

REG:

Christ Church
BSB 704942
ACC# 100311504

Holy Cross
BSB 704942
ACC# 51176

Music Ministry
BSB 704942
ACC# 100828957

ROSTERS**MONARTO:**

22nd Jan **Warden:** R Thiele **Reader:** R Hein
29th Jan **Blessing of the Backpacks at The Steeple**

HOLY CROSS

	22nd Jan 9am HC	29th Jan 9.30am Unity College
Greeters	K Lienert K Pfeiffer	R Packer MVLC
LS Server	C Paech	N/A
Lector:	C Paech	MVLC
PA / MM	L & J Weincke	E & A Ahrens
VC:	B Eggers	B Eggers R Jericho
Ushers	B & M Gerlach	T Hanckel G Herrmann MVLC
Bell	B Gerlach	N/A
Altar Guild	D Pfeiffer	N/A
Musician	R Packer J Wiencke	MVLC
Flowers	S Gates	F Henschke
Morning Tea	V Zerk M Steinert	N/A
Ministry Team	E & P Welke	E & P Welke

CHRIST CHURCH

	10:30am JDH 22-Jan	10am Unity 29-Jan
Pastoral Assist	D Doecke	W Doecke
Wardens	I Kluge K Franklin	G Schubert B Mann
Greeters	M&G Schultz	D&L Schiller
Tea / Coffee	M&R Herrmann	
PA	Nathanael	
Data Projector	E Mann	
Reader	D Doecke	
Organist		
Video	R Jericho	
Flowers	S Jericho	
Counter	G Korzeba	
Grounds Roster	???? Volunteers needed!	
Water & Care	H Schulte	Y Koch



**Murray
Valley
Lutheran
Community**

**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 22nd January

9am Holy Cross - HC (*morning tea following the service*)
10:30am Christ Church - Lay Reading (*Hall*) (*Coffee from 10am*)
10:30am Monarto - HC

Sunday 29th January

9:30am Blessing of the Backpacks Service
 The Steeple, Unity College, Owl Drv, Murray Bridge
 Bring your Backpacks ~ Free sausage sizzle after

Pastor Paul is on leave 9th – 23rd Jan if you require pastoral assistance during this period please contact Pastor David 0474 229 959, David Schirmer 0459 943 682 or the office (during opening hours)

Pastor David on leave 26th - 30th Jan if you require pastoral assistance during this period please contact Pastor Paul 0417 466 611, Ian Kluge 0427 313 537, or the offices (opening hours).

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

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

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

After Hours please phone: Chairperson, Warren Doecke - 0417 804 663

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

*After hours please contact Council Chairperson: Jeff Henschke 0428 519 252
or Ministry Team Chair: David Schirmer 0459 943 682*

Find us on Facebook

PRAYER:

- ✠ Pray for all those affected by the devastating floodwaters across Western Australia, South Australia, NSW and Victoria. That God grants safety to the thousands of residents under evacuation orders and He brings comfort and relief to all those struggling with flood and storm damage. Be with all those who are frightened or anxious about their farms, homes and livelihoods.
- ✠ Help us to be a good disciple for God's kingdom. Pray that God gives us the strength to grow as disciples so that we are a better example to all we meet.

Please Pray for the following people and their carers:

Martha Aartsen, Stella Altmann, Ian & Fay Baxter, Judy Brereton, Tony Budarick, Olga Burgemeister, Lores Frahn, John Fournier, Pastor Andy Gierus, Maxine Gogler, Lila Grocke, Trevor & Kyle Hage, Bert & Nita Hyam, Flo Kerkham, Glen Koop, Irene Kuchel, Yvonne Lablack, Bryan Lees, Joy Leighton, Audrey Leske, Erin, Travis, Cooper, Brady & Taylor Lienert, Joy Lienert, Lynette & Terry Little, Andy & Colleen Nicholls, Brenda O'Reilly, Gwenda Paech, Jim Poole, Jan Richards, Erwin Rohrlach, Helen Schubert, Neil Schubert, Vena Shinnick, Barbara Taylor, Sandra Thiele, Clarita Venn.

