



# Morialta Vision

A publication of Morialta Uniting Church

Volume 7 Issue 1  
February 2014

## Chairperson writes...

### Change and Consistency

An ever present theme of my items in 'Morialta Vision' over recent months seems to have been 'Change'. When preparing for this article I began to reflect on 'Change' again and as is my practice I went to the internet to see if there was any wisdom to be derived from the many megabytes of information about 'Change'

Of course, I didn't have to look far to find some notable quotes.

*"The times they are a changin'..." (Bob Dylan)*

*"The only thing that is constant in life is change..." (Heraclitus)*

*"Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself." (Leo Tolstoy)*

I think that each of the three examples speaks in a slightly different way.

Anyone with even a little life experience can appreciate the sentiments expressed by Bob Dylan. We only have to look at the news to see this. Politics, industry and other macros are changing before us.

Certainly, in the experience of Morialta, Heraclitus' thesis is evident. Likewise, we are encouraged, through our reflections on the works of Jesus, to consider the idea put forward by Tolstoy.

However, as a community of Christ we are in a much better place than many groups confronting change. While the future is set out by decisions that are already made we have access to a constancy that is beyond our understanding.

Michael Morwood talks about us living in God and God living in us. It is this interdependence that gives us strength.

Even though it may be difficult to confront change and we might not like everything that change brings with it, we do have something that many lack: a consistency that comes through a relationship with the Divine that is life giving and celebrates diversity.

As we move towards Lent and Easter 2014 we have yet another opportunity to reflect on how our personal relationship with God has changed us for the better and how we might be a more constant and committed follower of Christ crucified as we respond to the challenges of life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Bruce



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### Ecumenical Lenten Studies

Living the Easter Mystery

Beginning Second week in March

Check lists in Foyer to book

Join if you can!



South Australian  
Council of Churches

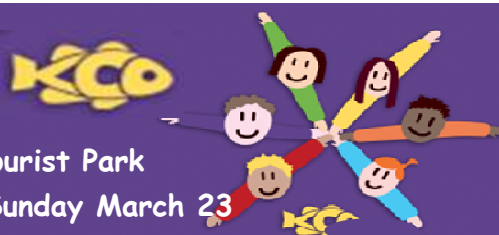
### Welcome!



Reverend Steve Thompson  
Joining Morialta in May

TEAM JESUS  
Let's Go!

Barossa Valley Tourist Park  
Saturday March 22 - Sunday March 23



## "The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended..."

We used to sing this hymn, when we had night services. We don't sing it anymore!

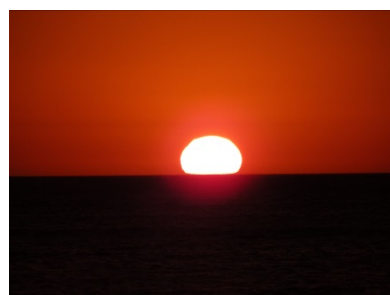
The author, Canon John Ellerton, served for many years as a faithful and popular parish priest. The hymn was written during his time in Cheshire. It is said that it came to him on his nightly walk to teach at a local Mechanic's Institute.

*The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,  
The darkness falls at Thy behest;  
To Thee our morning hymns ascended,  
Thy praise shall hallow now our rest.*



What made me think of that hymn was when I took this photo overlooking the beach at Aldinga recently.

And this one the next evening, which was a fantastic reminder of the Flag of our Indigenous brothers and sisters whom we acknowledge every Sunday in worship



We were able to sing the hymn in England as we did have occasional evening services. When we used to sing it in Australia, I didn't make

the connection ("Our brethren 'neath the western sky") that I found in the UK –

*The sun, that bids us rest, is waking  
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,  
And hour by hour fresh lips are making  
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.*

Canon Ellerton penned this hymn for use at missionary meetings and it is suggested that it is more of a mission than an eventide hymn.

*We thank Thee that Thy Church unsleeping,  
While earth rolls onward into light,  
Through all the world her watch is keeping,  
And rests not now by day or night.*

*As o'er each continent and island  
The dawn leads on another day,  
The voice of prayer is never silent,  
Nor dies the strain of praise away.*

Queen Victoria chose the hymn for her Diamond Jubilee in 1897, ensuring its popularity. You can see why with this verse!

