



Murray Valley Lutheran Community

2nd Community Chatter for 2024 Sunday 3rd March

ONE Congregation, 3 Worship Sites

THE NEW MVLC WEBSITE HAS GONE LIVE:

Check it out at: <https://mvlc.org.au/>

Thank you to everyone working on the new website

RESTHAVEN, LERWIN AND ROMANI SERVICES Resthaven, Lerwin & Romani Ecumenical services will continue as rostered (advertised in bulletin). Lutheran Communion services begin at 1:30pm and will be held at Romani on the 2nd Thursday of the month, Resthaven on the 3rd Thursday of the month and the monthly service at Holy Cross on the 4th Thursday.

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/>

WEEKLY: *All Welcome – come along and join in the fellowship of these groups*

Mon: 9:30am ~ Cards and Coffee, Ed Centre, Christ Church

1:30pm ~ Bible Study, Holy Cross

Tues 10am ~ Bible Study, Ed Centre, Christ Church

Wed: 9am ~ Holy Cross Paper shed open

9:30am ~ Crafty Capers, Holy Cross in meeting room

4pm ~ MVLC Prayer Time ~ Christ Church (in the church)

Fri: 10am ~ Time Out at 10 ~ February ~ Concordia Hall; March JD Hall

Sat 1.30pm ~ Cards at Concordia Hall

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

If you unlock or open it then you are responsible to relock or shut.



Please Pray for the following people and their carers:

Martha Aartsen, Ernie Ahrens, Pat Arthur, Ian & Fay Baxter, Judy Brereton, Tony Budarick, Loes Frahn, John Fournier, Mona Gerhardy, Pastor Andy Gierus, Lila Grocke, Bert & Nita Hyam, Merle Herrmann, Flo Kerkham, Glen Koop, Irene Kuchel, Yvonne Lablack, Bryan Lees, Joy Leighton, Audrey Leske, Erin, Travis, Cooper, Brady & Taylor Lienert, Lynette & Terry Little, Miriam McLean, Andy & Colleen Nicholls, Annette Pearce, John & Lyndon Pfeiffer, Charmaine Paech and family, Brenda O'Reilly, Gwenda Paech, Darren Piltz, Jim Poole, Judy Rathjen, Jan Richards, Neil Schubert, Vena Shinnick, Marilyn Smith, Barbara Taylor, Sandra Thiele, Clarita Venn, Malcolm Zwar.

Resthaven: Pam Altmann, Maxine Gogler, Gil Latz, Max & Doris Klenke, Leila Koehler, Murray Piltz, Erwin Rohrlach.

Lerwin: Glad Haeusler, Wendy Hendry, Stewart Jaensch, Margaret Jenke, Alice Kowald, Stan & Lorna Peltz, Margaret Warnest.

Craigmore Resthaven: Ivy Roennfeldt

Meningie Hospital Aged Care: Felicity Woods

Romani Nursing Home: Stella Altmann, Bruce Heinrich, Dawn Lancaster, Joy Leighton, David & Kathy Kleinig, Val Spencer

Murray Bridge Hospital: Joyce Herrmann



Time out at 10 Friday's ~ February ~ Concordia Hall March ~ JD Hall

Hear the sounds of friends sharing each other's company. Coffee cups clinking. Plates nearly empty. Laughing together as we share stories. Come and join us @ 10am



Volunteers needed:

Mowing of the lawns at Christ Church - let the Christ Church Office know.



RECYCLING SHEDS

Don't forget to recycle your newspapers, used wrapping paper/ Cards and boxes etc...

Remember that Holy Cross also recycles old books and glossy magazines your bottles, soft drink cans etc anything that has the 10c refund on it.

Both recycling sheds are open:

Christ Church 24/7, Holy Cross Wed morning 9-10am or leave at office during opening hours. If you require someone to collect your recycling please let the offices know.



Important notice for LLL account holders

Please be aware that the LLL are returning to Religious Charitable Development Fund (RCDF) status. Offices have information that you can read to clarify any queries you may have.



Do you have some woodworking skills? There are a couple of projects that may suit you. Please ask at the Christ Church Office for more details. Also if you have any offcuts of wood that could be used for making different projects, please let us know. Donations are greatly accepted.

TRADING TABLES Trading tables are being held each month - Christ Church (3rd Sunday - note change of day), and Holy Cross (4th Sunday). Donations of preserves, cakes, baked goods, plants, produce etc. can be bought on the morning. Please label baked goods & preserves with ingredients.

Christ Church: The next one is on Sunday, 17th March between services

Holy Cross: The next is one on Sunday, 24th March after service

New REG Account details: Please use the new account details if you're setting up a new REG payment.

