

Life in the Vine

September 2018

Volume 24, Issue 3

T.R.U.S.T.

Truly
Relying on God's
Unfailing
Sovereign
Timing

www.RealChairMoments.com



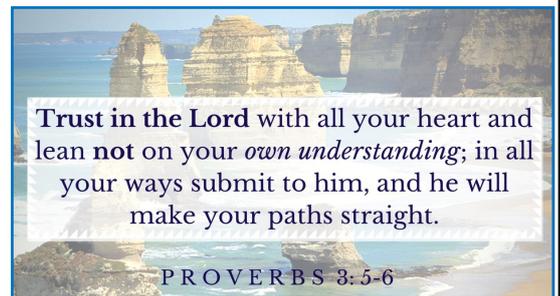
"Trust in God"

"Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love for I have put my **trust** in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I **entrust** my life" Psalm 143:8

"But blessed is the man who **trusts** in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream" Isaiah 17:7-8a

"When I am afraid, I will **trust** in you. In God whose word I praise, in God I **trust**; I will not be afraid." Psalm 56:3-4a

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy & peace as you **trust** in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13



Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

PROVERBS 3:5-6

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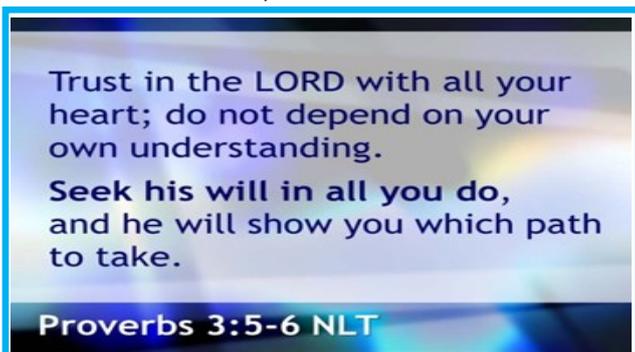


YouTube GGLC YouTube

Pastor Greg Shares

Trusting God

If someone were to ask 'who do you trust?', most of us would struggle to name more than one or two people. Even then that trust could be easily undermined by a lack of consistency or our own insecurity. Trust is hard won and easily lost. To trust another is a fundamental need and yet our experiences of disappointment mean we are reluctant to fully trust another person. All of us, in one form or another, have trust issues.



So how can we **'trust in the Lord with all our heart and not lean on our own understanding'** (Proverbs 3:5)? If we are to apply the same relational skills we use in our connections with other people to our relationship with God, we are in trouble. We have all been conditioned to trust with hesitancy. As President Reagan said about the USSR's nuclear weapons reduction: 'we will trust and verify', which is really no trust at all. In our key relationships we trust and verify, even if subconsciously. **But God asks us to trust with our whole heart.**

Trusting God is more than believing his words. **Trusting God** means that our actions are stirred and guided by our unwavering confidence that God will be in everything we do and His desire for us is good. This means that we are sustained and filled by His Spirit when we pursue the callings on our life. Sadly, we often trust our own abilities and strength, and suffer from burnout, insecurity, worry & even anxiety. God offers a better way.

Our Lord invites us to experience a **life entrusted to Him**. Do we start the day in prayer, presenting our challenges to God and handing over the activities to him? Do we say a quick prayer during the day when we need some reassurance or energy? Do we stop and thank God for something each day? These simple acts show that we do believe that God is in our life and **He is trustworthy**.

In this way we will be **'blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him'** (Jer 17:7).



General Synod is the national meeting of the Lutheran Church of Australia and is held every 3 years. All congregations choose delegates to represent them, & pastors are encouraged to attend. Synod is a serious matter and has the 'power to direct and control' the affairs of the church. General Synod elects the leaders of the church and sets their tasks for the coming period. The 2018 General Synod will be examining a number of high level issues relevant to the ongoing health and vitality of the LCA. There will be many practical and structural issues on the agenda such as governance and administration, constitutions, compliance, church discipline & mission initiatives. The agenda will be quite full and each decision made will have an ongoing impact.

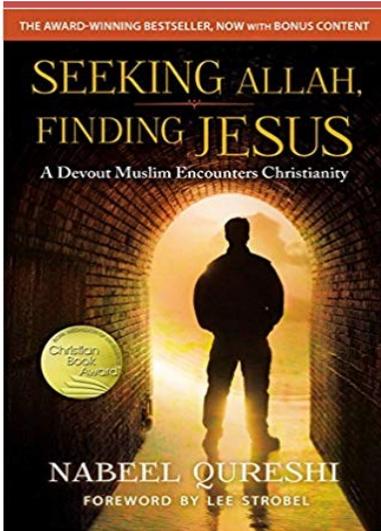
Please pray for this event, and all those involved that 'God's will may be done'. The delegate for Golden Grove Lutheran Church is Rosalie Hoklas. You are invited to check out the website **www.convention2018.lca.org.au** for further information, items for discussions, weekly prayers and an explanation of the logo. A report will be in the December edition of Life in the Vine.

