

December 2025

*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 2025



SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER St Stephen's, Willunga
5pm Crib and Carols Service (*Note changed time. See p. 6*)
St Andrews Tce, Willunga

CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER
7pm Carols and service Christ Church Yankalilla
South Road, Yankalilla
7.30pm Carols and service St Margaret's McLaren Vale
99 Main Road, McLaren Vale

CHRISTMAS DAY THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER
9am St Ann's, Aldinga
7 Stonehouse Lane, Aldinga
9am Christ Church, Yankalilla
South Road, Yankalilla
9am St Nicholas', Seaford, Ecumenical Service
cnr Main St and Grand Blvd, Seaford

Rev Beck (The Rev'd Rebecca Newell, our Curate) writes:



I have always been completely enamoured with the beautiful rolling hills that stretch across the Parish of Western Fleurieu. They have long captured my imagination, and I have photographed them often. A couple of years ago, while staying on a horse property in Carrickalinga, I painted this



watercolour inspired by those same hills. Imagine my delight, as I begin my ministry here as Curate, that this landscape has now become the backdrop to my daily travels between our churches.

The year 2025 has brought many challenges for my family — including a serious hospital stay for one of our daughters early in the year, and the unexpected loss of both of my parents in August. Yet, each day as I travel through this parish, I am reminded of the wonder of God's creation. I am humbled by His grace and His provision. We are truly blessed to live in such a beautiful part of the world.

What has delighted me even more than the scenery is the opportunity to meet all of you. My family and I have been welcomed so warmly and made to feel completely at home. It has been a joy to begin getting to know each congregation and to see what makes them unique. To meet a lay ministry team so deeply invested in the mission of the Church is both refreshing and encouraging.

I look forward to the journey ahead — to learning more about you, to worshipping together, and to sharing in the work of the Gospel across this parish. May we always strive to be a people who reflect the light of Christ in all we do.

Blessings,

Rev Beck.

Snippets from WFA Council 10th Nov.

At the meeting of WFA Council at Christ Church on 10th November, Graham and Robyn Grose from Southern Vales Funerals came to ask about the possibility of their hiring the Sunday School Room at St Margaret's from time to time as a location for making funeral arrangements where people don't want to use their own homes for the purpose, or, for holding a non-religious funeral. A trial period to the 30th June 2026 was suggested, and charges agreed. They will ensure a clear distinction is made between this arrangement and church funerals.

Meetings of the Council will in future be held on Tuesdays. It is important that Rev Beck has a day off on Mondays.

The next Lay Ministry team meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th January prior to the WFA Council meeting.

The Curate reported that she had been warmly welcomed. She would use the office at St Margaret's as her base.

The Rev'd Rodney Fopp is working on a trial Lay Preaching course. A second Lay Leaders' Toolbox training kit talk is planned.

Steve Banner has put the St Stephen's services onto Power Point. This has been gratefully received; however it means that Steve is now indispensable for services

St Margaret's response to the Your Say Onkaparinga about the closure of Main Road for the 2026 Marathon, making the church inaccessible, had been received with thanks for the input and would be considered together with other input.

**SOUTHERN VALES
FUNERALS**

A new name with the same
traditional care from
Robyn and Graham

0439 202 062

www.southernvalesfunerals.com.au

December

Mon 1 st	ANDREW Mothers Union McLaren Vale Information Centre, 9.30am
Sat 6 th	Saturday Night Out Willunga (<i>see p. 6</i>)
Sun 7 th	Gold coin collection for PCWs* St Nicholas' shared lunch and meeting
Tues 9 th	WFA Council St Margaret's 4pm
Wed 10 th	"Pilgrims' Return" St Margaret's 4.30 (<i>p. 6</i>)
Thurs 11 th	Prayers for Peace St Ann's 11.15am
Sat 13 th	Christmas Lunch (<i>see below</i>)
Sun 14 th	ACH service , Yankalilla
Tues 16 th	Friends of St Ann's 4pm
Sat 20 th	Crib and Carols St Stephen's 5pm (<i>see p. 6</i>)
Sun 21 st	Walking with Jesus Christ Church 10am
Mon 22 nd	THOMAS
Wed 24 th	CHRISTMAS EVE (<i>p. 1</i>)
Thurs 25 th	CHRISTMAS DAY (<i>p. 1</i>)
Fri 26 th	STEPHEN
Sat 27 th	JOHN Celebrating St Stephen's Patronal Festival 5.30pm
Sun 28 th	HOLY INNOCENTS Healing service Christ Church 11am

