

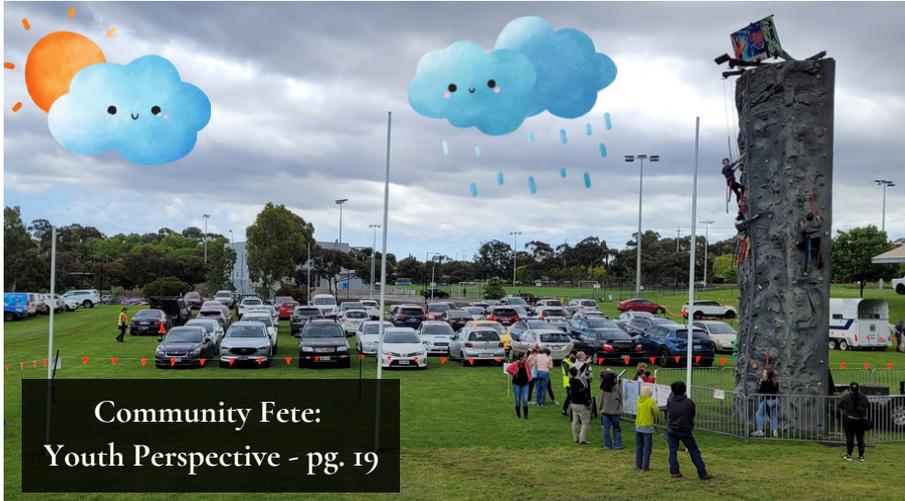


GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Life in the Vine

THE MAGAZINE OF GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 28, ISSUE 2



WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF LIFE IN THE VINE.

Do you use white noise to sleep at night? This great aid for sleep is to play sound through the night - one of the most popular sounds is rain. However, over the last few months, it has become hard to tell if the sound is being generated by a speaker or the real event. There were many weeks that we experienced storms and rain, resulting in inundation, flooding, property damage and a lot of water.

In our own community this year, we have also experienced many bad but sometimes good "water" events from: "flushing" toilet issues to the "downpour" of community generosity; "sprinkle" of baptism to the "outpouring" of faith in Confirmation; "dampened" community events to the "wet" enriched activities. This edition is "immersed" with them all!!

During the soggy periods we experience, Isaiah 43 reminds us the promises and gifts from God:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. For I am the Lord your God, your Savior."

God promises to be with us always through the torrents and downpours of life. We remember this especially in the upcoming Christmas period, where He sent his Son as a baby to this Earth to be our Saviour, and to carry us through the "wet" times of our lives.

May God be with you this Christmas, showering you with many blessings, and keeping you dry into the new Year!!



OTHER GREAT READS INSIDE:

PASTOR GREG SHARES - 2

HIGHLIGHTS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL - 4

NEWS FROM GGLPS - 7

PING PONG-A-THON - 10

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY - 12

CONFIRMATION - 14

YOUTH REPORT - 16

GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN COMMUNITY FETE - 18

BAPTISM - 21

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY? - 22

LIVE BIBLE STUDY - 23

TIGHT LINES - 24

Merry Christmas!





PASTOR GREG SHARES

BY PASTOR GREG FOWLER



**“Isaiah talks about
God’s protection from
the raging water and
the turbulent sea...”**

The Water Of Life

Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Revelation 22:1-2

We have seen water do lots of damage over the last year or so. Floods have literally washed away homes and destroyed towns. Wild weather has seen torrents of water bombard the land creating all sorts of havoc. When we see a river swollen with floodwater rising quickly, we sense the danger and get as far away as we can. Water is powerful and can take life. Water can reshape landscapes permanently.

Water is also refreshing. Water is life-giving. When the expeditions to Mars first touched down on the red planet the one question that had to be answered was ‘is there any water that could sustain life?’. In the midst of a desert or a dry spell, we crave water. When deprived of water for a day or so, we would do almost anything to get it. No wonder there are so many references to water in the Bible. Isaiah talks about God’s protection from the raging water and the turbulent sea while Revelation describes the water of life that proceeds from God himself.

God's Holy Spirit, his word and water all work together in the Bible. Water is used to cleanse if joined with the word of God and gives new life in baptism. Paul even goes further and uses the imagery of being completely submerged, just as if we were buried, as we die to the old person and rise from the water as a Spirit-filled new person. God is in the renewal business and water is synonymous with that action.

Just as water provides life for the plants that line the streets of the new Jerusalem, the picture in Revelation is of healing that comes from the throne of God via the tree of life. We can be trees of life in a dry and dying world. We encounter disorder and decay in a world that is broken and separated from God. We have the calling to bring people to the river of life. As we soak in the refreshing water of God's Spirit, we encourage those who need renewing to do the same. May this Christmas be a time of rejuvenation by God.

“As we soak in the refreshing water of God's Spirit, we encourage those who need renewing...”