From the Editor



Our church community for the month of September has chosen to focus on “Growing as Disciples.” I was disappointed to hear this because I had already chosen the theme for this edition as ‘Trust in God’, but the more I thought about it the more I realized that the 2 themes go together. When we trust in God we grow as His disciples and as we grow as disciples we learn to trust /lean on God more. The two are very interconnected. In life we trust many things. We trust that when we flick the light switch we will have light. We trust that when we use our phones or facebook or email that the messages etc are delivered and received. We trust the school and childcare with our children, we trust our doctors and health professionals with our sickness and health concerns, we trust our partners, our children and our friends. Many times this trust leads to disappointment and we are let down. My question then is, Why don’t we trust our loving Lord & God who is trustworthy and 100% reliable? We know deep down that He will not let us down. His word the Bible is the truth and tells us that **God can be trusted**. God created us, he loves us and he has amazing plans for our lives. His multitude of promises never fail or disappoint. God loved us so much He sent His son Jesus to live on earth and die, so that we could be forgiven and restored to God. This certainly sounds like a God we can trust. But do we? When life is going well or when life’s tough do we trust & remember that He has promised to be with us? He says **‘Trust me’**. **Commit your life to the Lord and trust Him in all things, the everyday choices of life and during the critical times of life. God will not let you down.** I hope you enjoy this edition as you hear how others have put their trust in God as they live their lives.

Rosalie Hoklas – Editor contact email: hoklas@internode.on.net

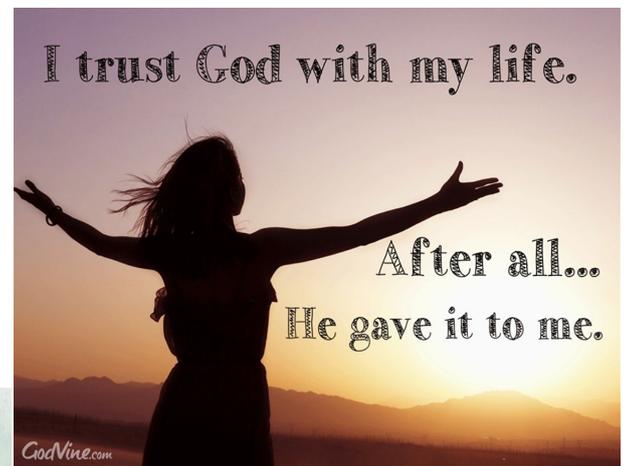


A Great read is the book “Seeking Allah, Finding God.” The story of Nabeel’s journey to faith and trust in God.

The unexpected Journey from Islam to Christianity is found in ‘Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus’, where Nabeel Qureshi describes his dramatic journey from Islam to Christianity. It contains his story of friendships, investigations, and supernatural dreams along the way. The book provides an intimate window into a loving Muslim home. Qureshi shares how he developed a passion for Islam before discovering, almost against his will, evidence that Jesus rose from the dead and claimed to be God. Unable to deny the arguments but not wanting to deny his family, Qureshi’s inner turmoil will challenge Christians and Muslims alike. Engaging and thought-provoking, ‘Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus’ tells a powerful story of the clash between Islam & Christianity in one man’s heart & of the peace he eventually found in Jesus.

In the introduction to his book, Qureshi notes he wrote it with the following three purposes in mind:

- **To tear down walls by giving non-Muslim readers an insider’s perspective into a Muslim’s heart and mind
- **To equip readers with facts and knowledge, showing the strength of the case for the gospel in contrast with the case for Islam
- **To portray the immense inner struggle of Muslims grappling with the gospel, including their sacrifices and doubts



Man says... Show me and I'll trust you. God says... Trust me and I'll show you. Psalm 126:6

Highlights from Church Council

Jon Schutz - GGLC Chairperson

Our renovations have continued to dominate Council business in the last few months. All of the Big Decisions have been before us - issues such as carpet colours, chair type, chair colour, café colours, café logo.

Aside from renovations, a new online room booking system for church spaces and church/school shared spaces has been on trial for Term 2 and based on user feedback, will be adopted going forward. The advantage of the online system is that those who need to see the room availability – in particular, volunteers who often do not have time to call the church office during the day – can get access at any time. The booking system covers the Worship Centre, Fellowship Centre, Youth Area, and will also include the Café and Meeting Room. Anyone can see bookings by visiting <https://ggl.skedda.com/booking>. Generally new bookings should be made via Judith as usual but frequent users can be given booking access as well.