January 2026

Thurs 1 st	NAMING & CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS
Sat 3 rd	Saturday Night Out, Willunga (<i>p. 6</i>)
Sun 4 th	Celebrating EPIPHANY (6 th Jan) Gold coin collection for PCWs*
Sun 11 th	BAPTISM OF OUR LORD ACH service , Yankalilla
Mon 5 th	Mothers Union informal gathering, Unit 127 Kalyra, Main Rd, McLaren Vale. 9.30am
Tues 13 th	Ministry Team Meeting , St Ann's 3pm WFA Council St Ann's, 4pm Walking With Jesus , Christ Church 10am Friends of St Ann's 4pm Family Tea , St Ann's 6 for 6.30pm Healing Service , Christ Church 11am
Sun 18 th	
Tues 20 th	
Fri 23 rd	
Sun 25 th	

** Pastoral Care Workers (Chaplains)*

And also,

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



THE PILGRIMS' RETURN

Come and join us for an entertaining and lively photographic and video review of the pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago taken recently in Spain by two of our parishioners.

St Margaret's Church Hall

Wednesday December 10th 4.30pm

Light Spanish supper and wine included.

Admission by donation.

Numbers are limited. Please RSVP to
Steve Banner LMESTBA@YAHOO.COM
or 0404 163 940

Net proceeds shared by
St Stephen's and St Margaret's



WFA PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Seaford Christian Churches

Saturday 13th December 2025

12 for 12.30pm

Roast Turkey, Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables (GF)
Grilled Salmon, Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables (GF)
Vegetarian Slice with Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

Pavlova With Fresh Fruit and Cream

or Christmas Pudding with Brandy Custard

Cost \$25 per head -payment direct to WFA bank account
(please add name as reference)

or in a named envelope in the collection plate.

BYO drinks; tea, coffee, water and orange juice provided.

Book early: numbers limited to 40. Bring lots of loose change
for the raffle!

Bookings - Contact Jane on 0407651606 by SMS to book and
make menu choices.

News from Yankalilla

The threat of rain loomed on the morning of the Strawberry Fete this year. But rather than cancel we just came well-prepared with awnings and shelters. The strawberries and morning tea were moved inside, and the raffle was positioned under the verandah. All of this preparation (and some prayers) kept the rain at bay, and we enjoyed the most successful Strawberry Fete in the last 10 years. Over \$4,300 was raised.

Shoppers arrived early and Gail F and her helpers were selling baked goods well before the official start time of 9am. The momentum continued throughout the morning. Gerry's Tombola stall was a hit with over two hundred and fifty shots recorded. Peter F cooked up yummy BBQ fare enjoyed by many and there was a steady sale of plants and bric-a-brac. As the name suggests, the strawberries were the highlight of the morning, sold in a bowl with cream and icecream, or by the bag to take away. Scones were served by Julie P with John K's delicious homemade strawberry jam and cream. The raffle was a definite hit this year. Great prizes, donated by parishioners (and Mitre10) encouraged great ticket sales and resulted in excited winners. Behind the scenes, Liz Gordon-Mills played the organ in the church on the hour, to draw the attention of the hundreds of people outside to the interior of our beautiful building, and the basic *raison d'être* of our existence.

The fete is a team effort and I say a huge thank you to all those who helped on the day. Friends from St Ann's at Aldinga were welcomed with open arms. Our extra stall holders help to make a great atmosphere.

The rain came just before noon as we drew the raffle. Perfect timing!

