

**Pastor David Kuss**  
0474 229 959  
[david.kuss@lca.org.au](mailto:david.kuss@lca.org.au)

**Holy Cross Office**  
**Closed Monday**  
Tues/Wed 9.30am -1.30pm  
Thurs/Fri 9am – 2pm  
Ph 8532 4577

**Pastor Paul Calnan**  
0417 466 611  
[paul.calnan@lca.org.au](mailto:paul.calnan@lca.org.au)

**Christ Church Office**  
Mon - Fri 9 am -12noon  
Ph 8532 6553  
[www.cclutheranmb.org.au](http://www.cclutheranmb.org.au)

**Email Addresses:**

[holycross.murraybridge.sa@lca.org.au](mailto:holycross.murraybridge.sa@lca.org.au)  
[christchurch.murraybridge.sa@lca.org.au](mailto:christchurch.murraybridge.sa@lca.org.au)

*After hours please contact MVLC Council Chairperson:  
Joanne Pfeiffer 0417 802 052 or  
Pastoral Assistant John Pohl 0427 876 776*

Pastor David will be away from 24th - 31st January  
Anette on leave from 31st January, Janelle will be at Holy Cross -  
please note the office will be closed on Mondays & Thursdays

**SERVICES**

**Sunday 28th January**

*Lay Reading no H/C at all sites*

9am Holy Cross (morning tea and trading table)  
10:30am Monarto  
10:30am Christ Church (in the hall)  
Family Service,  
morning tea from 10am

**Sunday 4th February**

*Led by Pastor David with H/C*  
9am Monarto (morning tea)  
**Harvest Thanksgiving**  
10:30am Christ Church (in the hall)  
(morning tea in hall from 10am)  
**Blessing of the Back Packs**

*Led by Pastor Paul with H/C*  
9am Christ Church (in the church)  
10:30am Holy Cross

**The Murray Valley Lutheran Community Annual  
General Meeting will be held in the John Dohler Hall  
on the 25th February at 1:30pm.**

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



# Murray Valley Lutheran Community

**Thursday 25th January 2024**

**Christ Church**

31 Swanport Rd  
Murray Bridge

**Holy Cross**

31 Florence St  
Murray Bridge

**Zion Monarto**

427 Schenscher Rd  
Monarto

**Welcome to all worshipping with us Today**

**Deuteronomy 18:15-22:**

Moses here predicts a future prophet who, like Moses at Mount Horeb, will establish a new covenant. This prophet will speak the comprehensive will of God. All will be required to receive and believe his word as being the word of God himself. Peter and Stephen both connected this promise with the prophetic ministry of Jesus. Similarities between the life and work of Moses and Christ abound.

**Mark 1:21-28:**

Jesus shows his messianic and divine authority at Capernaum by casting out an evil spirit. The spirit recognised Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus appears in this instance as the true Son of God with authority to fight evil and control it from the very outset of his ministry.

**PRAYER:**

Lord, In all our doubts, dangers, and confusion, teach us, Lord, what we ought to say and do. Give to us, who can do nothing good without you, the power to speak the truth and do your will.

All Welcome – come along to events organised by the MVLC and form a close relationship with fellow members.  
Cut off for notices sent to either Office is Wednesday 10am for the Newsletter and midday on Thursdays for the Bulletin.

### 28th January Readings

**Holy Cross:** Psalm 118

**Monarto, Holy Cross and Christ Church:**  
Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Mark 1:21-28

**Monarto & Christ Church:** Psalm 111

**Monarto and Holy Cross:** Corinthians 8:1-13;

### MVLC AGM ~ 1:30pm 25th February -

**REPORTS ARE DUE**, please ensure that they are given to either office by Monday 29th January so the Book of Reports can be compiled and printed for the AGM.

#### **Nominations:**

Nominations close 7th February.

Greg Herrmann – Nominations Committee.

Nomination forms available from either office.