Thank you to all who attended our Carpet Decision meeting in July. It was helpful to have everyone's input and to progress some of the details for the café. Thank you especially to Denise who visited every flooring store in the country to find the best options. The new carpet is expected to be installed in the September/October holidays. Vinyl in the café space is pending installation of the cabinetry.

Based on feedback from the congregation and school, a replacement chair type has been chosen. None of the options were perfect but the Vivo chair was chosen as the one that would best satisfy our collective requirements. However, after making the decision some additional information became available on the Adam chair, so we may need to revisit this. The one problem with the Vivo is that it is available in a limited range of colours, some of which can only be viewed safely using a welding mask, and the others may end up being quite dark against the new carpet. So the options will be reviewed again once the new carpet is installed. Thanks to Elnora for her work in sourcing and analysing the options.

A café logo concept has been chosen and is currently being "tweaked".

The financing for the core renovations is all squared away, but whether we will be able to immediately proceed with the deck adjacent to the café is still uncertain. The Firewood Fundraiser has helped, but unless our annual budget projection significantly improves, we would not have the cash reserves to both service a deficit and fund the deck. We will continue to re-evaluate the situation and look at the options.

According to projections based on REG and weekly offerings data to the end of July, we would need an average increase in personal giving across the board of 14% to avoid a deficit at the end of this year.



Toilet renovations are nearing completion.



GG Lutheran Congregation will be assisting at the Christmas Tree Festival. More information to follow closer to the event. **A message can be left at the church office for Jenny Rawolle, who is the contact person.**



Thurs 29th Nov to Sat 1st Dec

See: Decorated trees, Nativities, Train layout, Wall hangings
Buy: Crafts, Biscuits & Cakes, Plants, Produce, Children's gifts
Enjoy: Morning/ Afternoon Teas, Light meals, Sausage Sizzle

A bi-annual event, hosted @ Tea Tree Gully Uniting, 600 Milne Rd, Banksia Park

ONE LOCATION ... MANY CHURCHES
with proceeds supporting our local Pastoral Care Workers / Chaplains

Firewood Fundraiser 2018 by Jon Schutz



From this



To this



Emi planting the very first tree in June 1996

According to the Chinese Proverb (the origin is debatable, but let's go with that) "The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago. The second-best time is now."

Fortunately, we did plant trees 20 years ago. From 1996 through to 2002, with the help of family and friends, we planted 1000-1500 trees each year, totalling 9500 trees, being a mix of Blackwood, Black Wattle, Sydney Blue Gum, River Oak and Spotted Gum.

As a small scale forestry operation, ideally the trees would have been managed with pruning, thinning and fertilising. As it turns out, there are only so many hours in a day, so the forest has largely managed itself over the years and in the Blue Gum section we had lost about 300 trees through natural attrition. Most of those were still recoverable for firewood, so (to help raise money to cover the cost of the deck area adjacent to the café in our renovations) over the course of the winter we have had teams, big & small, & individuals help out with cutting the fallen wood to a manageable size, loading up trailers and bringing the wood up our hill, then cutting, splitting and stacking it, and selling it one trailer load at a time – up until Aug 25th, when we loaded the last 5.3 tonne into a truck and sold it in bulk. **Thank you to all those in the congregation who helped**, particular to Robert Mills who had his 50 tonne splitter brought over from Victoria specifically for this fundraising effort. **In total we raised \$4800 from firewood sales.**



A beverage being enjoyed before sending off a full truck-load of firewood.

Teaching Saturday – July 28 2018

‘Meditating On the Bible’



The guest presenter for the day was Pastor Richard Haar teaching about the ‘**The benefit of meditating on God’s Word**’ and ‘**How to meditate on God’s Word**’. Both 90 minute

sessions can be accessed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFeEL5FGigpD7oCWd2yfA92aEefn5PGg3>

It is well worth setting aside some time as an individual or as a group to watch these clips as Pastor Haar provides a clear message in regard to why we should ‘**slow down**’ and ‘**Look at God ‘face to face’ and talk.**’ Pastor Haar also reminds each of us that the aim of prayerful meditation on the Word is to grow in your relationship with God and asks the question, ‘**How do you get to know someone’s voice if you only hear it every 6 months?**’

The following is a brief overview of the two sessions facilitated by Pastor Haar. Please contact Ruth Zimmermann if you would like hardcopies of the PowerPoint handout from these sessions.



The benefit of meditating on God’s word

Pastor Haar began by asking ‘What is Meditation?’ as there are many different understandings held by society today. Participants were asked to consider in relation to meditation, ‘The journey **within** vs the journey **towards God**’.

