

December 2024

*Proclaiming Christ in word and action;
growing in care, love and service.*

The Grapevine

Newsletter of the Western Fleurieu Anglicans, Diocese of The Murray, SA



WFA Christmas services 2024

Saturday 21st December St Stephen's, 5.30pm

St Andrews Tce, Willunga

CHRISTMAS EVE Tuesday 24th December

Carols and service Christ Church 7pm

South Road, Yankalilla,

Carols and service St Margaret's 7.30pm

99 Main Road, McLaren Vale

CHRISTMAS DAY Wednesday 25th December

St Ann's, 9am

7 Stonehouse Lane, Aldinga

Christ Church, 9am

South Road, Yankalilla

St Nicholas', 9am Ecumenical Service

cnr Main St and Grand Blvd, Seaford



Advent – the season of anticipation and hope. It is the time in our church calendar where we celebrate the first coming of Christ and wait with anticipation and hope for his return. It is not the type of waiting where we sip a gin and tonic as we sit in a chair in our garden and wait for his return, for

we do not know when this will happen. We must keep on doing and continuing the good works that we are all called to do.

And it is at this time especially where we look outside our family and friends to those who are on the outer edges of society; the poor, the homeless, the sick. In this troubled world we must all “Keep Calm and Carry on”. Our God sometimes seems distant but however distant he seems there is an anticipation of a King who will rule with truth and justice and righteousness, and bring peace to all peoples and nations. We must continue this journey of expectation and hope with gladness in our hearts that

Christ will return and overcome all that is evil in this world.

So, Keep Calm and Carry on as we spend this season of Advent in prayers for deliverance, prayers for those walking in darkness who are awaiting a great dawn.

May you and your family and friends have a most blessed and joyful Christmas.

Blessings – The Vicar

A cat noticed my condition. I was sad and went outside, I sat in a chair and watched the garden.

A cat – Meg—noticed my condition and came near. It often doesn't take more than that to help at times – just to be close to a creature who is so full of knowing, so full of love that they don't chat, they just gaze with their marvellous understanding. We miss you Meg.



This Christmas
Save your stamps and give them to
your Wardens for the
Anglican Board of Mission,
www.abmission.org.
ABM can use them to raise money for the
churches' mission work.
Leave at least 1cm around the stamp when you
cut it off.

STOP PRESS: ORDINATION

On Saturday 30th November Archbishop Geoff Smith will ordain Bec Newell to the diaconate at 10am at St Peter's Cathedral. Bec will subsequently be commissioned as Non-Stipendiary Deacon in the parish of Southern Suburbs. Please keep Bec and her family in your prayers.

For your Diary .

December

Sun 1 st	Gold coin collection for PCWs* St Nicholas' shared lunch and meeting
Mon 2 nd	Mothers Union 9.30am St Ann's
Sun 8 th	"Round Table" service, St Nicholas, 10.30am ACH service, Yankalilla
Mon 9 th	WFA Council Christ Church, 4pm
Thurs 12 th	Prayers for Peace St Ann's 11.15am
Sat 14 th	Parish Christmas Luncheon (see below)
Sun 15 th	Walking with Jesus, Christ Church 10am
Tues 17 th	Friends of St Ann's 4pm
Sat 21 st	THOMAS St Stephen's Christmas Service 5.30pm
Sun 22 nd	Healing Service, Christ Church
Tues 24 th	CHRISTMAS EVE (see p. 1)
Wed 25 th	CHRISTMAS DAY (see p. 1)
Thurs 26 th	STEPHEN
Fri 27 th	JOHN
Sat 28 th	HOLY INNOCENTS
Sun 29 th	Fifth Sunday PARISH COMBINED SERVICE, St Nicholas', 10am, with shared lunch to follow (see below R)

*PCW Pastoral Care workers (chaplains)

January 2025

Wed 1 st	NAMING & CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS
Sun 5 th	Gold coin collection for PCWs*
Mon 6 th	EPIPHANY
Thurs 9 th	Prayers for Peace St Ann's 11.15am
Sat 11 th	Saturday Night Out, Willunga
Sun 12 th	BAPTISM OF OUR LORD ACH service, Yankalilla
Mon 13 th	WFA Council St Ann's 4pm
Sun 19 th	Walking with Jesus, Christ Church 10am
Tues 21 st	Friends of St Ann's 4pm
Fri 24 th	Family Tea, St Ann's 6.30 for 7pm
Sun 26 th	Healing Service, Christ Church

And also,

- * each Tuesday at St Stephen's, Willunga
Meditation 9am
- each Wednesday at St Margaret's, McLaren Vale
Holy Communion 9am, Bible Study 10am
- * and each Friday Meditation at Christ Church,
Yankalilla 9.15-10am

PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Seaford Christian Churches
Saturday 14th December 2024
12 for 12.30pm

Roast Turkey and Vegetables
Pavlova or Christmas Pudding
Vegetarian and gluten free options.
BYO drinks

\$20 per head. Book early (numbers limited to 40)
Tea, coffee, water and orange juice provided.
Contact Jane, 0407 651 606 & leave message.