-----

#### Reopening after the New Year

HC Monday Bible Study - 29th Jan      CC Tues Bible Study - 6th Feb  
Youth - 2nd Feb                                  Probus - February 2024

#### **REG:**

**Murray Valley Lutheran Community**  
BSB 704942  
ACC# 101026587

#### **MUSIC MINISTRY**

**MVLC Mission & Outreach**  
BSB 704942  
ACC#101028369  
Reference: Music Ministry

### Diary Dates:

#### **NO Time Out at Ten in January**

Thurs 25 1:30pm Holy Communion Service at Holy Cross  
Fri 26 **Australia Day - Public Holiday - Offices closed**  
Tues 30 9:15am Installation - Unity College Principal - The Steeple  
Wed 31 7pm Church Council meets  
10:30am Barb Kretschmer Funeral @ Minge's

#### **February**

Thurs 1 10:30am Lerwin Service  
10:30am Reg Schwartz Funeral @ Holy Cross  
Fri 2 10am Time Out @ 10 recommences ~ Holy Cross  
6pm Youth meet @ the Cave  
Sat 3 8am Bible Study @ Longriders  
Sun 4 Harvest Thanksgiving @ Monarto 9am  
Blessing of the Back Packs @ Christ Church 10:30am  
4pm Combined Worship Team meet @ Christ Church  
Tues 6 10am HC Care team meet  
4pm CC Pastoral Assistants meet @ Ed Centre  
Thurs 8 2pm Romani Lutheran Service  
Sun 11 Harvest Thanksgiving @ HCross 9am & CChurch 10:30am

### Baptismal Birthday Celebrations

		<b>February</b>
28th	Oscar Merrett	1st Mikayla Joppich
	John Pohl	2nd Michelle Waltrovitz
29th	Erica Hammond	Shane Thomson
30th	Trent Frahn	4th Mimi Huesler
31st	Warren Doecke	Michelle Lohmeyer
		Margaret Paterson

#### Pray for:

- ✚ The families and friends of Reg Schwartz who passed away on Wednesday 23rd January. Reg's funeral will be held on Thursday 1st February, 10:30am at Holy Cross
- ✚ All students and their families, teachers and school staff in our community as they commence the new school year.



Murray Valley  
Lutheran Community

## Nominations MVLC for AGM 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024

MVLC Constitution Clause 11.4 "The election of Officers and Standing Committees shall be undertaken ie Church Council, Pastoral Assistants, Lay Readers & Property".

---

Clause 12.1 "The Congregation shall elect the following Office Holders for a term of two years, subject to half being elected for one (1) year at the initial election of the Congregation in accordance with rule 12.4.

Clause 12.4 "Approximately one-half (1/2) of the Office Holders shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election

Therefore, Church Council has decided the following Office Holder positions will be declared vacant and nominations called:- **Chairperson, Secretary, plus two additional Members**. Both the Chairperson (Joanne Pfeiffer) and Secretary (Holly Schiller) will renominate but further nominations are welcome.

\_\_\_ All those nominated for the MVLC Church Council must have, or be willing to complete online training of Level 2 Certificate for Safe Church.

---

***Members considering nominating as a new Pastoral Assistant (previously Elders) should please speak with the Pastors.***

Clause 18.4.2 "Pastoral Assistants shall be appointed for a term of two [2] years and shall be eligible for re-election".

Clause 18.4.4 A nomination for the position of Pastoral Assistant must be submitted in writing by any two [2] Voting Members to the Nominations Committee at least twenty one [21] days before the meeting at which the elections are to be conducted".

Clause 18.4.5 Approximately one-half [1/2] of the Pastoral Assistants shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election .

---

Nominations are called for new additional Lay Readers.

Clause 18.3.2 "Layreaders shall be appointed for a term of two [2] years and shall be eligible for re-election".

---

Clause 18.5.1 "The Congregation shall elect a Property Comm of at least four(4) members".

**All Nominations are due by February 7<sup>th</sup> 2024. As posted in previous bulletins.**

Greg Herrmann -Vice Chair/Nominations Committee Rep.

---

### Church Council

Chairperson

Secretary

2 Additional members

### Pastoral Assistants

***Members considering nominating as a new Pastoral Assistant (previously Elders) should please speak with the Pastors.***

---

### Layreaders

New Additional Lay Readers welcome

### Property Committee

New Additional members welcome

## **HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES:**

### **Christ Church, Monarto and Holy Cross**

Do you have something you are grateful for?