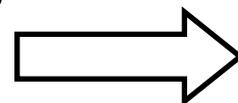
Pastor Haar emphasised that Christian meditation focuses on Christ, and involves;

- Slowing down and giving God your undivided attention
- Adopting an open, receptive attitude to God’s Word
- Mulling over God’s Word in a relaxed, focussed and attentive manner
- Being in the moment- mindfulness
- Dwelling in the Word and letting the Word dwell in you
- Responding to the Word with your heart and life, not merely your intellect
- Properly digesting the words-getting full nourishment
- Choosing not to starve yourself with ‘fast food’, spiritually-seeking greater depth

The last part of the session concentrated on aspects of prayerful reading and meditation, concluding that the benefits of prayerfully meditating on God’s Word are;

- *Hearing better
- *Growing closer to God
- *Sharpening our spiritual saw

Article continued on page 7



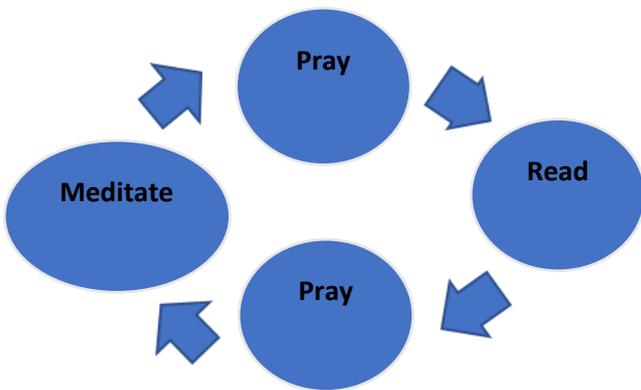
A graphic with a purple background on the left and a light green background on the right. The purple section contains the text 'Prayer Starter: God, Your ways are better than mine, and I know that trusting in my own strength will get me nowhere. I place my trust in You. Even when it doesn't make sense to me, I choose to trust You, knowing You will make Your plans come to pass.' with the website 'joycemeyer.org' at the bottom. The green section contains the text 'Those who leave everything in GOD'S HAND will eventually see God's hand in everything.'



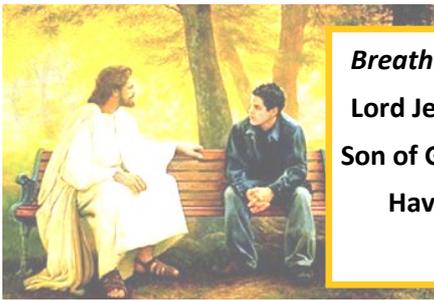
How to meditate on God’s Word

The second session provided an opportunity to ‘try out’ some practical ways to engage in meditating on God’s Word.

In regard to ‘Prayerful reading and meditation’, Pastor Haar suggested using the following circular process and encouraged everyone to read the scriptures out loud during their meditation time.



The importance of beginning any meditation time with prayer, asking for an open heart and listening ear was highlighted with Pastor Haar providing some breath prayers to God the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit for people to use. A breath prayer is a repetitive prayer that is prayed silently as you breath in and out and it helps to calm your body and mind in preparing for prayerful meditation. *Rosalie Hoklas has written these prayers up on A4 sheets that can be cut down into prayer cards. For those who are interested, copies of these sheets are available on the table at the church entrance.*



Breath prayer—Jesus prayer
Lord Jesus (breathe in & pray)
Son of God (breathe out & pray)
Have mercy on me (in)
A sinner (out)

At the end of the second session we are reminded that we need to put into practice what the Word has been teaching us, asking our Father for wisdom and courage to act on what the Word has taught us. Pastor Haar concluded with a dare and question for each one of us!

The ‘dare’ was to commit 10 minutes a day to read, reflect and pray using the booklet ***Read the New Testament in a Year*** prepared by Richard Haar. *Copies of this are available on the table at the front entrance to the Church.*

Watcha been hearing? (This is the question we should be asking each other in regard to the above daily readings & meditation on God’s Word).



An Evening Not To Be Missed

A wine & cheese night with a difference. **Please RSVP to Judith at church office on email: office@ggic.org.au or phone:82826050.** Entrance is by donation of \$15pp & \$5 for chn. under 15. All donations will cover costs of evening and profits will go to the Café Connect Fund.

AN EVENING IN SPRING!
 Socializing with a glass of wine or soft drinks nibbling some cheese and other snacks

Cheese and wine night

Golden Grove Lutheran Church

8th September 2018

7.30 pm

Wynn Vale

Corner Sunnybrook Drive and Richardson Drive

Jesus: The Way to Life

by Joel Schiller



I am Joel Schiller. I have been a youth leader at our youth for the last four years or so and a part of this church community the whole 20 years of my life. I am currently studying Environmental Science as I believe this is where God wants me to be, at this stage in my life.