~Fifth Sunday in the month~ PARISH COMBINED SERVICE

St Nicholas', Seaford
Sunday 29th December
10am
Shared lunch to follow



Christmas Bowl

ACT FOR PEACE THIS CHRISTMAS

Celebrating 75 years of acting for peace in the world.

Christmas Bowl gifts help to bring to those who need it most, the peace that comes with having a safe place to belong.

We have been given a code for our parish to use for online giving direct: mycb.link/47685. Or send a donation through the envelopes provided at your church.



Join the **BCA Connect Summer Edition 2025** on Friday evening 17th January from 5pm. Inspiring Bible teaching, interactive interviews and panel Q&A. This year, Primary-aged children will also enjoy their very own BCA 4 KIDS program and a cry room will be available for little ones . People can roll in after work, from home, or holiday for **pizza, salad** and **Golden North ice creams** under the trees on the beautiful lawns of the Bible College of South Australia. **Men in Boats** will lead us in an all-age time of singing and praising our great God .

REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL – Please go to bushchurcaid.com.au/events.

Walking with Jesus

On the third Sunday of the month, the Christ Church congregation meets at 10am instead of 11, in the hall instead of the church, and after a cuppa and cake, the day is open for prayer, discussion and questions. These special services are known as “Walking with Jesus”.

The topic in November was GRACE, a word that is widely used in our society for a girl's name, a thanksgiving prayer before a meal, charm in a person's manner or appearance, a title for a person in authority (e.g. a bishop), the quality of being considerate, or a reprieve from a deserved punishment. It is this last usage which most closely describes the use of the word in the Bible. It is easiest to explain this with the



famous hymn, *Amazing Grace*, which is so widely known:

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.*

The hymn was written by John Newton (1725-1807), an English slave trader who became an Anglican minister, a hymn writer, and later, a noted abolitionist. His transformation from a faithless seaman to a man of deep faith is echoed in his work, and his feeling of joy and release from his wretched state of guilt as a slave trader is obvious in this first verse of his hymn. This is the result of God's grace which is the favour and forgiveness of sin that He gives us although we don't deserve it. There are many wonderful verses about Grace in the Bible, such as:

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (1 Corinthians 12:9).

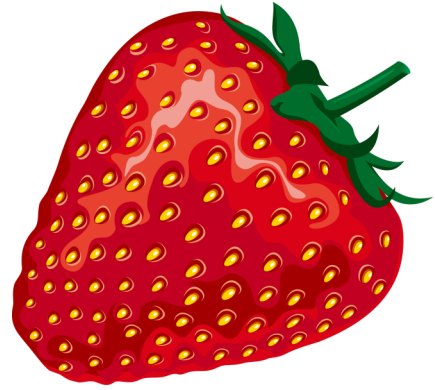
“By the grace of God, I am what I am” (1 Corinthians 15:10).

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms” (1 Peter 4:10).

“May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore” (2 Corinthians 13:14).

The Bible story from which we teased out the evidence of the grace of Jesus was his encounter with the Syrian woman at the well (John 4: 1-42). We saw that Jesus went out of his way to meet this woman of ill repute, knowing of her desperate need for a new way of life. The “living water” or grace that she received changed her life, and that of many of the others in the town where she lived.

If we can demonstrate God's grace to our neighbours, this will show them what Jesus is like and encourage them to find his grace themselves.



As this issue of *The Grapevine* goes to press, the small congregation of Christ Church, Yankalilla is “up to its eyeballs” preparing for the annual Strawberry Fete to be held this year on Saturday 30th November, and hoping to see crowds from all around coming to join the festivities.