*So be it, Lord; Thy throne shall never,  
Like earth's proud empires, pass away:  
But stand, and rule, and grow for ever,  
Till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.*

The main theme is the growing and worldwide fellowship of the Church and the ceaseless offering of prayer and praise to God offered as the earth rolls onward into light. The reference to evening and morning is the backdrop to this.

So, these are my musings, when confronted with such a glorious sunset.

David Purling

## Yilki Uniting Church Australia Day 2014

As Lesley and I walked through the suburbs of Victor Harbor, behind Encounter Bay, our direction was suddenly focused by the ringing of a bell. Yilki was calling the suburb to worship.

We arrived to a warm welcome with many introductions and handshakes. We took our place beside Margaret Pittman who was also a visitor. A quick count told me there were about 50 young and old gathered in the tiny church.

Despite our heartfelt welcome I felt a little uneasy. I knew what those gathered didn't know. Their minister, Steve Thompson, had accepted the call of our Morialta church to be their minister. The minister whom they loved and respected.

The preacher for the day, Enid Nannes, delivered a very thoughtful 'reflection' based on the call Jesus had made to the fisherman to join his team. Embracing her progressive theology she asked her congregation if they had any doubts about that story. Margaret Pittman said she wondered why Jesus only called 12 and 'Where were the women?'

Enid added her doubts wondering whether the fishermen really just left their family responsibilities and affairs. She then developed her homily pointing out that the detail did not matter. It was the response that mattered, which had led to the fulfillment of Jesus' ministry.

After the service Steve eloquently told those present that he had responded to our call. There was an audible gasp of loss. He concluded by saying, 'I am going to a church that doesn't care that I am gay.' At this there was loud and prolonged applause. Yes, that was in appreciation of Steve but it was also for us knowing we were honouring their Christian inclusiveness.

Arthur Tideman



**Morialta's Pancake Breakfast -**

**Sunday 9 March 8.30 am**

**\$5 single \$15 family - All you can eat!**





## The Paper Team Transformed

Fifty-six years ago (1958) the Paper Team was formed at the Magill church. Various known as the "Paper Gang", the "Fix-It Team", the "Monday Boys", and now as the "Paper Team", we have continued to meet every Monday morning at the church.

Reluctantly, we have now decided to suspend our paper recycling business. We do not want anymore paper.

The cost of transport and bin hire has continued to rise and the price paid for our paper has gone down and down. The operation is no longer economically feasible.

During times past we have made many changes in our methods of handling the paper in order to be as efficient and safe as possible. Peter Thornley deserves special recognition for his development of powered loading equipment. We have used car trailers, taut liners, tip trucks and bulk bins to transport the paper to various depots as far away as Lonsdale.



On Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> February, we met for the last time to pack up our shed, discuss finances and to plan for the future.

Over the years many men, women and teenagers from the church and beyond have supported our efforts. We will remain very grateful for their support

The fellowship experienced in our group has always been excellent. We continue to support each other through lifestyle changes, illnesses, church property issues and deaths.

Our plan for the future is to continue to meet at 8.30 am every Monday morning as the "Fix-It Team" and to assist with work around the church, the manse and the student houses.

If you would like to join us for an hour or so, then enjoy morning tea, you would be most welcome.

Rob Webbe



### Current members of the team are

Bob Lloyd  
Brian Hogben  
John Beard  
Sam Colegrove  
Roger Whibley  
Rob Webbe  
Kingsley Stephens  
Peter Thornley

### Honour roll of past members

Jack Grivell  
Len Mills  
Jack May  
Cec Woodward  
Allan Brooks  
Em Brooks  
Stan Mason  
Reg Gunn  
Wally Reichstein  
Jack Story  
Ken Hutchinson  
Allan Burnett  
Rev Rob Davis  
Geoff Evans  
Fred Martin  
Lindsay Hannaford  
Ron Grant  
Syd Walton  
Clem Adams  
Leslie Hopkins  
Jeff Krause  
Kevin Nash  
Bill Jenkins  
Ralph Carter  
John Maschmedt  
Bill Matheson  
Ralph Holmes

## Extract from Olive Walton's history of our church....

### Paper Fund

It was in 1958 that Mr Jack Grivell, with the help of Len Mills, Jack May and Cec Woodward started the 'Paper Gang' at Magill Methodist Church.