Belinda Rosser, Fete Convener



The Giant Strawberry made his much-anticipated annual appearance!

Below: Julie Parri kept the supply of scones and strawberries going.



Michael & Peter, Master chefs!



WALKING WITH JESUS – The One who elicits JOY

On November 16th, 2025, the leader was Fr Peter Randle. The passage we studied was about the prodigal son; Luke 15, 11-31. We saw the many instances of deep joy portrayed in this story. The main one emphasized by Jesus was the joy felt by the father when he caught sight of his younger son approaching. Even after all that this boy had done by abandoning his father and spending his inheritance on wild living, the father's joy in readily forgiving him and welcoming him with a feast overcame all his previous disappointment. The love of our heavenly Father can be enjoyed by every one of us who has gone astray. Not specifically recorded was the joy which must have been experienced by the son when he realized that his father had forgiven him and would accept him back into the family, and not just as a hired servant as the son had requested. We must also remember that this was only possible because of the son's decision to return and ask for forgiveness, something that we need to do as well.

We discussed the difference between happiness and joy; happiness being a rather temporary feeling that we get from time to time when things go our way, whereas joy being a state which abides even when things are tough.

Fr Peter described the joy experienced by mourners at a funeral when they received tenderness from friends.



News from Yankalilla (cont'd)

The Parish Combined Service was held at the Yankalilla Museum in the open shed, with extra cover from marquees. Nearly 50 people attended, with members of our Southern Vales churches mingled with members of Yankalilla churches of other denominations.

Our thanks go to Fr Peter Randall who prepared the order of service, celebrated the Eucharist and gave the address in the theme of Times Past, Present and Future, using the passage from Ecclesiastes, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the sun". Prayers were offered by three members of Christ Church, focusing on the three time periods.

Thank you Liz Gordon-Mills for the music and for printing up the service sheets.

After the service people had a short time to explore the museum before being served a delicious shared lunch. Our grateful thanks go to the Yankalilla Museum for their hospitality in letting us hold the service there and to everyone who helped with the setting up and cleaning up afterwards, and supplying food for the lunch. It was a wonderful time for Fellowship and to see what hidden treasures are in our museum.

(More photos Supplement p. 14)



*Fr Peter,
and Liz
Gordon-
Mills*



CHRISTMAS ON THE GREEN Normanville Village Green Friday 19th December 4-7m

Kids' Community **Market**,
Kids' Games,
Coffee van
Sausage Sizzle,
Carols,
Santa Claus



L—R: From the Yankalilla Uniting Church, Linda Harvey, Tim Moffat and Lyn Trigg. From the Yankalilla Lutheran Fellowship, John Jaensch.

You can read *The Grapevine* in colour, with supplementary pages of photos, on our parish website, southernvalesparish.org

News from St Stephen's, Willunga—and overseas!



November was an eventful month at St Stephen's with five Saturdays, culminating in the Contemplative Prayer service on the 29th which coincided with the first week of Advent. But by far the most important event was the arrival in the parish of our new curate, the Rev'd Beck Newell ("Rev Beck"). She and her husband, Jason, joined us for Evening Prayer on the first Saturday of the month, together with their youngest child, Pete. All three of them were able to join us at the middle pub for our Saturday Night Out after the service, resulting in a total of 14 of us

enjoying dinner in one another's company and welcoming Beck and family to our ranks. The following weeks saw Rev Beck conduct her first services at St Stephen's and she will continue with the Eucharist on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. We are glad to have her with us.



A reminder—**Saturday Night Out** is now held after the service on the **first** Saturday of the month instead of the second. Do join us. Email Steve Banner at LMESTBA@yahoo.com ; you can indicate your menu choice when you reserve, or order upon arrival.

On the 29th November passers-by might have been surprised to see campers at St Stephen's. At the request of a neighbour on the other side of the back gate, who was celebrating a 50th birthday, and with permission from the Warden, three Victorian families set up camp on the space at the bottom of the site. We enjoyed making contact with them and they gave a generous donation for the privilege of their stay.