In homes around the town and beyond, bakers are baking, gardeners preparing their pot plants, goods for the white elephant stall and other tables being sorted, raffle tickets and prizes organised, the organist preparing an item to be played on the hour, eggs, bacon and sausages brought in for the BBQ, and, for the famous strawberry stall next to the morning tea tables—strawberries, cream and ice cream

And who knows—the Big Strawberry might at this moment be trying on his green tights and strawberry costume ready for a visit!

Everyone's much too busy to write anything for *The Grapevine*—but watch this space next month!

AC



Christmas is coming!

The Ecumenical Events Committee is organising to run the Christmas Carols as part of

the Kids' Market on the Village Green on Sunday Afternoon, December 15th, from 4-7pm.

Kids' games, sausage sizzle, coffee van.

Bring a rug and picnic

and enjoy carols and local musicians.

You may wish to bring along items of non-perishable food to put under the Ray White Giving Tree for distribution to the less fortunate in the district through the 5CY Community Pantry.

Contact 0427 534 095 for further information.

See *The Grapevine* in glorious colour, with an online photo supplement, on our Parish website, southernvalesparish.org

St Stephen's, Willunga

The last week of November marked six months since we began our Tuesday morning Meditation Service. Led by Fr. Brenton, this 30-minute service has drawn not only members of other churches in our WFA parish to share our silent periods of contemplation, but also a number of local Willunga residents – several of whom have become regular Tuesday morning attendees. Although the service itself takes place mostly in silence, the socialization that takes place over a cuppa and biscuits after the service has been extremely valuable in allowing us to make our visitors feel welcome as we get to know them better over Scotch Fingers and Orange Slices.

However, our hospitality skills were really put to the test on November 20th when we hosted a screening of the Australian-made movie, *The Way, My Way*. As you may recall from previous editions of *The Grapevine*, this film recounts the pilgrimage journey made by a 60ish Australian man who decided to spend 31 days walking the 800km Camino de Santiago trail from the south-west of France to the tomb of St James the Apostle in Santiago de Compostela, Spain (*map p. 13 online*).

A total of 41 people attended the event, including quite a few from other churches in Willunga. I made a brief presentation before the film to provide some background and history about the Camino, as it's commonly called, but it was our own Brian McMillan who really set the audience alight in anticipation. He did so by briefly describing how a little over 10 years ago he had walked exactly the same journey as we were about to see on screen, and he shared a couple of anecdotes from his adventure. He even displayed the personalised *Compostela* (Certificate of Completion) that he had received from the authorities at the Cathedral de Compostela after his arrival in Santiago.

After this introduction, it was no surprise that the

audience paid rapt attention throughout the film and afterwards we received many reports about how much they enjoyed the story.

After the movie the hospitality crew led by Christi Banner, helped by Wendy Sandercock, came to the fore and served supper. The menu consisted of antipasto skewers, Spanish meatballs, and crusty bread followed by a Portuguese custard tart. Spanish wine was also served.

Steve Banner, Warden



And for other news from St Stephen's:

On the 9th November Fr Brenton presented Steve Banner with his Diocesan Licence (*see Snippets, p. 11*). This month St Stephen's had another service of Prayer, Praise and Proclamation, led by Steve.



There will be no Saturday Night Out in December, as the 14th of that month will instead be the day of the Parish Luncheon (*see p. 3*). Be sure to book in for this special occasion!



Another busy time for us all, catching up with those who have been away or not well and planning for services in December. It is hard to believe we are about to begin Advent for another year – where have all those months gone!

Our Family Service on the 3rd November was based on All Saints and

had a couple of themes running through it that connected well with each other. We have a memorial book at St Nicholas' that includes all those "saints" that have gone before us; family, friends and past congregation members. This year we used our Memory Tree as a centre point for



all the candles lit in memory of all those who are no longer with us, but still loved and remembered. The young people set the small battery candles around the tree, one for each person mentioned. We talked about the strength and protection like a shield that our faith gives us, and using small shields Helen had made, we all added our own ideas on how people, places and events had helped us form our Shields of Faith (see p. 13 online).

Our service, as usual, was followed by a shared lunch and monthly St Nicholas' Meeting. This month we had the added task of planning for our Christmas services.

Our Round table service on the 10th November had the title "Love, Actually" and followed the fortunes of Naomi and Ruth. As it was also Remembrance Day Weekend, we placed our poppy wreath, beautifully made by Sunara, with our candle in the middle of our table, remembering all those whose sacrifice kept and still keeps us safe and free.