I was confirmed in 2012 and I remember choosing my confirmation text. It was John 8:12 ***'Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."*** I knew this was the perfect text, I was not going to choose any other one. Reflecting on it now, gives me a lot of **trust that what I am doing is part of God's plan** for my life, using me as one of many vessels to share His life-giving word. It was at this point in my life that I began to grow in my knowledge of the awesome stuff that God does.

The following year in 2013 I was invited by Noah Hahn, who I have grown up with at church, to Christian Life Week. Now this was a big step for me, the only other camps I had been on were school camps. **I had to trust God that it would work out.** I remember that the people were so welcoming, and this was showcased through the warm fuzzies (positive words of encouragement) which I believe God was working through. Through this experience, and experiences like NOVO, I have made friends I thought I would never have. Who would have known that I would have friends from down South of the city or from the Riverland!

It was at these camping experiences and through youth that I realised that, **we can trust in what God says in His word which is never changing.** God is the same yesterday, today and forever. The Bible is the key to unlock life which is in God. This has also been revealed to

me over the last few years being involved with the prayer/healing ministry that my dad and Paul Napier have been running. I have seen many healings, including multiple people's legs growing out. Jesus says, ***'I have come to give you life, and life more abundantly'*** (John 10:10).

The truth of the Gospels is something that I have been thinking about lately. Jesus went around healing people of many sicknesses, he never said no to healing one of them. I love what Jesus says in John 14:12 ***"I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. ' I am trusting/leaning on God's Word when I say that it is God's will for us to be free from sickness, trusting in Him that I can get to a place where I am not conformed to the world but partner with Him in continuing the great commission, which we all have been called to. If there was a Bible verse that has summed up my spiritual journey to date it would be Romans 12:2 'Don't copy the behaviour and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.'*** In year 11 and 12 I was praying and trusting in God, contrary to what the world thinks, for where he wanted me to go in my University studies. After some time praying, I felt that Environmental Science was the way he wanted me to go.



Interwoven

How lucky are we at Golden Grove Lutheran Church/School to have an annual Women's Retreat that allows us women a time to get away from the busyness of our very hectic & demanding lives. I know personally that when I am on these retreats my friendships are reinforced & we are reconnected with each other after sometimes not seeing one another for months due to how fast time flies by these days! We can relax, go for walks, do craft, visit museums, have time alone if needed but most importantly have fellowship with each other. We laugh, we share our inner most feelings, we can cry & we just have a wonderful time together. Yes, you need to make an effort in getting there but once you are there you are always so pleased that you did make that effort. The retreat is fully catered for with lovely meals (& desserts!) & NO dishes to do!! The highlight for me is spending time in worship, prayer & singing on Sunday morning. This allows us to reflect on the year & be thankful to our Lord for all the Blessings that he has poured out on us. We are so Blessed to have this opportunity to allow us this time away & to come back to our normal lives refreshed, reconnected and rejoicing in our Lord Jesus Christ. Sue



I want you woven into a tapestry of love, in touch with everything there is to know of God.... Then you will have minds confident & at rest, focused on Christ, God's great mystery."Colossians 2: 2 & 12



"For you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother's womb." Psalm 139:13



Bind us together Lord



"At first I wasn't sure I'd even be around for the retreat, then we were concerned about low numbers & wondered if maybe we should give it a break for a year.....BUT, God had other plans! We had new attendees, new commitment & a wonderful theme- all coming together for a special weekend. Rest, relaxation, sharing & supporting, all beautifully balanced & Interwoven with a devotion, a reflective activity & worship that took us deeper than I could ever imagine! I came away with a real sense of belonging, connection & being truly blessed, eagerly anticipating the next one. So good!!" Elnora

I highly recommend attending the GGLC Women's Retreat. I have been to three retreats, and I have thoroughly enjoyed all of them, spending time with friends and meeting new friends. I have found the retreats to be a good opportunity for self reflection with yourself and with God, together with relaxation, something which we all need at times, as we are all busy in our day to day lives. I come away from the retreats, feeling inspired and blessed to have the opportunity to meet, listen and talk to anyone about anything that comes to mind. I certainly look forward to next year's retreat and seeing everyone again. Tania Gal



Quilts are story tellers... remnants of life pieced together in beautiful patterns. My life is a story ... pieced together by God into a beautiful pattern full of His love and grace.