In the early days special bundles of size, shape and weight were made up to sell to different stall holders at the Adelaide Central Market. Orders were received once a week and delivered to the Market the following week on Thursday morning. This lasted for 15 years. Once the team loaded 125 bundles for the 'Christmas Rush'.

This work became too much for the few helpers and now our paper is sold in bulk for recycling. For the year 1989/90 the team was averaging over 10 tonnes of paper every five months.

Over the years other men have joined this group and in working together they have experienced fellowship with one another and gained pleasure from supporting worthy causes.

Confirmed donations from records available total over \$7000. The Paper Fund has supported various projects at Magill Church including refurbishing the Sunday School Hall, chairs for the hall, a piano, a tape recorder for the Sunday School, organ fund, chairs for the church, Communion cupboard and ceiling fans for the church.

Other causes to benefit from the Paper Fund are District Nurses, Crippled Children's Association, Newton Church, Christmas Bowl Appeal, Port Pirie Mission rebuilding, Tonga Mission and Street Kids Island Conference.



# If you believe Australia has January off, think again!

## THANK YOU

An enormous amount has been achieved by many in the church, at the manse and both student houses over the last few weeks.

A huge thank you is extended to all who planned, organized, cleaned, plastered, painted, carpentered, pruned, loaded and performed other tasks as required.

January is a small window of opportunity for working on most of these properties while we have less encumbered access. Without your expertise and effort we could not have achieved so much in such a short time.

Thank you!

Chris Ayles  
for Property Team



## Student Houses Update

Much has been happening in the Student Houses at Chapel Street and College Drive over the Christmas and New Year period.

Three students have moved out of College Drive as they have finished their studies and three out of the Chapel Street house. We now have three new students from the Barossa area moving into College Drive and one, from the Barossa as well, into Chapel Street. As this is being written, there are possibly two more going into Chapel Street so they will both then be full.

The work performed on the houses by members of the congregation has been much appreciated. The wet areas have had a good "spring cleaning" and some rooms and hallways have been patched and painted, too.



New curtains have been made and bought for some of the rooms. The carpets in the living areas and vacated bedrooms have been cleaned.

A new floor covering in the kitchen will be laid by the time Vision is published.

We appreciate all that has been done. Already the *newies* have collected their keys and are moving in over the next few weeks. We welcomed them and their families with a barbeque at the church just before Orientation Week at the universities.

We look forward to meeting them and getting to know them while they reside in our houses.

Anne Ind  
Coordinator of Student Housing

## 5 + 5 = A Butterfly

A child, after play-time with friends returned to her mother and with a hand held out said, 'That's five.' Mother, very pleased said, 'Yes dear, that's right.' Holding the child's other hand she then asked, 'What is this one?' 'That's five too.' 'And if we put them together, what does that make?' 'A butterfly.' What a great place the world would be if adults could see, not 10, but a butterfly.

A segment from Radio National  
Comment by Arthur Tideman

*Touch the earth lightly,  
Use the earth gently,  
Nourish the life of the world in our care;  
Gift of great wonder,  
Ours to surrender,  
Trust for the children tomorrow will bear*

Shirley Murray



## Morialta Fellowship President's Report 2013



Each year we manage to find interesting activities and speakers and 2013 has been no exception.

As usual, we started the year with an outdoor activity, a trip to Largs Bay for a walk on the jetty. Bruce and Ann Ind talked to us about how Keely accepted Wallace as Bruce's second guide dog and David and Judith Purling told their story of adopting their two sons from Vietnam. Colleen Bradke gave us a humorous account of the work she did at Cavan with imprisoned youths.

A "Make and Taste" lunch produced a variety of dishes to try and we all now have a copy of the recipes from that day. We celebrated Christmas in July and will also share a Christmas meal in December as usual.

Our only fundraiser was a "bring and buy" auction ably conducted by Allison Lockett and we once again supported Samaritan's Purse organisation's Operation Christmas Child. Thirty boxes were delivered, to be sent to disadvantaged children overseas.

Entertainment included a visit to the Old-Time Movies and to the Regal Theatre on our bonus outings.

This year we tried something new, holding daytime meetings from April to September when the weather was cold and wintery and night time outings weren't looked forward to. This seems to have been a popular choice and will probably happen again next year.