Earlier in the month Rev Beck's retired predecessor returned from his Camino pilgrimage after having walked some 780 kilometres across northern Spain. The attached photographs offer clear visual evidence of the impact



that Fr Brenton's travels had upon him. In the first photo we see a vision of a wise pilgrim of a

certain age, bearing the grey beard acquired through long experience in the ways of the world. On the other hand, the second photo is a man who looks some 20 years younger, having been rejuvenated by the inspiration of his journey along the paths carved out by the millions of pilgrims in whose footsteps he trod. On p. 3 you will see an advertisement for the "**Pilgrims' Return**" evening on December 10th at St Margaret's where you will be able to experience a slideshow presentation from Fr Brenton and myself about our Camino journey. A light Spanish-style supper will be served at this fundraising event. Numbers are limited by space and I ask you to RSVP please so that we know how much food we need to make.

We have two other December celebrations to look forward to. The first is our **Christmas Crib and Carols service** that will be held on **Saturday 20th at 5pm in front of the church** (weather permitting). **Please note the change of time.** Bring your friends, and you might like to bring a chair. This service is always a joyful event as we look forward to the celebration of Christ's birth. Following the service we will enjoy fruit mince pies and sparkling drinks together.

On the following Saturday (27th) we will celebrate our **Patronal Festival**, one day after St Stephen's Day which falls on the 26th.

Wishing you all a blessed Advent season and a very happy Christmas. *Steve Banner, Warden*



St Margaret's **Bottles and Cans** COLLECTIONS FOR MISSIONS.

We've made it past \$300 for the year!

With more donations from many keen collectors our latest refund was \$35, so added to the previous total of \$275 we now have \$305 for Missions for 2025. This is very exciting.

Just for interest, our takings over the years since we started have been: 2022 \$106.10, 2023 \$230.00, 2024 \$135.00.

A big thank you to all contributing parishioners, and their families, friends, neighbours and consumers.

Di Best

News from St Margaret's, McLaren Vale

Church Services

The monthly Sunday services commenced with Morning Prayer ably presided over by John Strachan. We celebrated All Saints Day and as the Sunday was All Souls Day we also remembered and gave thanks for those we love and who have helped us; and those who have died in God's service. Rod Sandercock played the Last Post. Judy gave the address based on the Gospel for All Saints Day and instead of the general intercessions a prayer for All Souls was said. Then Di and Rupert Best read out the names of those for whom our congregation particularly wanted to give thanks.



The next Sunday Rev Beck celebrated her first Sunday Holy Communion Service with us. Twenty of our congregation were present and all found it uplifting. Beck was able to meet with everyone at morning tea.

The following Sunday was St Margaret's day. It was a Prayer, Praise and Proclamation service.

We used the readings of the day but with special prayers of thanks for St Margaret, her life and her impact on our lives. Julia Drought gave the address, focusing on St Margaret's many virtues and how we can benefit from following her example. She also mentioned some past and present day Margarets in the process. We celebrated with cake in the hall afterwards at morning tea and by donating items for the Aldinga Care and Support Centre. During the service St Margaret's Banner was on display, as was the Processional Cross from St Philip and St James', Old Noarlunga (R, above) donated in remembrance of Rupert's sister, Margaret who died of polio at the age of 17.

The fourth Sunday was again a celebration of Holy Communion with Rev Beck, and more of our congregation

were able to meet and chat with her afterwards.

The Wednesday services continue. Beck has celebrated Holy Communion on two of the Wednesdays this month, the other two being Morning Prayer with attendees taking it in turn to lead the service, and everyone joining in. Beck has also attended Bible Study, adding another dimension to our discussions.

After Bible Study on Wednesday we re-set the church for Advent.

As Michael Drought was away Steve Banner helped Julia to put up the Advent Banner and the Advent Candles were set up. There will be no service at St Margaret's on Sunday 30th so the first candle will be lit prior to the Wednesday Service.