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, Stan and Lorna Peltz.

Craigmore Resthaven: Ivy Roennfeldt

Golden Grove Helping Hand: Joyleen Rosenzweig

Meningie Hospital Aged Care: Kurt Unger, Felicity Woods

Tailem Bend Hospital: Bevan Schulz

MVLC Baptismal Birthday Celebrations

22nd	Heather Courtney	28th	Oscar Merrett
27th	Debra Frahn		John Pohl
	Carson Sacco	29th	Erica Hammond
			Luke Toft



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 either church office.

Diary Dates:

- 22nd Trading Tables at Holy Cross and Christ Church and Christ Church pooled lunch after service
5pm MVLC Leaders meet
- 24th 7:30pm Christ Church Leadership Team
- 25th 1:30pm Communion Service at Holy Cross **NOTE: date change**
- 26th **Australia Day - Public Holiday**
- 29th 9:30am Blessings of the Backpacks @ Unity College
free sausage sizzle after service
- 30th 9.30am Holy Cross Service Guild meeting @ Concordia Hall

February

- 1st 10am Christ Church Service Guild ~ devotion Joyce S
- 5th Monarto Zion AGM following service
- 7th 4pm Holy Cross Ministry Team
- 8th 1.15pm MVLC Women's Guild @ Concordia Hall

Weekly:

- Mon: 9:30am Cards and Coffee, Ed Centre, Christ Church
1:30pm Bible Study, Holy Cross recommences 6th Feb
- Tues: 10am Bible Study, Ed Centre, Christ Church recommences 7th Feb
- Wed: 9:30am Crafty Capers, Holy Cross recommences 8th Feb
9am—10am Holy Cross Recycling Shed open
4pm **MVLC Prayer Time**, Christ Church (in the church)
- Fri: 10am **Time Out at 10** ~ Jan @ JD Hall; Feb @ Concordia Hall
- Sat 1.30pm Cards at Concordia Hall

*All Welcome – come along and join in the fellowship of these groups
Please note: Cut off time for notices for the bulletin is midday on Thursdays to either office. (Newsletter is Wednesday 10am)*

22nd January Readings & Songs

Readings:

Psalm 27:1-7; Isaiah 9:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-23.

Songs:

Christ Church: Christ be our Light; The Summons - will you come and follow me; I heard the voice of Jesus say; The love of the Father.

Holy Cross: Shine, Jesus, shine; May we be one; The summons; O Christ, our true and only light; I heard the voice of Jesus say .

Monarto: Drawn to the Light; Come Follow Me; Peace with the Father; Praise the Lord; I Heard the voice of Jesus say.

"LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



SHRIVELLED

It looked like a promising year for apricots. There had been plenty of rain, and those who shared from the trees could already taste the jam, the unique flavour only apricots can deliver.

Then there was an unexpected change. The leaves, so green and so full of promise, turned brown, curled in on themselves and dried up. Why? What had gone wrong? Comments were made. Suggestions were given, yet no one appeared to have the answer.

I am sure we could all recount times when life takes an unexpected turn for no apparent reason and the "expected" is replaced with the "unexpected". And often, that "unexpected" brings pain, sadness, hurt and tears, and we ask, "Why?"

We all expect that life is meant to be "good"; Is this an arrogant expectation?

We are taught that a God of love cares for us, so why does life sometimes feel as if it is shrivelling up?

Actually, there is no promise of life here without troubles. God does promise to support, encourage and help when we may feel life is shrivelling and curling in on itself. When we might feel like curling in on ourselves and giving up, how he does that is different and personal for each person who is prepared to recognise him as honest and ask for his help. It means humility, recognising our inadequacies and calling, "Help!".

Harsh words, accusations, friendlessness, and feelings of inadequacy can be to us like a hot north wind, drying and sapping joy and fulfilment from our lives. Sometimes we may not even be able to work out why we feel life is drying up, unable to find the strength within ourselves to regrow and flourish.

