



Life in the Vine

September 2017

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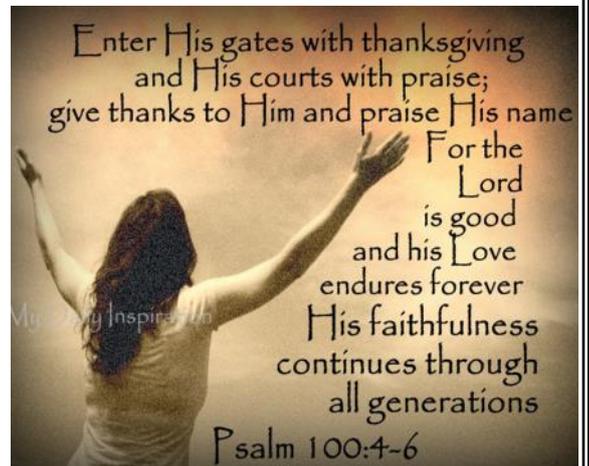
It Is Good
to Give Thanks
to the Lord



"Give Thanks To The Lord, For He Is Good.
His Love Endures Forever." Psalm 136:1

*"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you
and not to harm you, plans to give you hope & a future." Jeremiah 29:11*

"Give praise to the Lord, call on His name;...sing to Him, sing praise to
Him; tell of His wonderful acts....let the
hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice,
Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His
face always..... give thanks to the Lord, For
He is good; His love endures forever... Praise
be to the Lord,from everlasting to
everlasting." 1 chronicles 17:8-10,34,36



Inside this Issue



GGLC Celebrates 30 Years
Pages 5-15



School/Church Forum
Page 16



School, Youth, Children
Pages 17-19



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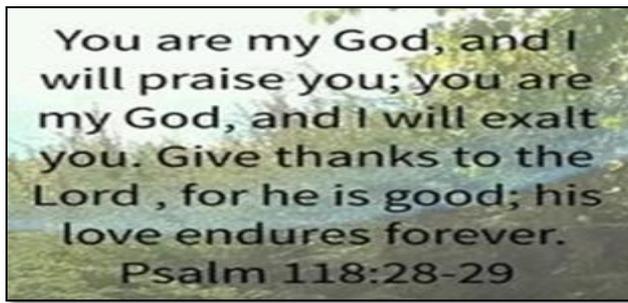
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Pastor Greg Shares

Giving Thanks



Have you noticed how many psalms encourage us to give thanks to God? The phrase **'give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love endures forever'** occurs in Psalms 107, 118 and 136. There are many other parts of the bible that remind us of God's provision and goodness, and prompt us to give thanks. As with everything God does, he encourages us to be thankful for our benefit not for his. A grateful heart is a happy heart.

Two psychologists, Dr. Robert A. Emmons of the University of California, Davis, and Dr. Michael E. McCullough of the University of Miami, have done much of the research on gratitude. They found that people who are actively looking for things for which they can be thankful are happier and healthier. In their studies they enlisted two groups of people at random and asked one group to journal each day things for which they were grateful. The other group did not actively look for blessings in their life. After a period, the Drs found that those who wrote about being grateful were more optimistic, felt better about themselves, were more active and visited the doctor less.

Sadly, it is our nature to see the bad rather than the good. It is our nature to take others for granted and yearn for things we do not have. It shouldn't surprise us really. Our society, companies, advertisers all target our ingratitude to spur desire for their products. Yet God asks us not to look at what we do not have, rather he asks us to be grateful for what we do have. **When we acknowledge the amazing goodness and faithfulness of our God we will be happier and healthier.**

We can improve our thankfulness.

****We can take some time each week just to think of all the blessings we have and then pray a prayer of thanks to God.**

****We can write a short thank you note to someone we love.**

****It's easy with SMS. A quick thank you via text will reorient our thinking and be a wonderful encouragement for the recipient.**

We have so much for which we should be grateful. **Our God knows us intimately & wants to be involved in our lives. Jesus went to the cross so that we would be free from sin and death, and gave us his Spirit to live in freedom. God will never abandon us. He provides for all of our needs.** It is good for us to give thanks to God, for he is very good indeed.



Pastor Greg at play in mainly music

What happened to our sanctuary items?

In mid July a truck arrived to take our wooden lectern, baptismal font, the baptismal candle, brass candle sticks and carpet to a new church being built at Imanpa. Imanpa is off the Lasseter Highway on the way to Uluru. Regular worship services began there in the 1970s.

After years of planning the foundations of the new Lutheran church are underway.



From the Editor

Welcome to this bumper edition of Life in the Vine. We have so much to thank God for as we reflect on the 30 years of Golden Grove Lutheran Church. In this edition we look at our day of celebration & learn of some of the history from its beginnings and the journey to now. We read about what made an impact on our Pastors and the founding congregation members. (Copies of the full articles or stories shared on the day are available. Please contact the editor if you are interested.)

Although its wonderful to look back & to celebrate the past, we now need to look forward to what the future holds. We look at further developing our church & school relationship, the continuing growth of our Children's Ministry and the education & pastoral care in our community. We give thanks to God and His exciting plans for us. **God has been faithful, led and guided us. He has lavished on us His amazing love in so many ways in the past & will continue into the future. God will remain faithful and has promised to continue to love & be with us forever. God's gift of grace through the death & resurrection of Jesus is free for all and remains the heart & soul of those who know Jesus as their loving Lord & Saviour.**

"GOD IS GOOD AND HIS LOVE LASTS FOREVER." PSALM 136

Rosalie Hoklas – Editor

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.....PA ...SOUND SYSTEMS.....MICROPHONES.....

Within weeks of the first GGLF services at Pedare, it became obvious we needed some amplification for Pastor. Mark's guitar amplifier and speaker along, with an old microphone was used. A chain was made for Pastor Lyle to hang the microphone around his neck.