All in all it has been a very successful year again with our numbers still around 20 – 25.

I'm sure our program in 2014 will be just as diverse and interesting.

Arlene Lomman  
President 2013

May the season bless us,  
the way guide us,  
the grace shape us,  
the love renew us.  
We are the people  
of the way,  
we go now  
into the way  
of the cross.



## Community Centre News

February seems late in the year to say "Happy New Year!" but I do not see many members of the congregation regularly so "Happy New Year to you!"

The community garden has taken a battering due to the weather with fallen branches and many crops burnt dry.

The garden members were happy to participate with church members in the "Summer Event in the Garden", which was a genial occasion with sharing of food, stories and friendship.



Our Playgroup Coordinator, Jackie Smith has undergone shoulder surgery and will not be back at work until early June. Helpers are therefore needed at Playgroup. It is important that a second person helps by talking to children and parents and supporting the setting up and packing away. We have apron and gloves for cleaning paint, and young parents to help with most of the lifting. The greater number of volunteer helpers, the less times on the roster each person needs to fill.

A new volunteer is working with us in Playgroup. She is a Japanese woman named Kaori. She is very creative and prepares craft activities for the older children. We're looking forward to another good Playgroup year in 2014!

**Morialta  
Community  
Centre**



**Christine Ostle,  
Community Centre Coordinator**

### The Rev Charles Lane



In a recent edition of Morialta Vision I wrote about the dedicated service of the Reverend Charles Lane to the Methodist church for 50 years. I have since done some more research to round off the story. For example in the Morialta Church history there is much more about Charles.

During the 20 year period 1896 to 1916 Magill was without a resident minister because of low income and debt. Magill had a debt of two thousand pounds so the manse was rented out to the Police Department to repay the debt. During this time Charles ably assisted the church with worship services for 17 years after his retirement.

Recently Alan Biglow told me that Charles and Elizabeth Lane were buried in the local Magill cemetery in Jackson Street with a large headstone on the graves.

I looked and soon found the graves just inside the main gates. According to the headstone Charles died on 8<sup>th</sup> January 1910, not on the 10<sup>th</sup> as given in his obituary. He was aged 86, his wife Elizabeth Ames Caddy died on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 1914 aged 91. They were married in Victoria in 1865 prior to moving to South Australia (Information from the Victorian Genealogy Society. To get the actual time and place would cost \$20.)

The graves are surrounded by a low cast iron fence which unusually includes the graves of two other couples: Bishops and Greys. There is no indication of any relationship. The story is not yet complete!

*Bill Matheson*



## A Sad Farewell – well almost...

When we sold our house of almost 40 years, it was a sad time in many ways, but we were off on an adventure to tour northern and western Australia – over four months on the road. We also said goodbye to the Morialta Church (and at a time of change in the life of Morialta), but that was only temporary as we would be back in less than five months.



We had no fixed idea about where we would live when we returned, but we had decided long ago that it would be nearer our daughters in Belair and Blackwood. In the end, after looking at houses from Glenside to Craighburn Farm, we have rented a house in Blackwood, just two streets from one daughter and about five minutes from the other. More to the point, it's about a kilometre from Blackwood Uniting Church.



We had visited Blackwood UC when the Worship Team was first looking at Messy Church and caught up with old friends (in both senses of the word) there. We had intended to look at other churches in the area, but in the end we attended Blackwood's service in the Park at the beginning of January and met a number of people which led to further involvement.

Saying "Goodbye" is difficult as I have links with people at Morialta dating back to my childhood at Newton and then Rostrevor via Hectorville Congregational Church, now closed. Jill was welcomed to Rostrevor when we married and the congregation there was, and still is, very much an extended family for us, especially when our children were young. Since the amalgamation of the congregations in the early 90s, we have developed further friendships and ties with others in the Morialta congregation.

However, hard as the initial effort has been, we are starting to make friends and find ourselves a place in this community. It feels right and good to us although we have barely begun our journey here.

We have enjoyed that part of our journey that has been spent with the people of Morialta. It has had a large impact on our lives. Sometimes the journey has been hard for many reasons, but there have been far more times of joy and sharing, of support in times of hardship and illness and of community "togetherness".



As we have maintained links in varying degrees with past members and ministers, we hope to maintain some links with the Morialta people. In particular I have undertaken to continue supporting the PCs for the administrative team.

