

Pastor David Kuss
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Pastor Paul Calnan
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**The MVLC Congregation Office is located @ the
Holy Cross worship site 31 Florence Street Murray Bridge
Office Hours**

Mon: 9am –12pm; Tues/Wed 9.30am -1.30pm, Thurs/Fri 9am – 2pm
Take Away Church available from 11am on Mon @ Christ Church
Ph: 8532 4577

Email Address: murrayvalley.sa@lca.org.au

The MVLC Office will be closed from Tuesday 24th December to
Monday 6th January 2025.

MVLC Office closed on Tuesday 17 December from 12.30pm.

*After hours please contact MVLC Council Chairperson:
Joanne Pfeiffer 0417 802 052 or
Pastoral Assistant Janelle Traeger: 8535 4290*

SERVICES

Sunday 8th December ~ 2nd Sunday of Advent

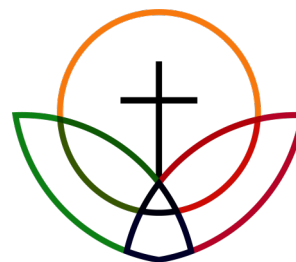
9am Holy Cross HC (DJK) ~ *morning tea after service*
10.30am Christ Church HC (Church) (DJK) ~ *morning tea @10am and
baptism*
10.30am Monarto LR

Sunday 15th December ~ 3rd Sunday of Advent

9am Monarto HC (PC) ~ *morning tea after service*
9am Christ Church HC (Church) (DJK) ~ *morning tea @10am*
10.30am Christ Church HC (Hall) (DJK) Baptism
10.30am Holy Cross HC (PC)

Sunday 22nd December ~ 4th Sunday of Advent

9am Holy Cross HC (PC)
10.30am Christ Church (Hall) Family Service ~ *morning tea @ 10am*
10.30am Monarto HC (PC)



Murray Valley Lutheran Community

Friday 6th December 2024

Welcome to all worshipping with us

Bad hair day for C S Lewis.

Only a few weeks until Christmas. Have you done your Christmas shopping?
Was C S Lewis having a bad hair day when he wrote:

Gift giving is mostly involuntary. The modern rule is that anyone can force you to give them a present by sending you a quite unprovoked present of their own. It is almost a blackmail. Who has not heard the wail of despair, and indeed of resentment, when, at the last moment, just as everyone hoped that the nuisance was over for one more year, the unwanted gift from Mrs. Busy (whom we hardly remember) flops unwelcomed through the letter-box, and back to the dreadful shops one of us has to go?

Things are given as presents which no mortal every bought for themselves—gaudy and useless gadgets, ‘novelties’ because no one was ever fool enough to make their like before. Have we really no better use for materials and for human skill and time than to spend them on all this rubbish?

The wise men gave precious, meaningful, gifts to Jesus after they had laid down on the ground and submitted to him.

The above is part of a long rant from C S Lewis. Maybe he was having a bad hair day. But I think he would agree with the wise men that a gift is the physical symbol of great love and respect and submission. It seems love and respect go way before the gift. DJK



Worship sites

Christ Church

31 Swanport Rd
Murray Bridge

Holy Cross

31 Florence St
Murray Bridge

Zion Monarto

427 Schenscher Rd
Monarto

Readings

Monarto: Malachi 3:1-4; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Christ Church and Holy Cross: Proverbs 15:1; Isaiah 49:5,6;
Romans 10:8-17; Luke 2:8-20

Congratulations and Best Wishes from all to **Bev Paech** who celebrates her 80th Birthday on Friday 13th December. Bev is looking forward to spending time with family and friends on Saturday.

Baptismal Birthday Celebrations

9th	Irene Kuchel	12th	Ashley Roocke
	Noah Patrilli	13th	Stephen Jaensch
10th	Trevor Paech		Martin Lees
11th	Alice Kowald	14th	Leon Paech
	Annette Pearce	15th	Lores Frahn
			Sandra Gates

The latest **LMA Newsletter** is available from the Office or online. Copies available today.

REG:

Murray Valley Lutheran Community
BSB 704942
ACC# 101026587

MUSIC MINISTRY

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

All Welcome – come along to events organised by the MVLC and form a close relationship with fellow members.

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

Cut off time for notices sent to the MVLC Office is Wednesday 10am for the Newsletter and midday on Thursdays for the Bulletin.

Diary Dates:

Fri 6th	6pm Youth @ The Cave
Sat 7th	8am ~ 5G Men's Group Bible Study CANCELLED
Sun 8th	from 5pm ~Murray Bridge Christmas Carols, The Wharf
Wed 11th	9.30am ~ Senior Care @ CC Ed Centre
Thurs 12th	1.30pm ~ Romani service
Sat 14th	8.30am ~ Gingerbread House Workshop
Tues 17th	MVLC Office closed from 12.30pm
Wed 18th	1.30pm ~ Resthaven Service
Thurs 19th	1.30pm ~ Monthly Communion @ Concordia Hall

Closing dates:

Craft Capers ~ last date on 18th Dec and resumes 8th Jan 2025.

Saturday Cards ~ last date on 14th Dec and will resume on 4th Jan 2025.

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, Soft Drinks or juices, Cans of Beetroot, Cans of Peas & Corn, Custard & Jellies, Cans of Fruit Salad, Short Bread biscuits, Christmas Lollies, Christmas Cakes - any size, Cans of Ham or Turkey, fresh carrots and potatoes can be helpful .

Appeals - ALWS Christmas Action and Lutheran Care "An Empty Seat at the Christmas Table" Please support - see flyers.