This large speaker was dragged along each week for 2 years from our house at Wynn Vale to Pedare, The Heights School, to the Wynn Vale Primary School classrooms and then to GG Lutheran classrooms.

In May 1989, the first Bose speaker was purchased and mounted in the classroom, with a wireless microphone later in 1989. In the spirit that was, Chris Prodoehl painstakingly constructed an 8 channel audio mixer from a kit.

In Jan 1990, GGLF moved into the Library resource centre. Things were growing, with singers using microphones. Once in the Wynn Vale gymnasium the 2 Bose speakers were installed up in the ceiling at the hall, with Ivan Schmocker making some ingenious brackets, and himself dangling high up on the ceiling to install them. Dave Mueller constructed a wooden trolley for the PA equipment and a lectern. Chris and Mark constructed a microphone multicore using cable salvaged from a computer room (the cable is still in use in 2017). The cable was on a big reel that was stored under the trolley.

New families coming along for the first time would suddenly be involved in packing up at the end of the service. They would come along early next week to help put out chairs & blackboard.



There was an amazing feeling of everyone coming together & helping, and we always believed that it was this comradery that helped bring everyone together. This fellowship created strong bonds that would grow the fellowship quickly.

By 1993, the music group had progressed to a full scale band.

By Mark & Jenny Rawolle



Meet Our New Members



Hi, my name is **Elizabeth Mills** and I moved to Greenwith from Newcastle NSW at the start of this year with my husband **Robert**, son **Geordie** (15 years old) and daughter **Amelia** (8 years old). I was born in Malaysia and grew up all over Australia because my father was in the RAAF. I consider Melbourne to be my home town, as that was where I spent most of my teenage years and it's where my father finally retired to.

In contrast, my husband **Robert Mills**, grew up on a farm located in Longerenong, 20 minutes out of Horsham, Victoria. He attended primary school at the Horsham Lutheran Primary School and high school at Horsham Secondary College. His family were members of the Lutheran Church in Horsham where he attended worship regularly.

In 1997, we met at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), where we were studying the same course. We moved to Horsham prior to being married in 1999 and I lived with Roberts Family. Through Robert and his family, **I started to learn more about what it meant to be a Christian**, and participated in evening family devotions & attending worship. **The more I learnt, the more I wanted to know and my faith strengthened.** Just before we married I became a Lutheran.

After we got married, Robert worked as a farm hand in Horsham and I undertook numerous clerical jobs. When the drought came through we both lost our jobs and we found it hard to get work. After living in several different towns and different jobs, I decided

to join the RAAF as an Administration Clerk. Since joining we have lived in Wagga Wagga and Newcastle NSW.

Last year while I was deployed to the Middle East, Robert commenced a Diploma of Theology at ALC (Australian Lutheran College) via correspondence. Since moving to Adelaide he has been able to continue his studies on campus at ALC and will complete the certificate at the end of this year.

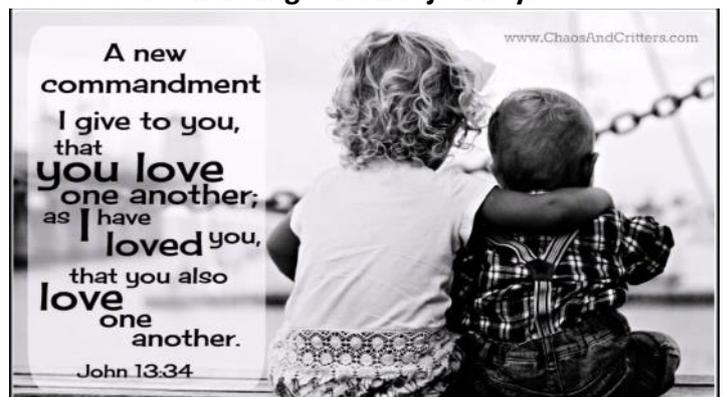
Our son, **Geordie Mills**, is currently attending high school at Golden Grove High School and is in year 10. When he finishes high school, he wants to have a career in Information Technology as he loves computer programming. Outside of school he participates in RAAF Cadets & loves it so much that he is considering joining the RAAF when he finishes school.



Our daughter, **Amelia Mills**, is currently attending Greenwith Primary School and is in year 4. Amelia enjoys attending the CC program and is very excited about doing her First Holy Communion later this year.

We don't have any individual favourite Bible verses but one that we all like is John 13:34: "**A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another.**" The reason this is one of our favourites is because with the turbulent times that we live in, it's important to remember to love and support each other.

We all enjoy worshiping at Golden Grove because of its welcoming community feeling. The enthusiasm of the members to the vision of the church is infectious. We look forward to getting more involved within the church and **continuing our faith journey.**

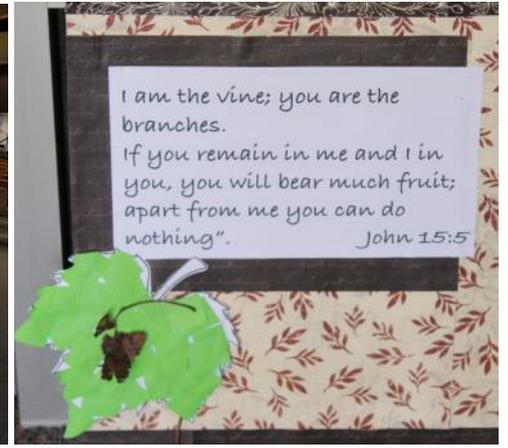




**GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN
CHURCH celebrates
30 years
on Sunday 2nd July 2017**



The day arrived after months of planning and preparation. Past pastors were asked to speak, foundation members were invited and a list of early members were encouraged to share memories. The unveiling of the new sanctuary items were ready—waiting to be blessed, flowers were placed and we awaited to see who would come to share in this day of celebration. God was already there as he had been so many years ago, faithful with his love and grace ready to receive our praise and thanks.