Our discussion centred on God's particular care for the most vulnerable— for the hungry, strangers, orphans and widows; for those returning home or seeking safety in another land. For the gospel we used *The Message*



translation of Mark, part of which reads, "Love the Lord God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy". We looked at ways we could explore these words and show our love to others. To paraphrase Jesus's words, those in need will always be with us. We need to explore how we love those in need and remind ourselves that the *hesed love* that is at the heart of the story of Ruth and the *agape love* that washes through the pages of the New Testament are fundamentally about the choices we make in the interests of others; how we show "Love, Actually" to all of God's children.

On the 17th November Father Ian Young led us in our worship. He spoke about how, because of Jesus, we need not worry that God's house on earth (the temple) was taken and destroyed. God is not restricted to buildings; he cannot be put in a box but is always with us. God's house is everywhere on earth and despite what humanity does, or tries to do, God is always with us to guide and support us as we continue to fight against all that is evil in the world. By following the commandment to love one another, to encourage, care and support one another in Jesus name, we need not fear or heed the false prophets that rise in the world.

It was lovely to catch up with both Fr Ian and Jan and we look forward to seeing them again in December.

Our service on the 24th Christ the King, was led by Fr Ted Newing. Having swapped Sundays with Fr Ian's week, this became our healing service for the month. We are truly fortunate that Fr Ted still offers to minister to us on Sundays, thus helping with the roster planning for the parish and enabling us to continue with our communion and healing service each month. Fr Ted preached on the importance of life choices and how often God's hand could be seen in our lives, when things were good and also when things were bad. He emphasised that in the end, love is the most important thing we need to give, and have, in our lives; the rest is ultimately unimportant. →

News from St Nicholas', cont'd

Fellowship – On Tuesday 19th November we had our annual Christmas get together of family and friends at the SEM Café. We had a lovely lunch of Christmas fare and enjoyed a great time of fellowship and re-connection. Fortunately Fr Brenton was able to stay after our usual monthly meeting and join us for lunch.

Our prayer list has been very active this month, with several people unwell, and prayers and thanksgiving for the wider community, friends and family adding to our list.

Plans are well in hand for our Advent and Christmas services and we look forward to joining with everyone over the Christmas Season.
Blessings

Helen Cook and Jane Cuthbert, Wardens

Jenny Walker, from the St Margaret's congregation, writes:

Celtic Crosses

St Margaret's has a beautiful history with a medieval Christian Scottish Queen-Saint for a patron. (She was actually from an English royal line, but born in Europe!). (See picture p. 15 online.)



The rich Celtic history of our tradition is also evident in some of the crosses in our church. The Processional Cross has a distinctive Celtic design, as does the cross image engraved on the door of our Aumbry (L), the tiny "cupboard" which holds the blessed reserved sacrament.

I wonder if anyone has more information on the origins of these cross designs for St Margaret's? I'd love to hear more about them.

After taking some images after church on Wednesday recently, I went home and noticed how similar the design was to my own special "St John's Cross" (R) which comes from Iona, an island in Scotland which is a birthplace of many Celtic era monastic movements. The St John's cross at Iona is a large standing cross adjacent to the Iona Abbey entrance. It too, has the circle around the cross, and I understand that the circled cross is a symbol of the resurrection.

What a wonderful rich history and tradition our Anglican heritage contains.

Jenny Walker



Mothers Union Australia



Our group met at the home of Helen Cook on November 4th for our monthly meeting. Nine members and friends enjoyed a cuppa before our service whilst exchanging news of our recent activities. As well as our regular MU prayer points for the day, prayers were offered for absent member, Takoohi Baban and for others on our hearts.

Helen's husband joined us for lunch and many thanks to those who brought the salads and sweets.

On November 18th MU members from this end of the Diocese met at St Aiden's, Aberfoyle Park, for our Wave of Prayer Service, followed by Holy Communion led by our MU Chaplain, Fr Daniel Irvine. A time of fellowship over our BYO lunch was enjoyed before our Diocesan

meeting. Our branch had three in attendance, Trish Frith, Helen Cook and Gwendoline Dziruni.

Our next meeting is at St Ann's on Monday 2nd December at 9.30am.

Helen Cook (Secretary)

The Mothers Union is supporting with prayer the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence (25th November—10th December 2024) - prayers for relationships "when love is hard", prayers for those who support and reach out to others in trouble; prayers not only for women suffering violence, but also for men, and for those who want to change from violent ways.

"Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth," 1 John 3:18 (NIV)

This month, like all others, has again flown by!