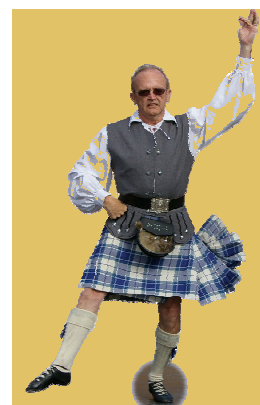
If you are up this way or would like to come for a visit, our address is 10 Ashby Avenue, Blackwood and our landline is 8278 9280.

Give us a call to make sure we are home and not inundated with grandchildren, and we will be very pleased to see you.

*Neville  
with Jill beside him!*

*Neville's reference to "supporting the PCs for the administrative team" really understates the extensive and skilled work he has done as our Administrative Computing Coordinator. We are so grateful that he will continue to the extent possible in the "foreseeable future".*

Ed.



## Brian Corrigan's New Years Eve

Many thanks to Brian for these spectacular photos that he shares with us, taken while he and Dale were enjoying the New Year celebrations in Elder Park.





## The Rev. Jo Smalbil



Jo grew up in the church at Newton and was part of our Morialta congregation and choir in the early nineties. Perhaps more famously she is part of the great Markwick clan, being daughter of the late Shirley Shelton and niece of the late Bill and Jean Markwick, whom many will remember. With her boundless energy and enthusiasm, Jo is also a former Campbelltown Citizen of the Year.

For some years Jo has lived in Broken Hill, since husband Lou re-located for work. From here she successfully candidated for the Ministry. In 2013 she tackled nine subjects demanding about sixty hours of study per week to complete her Bachelor of Ministry degree, and on the 6<sup>th</sup> December she was ordained in the Broken Hill Uniting Church.

Perfectly suited to Ministry to country people, she is now delighted to be looking forward to her induction into the Cobar/Nyngan Patrol for Frontier Services on 8<sup>th</sup> February. Jo will spend half of her time on patrol, while the other half will be shared between the Cobar and Nyngan congregations.

Recently retired, Lou plans to accompany Jo on patrol, helping out with the long hours behind the wheel and supporting Jo through the many challenges and joys in this new venture.

As Jo points out, Cobar, where she will be based, is roughly 1,000 kilometres from each of Brisbane, Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney – in other words, in the middle of nowhere. But the truth is, wherever Jo ministers, she will bring her very special people skills, and it will never be 'nowhere.' May she, and those to whom she ministers, be greatly blessed.

Alison Lockett

## G'day!

For nearly 12 years, on Monday mornings, I have walked about 6Km through nearby suburbs. I pass couples on their early morning walks, some with walking sticks and others with their cherished dogs. There are also lone walkers and well dressed young people on their way to work.

I say, 'Good morning', or 'Hello' and receive an echo reply or at least a nod and a smile from the older ones. Greetings which make my day. But many younger people, wired to their digital devices and living for the moment, pass without a blink, oblivious of my greeting. Their time is fragmented by the program of the moment.

We who have exchanged greetings are living in the world flowing with time. With little distraction we see life and nature around us. We hear the birds and see the daily newspaper yet to be collected. We smell the scent of the roses and anticipate connections when we reach our destinations. In the present we capture the past and the future. We build a little more experience.

So, don't stop saying "G'day" to those passing by. It has a Christian message.

Arthur Tideman.

## THAT DOLLAR...\$

It makes you think! The "growth" of the dollar was returned in a number of ways. Some of it went directly into the Offering. Some of it went into unmarked envelopes. Some of it was returned with notes to explain its "growth".

We're sharing the notes, unsigned, because we've enjoyed the ingenuity, actions and the thoughtful commitments. Please accept apologies if we've missed some!