The theme for the day was based on John 15:5 ***"I am the vine, you are the branches."*** Over 30 years ago the area was once covered in vines and when the site was chosen it had been cleared and only stumps remained. The young children in our community under the leadership of Natasha Jaeschke created



a vine with leaves and grapes, including the 12 disciples for the entrance to the church. **The logo** chosen in those early days for the new school and church featured a vine & grapes a reminder of what the area once was. It also reminds us that we are part of God's vineyard. **The cross** sits in the centre reminding us that Christ and the message of the cross is the centre of our school and congregation. **The grapes** represent the people who are in fellowship with God and each other because of what Christ did for them on the cross. **The grapes** remind us that as Christians our lives need to be fruitful. This only happens when we remain united with Christ **'for apart from me you can do nothing.'** (John 15:5b)

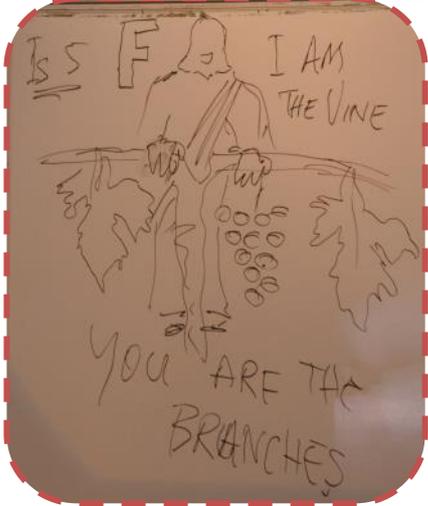




Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good
His love endures forever
 Give thanks to the God of gods
His love endures forever
 Give thanks to the Lord of Lords
His love endures forever
 To Him who alone does great wonders
His love endures forever
 Who by His understanding made the heavens
His love endures forever
 Who spread out the earth upon the waters
His love endures forever
 Who made the great lights
His love endures forever
 The sun to govern the day
His love endures forever
 The moon and stars to govern the night
His love endures forever
 He gives food to every creature
His love endures forever
 Give thanks to the God of heaven
His love endures forever. Psalm 136
Give thanks to the Lord,
for He has called & sustained GGLC for 30 years
His love endures forever



Pastor Greg & Connie Fowler 2016— ...
 "The more things change the more they remain the same. One thing has remained the same & that is **God's faithfulness**. Things change, seasons & technology **BUT God is faithful & remains the same.**"



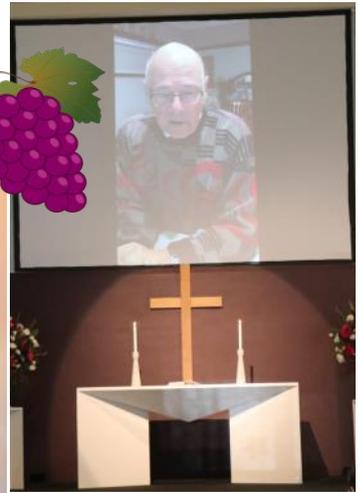
Pastor Lyle & Anne Bartel 1987—1997

The blackboard was available in the classrooms where worship was held, so it was natural that the sermon was drawn.

"Jesus is the vine & us the branches. We are to remain in the vine & produce fruit. God the Father will chop & prune so that we can become the best fruit possible. The Holy spirit produces the fruit—the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

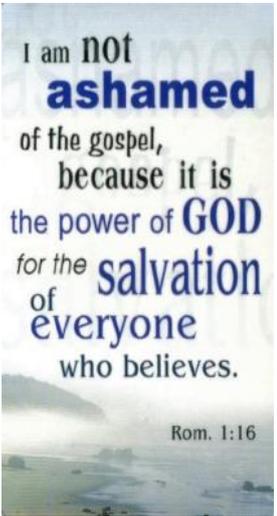
God is working in & with His people.

The vine was planted at Golden Grove but it was not just us—it was the school, congregation and a much wider community. God knew exactly what we needed to grow. **Remain in the Vine"**



Pastor Alex & Gill Stevenson 1997—2005

"I remember the experience of faith, faith that was renewed. I saw people discover the gospel and saw their relationship with the Lord grow. Faith was renewed and grew as we worshipped in a dynamic place. We worshipped in the gym and looked forward to the move and then building a church. A favourite verse from the Bible is Romans 1:16. **Salvation by God's grace through faith is not something to be ashamed of. God is ever present. The gospel is as fresh, exciting and new as it ever was..** ...Until we meet again in God's kingdom in eternity. May the Lord be with you all."





Pastor Leon & Heidi Rosenberg 2007–2015

"I remember there were many baptisms as a coming into the growth of the vine, being grafted onto the vine. Jesus laid down His life for us. He joins us into the vine in baptism through faith—that love we have in Him—the vine. What counted most during my ministry here were the people, the individuals and the way God touched these individuals, all differently and in a particular way where they were at—as they were growing in the vine. God is at work. God is showing His love so that we may show love to others."



Just like the branches are connected to the grape vine so we are connected to Jesus. The branch not connected dies & cannot produce fruit. We need to stay joined to Jesus.



Rosalie Hoklas with children's address



**"THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU;
THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE UPON
YOU AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU;
THE LORD TURN HIS FACE TOWARD
YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE."
NUM. 6:24-26**



Pastor Dennis Obst dedicated & blessed the new sanctuary furniture. "What a transformation... it's beautiful... I feel so honoured to be invited to dedicate the new furnishings."

"I consecrate this altar in the name of the Father & the Son & the Holy Spirit. God be present for His people gathered here, to nourish them with the bread of life, to confirm their faith, to sustain them in their commitments & to bless their comings & goings."



