated goods etc. \$588 was raised plus \$50 from the Car Boot Sale, but more importantly we enabled the community to access clothing and goods at a cheap rate that they might not have been able to afford. There were a number of people that were very grateful for this!





BackL-R: Richard Gray; Grantley Grocke; Aurianne Minge; Karen Dutschke; Pamela Boehm; Rosalie Koehler; Kathryn Herde; Lynette Gogel; Aaton Schenscher; Rainer Schwartzer; Pastor Walter Hoopman. Front L-R: Carolyn Steicke; Sandra Cotton; Cathryn Kilngberg; Gregory Zadow; Christopher Hill; Philip Smedley; Lynette Freund; Judith Griffiths; Kathryn Hein; Sally Pfeiffer.



Back L-R: Richard Gray; Lynette Gogel; Aston Schenscher; Kathryn Herde. Front L-R: Cathryn Klingberg; Sally Pfeiffer; Carolyn Steicke; Pamela Boehm; Kathryn Hein.

### **50 Year Confirmation Class Reunion**

How much can change in 50 years? This group above enjoyed finding this out, when they reunited to mark the 50th anniversary of their confirmation. Ten of the original 20 class members, who were confirmed at Holy Cross Lutheran Church Murray Bridge in 1972, were able to make the reunion dinner which took place last month.

Carolyn Altus (née Steicke) said "our class had a wonderful time of reconnecting and sharing stories". The event was a faith-encouraging reconnection. "It was a wonderful time of reminiscing and discovering where life has taken us all," Carolyn said.

# **Christmas Trees from Holy Cross, Birdwood**



Holy Cross Birdwood have Christmas trees available for purchase again this year @ \$50 each. Trees to be collected from Holy Cross car park from 9am, Saturday 10th December.

Contact Sandra Gates on 0438 324 150 and place your order by 5th December. Proceeds will go towards supporting chaplains in local schools.

### Murray Bridge Christian Community Mens Group by Matt Woidt

Our recent October Mens gathering didn't disappoint. 38 men in total, from our community and a few from Birdwood and surrounding hills gathered at Jeff Henschke's shed on a mild October night. Hosted by Jeff and Fran, the night kicked off with nibbles, a

welcome and short introduction.

Jeff and Fran are absolute master chefs! We were generously treated first with an entree of deliciously bounding kangaroo tail soup. The guys loved it and hopped right in to it. It put spring in my tail too!



While the entree was being devoured we were again privileged to yet another awesome devotion and sharing time by Graham Schubert. This bloke always comes up with something great and applicable. Based on Matthew 13: 44-46, parable of the treasure and

pearl, Graham challenged us with things we value the most, our toys and treasures and what emphasis, importance and time we put into them, rather than our faith and relationship with



Jesus and being a witness for him. Sheds are full of treasures and toys. Where your treasure is, there your heart is also .... We all treasured Grahams devotion.

Another highlight and treasure of the night was the beautiful weber baked main course. Perfectly prepared and absolutely mouth-watering roast roo & weber roasted vegies were just magic, even had a couple glasses of red. Praise the Lord.

After tea, we sat back and were entertained by Jeff. He shared with us a section of his life of farming in the Mallee (Paruna area). This is

challenging, marginal country. He shared of their highs and lows, disappointments, personal challenges and unexpected problems that occur in farming, not to mention the reliance on



weather. All very relevant to the guys in attendance. Their resolve and faith would definitely be tested.

Jeff enlightened us with other stories of his life too. In particular his calling, prompting and motivation to write a book of his life and experience, how good is this? totally from left field. Then he read snippets to us, unbelievable. To write a book of your life, wow! and willing to put it out there. This man and his family are a blessing.



The night ended with fellowship, tea and coffee and 38 men joining in the LORDS PRAYER. Massive thankyou goes to Jeff and Fran Henschke for hosting us and Jeff for sharing his story. Big thankyou to Graham Schubert and Ian Kluge and all those who attended the night.