Maintenance

The Church paddock has been mown; however with all the rain the grass and the weeds are back and it will need to be mown again before Christmas. Greg has spoken to our lawn-mower man and he will be coming in to whippersnip the weeds around the hall and along the fence, and to prune the hedge by the toilet. Church maintenance never ends!

And as always, may God continue to be with us in all we do and say.

Judy Wells, Julia Drought and the congregation of St Margaret's



Margaret Richardson cutting the St Margaret's Day cake

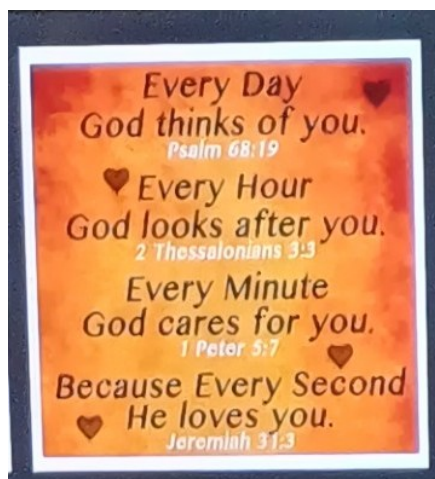


Steve and the Advent Banner

News from St Ann's, Aldinga

As we embark on this month's report, it seems that activities are increasing as we approach Christmas. November was filled with joyous services; some traditional and some interactive. We are very glad to have Rev Beck with us, and her services and sermons have been much appreciated. Interactive ones included Julianne's "show and tell tool talk" (see November *Grapevine*) which made the point about the tools we need for our faith, and the message of the video in Anne's talk led to our congregation suggesting their thoughts about what Jesus would like to find us doing as individuals and as a church if he returned tomorrow! We are looking at this checklist in more detail for our future planning.

As mentioned in previous *Grapevines*, we have been blessed with a congregation willing to help in many ways. The gems given us by the Holy Spirit through messages, prayers, readings or conversations are greatly appreciated, although this is not always verbalised. For example, Kate commented in her Message about intentions: *"The more we ignore them, the further away we become from the person we want to be."* John, in his recent intercessions, asked of God, *"May we be convinced, even before we reach up to You, You are reaching down to us."* A simple line, but a timely reminder that we are not in this faith journey alone. Margaret often inspires us with a slide to accompany our week ahead. One striking one read:



We have a few retired school teachers in our mix and what a treat it is to hear one of them read the Gospel on our non-Eucharist Sundays. When she reads we are like children in her class sitting on the floor, mesmerised by the story! It's like sitting at the feet of Jesus, the greatest teacher. As a congregation we are building on the gift that was given us by Fr Nick Shutt, a visiting priest from the UK for six months in 2014, when he encouraged us to use the gifts and talents God has given us to participate in services instead of relying on the priest to do everything. How blessed are the recipients hearing what God gives us in these ways. We are also blessed by the

visual gifts of our flower arrangers, and also Margaret Morgan's work on what we used to call "Gillian's Corner". (see p 15, supplement.)

As usual, the month was filled with other events that occupied our attention. We had a funeral and a graveside burial this month and were asked to provide morning tea for both. Thank you to those helpers who not only cooked for the occasion, but assisted on the days. The families greatly appreciated the spread of home cooking, and the hospitality and interaction with us.

Despite the ever-changing road entrances, our Jumble Sale was held on Saturday November 15th and turned out to be a great success. \$1675 was raised. The overarching success, though, was the interaction with our community, the smiles and chatter wherever we walked and the many volunteers who helped make it work so effortlessly. We had asked for helpers well beforehand and were thrilled to have 20 people help set up on the Thursday before. Rev Beck and Jason excelled themselves as part of the team. *Thank you!* Five from Christ Church, Yankalilla came on



Saturday and not only helped, but took unsold items back for their Strawberry Fete the week later. Even the cleanup was quicker than in previous years, so it seems the Jumble Sales are here to stay for a while longer! Autumn and Spring seem to be the times suggested.