Worship

All Saints/Pentecost

On 3rd November, the Season of All Saints, we thanked God for the saints of the church. Those who put their trust in Christ are among the saints of God—now, as in times past, and in the times to come—whether they do great things in God's name, or live a faithful life in some quieter way. Giving thanks for the saints that had gone before us, we lit candles in their remembrance.



We often comment on the messages given by members of the congregation, but we are also thankful for the time and effort put in by our Vicar. So inspiring was a recent sermon that someone commented that we could have heard a pin drop on carpet! It was his sermon on the "widow's mite", introduced by "He saw her", with much of the content reflecting on how Jesus sees the little things we do and say; things we deem insignificant or of little or no consequence. The focus was not on money, but on allegiance to our Lord and King. His sermon on Christ the King, too, was particularly appreciated. Thank you, Fr Brenton, for giving us thought provoking, yet heart warming messages.

Another memorable service was our recent PPP (Prayer, Praise and Proclamation) service. Inspired by the Old Testament reading of 1 Samuel, where God answers Hannah's request for a son (Samuel), we sang her response in place of a psalm, and instead of a message given by one person, we invited members of the congregation to come forward and share a favourite hymn that had a special meaning for them. Hymns discussed were: "*Be still for the presence of the Lord*", "*Brother, sister, let me serve you*", "*My song is love unknown*", "*Here I am Lord; is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night*", "*Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us*", "*Dear Lord and Father of mankind*", "*Through all the changing scenes of life*" and "*I danced in the morning when the world was*

begun". The stories of why these hymns had been chosen were both moving and inspirational. As people discussed the hymns, and why each meant so much to them, it was interesting to note how our worship is based on who God is, and on "a road to bring us daily nearer God." Many thanks to those who participated.



On the 10th November we were pleased to congratulate Brian McMillan, Julianne Bates and Margaret Cale as Fr Brenton presented them with their licences for ministry at St Ann's. We are all grateful for their work and their leadership.

Other matters

A few days prior to Remembrance Day, four of us met at De's home to decorate two wreaths provided by Ross, who then presented them and read the "Ode to the Fallen" at the service at the Aldinga Memorial.



I wish we had thought to take photos of our wreath-making endeavours. You would have noticed how we were helped along with bubbles and a cheese platter!

We were pleased with our efforts, but more importantly, we recognised that these moments are wonderful for creating memories and nurturing friendships.

Caring matters.

A thank you must go out to Wendy, the prayer group and those who go above and beyond in their care for others at St Ann's. Sometimes people are way out of their comfort zones, but God is our ever present help in times of trouble and He always seems to find the way we need to take. Answered prayers are a great motivator to keep persisting.

A few of our people help out at the Aldinga **Christian Care Centre**. As numbers of those in need in our district have increased considerably, a list of items required has been circulated and it is pleasing to see how generous people have been. Christmas hampers will be prepared soon and donations of food or money are welcome. The last day for donations to the hampers is Sunday Dec 8th. The centre will close over Christmas; its last day will be 11th December, reopening on 13th January.

Our four week **Advent Bible Study** commenced on Thursday 28th November, meeting in the Room at 7pm. Contact Anne Chittleborough if you would like to join it.

Maintenance

Once again, many thanks to the gardening team. The weeds have been taken care of, the pruning done and the flowering shrubs and roses are looking delightful. A working bee to erect the back fence dividing the cemetery from our neighbour's land is yet to be scheduled, but the materials and workers have been suggested. If you would like to help, please see Barry.

However, a date **has** been set for a working bee on the church and Room to get everything in order for Christmas. There will be a **Clean-Up working bee**,

Saturday 7th December, starting 9am, to involve cleaning windows, church light fittings, cleaning cobwebs etc. We rely on everyone's help for this, please. We are grateful to Beryl and Ross who, despite the pressures of wedding preparations, have renewed their earlier offer to clean the carpet, and will do it on Saturday 18th January. They say they can do all the furniture moving themselves (but they would probably like help!).

Our last **Family Tea** for this year was held on the 22nd and even though the day was hot and we thought the air conditioner had stopped working, thirteen of us turned up to share a delicious BBQ, with salads and desserts to die for! Even though the numbers were down, the conversation certainly wasn't! (As for the air conditioner, someone had turned off the switch to it...and this warden had never noticed the random switch on the wall!)