Golden Grove Lutheran Youth

youth front and we are all looking forward for what's to come. If you are interested in the October youth retreat or youth in general please contact me, I'd be happy to hear from you. God Bless, Paul

G'day,

So far this term at GGLC youth we have been continuing with the Youth Alpha course, regular games and devotion nights ending with small groups. We have continued to partner with Good Shepherd Para Vista on the games nights.

On Youth Alpha nights we are joined by Pastor Greg as it's his time to invest in the youth of the church and we value him as a great resource when tough questions arise.

We have looked at a range of topics including who is the Holy Spirit and how to pray.

We also have a team of Youth Alpha Leaders who commit to coming to every Alpha night.

We also have volunteers who cook a meal for us before we start our night.... so a big THANKS to all who have helped in that way.

Games and devotion nights have been great. We started the term with a challenge night where the youth were put in teams and had to do tasks like re-enact a movie scene or lip sync.



Working with Para Vista has been great as they don't have a youth group. It's been fun for both leaders and youth to mix and work together and I'm excited to see where this partnership will lead in the future.

We have also been getting set for our youth retreat which will be held from 5th-7th October. A quiz night was held to raise funds to keep campers costs down and we raised \$750!! Joel Schiller organized the making of a minute long video with the youth group about what we would do with \$800...this was entered into a competition run by LLL and we won the \$800!

As you can see, there is lots happening on the



On Sunday 26th August the Kids @ Heart lead the worship service around the story of Queen Esther .

It can be found in the Bible in the book of Esther Chapters 1-10. Esther needed to trust in God and God used her in her role as Queen to save his people.



In Biblesong.....

- **I like learning about Jesus
- **doing craft, especially when you get to make something.
- **the bible readings are complicated in church. In Bible song Natasha explains them.
- **you learn about the Bible verse in an easy way.
- **get to meet people while doing it.

Kid's @ Heart



Children's Ministry

Children are important to God and to us here at Golden Grove Lutheran Church. Jesus said "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them" Matthew 19:14. This is what we strive to do; guide our children toward a relationship with God and help them form deeper connections with God.



It's busy. My child loves playgroup, especially the dolls.

The children can't wait to come.

Love it. It's cute

Nice atmosphere, community atmosphere.

It's being part of a wider community.



Love the fun. It's social.

The music and movement is great for all children. It's a great indoor space when the weather is poor.

We are friends & were looking for something for the children—the music is great & the children especially love that.

It's nice to have a chat with the parents & make them a cuppa.

Want to support what the church is offering. We want it for our grandchild.

When my child comes home he shares with the family the run down of the morning—the drums, the scarves, jumpy castle & the snacks etc.

Great to see the interaction between the children & parents. The children are having a ball.



CC's

We love CCs. We love coming to see our friends especially the friends that go to a different school. We love the fun games. We love meeting new friends.

Trusting God To Show The Way

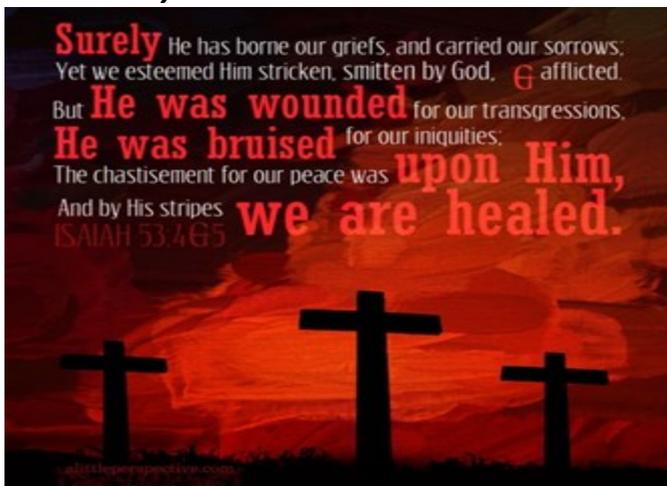
My name is **Luke Wachtel**. I have been leading youth here at Golden Grove for five years and I'm also a part of our healing team.

The theme **'Trusting in God'** is very relevant to my current situation as I'm on a completely different path to what I had planned. In March this year I graduated from Uni SA with the Bachelor of Construction Management and Economics but now I'm now working as a Commercial Property Manager.

As a little boy, I wanted to know that Jesus was real, so I'd pray each night, 'God, please show me miracles' over and over again. In June 2013, these prayers finally came into fruition when a close friend had a serious car accident. From his heart stopping 8 times, to being told that he would not 'live a normal life', to WALKING out of rehab 8 weeks from his crash, I could no longer deny Jesus.

At the time, the most important Bible verse for me was Isaiah 53:4-5

"Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."