REG:

Murray Valley Lutheran Community
BSB 704942 ACC# 101026587

Music Ministry

Use **MVLC Mission & Outreach Account**
BSB 704942 ACC# 101028369
with reference of Music Ministry

Pastoral Care Worker Vacancies

Coomandook Area School,
Lenswood Primary School,
Mt Barker South Primary School,
Upper Sturt Primary School

If you or anyone you know are interested in any of these positions then please contact the Offices for Job and Person Specification and application information.

Closing dates: mid-March.

LOSS & GRIEF SESSION

Murray Heights Village Centre
Tuesday March 5 (9:00am to 10:30am.)

For anyone who is struggling with grief as well as those wanting to know more in order to help others.

Contact Annette Korzeba on 0411306878.

**MURRAYLANDS
MULTICULTURAL
Yuntu-Walun
FESTIVAL**



SUNDAY 24th of March 2024

11am Sturt Reserve
Murray Bridge

Entertainment, Food and Craft Stalls
BYO chairs

Enquiries please contact AMRC

Phone: (08) 8535 5600 Email: murraylands@amrc.org.au



Kindly printed by Tony Pasin MP Federal Member for Barker

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Sue Kuchel** - 40 years of service to Lutheran Education and **Bethanie Mann** - installed as Child, Youth Family worker.

Below are links to see these great moments:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/bG5gxuWkAWy8saZR/?mibextid=2JQ9oc>

<https://www.facebook.com/share/fuTeHZS9pYXnmWd5/?mibextid=oFDknk>



Lenten Services:

Mid-Week Lenten Services (all at 7pm)

6th March - Christ Church

13th March - Holy Cross

20th March - Monarto

Palm Sunday 24th March ~ 9am Holy Cross, 10:30am Christ Church & Monarto

Maundy Thursday 28th March: 6pm Passover Meal, 7pm Service @ Monarto

Good Friday 29th March ~ 9am Christ Church & Holy Cross, 10:30am Monarto

Easter Sunday 24th March ~ 6:30am Monarto followed by breakfast

8am breakfast followed by 9am Service Christ Church

9am Service Holy Cross followed by Hot Cross Buns morning tea

LUTHERAN.MEDIA ☺☺

Greeting Cards

BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

Lutheran Media greeting cards on sale
For a limited time, Lutheran Media is offering a two-for-one deal on its Messages of Hope greeting cards. For only \$5, you will get two packs of greeting cards (two different sets)! With inspiring images & words of encouragement, these are the perfect way to share the love. To stock up on these Messages of Hope cards, go to lutheranmedia.org.au to order yours before they're all gone.

Understanding Grace Devotional for Lent: A free downloadable and printable Lenten devotional entitled 'Understanding Grace – God's riches at Christ's expense' has been prepared by Lutheran Tract Mission. **Download the Understanding Grace devotional at www.ltm.org.au**

The Lenten season begins with Ash Wednesday on 14 February and goes to Easter Sunday on 31 March. The devotional covers all days with 47 short devotions, Bible readings and prayers. Each day there is a different quote about grace. The Bible readings speak of the undeserved love God has for each of us. We are led through Jesus' life and ultimately to the cross where we can then celebrate his resurrection and God's ultimate gift. (The offices can print them out for a cost).



Dear friends

Thank you very much for the proceeds of the Harvest Festival, it is very much appreciated. There is a greater demand for food now and your support is invaluable, so once again, thank you. Jenny Kay

Thank you for the donation of used stamps. Since 2008 *Stamps for Mission* has raised \$500,000 for God's mission among our overseas partner churches. In 2023 financial support given included: Pastor Murray and Tracy Smith, serving in Papua New Guinea; The Lutheran Study Centre in Sabah, Malaysia; The International Lutheran Seafarers' Mission, Lutheran Church in Singapore; Immanuel Lutheran Church Orchestra - Music for Life Foundation, Thailand; Lutheran Church in Cambodia Sports Ministry; Ogelbeng seminary in the Western Highlands province, Papua New Guinea. LCA International Mission

The 124 Concordia Kindergarten children have been busily writing letters and drawing pictures for you and are eagerly looking forward to receiving one from you in return. You will put a BIG smile on a child's face when they get it.

There will be times organised to meet your Pen Pal at the kindy, to get to know them and have fun with them. You are not too old to have fun!

Your Pen Pal's birth date is included, giving you an opportunity to send a card, and letters can be written at any time if you wish.

