

Diocese of The Murray, South Australia.

**THE MURRAY
CON-TRIBUTARY
NEWSLETTER**



“Encouraging families through faith in Action”

February 2026

Dear Friends,

As I start my role as your president, I would like to thank Jocelyn and all the members of the executive committee for their support. Our new executive committee met this week, and we look forward to working with you all to share Christ's love by encouraging, strengthening and supporting marriage and family life.

Last year's drought relief project is now completed. We pray that this year we will be blessed with the rain needed by our farmers.

Our theme for this year is “Encouraging Families Through Faith in Action”, so please keep this in mind as you plan your branch activities. Also look for ideas in MIA MIA, or on the MU website.

150 years of Mothers Union. In 2026 we celebrate 150 years of the Mothers Union. We praise God that Mary Sumner answered His call to begin an organisation aimed at supporting mothers across all social classes, and teaching the importance of winning homes for Christ.

150th Anniversary Worldwide Gathering is being held in Durban, South Africa, from 30 September – 3 October, and will be a wonderful opportunity to meet, encourage and learn from other members of MU from 84 countries. If you are interested in attending, let me know and I can send you more details.

Our diocesan 150 celebration will be on Lady Day, Wednesday 25 March, at Seaford at 11.00 with a service of Holy Communion and Commissioning of our

new executive members, followed by lunch in the cafe. The meal will cost \$18.00, with a choice of 4 main courses followed by fruit salad and ice cream and birthday cake. The meal must be pre-ordered through your branch president, or Helen Cook, as the cafe seats only 45 people. Please bring your branch banners to be displayed in the church.

With my love and prayers, Caroline.

Diary Dates

Wed 25 Mar at 11.00. Lady Day at Seaford.

Mon 11 May at 10.30. Executive Committee.

Mon 10 Aug at 11.00. Mary Sumner Day, AGM, and Council meeting at Mt Barker.

Mon 9 Nov at 11.00. Wave of Prayer and Council Meeting at Aberfoyle Park.

A Daily Survival Kit to help you each Day

A toothpick – to remind you to pick the good qualities in everyone, including yourself.

A rubber band – to remind you to be flexible. Things might not always go the way you want, but it can be worked out.

A bandaid – to remind you to heal hurt feelings, either yours or someone else's.

An eraser – to remind you everyone makes mistakes. That's ok, we learn by our errors

A Chocolate – to remind you everyone needs a hug or a compliment every day

A mint – to remind you that you are worth a mint to your family and Me

A pencil – to remind you to list your blessings every day

A tea bag – to remind you to take time to relax daily and go over that list of God's blessings.

This is what makes life worth living every minute, every day

The God Paper

Who is God? What is God like?

God is the unanswerable, the unknown, the mystery. God is a feeling, a glance, a moment, the touch of another (in spirit and of heart, the connecting with another, the friendship, the yearning... the hope to see you againness).....the presence of the genuine, of love and listening....and of space...space inside and space outside.....the spaciousness of silence....of stillness, of openness...in nature.

God is here in a moment and gone in a moment...is in an awakening.....in an aha moment.....small or big...always there. God is in the warmth of a dog's tummy, a nuzzle, a snuggle, a wagging tail....a compassionate presence....a warm presence with no expectation.

God is in the remembering and in the forgetting... in sleeping and in waking.

God is a feeling, a presence, a background.....a letting go....a sense of harmony...God is in us and around us...in struggle, God is in our reaching out, in the sitting with.....in vulnerability, in strength, in all that is...is love...is care...is the mystery of a life...the freshness of a baby.....the fading of a life....

God is a cloud, floating in the blue sky...the movement of the leaves...the breeze....in the amazing roots of a fig tree....in the vastness of the ocean.....the shells on the beach....the stars.....the moon.

God is beyond word, sound, thought.....God is a weaver of invisible threads...is bigger than us...majestic and solid, like a mountain.

God is the space between, the space beyond. God is wisdom, compassion, mercy and love...

God is the unanswerable, the unknown, the mystery

Written by Salima Bond from the Mount Barker Parish 30th August 2018

If you have any news of members or information to share, please contact us:

ADoM Website Administrator note: For those reading this online, you may contact Liz Hampel and Natalie Jones via newsletter@muaustralia.org.au