School Choir

Great is the goodness of the Lord
 Faithful in mercy and kindness
 Gracious in power, love & grace
Great is the goodness of the Lord
 Speak of His greatness
 Tell of his wisdom
Praise Him in beautiful song
 Give Him the glory
 Give Him the honour.....
 Faithful provider, generous lover
 Giver of every good thing
 Lord you are worthy, worthy of worship
 All of our praises we bring.....
Great is the goodness of the Lord



*Hosanna Hosanna
 You are the
 God who saves us
 Worthy of all our praises
 Hosanna Hosanna
 Come have your way
 among us
 We welcome you here
 Lord Jesus*



School Staff Band



Church Bands

.....Your grace abounds in deepest waters
 Your sovereign hand will be my guide
 Where feet may fail & fear surrounds me
 You've never failed & you won't start now.....
 So I will call upon your name & keep my eyes
 above the waves when oceans rise
 My soul will rest in your embrace
 For I am yours and You are mine.....
 ('Oceans')

Almighty God my redeemer, my hiding place, my safe refuge
 No other name like Jesus, no power can stand against you
 My feet are planted on this rock & I will not be shaken
 My hope it comes from you alone, my Lord & my salvation
 Your praise is always on my lips, your word is living in my heart
 And I will praise you with a new song. My soul will bless you Lord.....
 All things are possible... ('All things are possible')



Salt Factory Band

Your love is like radiant diamonds
 Bursting inside us we cannot contain
 Your love will surely come find us
 Like blazing wildfires singing your name
 God of mercy sweet love of mine
 I have surrendered to your design
 May this offering stretch across the skies
 These Hallelujahs be multiplied.
 ('Multiplied')



**Leanne Albers -
Founding Member.**

In 1987 when Lyle & Anne arrived we had the first meeting of the congregation—all eight of us. We were a fellowship group and word soon spread and

people came. By June of that year the Fielke’s, Millers, Hahns, Pridhams, Hoff’s, Rawolle’s, Wegener’s, Shrowder’s, Knapps had arrived ...so ... we thought we had better have church. So began our nomadic church in the Pedare music suite which we quickly outgrew. We moved to Modbury Heights school, then to the Wynn Vale library, a GGLPS classroom and then to the gym.

Being a new church is exciting with new people arriving ... so small group ministry became vital for people getting to know each other. There was a sense of community with the same goal that glued us all together like a massive family. Specialist groups then began to form. There were Music Groups & a Ladies Fellowship Group that began with Maureen Pridham bringing mums together to make connections. The Silly Sewers group (became Silly Stitchers after the name was pronounced incorrectly for it’s first announcement) & retreats for women. The various groups intermingled and friendships formed and became strong.

The great thing is that while we all had fun it was all Christ centred. As a young church we had a vision to bring the Gospel through the church to the school and our community. In doing this God blessed us. In summary Psalm 37:4 says: *“Delight in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.”*



**Trevor &
Liz
Winderlich
- Founding
Principal &
Teacher/
Librarian**

Trevor & Liz took on the challenge of establishing the new Golden Grove Lutheran PS. It was a school of ‘expect the unexpected’ and ***“Trust God”***. So many things had the potential to not work out.... After living for one month in our first house the District Church Council said ‘We can’t afford to build a school ... we will find you another position.’ We pointed out that no school meant no church. We were here to stay ...so we began the run around to raise funds. God said loud and clear— ***“It’s not going to be in your strength but mine.”*** Children came from Christian families and from families who had never heard the word of God. We began with 27 children from Reception to year 6 with Liz & myself the teachers.One child when asked by his family what he did at school today replied ‘We had Jesus at chapel today’ (Pastor Lyle with beard). What a wonderful idea ..***to see Jesus through someone else.*** Bibles were given to classes 3 –6. One boy kept turning the book over and over in his hands and asked ‘Is this the Bible?’ Such a smile of satisfaction on his face when I said ‘yes’ and that he could open it..... Children were diligent in their desire to know more about Jesus, and the desire to know more of Jesus grew in the hearts of parents too... One girl who was supposed to be doing maths had something under her desk and I was going to talk to her. I asked “What have you got there? - you’re supposed to be doing maths.” To my surprise she pulled out a Bible. I said “You can’t stop reading can you?” & she replied “no”. The children had a real desire and hunger for God. One year we had 35 baptisms.

One gentleman had been watching carefully and said that he wanted to be like me & how do I join the church.

The harvest was before us. I was blessed in my years at Golden Grove. I learned so much about trusting in God’s faithfulness.

Liz recalls travelling down in the 2nd half of 1987 to worship weekly with the congregation that they would join in the following year.

Liz remembers that her classroom needed to be packed up on Friday ready for Sunday worship. One week a child found the vacuum cleaner and pressed start.....so little of Lyle’s sermon was heard.

God led us as a community of Christians—such a blessing.

Our daughter was the first to be married in this congregation but chose to marry in St Stephens Lutheran church instead of the classroom.

Your mission goes on. To God be the glory.



Margy & Dave Knapp -Founding Members & Longest Standing Members.

The 18th Adelaide Girls Brigade Company began as one arm of our children’s ministry in 1990. Every

Wednesday night 23 –36 girls aged between 5 to teenage met for fun & organized activities - to **encourage them to seek, serve and follow Christ.**

We had many congregational members assisting in leadership, volunteering or coming to play music and lead singing & devotions. We had several Church parades each year where the girls came & participated in a Sunday worship. There were outings, camps, fun theme nights, games nights & campfires, as well as the weekly program **focusing on Christ in their lives.** Sadly the Company was disbanded after 7 years.



Christmas Eve was always celebrated as a special event in our Congregation. I remember our first evening was celebrated with the Hope Valley Congregation. Once the Congregation moved into the school gym our Christmas Eves became more elaborate. The Gym became a barn and inspired many plays that were aimed at absorbing the audience into the story of Christmas. Jesse Hahn had the honour of being our first live baby Jesus.

We have also continued a tradition started by Pastor Lyle of gifting those who come on the night with a Christmas decoration from the congregation. The productions have included a couple of TV reporter scripts, an Aussie Bush Christmas, Father Christmas at the manger, stories from

the shepherds point of view, and from the Wise Men’s perspective. The Innkeeper has featured prominently & the animals have told the story . And as we continue this tradition it’s exciting to wonder what form the Christmas story will take this year!