How blessed have you been this past year?

We will be celebrating Thanksgiving Services:

**Sunday 4th February ~ Monarto 9am**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February ~ Holy Cross 9am  
& Christ Church 10:30am (in the church)**

Food items will be distributed between local organisations in Murray Bridge and those in need.

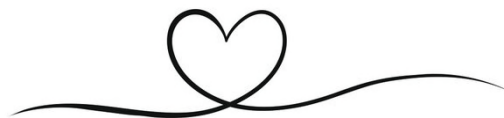


We encourage you to bring along an item for the displays that you are blessed with or grateful for; it could be an item of craft, a hobby, something in your life that you are grateful for or an item of food (fruit, vegetable, tin or packet of food) or some flowers, a toy or a pastime, or maybe a photo. Everyone has something they can be grateful for. What will you bring along for the display to express and show your thanks to God?

Perishable & non-perishable goods for Christ Church or Holy Cross Harvest Thanksgiving can be left at the church offices or placed in the vestry's. Please bring along any items for the display that you are blessed with or grateful

for. Monarto ~ please speak with your fellow members.

**Christ Church Harvest Thanksgiving setup** will be happening on Saturday 10 February at 3pm in the Church. Please bring your produce, vegetables, fruit, flowers, non perishable groceries, craft items (for display only, not donating) along from 3pm or on Sunday morning before service. Everyone is warmly welcomed to help with setting up the display, everyone's contribution (big or small) helps us to create a beautiful display for Worship to praise God and GIVE THANKS. What can you bring?



You are welcome to attend the Installation of Unity College Murraylands new Principal, **Francois Pienaar** on Tuesday 30th January, 9:15am at The Stadium



We recently had a break-in to one of the MVLC buildings. The next day another of our buildings was found with the some doors wide open and another one not locked!

Please remember to lock all doors and turn of lights when you leave any of our premises. Thank you.

# "LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



## TRACKS

It's amazing what an assortment of tracks we might walk past and never see or understand. Tracks in the sand can tell a story of who passed by. Tracks of scent wafting through the air that can stir memories thought long gone. Tracks embedded in the brain's memory centres. Tracks we leave behind as we travel through life and tracks, we follow, sometimes intentionally and sometimes without thought as to where they might be leading.

Working with Aboriginal trackers in the Northern Territory I was told there were two things to learn. Know the tracks and know the habits of who or what you are tracking.

Once when working with a Police Tracker in Alice Springs the absconder left the dirt and moved onto the bitumen road where his tracks were lost. The "Tracker" continued along the centre of the bitumen, twice checking the dirt on the side. At the third check, the tracks were found. When I asked why he only checked those places and not all along the side, he answered, "I know him. I know where he likes to go. I know where his cousin lives." A few houses along we found the culprit at his cousin's house.

Jesus left behind tracks of words and actions demonstrating compassionate care and healing towards the lonely, the despised, the outcast, the sick, the blind, the lame, to name a few.

His tracks have remained even up to today through words written by followers who, observed what he did, learnt by following his example and then went on and by "doing" creating duplicate tracks for others to follow. Over two thousand years later those tracks have not been wiped out and are still relevant and followed.

There are stories of people perishing in the outback because they failed to recognise and follow animal tracks that could have led to life saving water. That is sad.

However, even sadder is that people fail to recognise the tracks of Jesus through life which if followed lead to knowing and accepting the life saving and enhancing love offered by a loving God. There is no need to stay lost and wandering, crossing over and ignoring Jesus and all he offers.

Working on the great Australian Dog Fence I came across a set of dingo tracks which kept coming and going to and from a kangaroo carcass. Following the tracks showed the mother dingo was taking pieces of the kangaroo to her pups in their den.

Jesus is like that. He will continue tracking back to you, bringing his forgiving love, even though you, from time to time turn away from his tracks and the love he offers.

Look for the tracks he deliberately makes crossing the path of your life and follow them. You will be surprised where they might lead you.

Kevin