On a final note, Brian brought to the Friends meeting the church life survey that we did in 2022. It was interesting to see what we valued most then and what we wanted to give attention to. It seems we are doing the latter, without realising it. In 2022 we said that we:

Most value:

- 60% Sharing in Communion,
- 48% Traditional style of worship or music
- 36% Practical care for one another in times of need,
- 32% Praying for one another

Want to give attention to:

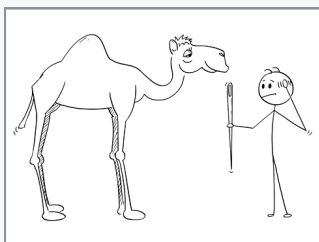
- 34% Worship services that are nurturing,
 - 31% building a sense of community
 - 31% encouraging people here to discover / use their gifts
 - 28% Ensuring new people are included
- It was agreed that this would be worth following up again.

Brian McMillan, Julianne Bates, Wardens

If you have news of coming events or happenings in the Western Fleurieu Anglican area to share with the rest of the parish, please contact the Editor, Anne Chittleborough, at 23 Esplanade, Pt Willunga 5173, ph 8556 5078 or email machit5@bigpond.com.au, preferably by the 15th of December.

Please notify the Editor if you wish to avoid the chance of being mentioned in this newsletter.

Last month's question: What do you think the camel is saying?



A chocolate frog goes to the winner, Julie Bennett...

"If we are going to see eye to eye on this, you want me to slip thru that, and then you'll stitch me up!? No deal."

And also to the runner-up, Tristan Simon...

"I may have the hump but this needle has the nerve!"

Congratulations to the winners (Anne Chittleborough has your chocolate frogs), and thanks to the judge (Br Simon) and all who participated.

Other suggested answers can be found on p. 16 of the online supplement.

News from St Margaret's, McLaren Vale

As we come to the end of the church's year, celebrate Christ the King and prepare for Advent and Christmas, the seasons gain momentum and as a result our activities increase.

November passed quickly, with Fr Ian Young once again visiting us with his wife Jan, and celebrating the Eucharist with us. Thanks again, Fr Ian. Fr Brenton was available for two Sundays and so was able to celebrate the Feast of St Margaret of Scotland with us. The service was lovely, with remembrances of St Margaret in prayers, hymn and sermon, and afterwards, during morning tea, when Margaret Richardson and Iera Margaret Matthiessen



cut St Margaret's celebration cake. Iera and John Matthiessen, from Wales, are visiting John's brother who lives next door in the Kalyra Independent Living Units, and have been attending services here. Active in their local church, they will be returning to Wales in couple of weeks.

Following the St Margaret's Service was a Pleasant Sunday Afternoon of song and music, organised by Greg John (*see next column*). The church was packed for the Concert. We all enjoyed ourselves and were able to catch up with one another afterwards in the hall during afternoon tea. A special thanks to Greg for all his hard work, not only in the organisation but also in the setting up of the equipment and packing it up afterwards.

Another joy has been the attendance of Mel and Halle at one of our Wednesday services (*photo p. 10 online*). They used to attend about once a month last year but hadn't been for a while. It was great to catch up with them again.

This time of year is also about catching up on some of the tasks we never seem to have time for, like putting up safety posters and completing Rectory and OH&S inspections, so Julia and I have been busy.

This last Sunday of the Church's year we have Jenny Walker, our newest Pastoral Assistant, giving us the address for Christ The King, and with that we enter into the next liturgical year with all its promise and challenges.

As always, thank you to all those who help to maintain our church, the hall and surrounds. May God continue to bless us all.

Judy Wells for Julia and the Congregation of St Margaret's

On Sunday November 17th, Friends of the Greg Trott Pipe Organ presented another of their popular Pleasant Sunday Afternoons.

This year's guest artist was the accomplished organist, Gina Dutscke, Principal Organist at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Gina's first bracket showed off the range of colours



and dynamics the organ is capable of, and her second bracket prepared us for the Advent season, with Bach's "Wachet Auf" and "In Dulci Jubilo".

Two of her talented young students also entertained us. Nine year-old organist, Nathaniel Kemp confidently performed five short pieces, from "Star Wars" to "Away in a Manger", making the instrument sound like a theatre organ, and pianist Nirike Nel played two pieces from movies with expert touch and expression.

The much anticipated duets from Greg John and Curtis Antram had to be cancelled due to Curtis' illness, but their items were substituted with "Bless this House" from Greg and "Stranger on the Shore" from professional clarinetist Rod Sandercock.