Geoff & Jan Wegener— Geoff was 1st Treasurer of GGLP School.

In Feb 1987, our family was privileged to be involved with Pastor Lyle, Anne & their family, with a couple of other families in coming together as a small

group. It was a great challenge, but in God we trusted.

I remember Pastor Peter Mickan asking me to help set up the men’s breakfast & to help the men to grow spiritually & for them to be involved in their families nurturing.

During Pastor’s Alex duration, it was a time of maturing the congregation with some excellent courses like Nicky Gumbell’s course of **Alpha** and Nick Warren’s challenging personal development course on **“40 Days of Purpose”** which saw the faith & commitment of the people grow. It was exciting with God drawing people together, motivating & challenging them in a deeper relationship with Himself.

I was also remember in helping to bring the **Steve Grace** concert to the church. What I loved about Steve Grace was firstly His great love for the Lord & his willingness to provide a concert wherever God would lead him.

So as GGLC celebrate 30 years of blessings, I **encourage each of you to go out on a limb & be a bold light for Christ..... because that is where the fruit is & that this were you will grow & reap the harvest of the lost souls.**

Philippians 3:12-14 ‘Pressing on in your relationship with Christ, forgetting what is behind and straining toward the goal to win the prize which God has called you to do’.





Dave & Liz Shrowder Early Members

Memories on Fundraising & Camps



Pumpkins.

Some of the people in the Mannum / Bow Hill Parish grew pumpkins and onions commercially. They put

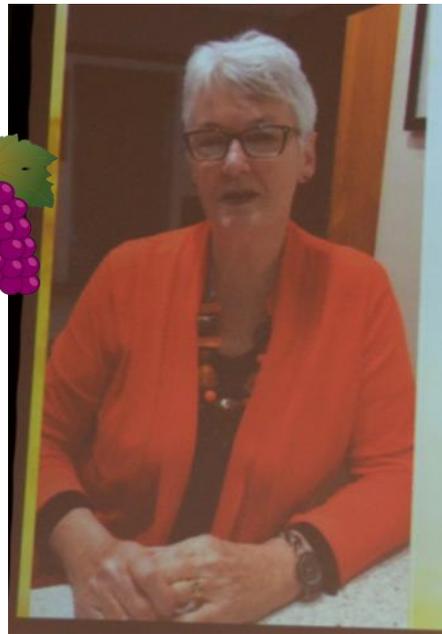
aside a paddock and the whole congregation was involved in growing pumpkins and onions in this paddock. When they were sold the funds were sent to us over the next couple of years. In Feb 1990 our records show Mannum / Bow Hill provided us with 75 new songbooks & Bibles.

Wood cutting: There were several congregations who banded together to support us with sales from wood-cutting: July 1988 Unley and Birdwood presented us with a cheque for \$2,077 which was the proceeds from wood cutting sales. This inspired us as & we joined them in their next episode of wood cutting a month later in August 88. In March 1989 a woodcutting day was held with Tanunda, Birdwood and Cambrai congregations. 5 months later we went wood cutting again. These were fabulous days – it was hard work but like a picnic with family fun.

Grape Picking: A week after the March 1989 wood cutting with Tanunda, Birdwood and Cambrai - we went grape picking at Eden Valley. Another family day with everyone involved. We probably would have raised more money if we hadn't thrown so many grapes at each other! Even the kids were looked after. John Fielke's mum would take them down to the dam & taught them how to catch yabbies. She was nick-named "the yabby lady"! There were three sessions of grape picking in 1989, 1990 and again in 1991.

What is significant about all these fund raisers, is the number of different congregations who were prepared to get involved with us and work with us as a new congregation to raise funds for our development.

Family Camps: The first family church camp was in November 1987 at Woodhouse Scout Camp. The records say that it was "a time for spiritual growth & fun activities". Those early camps were really brilliant where everybody got to know everybody else and the camaraderie was great.



Gill Stevenson shares..... Little John

**** A spiritual highlight was the '40 Days of Purpose' brilliantly co-ordinated by Ali Hoopman. It was also when we incorporated new songs with lots of musicians & singers.**

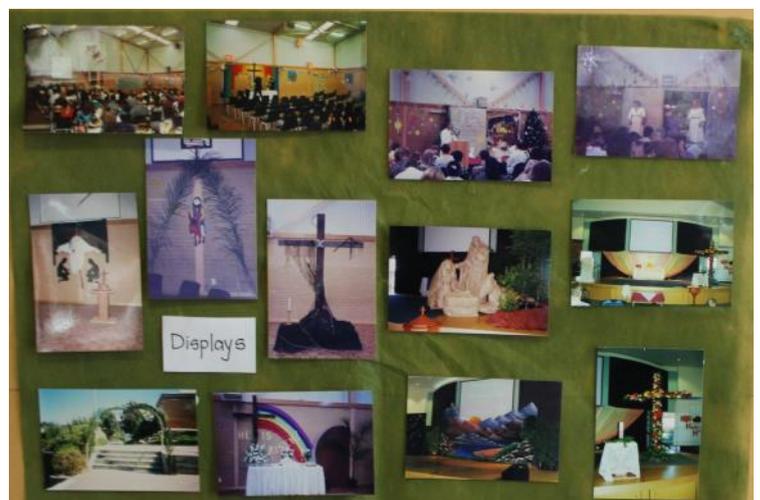
**** I remember my involvement with the school & the children with fondness.**

**** A beautiful part of our worship was the Sacred Dance Group who chose dance routines to the music.**

**** The role of a Pastors wife is challenging. I thank you for supporting and befriending me/us, especially through trying times.**

**** Prayer Ministry was a strong focus and the prayer that continued to cover us & encourage us while we were at Golden Grove. I remain passionate about the power of prayer.**

**** Little John. Thank you Golden Grove for you gave so much to change a little boys life. Little John was from the Philippines and was born with 2 club feet. He is now 16 years, tall and straight with a beautiful smile. He loves to play basketball.**





**Brett Copeland—
Youth worker**

I was part of the Golden Grove Lutheran community from the early 1990s when I came along

with my family. After I left high school I started to seek truth more deeply and had some experiences with Jesus that changed my life for my good. This caused me to want others to know him too, which is why I started helping as a youth leader. I remember being at a meeting where they were discussing the employment of a youth worker. I came away from this meeting with a feeling that I wanted to apply for the position.