We are grateful to Patrusca for the beautiful hydrangeas she has donated, which stand by the door of the Room and have somehow managed to survive the awful weather they have been subjected to in recent weeks. They look lovely.

Nine from St Ann's attended the Morning Tea held at

the Southern Vales Christian College (Aldinga Campus) in November, and enjoyed spending time talking with the Year 9s, being fed by the Year 8s and entertained by the school choirs and staff. A good inter-generational interaction, based on a shared faith.

Our final Family Tea for the year was on a miserable



night of wind and bucketing rain, but a good crowd turned up and it was a happy occasion. Special guests for the night were church cleaners Margaret Park and Patrick, (L) who do so much for us as a church and for individual members of the congregation. We

hope they will come again to these informal gatherings.

On Sunday 30th, the fifth Sunday of the month, a number of us travelled to Yankallila to join in the Combined Service at the Museum (*for more about this see pp. 5, 14*).

Barbara Walter's marvellous annual Christmas Raffle is now open for business. Don't miss a chance to support this—and who knows—you may be a winner!

Advent Bible studies will begin on Thursday 4th Dec at 4pm. Titled "The Waiting Time", this study is from the Anglican Diocese of Waiapu, NZ, and looks very interesting.

Julianne Bates & Brian McMillan, Wardens

Sizzle!

Thank you all those who volunteered to work at the Willunga Quarry Market Sausage Sizzle which raises money for the schools chaplains. Our second one, in November, despite the strong wind and a few challenges such as running out of gas and of sausages, and difficulty with the EFTPOS device, was a **good day!**



Above:

Margaret &

Bill Cale, Stephen Carthew.

If you have news of coming events or happenings in the Western Fleurieu area to share with the rest of the parish, please contact the Editor, Anne Chittleborough at 23 Esplanade, Pt Willunga 5173, ph 85565078, or machit5@bigpond.com, preferably by 15th December

And please notify the Editor if you wish to avoid the chance of being mentioned in the newsletter.



Fr Brenton offered the following reflection which he found in *The Pilgrim*, by Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat:

Be here in the moment, as an artist is here with focused attention, whether you are cooking, cleaning, praying, playing, or reading. Be here in the moment, as an athlete is here in that sweet spot of time when everything is effortless, fluid, and free. The banquet is spread before us, and it is the wish of the Divine Host that we partake of the present moment without regrets for the past or fears of the future. Pledge yourself to the moment and let it teach you. Surrender yourself to the moment and let it preach you.

News from St Nicholas', S.C.C., Seaford



For our Family Service on the 2nd of November, our first service led by Rev Beck, our service was based on All Saints Day with 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 again 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, Liv, Madeleine



Fr Ted reads out the names

and Bella, turned on the tea lights as Fr Ted read out the names of those in our Memorial Book. It was lovely to have Rev Beck lead us in our worship and communion. We look forward to seeing more of her over the coming months. Our service, as usual, was followed by a shared lunch and monthly St Nicholas' Meeting.

Our Round table service on the 9th of November was based on 2 Thessalonians 2.1-5,13-17. Our discussion centred on Paul's letter encouraging the early disciples not to be taken in by false information, and to remember the beliefs and truth they had been taught. We discussed how we needed to be reminded of these truths and how these are what keeps the church alive, and what bring us joy and hope. What about our church traditions, we asked. We need to think about where they originated and whether we are holding too closely to them simply because they have some nostalgic significance. Then, if we visit another church which does things differently, we can feel almost alienated, feeling as if they are doing it wrongly! A few lively discussions on the topic followed, with us all agreeing that some traditions which reflected



reverence and worship were important in our services and added to the beauty and these services, but they should not overshadow the true beliefs of our faith.

On the 16th November our monthly healing service was led by Rev Beck. It was lovely to see her and Jason once again. As is our practice, those wishing to be anointed and prayed over were welcomed by Fr Ted after Communion. Rev Beck also made special prayers for the safety and protection of Fr Ted on his planned trip to Singapore, Cambodia and Laos. Sunara presented her worship art and led us in a short reading and prayer.