The first event will be the Easter Celebration on Tuesday March 26th and/or Thursday March 28th at 9:30am in the Holy Cross Church, followed by morning tea in Concordia Hall before visiting the Children at the Kindy where they will be eager to show you around and maybe do some Easter craft with you.

The children are delighted to receive their letters and when they are read out at group time all the children enjoy the message.

Please consider this time of sharing Jesus love by sharing your love with a child of our Concordia Kindergarten. God bless you.

Please see Gloria Pohl - Christ Church

Jan Brodde - Monarto

Dawn Schmerl - Swanport Village

Coral Eggers - Holy Cross

Coral Eggers - Murray Heights for your Kindy letter.

Kindergarten Pen Pals



Great Bargains!

Murray Valley Lutheran Community Thrift Shop

John Dohler Hall, Swanport Road

Thursday March 21 - Friday March 22

9am - 4pm

Saturday March 23

9am - 12 noon

Helpers are needed (on the dayS and to set up on the Wednesday) Please let the Office know.

Tell everyone - lots of bargains on offer.

Also bring your old cotton linens to be cut up for rags.

Car Boot Sale

Saturday March 23

8am - 1pm (Christ Church Grounds)



Ring the Office 8532 6553 or message Facebook "Christ Church Lutheran Murray Bridge" to book a site - \$10.



Congratulations to Yvonne and Mark Stiller on becoming Grandparents again.

Archer John Gutteridge son for Sophie and Daniel and brother for Evie

Friends of Lutheran Archives

Indonesian Christian Fellowship of Adelaide (ICFA) and their bule (foreigner) friend Speakers: Dasni Rau and Anthea Habel
Thursday 21 March at 7.30pm, North Adelaide Lutheran Church, 139 Archer St, North Adelaide SA 5006

Dasni Rau arrived in Adelaide in 1990 at the invitation of the LCA as an exchange church worker. She is married with two adult sons. Dasni has been a chaplain's assistant at Flinders University and worked for many years at Resthaven, Marion. She is a founding member of ICFA and has held many positions over the years. She is a proud Batak woman and very keen for Bataknese (one of the largest indigenous groups in the country) living in Adelaide to learn and practice their traditions. Dasni is a member at Trinity Pasadena.

Anthea Habel is also a member at Trinity Pasadena and of ICFA. She served as the cross-cultural deacon for many years, giving her contact with international students from many countries. Her Bahasa Indonesian skills are barely good enough because everyone wants to practice their English!

Come and hear about the history of IFCA, the long term friendships that endure between the ICFA and Trinity Pasadena members, the joyous social events and then enjoy a sing along followed by something different for supper.

All welcome. \$5.00 donation, supper. If you can't be there in person, check out: <https://www.youtube.com/@friendsoflutheranarchives9644/live>



MVLC gathered for Shrove Tuesday on 13 February with yummy savoury and sweet pancakes on the Christ Church lawn. About 50 from the very young to the more senior enjoyed pancakes and fellowship.



Youth Group

Here's a few quick shots of MVLC Youth Group from the month of February. We've had an absolute blast learning about prayer, forgiveness and the gift of grace which God gives to us freely. We've played a variety of games ranging from board games to games that don't even have a name yet! And, of course, we've all gotten to know some new faces and strengthened the connections we had already made.



Hall Hire - Please note dates halls are hired:

Concordia Hall - MB Calisthenics Club, Mon nights to 19th Feb onwards; Sarah's Graceful Girls, Wed nights to 1st May; Choo La La , Thursday nights from Feb 22;

John Dohler Hall - 9th Mar wedding receptions; 19th Mar week Thrift Shop; 20th April Wedding

Can you help with hosting? -

Looking for someone to host a young female trainee teacher (from the Barossa) who will be doing her practical training in Murray Bridge. Please contact Trevor Hage 0428 377 066 for more info.

Also for another young female trainee teacher who will be at Unity College for 5 weeks from 26th August. Please contact her mother Tenille on 0400 261 339.

Lutheran Men Of Australia March newsletter as well as the LMA Victoria Tandara Camp registration form and program are available from church or the offices.

Community Chatter will come out on the 1st Sunday each month. Please email or drop into either office any articles you wish to include, we love getting photos and hearing what is happening with the members of the Murray Valley Lutheran Community.

Christ Church
31 Swanport Rd
Murray Bridge

Holy Cross
31 Florence St
Murray Bridge

Zion Monarto
427 Schenscher Road
Monarto

ALWS 'Asante' "Asante" is the Swahili word for 'thank you'!