The next 7 years were amazing as I witnessed God’s love and grace in action, in people and through them. Ebony Koh (Young) led a group of around 15 high school aged girls weekly in studying the Bible and dancing.

The support we had from the church – trust, financial support, guidance and encouragement – was amazing and rare.

Salt Factory : We all knew Jesus’ words from Matthew 5, *“you are the salt of the earth”*, and we wanted a space where we could meet with Jesus and be transformed to go out into the world to be witnesses of his healing, flavouring work in us.

The Salt Factory began every second Friday night between the REV320 youth nights. It moved to Sunday nights and sharing tea was part of the night. 1 John 4 *“We love because he first loved us. ...For whoever does not love their brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ...Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister”*.

At the time, we were looking at the way Jesus was always eating with people and hanging out with people, and we were learning that when you get to know people’s stories you often learn to love them more. We wanted worship to be a place where people did life together & experienced God’s love through words and actions.

One of the youth leaders’ favourite gatherings was over Easter and called **‘A Night to Remember’**. We wanted the youth to have a space to reflect on the Easter story but also spend the weekend with their families. The night involved organising the Maundy Thursday service. Then we remembered the journey Jesus took to the cross for us in a variety of ways through stations of the cross, movies, stories and prayer. We finished next morning at the Good Friday service & always included the resurrection story.

I celebrate God’s greatness with those that served the youth before us, and have after us, who all have stories of how Jesus has transformed lives.

I experienced God’s goodness in many ways through His people at Golden Grove Lutheran. I am very thankful to Jesus for being in this community of believers. I learnt so much about walking with Him here. My life has been influenced by the ways you taught me about service, grace, leadership, marriage and parenting. Thank you, God’s grace and peace to you all.



Shane Paterson
Current Principal of Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School

“In the short period of time that I have been here I feel a real sense of community.”

The school at present is Reception to Year 6 and there are 265 students. Year 7 is now part of secondary schooling. The school is part of ‘Connected Schools’ which comprises of the 5 Lutheran Learning Sites of the Northern suburbs including Endeavour College.

The school now covers a wide diversity of 25 different cultures & this is indicated with flags of these cultures displayed in the courtyard.

The school and church are at present looking at the relationship between these two fields and exploring what our ministry looks like now & will in the future.



**Jon Schutz—
Current Congregational Chairperson**
shared some historical back ground and linked the day together introducing speakers and sharing interesting snippets.



Highlights from Church Council

Jon Schutz - GGLC Chairperson

I think we on Church Council feel that **our 30th Anniversary Celebrations marked the close of a chapter**, a chapter with a furiously paced plot that raced between scenes including the new altar and sanctuary furniture, the new constitution, the positive developments in our child and youth ministry, our updated organisational structure, the financing of the new renovations with the Mission Stimulus Grant plus approval to proceed with a loan, and the hosting of Synod; then as the operatic background music reached its crescendo, we found ourselves in the party that was the 30th Anniversary. The music quietened as we took a short break to study the aftermath and the credits rolled...

Now we are starting to **think about the next chapter**, which is emerging as something that will be a little more even-paced but significant nonetheless.

- As of June 13, we are officially operating under our **new constitution**.
- As of July 28, we are officially known as **“Golden Grove Lutheran Church”**.
- A workshop was held on Aug 5 to explore the **school -church relationship**, facilitated by Tania Nelson (Local Mission LCA) -and John Proeve from LSA (Lutheran Schools Association) and was attended by 31 people. Further details can be found page 4 in this issue of Life in the Vine. The respective councils will analyse the material and ideas from the workshops, and then the Greg, Shane, Gen and myself will endeavour to turn this into something actionable.
- Our focus now shifts somewhat from children’s ministry to **adult ministries**, starting with the Christian Education and Pastoral Care Survey, followed by a forum to be held on Aug 27. This initiative is being ably led by Ruth (Christian Education) and Dave (Pastoral Care) and will define the shape of our adult ministry at least for the next few years.
- We have started the process to revisit our **Mission, Vision and Value statements**. We would like everybody in the congregation to be able to clearly articulate the character and purpose of Golden Grove Lutheran Church. Although Church Council will take the lead on this, we will be needing input from the congregation, so watch this space.
- Our **renovations** (<http://bit.ly/gglcreno>) are moving forward. Working through the structural engineering aspects has been somewhat slow, but shortly you will start to see evidence of the preparations. We have applied to the LLL for a loan, the school has approved an amount for the office relocation, and the opportunity for tax deductible

donations through the school’s Worship Centre Carpet Replacement Fund has been well subscribed. Thank you to everyone for your ongoing support for this project.

- Our **Half Yearly Meeting** will be held on December 10 and we are aware that Allyson Dutschke will be standing down from the position of **ChildSafe Coordinator** so if anyone would like to step into this important role, please let me know and/or discuss with Allyson.



Clown Ministry



In the early days of Pastor Lyle’s leadership, a clown ministry began with **Dave Mueller** as “Aully” & **David Knapp** as “Mothy”. The names came from the Apostle Paul & Timothy, the early Christian partnership who took the Gospel to the Gentiles.

As well as the occasional Sunday children’s address & Golden Grove’s 10th Birthday celebration, they also took their clowning to church camps, picnics, Girl’s Brigade & School Fetes.

When Dave Mueller moved, **Michael Gower** took over the role of “Mikey”. The new duo continued the ministry, always with the aim of spreading the Gospel. Their plan was simply to reach children & adults alike with a biblical truth, simplified & illustrated with comedy.