Our service on the 23rd celebrated Christ the King. This was a lay-led service with several people taking part in the readings, prayers and offertory. Our reflection was taken from one of Fr Rodney Fopp's writings, discussing how Jesus promised a different kingdom and a different idea of king. We see Jesus as a Creator, a leader in reconciliation, but most importantly as the King of Love, as he offers peace, grace and eternal life to all who follow him.

The 30th November was a combined parish service at Yankalilla Museum. The service was followed by a combined barbecue. Those at St Nicholas' who were unable to travel were invited to join with the Uniting or Catholic community for worship.

Fellowship/SCC We welcomed the new Uniting Church of Christ Minister to the centre and look forward to working with him in the coming months.

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. Helen Cook celebrated her 80th Birthday in the SCC Café on Saturday 29th November, with many friends and family present to share in the occasion.

Plans are well in hand for the Annual Parish Christmas Lunch on 13th December at SCC. – there are a few places left, so if you wish to book, please message Jane on 0407651606

Blessings

Helen Cook and Jane Cuthbert, Wardens

AMUA and the 2025 drought



The AMUA Diocese of the Murray this year took on a very big project, namely, to give some help to farming families in our Diocese suffering because of the drought. This began at a MU State Council meeting

in May when Jocelyn Williamson, Diocesan President, presented her idea and undertook to apply to Australian Council for a grant from the Disaster Fund to assist farmers in both The Murray and Willochra dioceses, with the money to be used to purchase vouchers at local supermarkets, thereby helping both the recipient and the local community. In due course MU in The Murray received \$2000 from the Australian Council, \$2500 from MU Adelaide Diocese, \$500 from our MU Diocesan funds and \$500 from the Strathalbyn Women's Fellowship.

For distribution of the vouchers, over time, Jocelyn contacted four schools, eight large organizations such as CWA and Rural business support and had hundreds of conversations with individuals. When she spoke about the project at Synod 2025 the Rev'd Bruce Hicks from the Karoonda area responded and she eventually contacted Karen, the School Pastoral Support Worker at Karoonda School, making two trips to Karoonda to organize some vouchers. 45 of the \$100 vouchers were obtained to be used at the local Karoonda IGA only, and another 10 vouchers can be used at Woolworths at any location. Each voucher had a note attached saying it was a gift from



Secretary Helen and President Trish present Ann with her certificate.

Mothers Union to show that people care. Jocelyn contacted her local Meadows counsellor who is going to distribute the 10 vouchers in the Fleurier region and keep Jocelyn informed.

Jocelyn spoke at Australian Council in October about this undertaking. She was

approached by a gentleman from a regional Victorian area asking if more donations were required. News has reached all states of this amazing project.

On November 3rd WFA members travelled to Christ Church, Yankalilla for our meeting and worship, which concluded with the Presentation of a Certificate and Badge to Ann Krichauff to celebrate her 50 years of MU membership. Congratulations, Ann!

Briefly, in other news, the Mothers' Union is supporting the 16 days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (25th Nov.—10th Dec.).

The December meeting was held at the Information Centre, McLaren Vale. Members were given leaflets of Advent Devotions on the Names and Titles of Jesus. Although there will not be a formal meeting in January, members are invited to an informal catch-up at Doreen Rushbrook's home on Monday 12th January, 9.30am.

Helen Cook, Secretary

A Mothers Union Prayer

Faithful and loving God, who called Mary Sumner to work for the renewal of family life, inspire us to follow her example and respond to your call to new adventures, new possibilities and new visions for the work of Mothers Union around the world. May we always see the world through the eyes of Christ, speak to those we meet with the words of Christ, and take with us on our journey the peace of Christ.