Did I believe that Jesus died on the cross? Yes. Did I believe that by His wounds my friend was healed? Not really, but when this verse was highlighted to me, I realised that I couldn't pick and choose what I wanted to believe, I either needed to believe everything or nothing. At this point, my life was changed.

In May 2017, while working multiple jobs and also studying full time, I was listening to a speaker, Todd White and he said 'Your job is your mission field'. This challenged me because a close friend had also said 'How are you bringing Jesus into your workplace?' The answer: I wasn't.

I thought my first job as a Building Surveyor was going to

be amazing but I soon learnt this was not the case. It was a very toxic and anti-Christian work place. While I was working there, I'd constantly pray that my (now) employer (who I met through my Uni placement prior to working as a Building Surveyor) would have a job opportunity for me. After 3-4 weeks of not having enough courage to ask, I finally sent a text saying that I'd be interested in working for her. Little did I know, she was praying for the exact same thing. As soon as she told me this, I had full **trust in God** that this was the right path to take and 15 months on, I haven't looked back.



Dan (on right of pic) has some news from Asaroka.

Asaroka Partnership News

Martin Akiro is still the Principal until next appointment next year. Every year we have to apply again.

Mr. Noelsar Kubakure passed away after a few days of illness. He was here for 15 years. He taught Maths grade 12. We miss him.

We will be glad to see friends from Australia come if Lord willing next year!!

All goods from the container have all been distributed to departments as intended.

Sorry I (Dan) have not been able to do the 'happenings' articles this year.

We hear that Southern Cross' have been out to the High school in relation to water matters.

We also understand that the principal Mr. Akiro is attempting to get the vegetable garden going again.

Daryl Trigg former principal of GGLPS is leading a professional Development Conference for School Leaders in Goroka during October school break.



Baptism

An interview with Bayley Tiller a student of Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School on his baptism which was conducted during school chapel in June.

Why did you want to be baptised?"

I was interested in becoming baptised after a girl in my year level was baptized last year (Samantha).

I became aware that it was something I could do to be closer to God.

I have really enjoyed learning about God through worship in school and class.



How did you feel before, during and after baptism?

Before being baptised I was really excited about it and had spoken to Pastor Dennis about what to expect.

During the baptism I was a bit overwhelmed and emotional about the service and was glad that my Mum and Dad and sponsors were there to support me.

I was bit anxious about being up in front of all of the school.

After being baptised I felt like I really belonged to God and Jesus and felt like a weight had lifted off my shoulders.



What does baptism mean for you?

To me baptism means that I have been reborn and it made me feel more alive

I really enjoy listening and reading the word of God and it makes me feel safe

What does God mean to you?

God/Jesus is someone I can pray to and I know that they are listening

They give me a feeling of belonging

Do you have a favourite Bible story?

My favourite Bible story is the 'Good Samaritan'.

I like this story because he helps people and I like to help people too. I want to help people in my life and this story is very special to me.



What is Baptism?

Baptism is when God makes us his special child by:

- **forgiving all your sins;
- **setting you free from the power of death & the devil;
- **giving you everlasting life.

Through baptism God makes us new people. We are 'born again' as His children to live a new life. We become members of His family to be with God forever. God gives these things to everyone who believes what he has promised.

"Jesus said: 'Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved.'" Mark 16:16a





"But I trust in you, Lord; I say, "You are my God." Psalm 31:14

It is a joy to work in a school where we can proclaim Christ. Beginning each day with staff devotion, followed by class or whole school devotion / worship we can share our love and **trust in God**. Through our Christian Studies lessons the students are taught about Christ and his saving love and we pray that through the work of the Holy Spirit each of our community members can confess, 'You are my God'.

- ◆ In our professional development week, held the last week of second term the staff had opportunity to explore their **trust in God** through our annual spiritual retreat day (held at Nunyara). This annual retreat is a highlight of the school year for the staff and assists in strengthening the faith of those who attend. **See article on page 15.**
- ◆ During this professional learning week, all the member schools (Golden Grove LPS, Good Shepherd Para Vista, St Pauls Blair Athol, Endeavor College) & Salisbury Lutheran Kindy of the Connected Schools, came together for a two day conference. It was an uplifting time as staff from all these educational sites joined as one and learnt & worshipped together.



- ◆ As part of the Connected Schools partnership all Councils come together once a year for fellowship and to share and learn. This year St Paul hosted this event and we focused on the future of schooling: What will it look like?; How can we be responsive to changes?; What are the impacts on us as educational providers? There was great discussion and plenty to think about.

One of the highlights so far this term has been our annual Student Led Conferences. This is a time where students share their learning with their parents / care givers; students lead the discussion about what they are learning, goals that have been set, what they enjoy about school. To see students sharing in a confident manner is a delight to see.