One memorable time occurred when the clowns wrapped Pastor Lyle in a big red ribbon and bow, ready to send him off as a gift to his new congregation at Albury. A sad day was given a happy twist with a loving gesture.



GOD IS FAITHFUL
*Without God, I am nothing
With God, I can do all things*

School / Congregation Partnership

One of the things we celebrate in our Golden Grove Lutheran community is the close relationship between our school and congregation. This partnership has been a cornerstone of both for three decades. As we witnessed from the recent 30 year anniversary celebration, a lot has changed since the 1980s and it's imperative that our school/church partnership reflect our current environment.

As you are well aware this community saw a huge change in leadership at the beginning of last year in the school with Shane and the congregation with Greg. This was an opportune time to examine the relationship between the school and the congregation, ensuring it is meaningful and fulfils the needs of both arms of the community.



In that regard, discussions began between the Chairs of both Councils and Greg and Shane (amongst other things) on the reason for the relationship, how it is practised, what is still relevant and what it should look like for the future. **Historically, the school and congregation were seen as inseparable and each supported the other in the proclamation of the Gospel.** To move forward in 2017 it was agreed that we needed to explore, question and then make some decisions around this.

A number of fruitful discussions were held in the latter part of 2016 and now into 2017. However, it became obvious that we wanted to involve members of our respective Councils in these discussions so that decisions made were truly reflective of both bodies.

Both councils determined that these discussions are a priority & organised a 'forum' to discuss this issue. John Proeve (LSA Executive Director) was approached to share the work of social (and Christian) demographer Mark McCrindle, and Tania Nelson (Executive Officer – Local Mission LCA) to present to a group comprising School and Church Council members plus school staff & congregational members who were interested.



John, through his presentation, highlighted the change in church attendance over the last thirty years, the age of worshippers & changing attitudes toward the Christian faith. Despite

the decline, there are still more Australians who attend church at least once per month than attend a major football game once per month. One interesting quote was that 'people like the product but don't like the retail outlet'.

What are the implications of this for our congregation?



Tania's presentation raised the question, 'what is / should church be like when one considers the context in which we all now operate?' It is evident that many people don't connect with

the traditional notion of church - but they may be open to explore their faith in a variety of other ways. Again what are the implications of this for our congregation?

As a broad sweep:

- ◆ *There was strong agreement that the relationship between the school & congregation is very important;*
- ◆ *For the relationship to flourish, both sides need to be **intentional** - that is, to take positive action on an ongoing basis to maintain & develop the relationship;*
- ◆ *A lot more discussion needs to occur around how this relationship may look in practice given the changing nature of society and people's commitment to an 'institution';*
- ◆ *The strong relationship between principal and pastor was acknowledged;*
- ◆ *Clarity was sought around pastor's role in the school;*
- ◆ *It is essential that there is **purpose and understanding** underpinning anything that continues or is introduced. It should not happen for the sake of 'tradition'.*

The forum was certainly not the end of the discussion. Shane, Greg, Jon and Gen will meet to determine the next steps in this exciting process.

It is obvious that the relationship will continue as both arms of this community proclaim the Gospel, but the manner in which it is undertaken will reflect the context in which we both operate.

By Shane Paterson, Pastor Greg, Jon Schutz, Gen Freund





GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal—Shane Paterson

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**BELIEVE
COLLABORATE
ACHIEVE**

... in our community all people matter

Thanks through worship in the school

We give thanks to God for all he has to do for us through worship. Worship at the school is practiced in a variety of ways.

Staff begin each morning with a devotional time – this is led by each staff member throughout the year. It is a time to place the day into God’s hands as we reflect and contemplate the opportunities that will be put before us. Our staff Spiritual Life team coordinates and provides times where we focus on God’s hand in our lives and the impact this has on our faith. One of the highlights of each year is the annual staff retreat where we meet off site and delve deeply into God’s Word.



Each class also commences their day with a devotional time – led by either the teacher or students. Once again this is a time of focusing on God with the day ahead in mind.

The highlight of every week is our corporate or whole school worship. Led by Pastor Greg, Jason, classes or invited guests the school community **enthusiastically give thanks to God through song, words and actions**. It is a very uplifting time (and anyone is welcome to join us!). Twice a term Holy Communion is celebrated during this service.

During this year we have been able to celebrate with a student who was baptized and ten students who completed the ‘step up’ course with Pastor Greg during school time. These

students are now able to give thanks to God by joining in the sacrament when it is offered. We are able to offer thanks to the Lord through our worship opportunities in the school. It is our prayer that through these times that the **Holy Spirit will be able to work & not only strengthen the faith of believers but bring others to faith.**



Golden Grove Lutheran Youth

G'day Paul Voigt here.

Well it's time to tell you all how the youth are going. It's been pretty amazing and a lot has happened.

At the end of last term longtime leader Jesse Hahn finished with the youth. He had been involved here for 12 years. It is sad not having him around at youth anymore but ***we know God has big plans for him as he moves on. Thank you Jesse for all your years of hard work and dedication to this youth group.***

In youth we have the same structure as the last few terms with a games and devotion night and a Bible Study night. Our incredible youth leaders run the games and devotion nights. We kicked off this term with a relaxing yet full on board/cards games night, and we have a movie night & bowling yet to come.

We have some new leaders on board this term, Renea Prizibilla from Renmark and Courtney Gast from Mt Barker. They have been an instant blessing to the team. Along with the new leaders some of our Yr 11 youth are taking on junior leadership roles. This is where they can be more involved and get an idea of what being a leader is, as well as growing in their own leadership skills.

Bible study is being led by the amazing Pastor Greg. Last term we looked at the book of Ephesians. This term we are looking at 'who God is & what qualities make Him who He is'. Each night we have small group time where we can discuss what was said in the devotion or just chat about life and how our faith walk is going.