Amen

This Month's Readings: Year A, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT—7th December—Isaiah 11:1-10—Psalm 72:1-7, 18-21—Romans 15:4-13—Matthew 3:1-12

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT—14th December—Isaiah 35:1-10—For the Psalm: The Magnificat (APBA p. 31)—James 5:7-10—Matthew 11:2-11

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—21st December—Isaiah 7:10-16—Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19—Romans 1:1-7—Matthew 1:18-25

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

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS—28th December—Isaiah 63:7-9—Psalm 148—Hebrews 2:10-18—Matthew 2:13-23

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS—4th January 2026—Jeremiah 31:7-14—Psalm 147:12-20—Ephesians 1:3-14—John 1(1-9),10-18

Or THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD—Isaiah 60:1-6—Psalm 72:1-7,10-14—Ephesians 3:1-12—Matthew 2:1-12

Western Fleurieu Anglicans

(A parish of the Diocese of The Murray)

Visit our website!

<http://www.southernvalesparish.org>

SCAN ME



Office Tel 0476 754 772

Secretary Mrs Jane Cuthbert

Email: admin@southernvalesparish.org

Administrator of the Diocese

Br Simon Waters

administrator@murray.anglican.org

Curate: The Rev'd Beck Newell

Revbecknewell@gmail.com

0438 876 288

Priests' Warden: John Strachan

0407 605 152

jfstrachan44@outlook.com

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



Service times & contact details

St Margaret's, 99 Main Road McLaren Vale

Sunday: 10.30am

Wednesday: 9:00am

Wardens:

Judith Wells 0411 502 218

Julia Drought 0432 366 899

St Stephen's, St Andrews Tce, Willunga

Saturday: 5.30pm

Tuesday: Meditation 9am

Warden:

Steve Banner 0404 163 940

St Ann's, 7 Stonehouse Lane, Aldinga

Sunday: 9am

Wardens:

Julianne Bates 0422 817 169

Brian McMillan 8557 6984

St Nicholas', Seaford Christian Churches

cnr Main St and Grand Blvd, Seaford

Sunday 10.30am

Wardens:

Jane Cuthbert 0407 651 606

Helen Cook 0427 679 787 or 8386 3689

Christ Church, Yankalilla

1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays – 11.00am

3rd Sunday – 10.00am Church Hall

"Walking with Jesus" (see p. 6)

Wardens:

Peter Filsell 0427 534 095

St James', Delamere

No scheduled services.

For information contact

Peter Filsell 0427 534 095

Where there is a 5th Sunday in a month,, you can expect some service times to be different.

See "For Your Diary" (p. 3) and/or check pewsheets/noticeboards/website for details.

December 2025
Colour Photo Supplement

Strawberry Fete, Yankalilla

(see p. 4)



Julia Godfery, Ann Ryan, Margaret Morgan and the



*The cake stall always does good business!
Valda Bartlett, Ann Krichauff and Gail Filsell*



David Catherwood and the White Elephant stall



In the church: organist Liz Gordon-Mills playing.



A cup of tea with scones, jam and cream: a highlight of the day.

December 2025

Colour Photo Supplement

Fifth Sunday Combined Service, Yankalilla Museum (see p. 5)



Fr Peter and Heather Randall, with (inset) the beautiful embroidery on Fr Peter's Advent stole, embroidered by Heather.



Guess who!

Lunch



Margaret and John Morgan



Clockwise from L: Judy Wells, Margaret Cale, Barbara Walter, Lyn Dick, Fr Brenton, Gillian Clampett



Ann Ryan, Pam Gowling

December 2025
Colour Photo Supplement

St Ann's, Aldinga (see pp.8,9)



"Margaret's Corner" at St Ann's, reflecting the theme of the day: Remembrance Day (L) and Christ the King (R).



Flower arrangement by Julie Bennett, with icon written by former parishioner, the late Betty Croser.



Jumble Sale: setting up on Thursday 13th



It's hard work...and when the lifting and carrying and all the hard work is done, a fella has to sit down to catch his breath...

L-R: Jon Badgery, Tony Young, Ken Milde, Barry Bates

December 2025
Colour Photo Supplement

St Nicholas', Seaford
(see p.10)



Madeleine, Liv, Shirilee & Sunara lighting the candles



Georgia reading the Lesson



Madeleine & Liv leading the prayers



Sunara: Christ the king