It's a word you hear a lot when you visit a refugee camp you support through ALWS at Kakuma in Kenya. The people you help in Indonesia want to thank you too, and the word they use is 'Terima Kasih'. ALWS wants to pass that thank you onto you in person, and so that is why we are coming to the Adelaide Hills [Mt Barker] and inviting you to be a part of the *ALWS Asante*. It is an opportunity for us to share some of the work that through ALWS you are currently involved in and meet some of the ALWS team.

But, not only that. You will also be hearing stories and songs from **special guests, Robin and Dorothy Mann,**
Ambassadors for ALWS Lives You Touch program.

What: ALWS Asante presentation [90mins] interspersed with a meal
When: **Saturday 16th March – 6:00pm drinks and nibbles for 6:30pm start with simple meal provided through course of presentation**
Where: St Mark's Lutheran Church, 35 Hampden Rd MT BARKER
RSVP: Friday 8th March – **1300 763 407** or alws@alws.org.au

Robin and Dorothy have been to Indonesia where they braved motorbikes, mangroves and mud to see the life-changing impact of the love that people like you bring to life through ALWS. Packed into the 90 minute *ALWS Asante* will be stories and songs from Robin and Dorothy...
...an inspiring journey to a community where people with disability are no longer forgotten, but celebrated...

...like Marleni who shared, *"I have been blind in this eye since I was 12 years old.*

I got a sickness [like chickenpox] and some went in my eye. My family were too poor to get any medicine and so I lost the sight. I have not been able to work – just stay with the family and they care for me, but I was rejected by my community. I joined the Persons With Disability Group [facilitated by our partner in Indonesia and supported through ALWS] in 2022. I put in a little bit of money each month. After many months I could take a loan for several hundred dollars to start this kiosk. It put items in the shop and helped to build this small room at the front of the house. I can now get a profit each week from the fuel and the food. I feel very happy, and it creates my spirit to feel more appreciated by the community when I have this shop. Thank you!"



...and then an update on your ALWS action on the frontline conflict zones of Ukraine, Myanmar and Somalia from Jonathan Krause and Peter Egesa [ALWS Humanitarian Coordinator]

There will also be an opportunity for you to ask questions at the end as you finish enjoying the hospitality of your wonderful Mt Barker community. A great opportunity to chat with old friends and new as you reflect on how you have seen and heard about faith at work, being lived out in practical ways in people's lives!

We look forward to sharing this special time with you. Your ALWS Team

March Men's Shed - March 15th

6pm Hot Dog Tea at Murray Bridge Rifle Club (52 Rifle Road Monarto)
Church mum and competition shooter—Jasmine Irvine shares with us.
Keep this one in your SIGHTS and SHOOT out to join us



Please find attached reports as promised at AGM
that were omitted from the first editions of the
Murray Valley Lutheran Community Book of Reports

The year started out with a combined team of Pastoral Assistants, Home Communion Assistants and the Care Team. It was soon learned that the Care Team needed to focus on the one aspect of caring for the elderly and shut-ins needing visits and phone calls. In May the Care Team became a separate team with Coral Eggers as Coordinator.

Reaching out with the love of Jesus to friends of the Holy Cross family who have special needs, and those of the Zion Monarto family with special needs.

members for the past year were David Schirmer, Tony Budarick, Helen Hueppauff, Dulcie Pfeiffer, Janet Bensch, (Holy Cross) and Robert Thiele (Monarto). Pastor Paul attended most monthly meetings supporting and encouraging us in our ministry.

included a devotional time in God's Word led by team members, discussing various topics to better equip us to serve, a time of sharing our joys and concerns for those visited and phoned and time spent in prayer for all people and concerns. Rosters for those to be visited by each member on our list over the next month, were given to each member.

Throughout the year there were approximately forty people (50 when adding spouses) on our list needing care and encouragement, who were living at home. Each of these were contacted once a month either with a visit or a phone call.

Unfortunately the physical abilities of our team members are such that they are mostly unable to personally visit, but enjoy phoning and encouraging those in need. Each member had eight people to contact each month.

Another fifteen people, formerly Holy Cross members in nursing homes, are cared for by the Christ Church Senior Care Team and the Pastoral Assistants.

Cards, made by Janet Bensch were given on special occasions. Thank you Janet for the gift you share. Tracts are made available at every meeting and these are given or posted to those on the list when appropriate. A calling card is also available when contact cannot be made with a person.

Christmas cards, designed by Dawn Hampel (Christ Church Care coordinator) were given to those unable to get to worship services and those in nursing care.

It is with sorrow that Dulcie Pfeiffer has been taken from us, but with joy that she is now with her Saviour whom she served so faithfully. Dulcie's excitement, enthusiasm, care and love for those she visited was an encouragement to us all and we thank God for the blessings we received through her.