Three modern Christian songs were performed by the parish choir, accompanied by Brian McMillan on the organ. Four well-known hymns with special organ accompaniments were sung with gusto by the audience, who enjoyed the rare and uplifting experience of singing in a full church with a mighty pipe organ. And for the first time at St Margaret's, the audience was able to see the organists on the screen at the front of the church.

Greg John



L-R: Greg John, Gina Dutscke, Nathaniel Kemp, Nirike Nel, Rod Sandercock

Snippets from Parish Council, 11th November 2024

Licences had been given and were being officially presented to those lay people in the parish who are licensed to take services, take Home Communions, preach and eventually (after training) take funerals.

The Secretary asked for updates on contact details for the Parish Directory so it could be printed and made available.

Safe Ministry qualifications are essential for anyone with a licence.

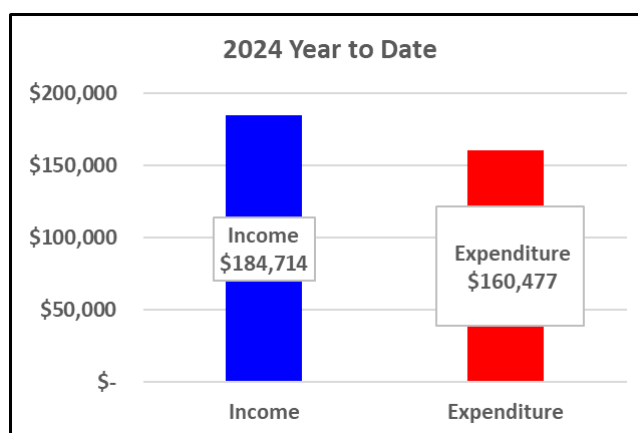
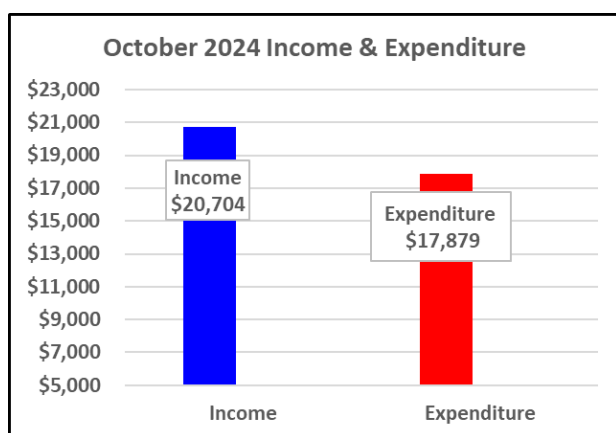
Permission is required to photograph children: the permission form is on the Diocesan website.

Correspondence and suggestions for the future use of the St James', Delamere church and cemetery are being received and noted.

There had been a request for a baptism at St James', which is still a consecrated site. There would be a lot of cleaning up needed as the church had not been in use for some time.

A quote of \$4,950 had been obtained for repair of St Margaret's driveway. Meanwhile, the galahs are back, working away at the stonework.

The December Saturday Night Out would be cancelled as it would be the same day as the Parish Luncheon.



A good way to support the ministry of our parish is to arrange a weekly offering as a direct debit. This gives a steady commitment to our church even when we miss a Sunday.

The Anglican Parish of Southern Vales
BSB: 105 071, Acc no. 029112440

This Month's Readings: Year C (Luke)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—1st December—Jeremiah 33:14-16—Psalm 25:1-10—1 Thessalonians 3:9-13—Luke 21:25-38

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT—8th December—Malachi 3:1-4—for the Psalm, Song of Zechariah (APBA p. 10) —Philippians 1:1-11—Luke 3:1-6

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT—15th December—Zephaniah 3:14-20—for the Psalm, Song of Isaiah (APBA p. 391) — Philippians 4:4-7—Luke 3:7-18

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—22nd December—Micah 5:2-5a—for the Psalm, Song of Mary (APBA p. 31) or Psalm 80:1-7 —Hebrews 10:5-10—Luke 1:39-45(46-55)

CHRISTMAS EVE—24th December—Isaiah 9:2-7—Psalm 96—Titus 2:11-14—Luke 2:1-14(15-20)

CHRISTMAS DAY—25th December— Isaiah 62:6-12—Psalm 97—Titus 3:4-8a—Luke 2: (1-7)8-20

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS—29th December— 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26—Psalm 148— Colossians 3:12-17—Luke 2:41-52

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS—5th January 2025—Jeremiah 31:7-14—Psalm 147:12-20— Ephesians 1:3-14—John 1:(1-9) 10-18, or