Are you feeling life is just drying up? A king (David) once felt like that. He wrote something like this. "The LORD looks after me; I lack nothing. He gives me peace and helps me to stop worrying. He builds me up when I am down. He shows me what is right, and I trust Him. Even when life gets tough, there is nothing to fear, for you are with me; your love and power strengthen and comfort me. No matter what others may do, you provide all I need. I know your love and care are more than I will ever need. You will be with me forever. I know and believe this." (**Psalms 23**) (My paraphrase)

It worked for a sad and curled-up king; God promises it can work for everyone.

God bless,
Kevin.



Growing FAITH at home

22 January 2023

THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY

JESUS
CALLS US TO
FOLLOW HIM



GrowMinistries
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



www.growministries.org.au



CONVERSATIONS

Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

1. If you wanted to go fishing what kinds of things would you need?
2. Share about a time when you went fishing.



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week.
Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

1st reading

Isaiah 9:1-4

No more despair

2nd reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

A church divided
over leaders

Gospel reading

Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus calls his first disciples

DISCUSS

When Jesus called Andrew, Simon, James and John to follow him they immediately left their work as fishermen and followed (Matthew 4:18,21). Why do you think they did this? How do you think they felt?



ACTION RESPONSE

Jesus calls all his followers to 'fish for people'. One way we do so is through prayer – by praying for specific people that don't yet know Jesus, and for specific missionaries and mission activities. Hang a string or a cord between two points in your home and attach small hooks to it. Cut out fish shapes from card or paper and write the name of a person you can pray for. Attach the 'fish' to the hooks and use your 'fishing line' as a visible reminder to pray.



MEALTIME PRAYER

God bless this food. God bless our day.
Keep us safe in every way. Amen.



PRAYER

Lord Jesus, turn
our darkness
into light. Fill our
hearts with faith,
hope and love.
Amen.



BLESSING

May Jesus give
you a heart that
seeks him and
feet that are
ready to
follow him.

"COME. FOLLOW ME,"
JESUS SAID. "I WILL MAKE
YOU FISHERS OF PEOPLE."

MATTHEW 4:19

VERSE OF THE WEEK

The Holy Cross Service Guild will meet on Monday 30th January, 9-30am in Concordia Hall.

Because of health issues and ageing more assistance is needed.

The meeting is open to anyone interested to help in any way possible.

If needing more information, contact Velma on 0438 325 611 or Annette at the office.

Men's Group Bible Study '5G' ~ Saturday 4th February, 8.30am at Long Rider's Clubroom's.

In 2023 we are going to run a Men's Bible Study group led by Pastor David. The first get together around God's Word is going to be at Rocky Gully Road, Long Riders Clubroom's. Tea and coffee will be available. Please bring your Bible a pen and some paper.

This first get together is to have a study and discuss the way forward as a group of Christian Men.

Any queries please speak to Pastor David or Ian Kluge (0427 313537).

Christ Church Harvest Thanksgiving Display ~ help needed for setup!

We would love your help on Saturday 4th Feb @ 4.30pm to setup the Harvest Thanksgiving display in the church. Don't forget to bring along an item for the display that you are blessed with or grateful for; it could be an item of craft, a hobby, something in your life that you are grateful for or an item of food (fruit, vegetable, tin or packet of food) or some flowers, a toy or a pastime, or maybe a photo. Everyone has something they can be grateful for. What will you bring along for the display to express and show your thanks to God?

Emerge Counselling 0488 822 968 kate@emergecounselling.com.au & Lutheran Care 0460 321 334 bhannaford@lutherancare.org.au have recommenced counselling services



Welcome to a family friendly worship service focused on blessing our kids for the school year.

The School & Kindy kids will be invited 'up front' to bring their school bags for the "blessing of the backpacks". The service will include kid songs & activities, and contemporary Christian music.

Sunday 29th January 9.30am @ the Steeple, Unity College,

Bring your Backpacks along
Free Sausage Sizzle after



Have you heard of Blessing the Backpacks?

It is a special time of blessing in a service where students are invited to bring their school bags to church to receive a blessing at the commencement of the school year. It is also a good opportunity to invite your friends or extended family members to have their backpacks and school year blessed.

**Please join us on
29th January at 9.30am
@The Steeple
For a family Friendly
Service**

Bring your backpacks,
your family and friends.