Pray for:

- ✚ Pray for all those celebrating special birthdays, anniversaries and other events throughout this month. May they be blessed as they enjoy a time of togetherness with family and friends.
- ✚ Pray for people who are spending time in hospital and other facilities at this time of year. Pray for those on the sick list, especially Rosa Waltrovitz. Give them reasons to celebrate.
- ✚ Pray for the children being Baptised over the next couple of weeks - Indi and Summer - and their families as they celebrate becoming a part of a great, large family.

27 November 2024



**SOUTH AUSTRALIA
NORTHERN TERRITORY**

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Affirming Our Faith and Mission Together in the LCA-NZ

At Synod 2024, the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand (LCA-NZ) prayerfully considered a proposal on ordination. This proposal aimed to provide a way forward that embraced the diversity of perspectives within our church while striving for unity. Delegates — pastors and laypeople — voted with a clear majority of 269 to 108, exceeding the two-thirds threshold required for theological matters.

The respect shown by all participants at Synod was a testament to the grace and humility with which we approached this challenging issue. Our hope was, and continues to be, that this spirit of respect would extend to all corners of the LCA-NZ as our congregations, entities and individuals reflect on the decision.

We acknowledge that this decision has been met with joy by many, while others are experiencing deep struggle. To those wrestling with their conscience, we extend compassion and understanding. Respecting their journey of discernment is vital, even as we continue to walk together as the body of Christ.

We grieve the pain felt by some, just as we have grieved for those who, in the past, found themselves struggling in a church that did not permit the ordination of women. These struggles remind us of our human limitations and the imperfection of our unity. Lord, have mercy on us all.

Yet, in the face of accusations that we have forsaken God's Word or turned away from the Gospel we need to respond. These claims contradict the very essence of our faith and our lifelong journey as followers of Christ nurtured within the LCA-NZ. We reaffirm that our church is grounded in the Gospel of Jesus Christ: saved by grace alone, through faith alone, as revealed in Scripture alone.

The day after Synod, as was the case the day before, we are still baptized children of God. We remain committed to God's Word, which is 'God-breathed' and makes us 'wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3). We gather as God's people in worship around Word and Sacrament, receiving the true body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins. This commitment has not changed.

We are deeply concerned by narratives that question the faithfulness of the LCA-NZ to God and His Word. Only God has the authority to judge the faithfulness of His people. Such judgments are both hurtful and unhelpful. We are all sinners in need of grace, and our focus must remain on the Gospel, which brings life and hope to a broken world.

where love comes to life

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. It is His forgiveness and grace that sustain us—not human demands or interpretations. We encourage all who are troubled to trust in this unchanging grace. The LCA-NZ has not forsaken the Gospel. We have not abandoned our commitment to God's Word. Rather, we remain deeply committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with a world in need, well equipped by our rich Lutheran theology to do this.

We see countless members of our LCA-NZ who have this heart for the Gospel and for sharing it with others. This is where our energy belongs: in proclaiming Christ's love and engaging in His mission. We trust in the promise that Jesus is with His church — His one holy, Christian, and apostolic church — to the very end of the age. May the Lord of the church continue to bless and guide us as we live out His mission together.

Yours in Christ

The District Mission Directors

(Pastors Brett Kennett, Ian Rentsch, David Schmidt and Stephen Schultz)

MVLC Service times and location from Christmas to end of January



Please note MVLC Office is closed from 25th December to 5th January inclusive

Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December

6pm Christ Church in John Doeher Hall with a Children's Service 'Amazing'

6pm Monarto shared Tea with Christmas Eve Service @ 7.30pm

8pm Holy Cross Church celebrate Christmas Eve in worship with Carols & Readings

Christmas Day Wednesday 25th December

8.30am Holy Cross Church, Preaching with HC – *please note there will be just one service in the MVLC for Christmas Day*

*****Please note there will be just one service in the MVLC for the rest of December and all of January*****

Sunday 29th December 9.30am Christ Church, Preaching with HC

Tuesday 31st January ____

Wednesday 1st January ____

Sunday 5th January 9.30am Holy Cross Church, Preaching with HC

Sunday 12th January 9.30am Monarto Zion Church, Preaching with HC

Sunday 19th January 9.30am Christ Church, Preaching with HC

Sunday 26th January 9.30am Christ Church, Australia Day

Blessing of the Backpacks Service - invite school/university students

BBQ after service

What's happening in our MVLC over Advent & Christmas



MVLC Christmas Light Trail

do you decorate your home with

Christmas Lights for Christmas? If you do, we'd love

to hear from you! If there is enough interest we would like to put together a MVLC Christmas Light Trail for our community, to spread the cheer and good news with handing out LLL tracts, goodies & our MVLC Christmas Worship Time cards. Reaching out to our Community with the Love of Jesus' Birth!

Murray Bridge Community Christmas Carols

Sunday 8th December 6:30pm at the Wharf Precinct

Food stalls open from 5pm. Pre-carols begins at 6pm

Candles & Programmes available

Bring a Chair + rug and enjoy this free event with the whole family!

Gingerbread House Making Event

Concordia Hall ~ Saturday, 14 December ~ 9.30 - 11.30am

Some tickets still available for this event.

Bookings to be made through Trybooking

<https://www.trybooking.com/CWJOC>



See other side for MVLC services times and locations for Christmas Eve to end January

Christmas Day Luncheon

at the Uniting Church, Murray Bridge – 12-00 pm – 25-12-24 – Free lunch open to the community. ~ *Inter-Church Council*