EPIPHANY: Isaiah 60:1-6—Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14—Ephesians 3:1-12—Matthew 2:1-12

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St Stephen's, Willunga

(see p. 5)

The Way, My Way



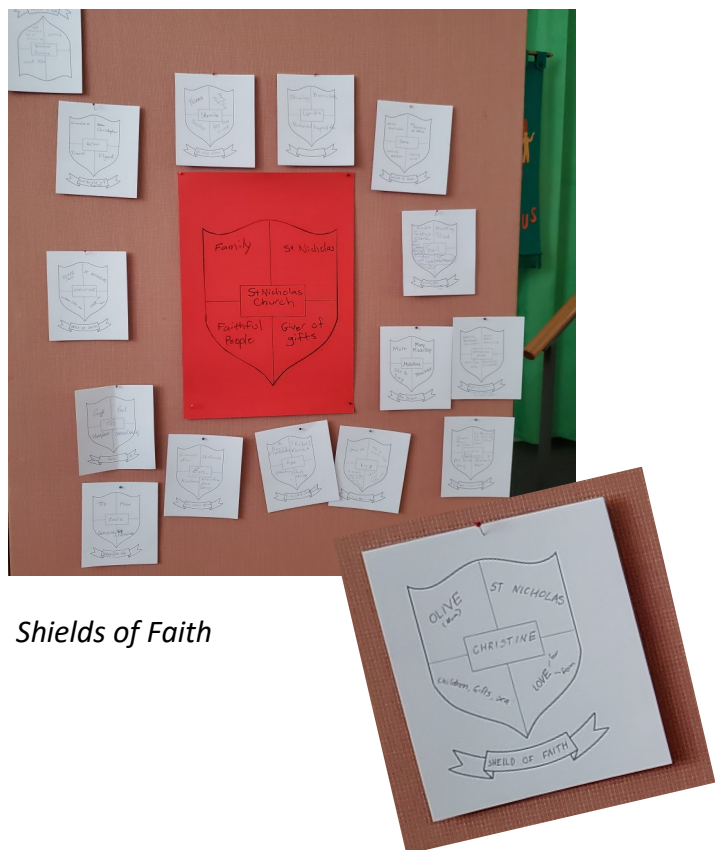
The scallop shell has become an emblem for a pilgrim, and on the Camino Trail is a sign of the route for pilgrims to follow. Fr Brenton gave a shell to all attending the evening.



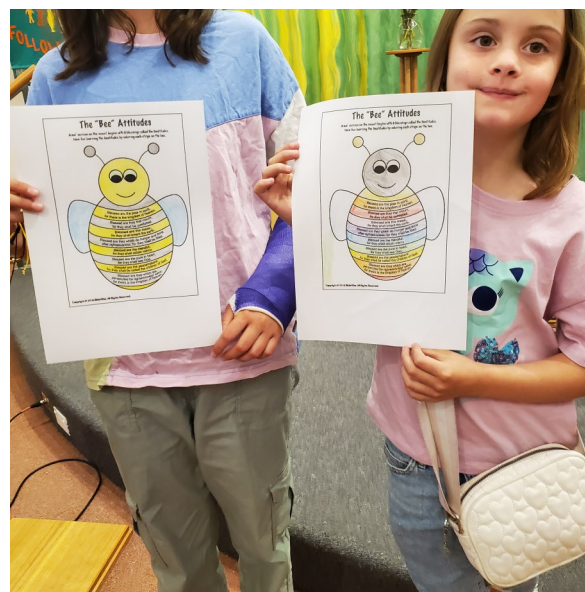
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St Nicholas', Seaford

See pp. 6—7



Shields of Faith



"Beeattitudes"



Enjoying Christmas Lunch

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Mel and Halle

St Margaret's
 (see p. 10)

**A Pleasant
 Sunday
 Afternoon**



Visitors John & Iera Matthiesson with Doreen
 Rushbrook (R)



Greg John

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What was the camel saying?
(see p. 9)

Than you to all who contributed to the competition.
Other suggestions were:

Trish F: My hump will not make it through the eye.

Jack: "I don't think we are seeing eye to eye over this problem
young fella"

Tristan: "Uh, you expect me to fit though that?"

Trish S: "Are you sure that's the way to the desert?"

Brian: "Been there, done that."

Liz G-M: "Oh Alice, I need you now"

And overheard, but not offered for the competition:
"I could if I wanted to, but I'm not going to."