While the care teams of Christ Church and Holy Cross still meet and work separately, Dawn Hampel and I share thoughts and ideas to help us care for the elderly, cross checking lists etc to lead our teams with the gifts given us by God.

Thank you to our team members who have faithfully served God in their mission this year and to the many others in our church family who reach out to those on the prayer list and others in need. Is God calling you to join the Care Team so that we can maintain the frequency of contacting those in need of care and encouragement? Without more members we will be unable to visit or phone people as often in 2024.

2023 has been a new step for many of us in the Murray Valley Community. We thank God for His blessings and pray for faith and His guidance in the year ahead.

God bless you all.

Yours in Christ

Coral Eggers

Care Team coordinator (Holy Cross Family)

~ MURRAY VALLEY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY ~
~ HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH ~
MURRAY BRIDGE SA January 2024

Reaching out with the Love of Jesus, that All may Know, Worship & Grow in Christ.

Aim: To give to those unable to attend Sunday worship services the opportunity to be able to **worship** in their own home or together with others.

Goal: To make it possible for **ALL our members** to be blest with the joy of worshipping our Lord and Saviour, Jesus, listening, praying and singing praises to God together with their church family.

Activities throughout the year included

Regular recording with the I.T. team, also Baptism, a Wedding, and Funeral recording. Several recordings were done at Monarto to include them in our activities.

Production of the DVDs.

DVDs were distributed to Members requesting a copy, Taillem Bend and Meningie Hospitals, and Leerwin & Alwyndore Nursing homes, and the MB Lutheran Retirement Villages. USB files were regularly viewed by the Romani Centre.

Production of a 'YouTube' file for on-line viewing.

About 20 DVDs are now produced regularly, approx every two weeks, and viewed by many more as they are *shared*. This sharing brings together members who are not able to worship at church regularly, but are able to worship with others in their homes.

Extra discs were done for Church Festivals, e.g. Easter and Christmas, Confirmation, and services at 'The Steeple'.

Copies of Baptism services are given to families of the child baptized.

Many more view our services through the on-line '*YouTube link*'. We have a listing of over 85 subscribers, as well as other viewers, and have reached a total viewing time of *1,600 hours*. 56 Services were recorded during this last 12 months.

This outreach has also given many others an opportunity to join with us in worship.

Funeral recording gave many people an opportunity via DVD or YouTube to be part of those services.

***DVD and 'YouTube' helps to join the congregation into a Oneness of Worship,
and an important outreach to the wider community.***

To all who have supported this service and outreach through their prayers and donations, many thanks.

Future plans: Opportunities are there to provide *worship and study material*, and provide *links to other sites*, as our thirst for Christ increases.

An excitement as we join with Christ Church and Monarto in our *outreach of the Gospel* through our **Murray Valley Lutheran Community**

Bob EGGERS

for the DVD Ministry Team

IT (Information Technology) and TAC (Take Away Church) **Report – Christ Church**

DVD's of the Sunday Service (11 copies at this time) are being distributed to various places as well as being available in our 'Take Away Church' cupboard outside the Church Office. Many thanks to all involved with videoing, editing, copying and distribution of the DVD's. Videos of services are being uploaded onto our YouTube channel - Christ Church Lutheran Murray Bridge.

Church Web Page is still being updated weekly along with the Murray Valley Lutheran Community Webpage which will supersede our current one. Many thanks to Carolyn McLaughlin who has been working hard on the new webpage. **Facebook Page** is being updated intermittently – we are still looking for someone to take on this fulltime.

Member Records are being updated as required – we would love to have updated photos of all members, please email or drop off a photo or come into the office and we'll take one. We are waiting for the purchase of an updated member data base that will incorporate all three worship sites into the one data base. You may find that we will ask for confirmation of your member details in the near future.

Our Care Directory is available on request and being updated continually (It is a large file so please allow time for printing if you wish to have one). Once we have the new data base we will look at compiling a MVLC Directory.

TAC (Take Away Church) – Janelle's main duties are compiling everything for the Take Away Church ministry – 9 hours of pay coming from what was Christ Church's Auxiliary Account. Currently 55 adult packs as well as 5 large print packs, 6 children packs and 5 christian colouring pages are put together each week thanks to our wonderful Monday morning volunteers! We also have bibles and devotional booklets that we put out to be taken. These have been donated to the office (new and old). It is surprising the number of 'non church' people that come along and grab a pack etc. This has been another way to get God's love and word into the community.

We are always looking for more people to be involved with any aspect of IT, including operating the PA system in the church or hall. Please contact me if you are willing to help out.

**Christian greetings,
Yvonne Stiller**