- Made and sold jars of lemon curd to neighbours.
- Sold some quiches to my daughter.
- We loved your idea of taking \$1 and making it grow. What a great way to get people to focus on what they can do, and what is possible, rather than the opposite. We had grand plans for a baking fundraiser... Unfortunately a throwing up/diarrhea bug thwarted those plans. We have made a donation instead with a gift from two other Morialta friends included.
- I gave my daughter \$1. In return she made seven jars of this year's fig jam. They are now on sale at our library for \$3 a jar, potentially netting \$21.
- In the Sunday Mail "Can you help" segment 5.01.14 a lady wanted Fowlers No. 28 jars. I used my dollar to phone her mobile number as I had eleven of these jars in the shed. She was coming from Keith the following Friday so I met her, gave her the jars and she paid me \$20 for them. I told a friend about the transaction at lunch that Sunday and she gave me \$5 for three little trees left over from the market to add to the cause. ... My dollar's increase....\$25
- I made cards....\$15.
- I planted my dollar but I had to dig it up to return as it didn't grow!

**The total "growth" which can be identified amongst the Offering stands now at more than \$500.** Thank you to everyone whose dollar "grew".

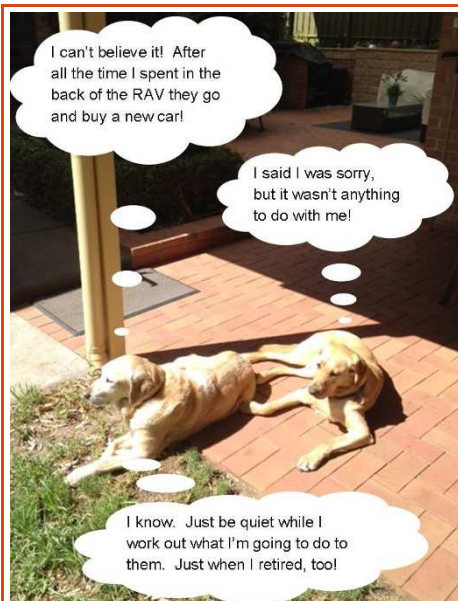
## Daphne Prime

We all felt sadness for Daphne Prime whose husband David passed away on 23 November 2013. David had sometimes accompanied Daphne to Morialta events.

She is now in residence at Clayton Church Homes in Fisher Street, Magill, and is again attending worship at Morialta with the assistance of Pauline and Peter Norman. Her daughters,

Leanne, Janette and Kathryn have appreciated the care shown by our folk. They believe that Daphne would welcome visitors and suggest that a call to the front desk on 8165 3188 prior to visiting is appreciated.

It's wonderful to have you worshipping with us, Daphne!



## paws for thought...

Well, it's been just over a year now and Wallace seems to have settled into our place. I must admit I was a little concerned about how Bruce would cope with the change. I think I have shared this with you already...

However, even though Wallace isn't quite as good as me in some ways; he doesn't walk as quickly and isn't as protective; he has taken on many of my suggestion, and most importantly he has given me more freedom to relax. Although, I am just a little miffed with Bruce and Anne.

I didn't ever complain, but it did sometimes get hot in the back of the RAV. The only air conditioning vent was in the front. Imagine my feelings when I found out that they were going to buy a new car and one of the main excuses was that it had air conditioning vents in the back. After all the time I spent traipsing after them, they waited until I was retired to upgrade!

Keely

## MINING AND ART IN THE OUTBACK MORIALTA UNITING CHURCH TOUR 2014

8<sup>TH</sup> to 15<sup>TH</sup> October



Explore the Silver City (Broken Hill) with its mining heritage and vibrant Outback Art scene.

Spend a night underground (if you wish), in the opal town of White Cliffs. Return home via Wentworth and Mildura.

Bev was born in Broken Hill, as was her father, so she will have stories to tell about growing up in a mining family.

*Brochure available soon!*

## Morialta's Community Building Events 2014

*Bare-bones Preview for your diary*

**Morialta Conservation Park Picnic**  
Monday 10 March (Public Holiday)

**Cabaret—Payneham Concert Band**  
Saturday 31 May (To be confirmed)

**Picnic Day Out—Rockleigh**  
Monday 9 June (Public Holiday)

**Mission Projects Concert**  
**Heaven Knows A Cappella**  
Sunday 15 June

**Library Event**  
Sunday 14 July

## BEYOND OUR WALLS

In late 2013 we recorded three services and posted out to a range of ministers, chaplains and church leaders. We invited feedback – comments and suggestions – and have received some very constructive messages.

We've now shared in the 16 February recording which we think has "come up well", thanks to the skills of John and the Production Team.

It's great that some of our Morialta members have chosen to take a DVD to a friend or someone who is in care, or to send to friends in Australia and overseas the access to our Worship on YouTube

which was given to all on the MUC Email Flash News list. This has brought appreciation and helpful comment.