When we place our trust in God anything is possible. We see that every day with what occurs at the school, through the partnerships we have and the relationships we nurture. We surely say along with David,

'I trust in you Lord - you are our God'.



GGLPS Staff Retreat 2018

was at Nunyara, Belair with the theme:

“Look at me
and see your real self.”



Our facilitator was Anne Dohnt who works as a ‘Director of Formation for Lutheran Education’, Australia.

Our retreat focused on the ‘The Samaritan Woman at the Well’ **John 4:1-42** through role-play, discussion & reflection.

The day was divided into three sections:

1. Head: Who am I? We were given time to look in a mirror at ourselves and write down what we see. How does God see us?

2. Heart: How can I come to personally know and experience God?

We looked at different translations of the Woman at the well and discovered that she was open-minded (prepared to listen to a stranger who was a Jew) and searching for spiritual answers. Jesus reassured her that she could receive everlasting water, **‘No-one who drinks the water I give will ever be thirsty again.’**

3. Hands: What is my special contribution? What is God calling me to do? Once we are in a relationship with Jesus, we can **trust Him** to influence how we love and serve.



Small groups worked together to organize all aspects of the worship at the end of the day so that it reflected what we had learnt. This included decorating the altar, music and songs, bible readings, prayers and included the celebration of the Lord’s Supper.

Fun and fellowship continued at Cross Rd Bowl and dinner at the Hyde Park Tavern.



Staff retreats are certainly a valuable time spent together, building relationships with one another and growing our faith and trust in God.

Angela Seeliger & Jacquie Paech



TACKLE NIGHT—Monday 25th June

29 keen fishers attended the Tackle Night in the GGLPS Conference Room. **Toni Manning** (Fishcare Voluntary Coordinator) and **Penny Heycock** (Fisheries Officer) from PIRSA provided valuable information on recreational fishing including fishing limits, Fishcare volunteer operations, equipment and clothing requirements. Fishcare volunteers raise awareness in the fishing community about protection, preservation and conservation of our fishing resources.



Steve & Lyn Castle and John Filmer from **Spot On Fishing & Outdoors Salisbury Plain** provided an informative and entertaining session with demonstrations using different baits, berley and lures for various fish species and fishing locations. Thanks to Spot On for their generous donations of prize draws and to Louise Sumner for treating everyone to a fish chowder supper between sessions.

STREAKY BAY—13th to 16th July After 4 trips to Elliston in previous years GGAF this year ventured to Streaky Bay—further west on Eyre Peninsula. An excellent rollup of 29 enjoyed sunny weather and were accommodated at the **Streaky Bay Foreshore Caravan Park**.



An early start on Friday afternoon proved very productive for the Caldicott and Woodley families who landed 46 salmon/salmon trout at nearby Back Beach mainly using lures. GGAF Vice President Louise Sumner organised the trip including the BBQ tea and dessert on the Friday & Sunday nights plus the local Sports Club for tea on Saturday night. Several fishing spots were ventured to by different groups on Saturday including Smooth Pool, Yanerbie and the Boat Ramp with mixed success. Fish caught included flathead, wrasse, king george whiting, mullet, salmon trout & rock cod. Hallys Beach on the Cape Bauer Loop was a popular surf beach on Sunday. Salmon trout were on the chew with the odd larger salmon landed. Michael Woodley and Chris Simanis both caught 14 fish with Alan Hasler close behind with 12. Zimmo & Ray Shillabeer fished the Streaky Bay Jetty with success including 12 salmon trout & 6 weedy whiting. Those who did not fish enjoyed the sights on the north & south loops and the local cafes/coffee shops.



RAPID BAY JETTY—Sat 11th August

12 brave fishers tackled the journey to Rapid Bay on Fleurieu Peninsula expecting wet, windy and cold conditions. All were pleasantly surprised to experience sunny periods, protection from wind and only a few drops of rain. Tommy ruffs were biting for most of the afternoon however preferred gents for bait - Chris Simanis had the foresight to take gents and together with his own special berley mix landed 36 tommy ruffs and 1 salmon trout - which was also the largest fish of the day. Total fish caught was 72 including Lou Goegan's 14 tommies. Geoff Hill jagged a nice squid together with 7 tommies. All attendees enjoyed dinner and fellowship at the Yankalilla Hotel on the way home after the event.



NEXT EVENTS

Sunday 9th September St Kilda Breakwater 6am

Friday Evening 19th to Sunday morning 21st October Annual Camp at Kingston On Murray Caravan Park

Saturday 17th November 7pm Presentation Night at Golden Grove Lutheran Church at Wynn Vale

Enquiries to Graeme Hoklas 0419 828 091