On Saturday 26th August the North Eastern Lutheran Youth (NELY) held a gameshow with dinner, snacks and hours of fun. It was for young people from school years 5—12, held at St Pauls Lutheran Church, Blair Athol.

During the July school holidays "Christian Life Week" was held. Our own Joel Schiller was one of the many leaders.

So that's a really quick look at what's been going on. It's been an amazing term so far & lots to look forward to as the year goes on.



Paul helps at mainly music, working sound/powerpoint, plus playing with the children.

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.*
Lamentations 3:22-23

Grace Atta a young member of our congregation participated in the **40 Hour Famine** in mid August. Grace said, "I have decided to participate in this challenge again, because I believe in the cause & **in the power that small acts of kindness can have in another persons life.** I think it's important that I make others aware that there are people who are just like us, except they don't have the luxuries we do. These people work tirelessly in order to provide one meal a day or have had to flee their country for various reasons. This could have been me and due to no fault of my own, I too could have been struggling to survive & not have the same opportunities I have now."

Children's Ministry Jon, Ruth, Tanya & myself have been collaboratively working on a new children's ministry information pamphlet & a mainly music/playgroup flyer. Please look out for them when they come out shortly. Natasha Jaeschke



1. Bible song is a ministry based program held during Sunday morning worship at 9:30am. Last term our focus was **John 15:5** – "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing". The children learnt about the vine and branches & how Jesus sent out his disciple's to

serve. In craft we made grape vines, grapes, leaves and disciples out of various mediums for a display for the 30th Anniversary of the church. The children thoroughly enjoyed seeing their display and people admired the effort of all the children who took part. (See page 5 for photos)

This term we are discussing, "What is a parable?" We will learn about many of the parables Jesus told and how they relate to our everyday lives. We have also watched the children who took first communion & discussed 'What is First Communion?' This term our song is "Joy of the Lord." We will share this with the congregation on Sunday 3rd Sept when we help with the service.



CC's

2. Children of Christ led by members of Golden Grove Lutheran Church, for congregational families & Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School children Reception to year 6. CC's aims to share Jesus love through care & fellowship. This term all sessions are held at Golden Grove Lutheran Church.

Week 4 – Disco and Games. Week 8 – Games 2 U

– the ultimate mobile games theatre in a van that comes to us providing Lazer Tag, Just Dance & Minecraft. While children participate in activities, volunteers from Golden Grove Lutheran Church provide hospitality to all carers in the fellowship centre.



3. Mainly Music is held at Golden Grove Lutheran Church each Friday 9:30–11am. Our theme for this term is "wet, cold & rainy days". The Noah's Ark story, water, rain & umbrellas, combined with high impact songs allow us to warm up on a cold day. Children develop skills & enjoy social interaction while using a variety of instruments & props as they follow Natasha's lead. We are blessed to have the involvement of Pastor Greg, Judith, Paul, Christiaan & Vanessa (mum from GGLPS). A favorite song is "Hip Hip Hippopotamus." We dance with bells as we hear of Gods creation singing "in the beginning God made the sea & the forest filled with trees, He made the mountains up so high & at the very top he placed the sky." The song tells us that "God's fingerprints are everywhere" & that God decided to have some fun and "made a hippo that weighed a ton", & we use our hands to show how big the hippo is.



Tight Lines



GGAF (Golden Grove Amateur Fishing)

Mission statement: Giving all people opportunities to fish in a Christ centred environment.

TACKLE NIGHT — Mon 19th June

A record number of 37 attended the Tackle Night in the GGLPS Conference Room. **Danny Simpson** Executive Officer of **RecFish SA** provided valuable insights into the functions of the organization and in particular the recently announced RecFish SA Fishing Location Map. Danny demonstrated the benefits of their website map which includes fishing spots for saltwater, freshwater, boat or land based. It includes all boat ramps and jetties, marine GPS marks and freshwater location guides.

Travis Howson also outlined a fish habitat rehabilitation project for the Onkaparinga River.

Steve and Lyn Castle of **Spot On Fishing & Outdoors Salisbury Plain** provided an informative and entertaining session with demonstrations on knot tying and new products. Ken Campbell was the lucky winner of a GGAF engraved Extreme Rod. Thanks to Spot On for their generous donations of prize draws and to Louise Sumner for treating everyone to a fish curry tasting between sessions being trevally she recently caught at Streaky Bay.



PT HUGHES JETTY FISHING — Sat 22nd July

Cold windy weather was the order of the day however that did not deter 36 people from making the trip to picturesque Port Hughes on Yorke Peninsula. A total of 79 fish were caught with father and son Peter and Shaun Van Loggem catching 19 and 17 respectively. Christine McCulloch was close behind with 15. Fish were mainly Tommy Ruff (Australian Herring) with the odd Weedy and Sand Whiting and Salmon Trout also caught. Winner was Graeme Hoklas with a 28 cm Salmon Trout. 31 people enjoyed a hearty pub meal at the Port Hughes Tavern to end the day.



FISH COOKING EVENING — Sat 26th August

A fantastic night of entertainment and fish cooking was enjoyed by 53 people in the Fellowship Centre. GGAF Master Chef Geoff Thiel and daughter Lauren demonstrated the art of preparing fish cuisine with 5 piscatorial delights. Attendees were provided with a booklet of recipes. Many thanks to Geoff and all Committee members and their partners for the hours of preparation and cooking/serving on the night and to Mark Rawolle for the camera/projection work behind the scenes. Major door prize - a GGAF engraved fishing rod - was won by Rodney Hancock. Thanks to special guests from Spot On for their attendance and prize draw donation.



NEXT EVENTS

10th September (Sunday) - Semaphore Jetty 6am–9:30am

followed by BBQ breakfast

20th- 22nd October (Fri-Sun) – Annual Camp @

Meningie Caravan Park

18th November (Saturday) – Presentation Night @
GGLC 7:00pm

Note: Events may be subject to change

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