One overseas respondent concluded her message with:

*"Please thank ... Morialta Uniting Church for initiating this project and as the title suggests, the Church is to be commended for enabling technology to reach out beyond the borders to shuts-in, the sick and people like me who could now join the larger community of Morialta Uniting in giving God all the praise and glory for His love and grace."*

We're looking forward to widening distribution to more Chaplains and residential care facilities.







# Morialta Magpie



50 years in Australia - Dale and Brian arrived at Outer Harbour on the *Himalaya* from Auckland 5 January 1964.



Congratulations Mary 90 years young!



Congratulations Graham and Heather on your 50th wedding anniversary



Helen and Kingsley Congratulations on 60 years of marriage



Fellowship celebrated Christmas with a meal



Santa and his helpers visited Friendship at their Christmas Lunch



Bruce led a reflective Blue Christmas service



Jordan enjoyed making candy canes with friends



Happy Birthday to Anne (60!), Pauline, Arlene and Sam.



Friendship Club shared a delicious Christmas Lunch with entertainment



Church family members recreated the Nativity scene on Christmas Eve



Andrew Mackenzie has taken up sky-diving!



Rhonda, Brian, Dale and Brian watched the *City of Adelaide* arriving home



## *The Uniting Church has mourned the passing of Rev. Ian Tanner*

Rev. Ian Tanner passed away on 27 December 2013. On Monday 16 February a Service of Thanksgiving was held at Scots Church, Adelaide, and another was held at Wesley Uniting Church, Forest ACT, on 30 January 2014 to honour the life of the late Rev. Ian Tanner.

Rev. Ian Tanner served as the first Moderator of the Uniting Church Synod of South Australia from 1977 to 1979, and was President of the Uniting Church in Australia Assembly from 1985 to 1988.

Rev. Prof. Andrew Dutney praised and remembered his service. "Rev. Tanner devoted his life to ministry within the Uniting Church and we are thankful for his years of service. He was an inspiring leader who had a significant impact on the early life of the church."

### Moderator

*Ian B. Tanner*

I am grateful to the Editor for the opportunity to contribute a regular column to the Central Times.

He has suggested that I should regard this column as an opportunity to share with you my personal reflections and interpretation of experiences, rather than as a platform for heavy pronouncements from the Moderator.

I have expressed elsewhere my sense of privilege and responsibility at being chosen as the first Moderator of the Synod of South Australia. I feel somewhat daunted by having to weave the traditions of Methodist Presidents, Presbyterian Moderators and Congregational Presidents together within the new pattern of the expectations of the Uniting Church.

Leadership in the Church is a different entity from leadership in the world of commerce or military enterprise. Jesus, you remember, said "it shall not be so among you". In the Church the

leader is Christ. So the leadership task of the servants of God, be they Presidents of Assemblies or leaders of youth groups, is to interpret and reflect the leadership of Christ. The leader must bring his or her own gifts and training and faith, but the task is to help the Church discover what is the will of God for the tasks of today.

With this issue we begin a regular monthly column by the Moderator of the Synod of SA, the Rev. Ian Tanner. It is designed to give him the opportunity to share his vision and aspiration for our new church. It will give us the opportunity to get to know the one who has been appointed to lead our church over the next two years.

Whilst the Moderator may be referred to as "the Head of the Church" that is a designation that ought not to be taken too seriously. We stand in the tradition of the equality of the ministry and the servanthood of leadership. Jesus Christ is the only King and head of the Church.

The Moderator is "primus inter pares - first among equals".

The Standing Committee decided that the Moderator should not be known as "Right Reverend" or have any other personal prefix. And his address is "Moderator" and not "Mr. Moderator".

If ever I needed a lesson in humility I received it some years ago when I had just been inducted as Moderator of the Presbyterian Assembly.

I was congratulated by my old friend the late Harold Snow who was a devoted and generous churchman. He was about five feet nothing tall. He solemnly shook my hand and then looked up at the sixteen inches that separated our eyes and said "and don't forget, big man, we both came from the same-sized egg". I have not forgotten.

I have been reading again the Book of Acts -



Rev. Ian Tanner

that marvellous primer for new churches. St. Luke clearly regards the choice of elders and leaders as the consequence of the inspirations of the Holy Spirit.

Inspiration leads to the office and not the office conferring inspiration. The elders at Ephesus were elders because they had the Holy Spirit - they were not given the Holy Spirit because they had been made elders.

We who are leaders in the Church need to remember that.

Whatever our function in the Church, we cannot presume to be automatically inspired. We constantly need to keep open to the Holy Spirit who alone gives us the right to serve.



# Welcome to the Morialta Uniting Church Community Library

## FROM THE LIBRARIAN



It seems like we are extremely lucky to be living in Australia at the moment as we can easily get to our library in our air conditioned car and have no problems parking. Spare a thought for Hoboken Public Library, New Jersey where the library needed to open at 11 am so that snow could be cleared and people could park their cars. The freezing conditions seem to be causing much chaos.

## BOOK CLUB

Book Club will continue at Adam Yearsley's home on the second Monday in the month @ 8 pm. Please look in the Newsletter to find out what book we will be reading.

## The Library starts a new group!

### THE MORIALTA WRITER'S GROUP

If you are interested in joining a group which enjoys sharing the joy of writing, come and let's get started on Sunday 2 March at 11 am in the library. This will be an initial get together to assess interest and talk about how we might proceed. This meeting will finish no later than 12.00 noon.

If this time is not suitable and you are interested, please let Lorraine know.

### IT'S TIME TO EXPLORE MATTHEW

The Lectionary Bible Reading for this year uses the Gospel of Matthew as a focus. The following books will help to guide you in your quest to know the gospel of Matthew better.

#### MATTHEW FOR EVERYONE

by Tom Wright

#### CONVERSATION WITH SCRIPTURE (The Gospel of Matthew)

by Marcus Borg

#### IMMERSION BIBLE STUDIES – MATTHEW

by J. Ellsworth Kalas

## LENT TO EASTER

The following books are available for your reflection.

**WITH YOU ALWAYS** Lectionary Lenten Study in Matthew's Gospel by Rob Bos

**THE WAY OF THE DESERT** by Andrew Wilson – Daily Bible Readings through Lent to Easter

In this book Andrew Watson takes us on a Lenten journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter Day from the parting of the Red Sea to Israel's entry into the promised land

**IONA DAWN** – Through Holy Week with The Iona Community by Neil Paynter

Members of the Iona community help us to connect the denials, betrayals, suffering and eventual new dawn of this life-changing week with what is happening in our own world today.

**E G G S   A N D   A S H E S**  
by Ruth Burgess & Chris Polhill

Practical & liturgical resources for Lent & Holy Week. Suitable for group worship or personal/family reflection with a focus on caring for the environment.

For further book reviews go to

<http://www.morialtauca.org.au/resources/library/whats-new/>



*Here is this place  
News life is streaming,  
Now is the darkness vanished away.  
See, in this space,  
Our fears and our dreamings,  
Brought here to you in the light of  
this day.*

**Marty Haugen**  
(Together in Song)

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## DIARY DATES 2014



Wednesday 5 March	Ash Wednesday
Sunday 9 March	Pancake Breakfast
Monday 10 March 11.00am	Church Family Picnic at Morialta Conservation Park
Friday - Saturday 14 - 15 March	Presbytery & Synod Meeting
Sunday 16 March 9.30am	Worship - Filming - Beyond our Walls
Tuesday 18 March 7.30pm	Church Council
17 - 23 March	Week of Prayer and Fasting for Justice for the First Peoples. Sunday Worship prepared by Social Justice Team
Saturday, Sunday 22 - 23 March	KCO - Barossa Valley
Sunday 30 March 9.30am	Combined Service followed by AGM of Congregation
Sunday 6 April 4.30pm	Messy Church
Sunday 13 April	Palm Sunday
Tuesday 15 April 7.30pm	Church Council
Thursday 17 April 6.30pm 7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Tenebrae meal Worship
Friday 18 April 9.00am	Good Friday - Worship - Service of the Nails
Sunday 20 April 9.30am	Easter Sunday - Worship Filming - Beyond our Walls

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**Deadline**  
*for the next Edition*  
**1 April 2013**

To discuss ideas for Vision articles  
contact the editor, Mary Thornley

**Living Streams ~ Giving Life**