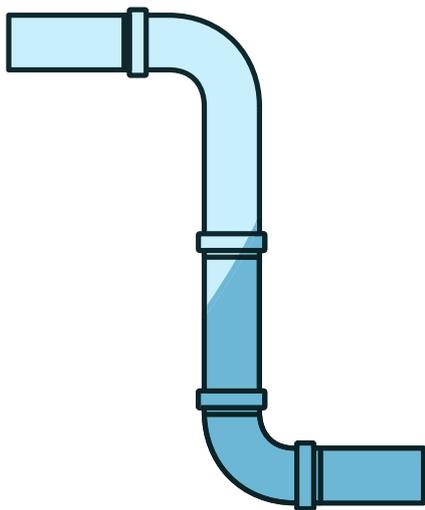


HIGHLIGHTS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

BY JON SCHUTZ
GGLC CHAIRPERSON

Seeing or hearing the soothing sounds of moving water triggers a response in our brains that induces a flood of neurochemicals. These chemicals increase blood flow to the brain and heart, which induces relaxation.
- The Internet

Many of us have a conditioned response to the burbling noise of water which is other than relaxing. If you are one of those people and after getting started with this water-themed edition of Life in the Vine now find yourself reading your copy in the smallest room in the house, then you will be in the best place to celebrate the expensive sewer repair that we had done just prior to the Fete. It was the time of the PingPongAthon (“The Pong”) when the Fellowship Toilets blocked. The plumber sent the inspection camera down and what it showed was not pretty. Getting the sewer relined was literally money down the drain but not one person on Church Council voted for saving the money and having a blocked toilet instead. It is cases like these where we can all take comfort in the wise judgement of our Church Council. But regrettably this was another blow to a somewhat strained budget.



“...was literally money down the drain but not one person on Church Council voted for saving the money...”

We will be discussing budget matters shortly at our Half Yearly Meeting. Having gone to our Finance Team Meeting in November with a projected end of year deficit of \$17k, in recent weeks we received a deluge of budget catch-up donations which have brought our projected position back to a more manageable figure and I would like to extend an enormous thankyou to the members who gave extra to help out. The shortfall was partly due to once-off situations - a new kitchen fridge, the sewer repair, a shortfall in Fete revenue due to the lovely wet weather - but of somewhat more concern is the ongoing downward trend in offerings income whilst salary and other costs continue to rise. Cafe and Fete incomes help us to keep our heads above water but we are swimming against the tide.

Prompted by budget trends and because the existing manse is no longer serving its purpose as well as it might, we will be discussing a proposal to purchase a new manse at the HYM - with the hope of both finding something more suitable and making a modest gain that can be used to pay down some of our loans. Our Constitution requires Congregational approval for such a purchase.

Although this year's Fete fell short of budget, it was nevertheless more profitable than previous years. This is a reflection of the strong reputation that our event has established. Please see the separate Fete report for more details. We are very conscious of the load that is placed on several individuals who are heavily involved in the planning in the months prior to the day, and will be putting in place measures next year to reduce the load on all volunteers whilst still offering a similar level of hospitality to the many visitors who come to enjoy what we have to offer.

During the course of this year, Allen has led us through the process of updating our mission, vision and values statements. Four key words starting G-G-L-C,

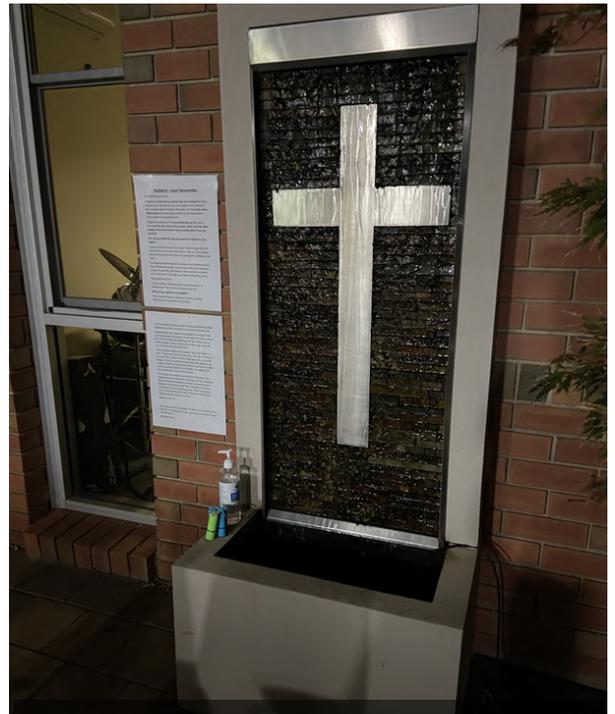
“Growing with God in a Loving Community”, capture our mission to provide worship, Christian education, pastoral care, outreach and service opportunities in the church, school and local area layers of our community. That is the statement of mission that we presented at the AGM. At the HYM, we will present our vision

“To be a Christ-focussed centre for our local community, that excels at worship, caring, growing faith through prayer and study of God's word, and serving our Church and wider community.”

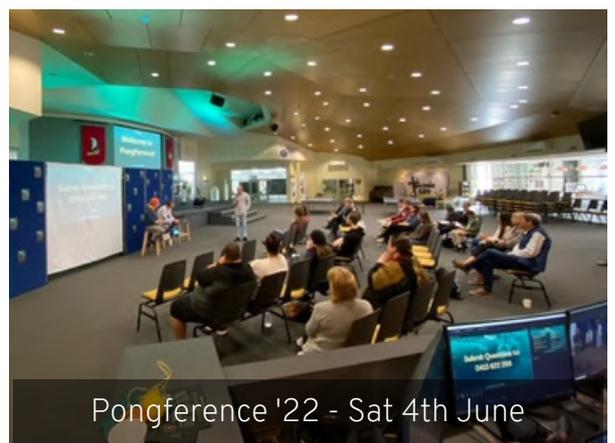
and what we hold as our eight core values:

being Christ-centred; being founded on God's Word; worship; fellowship; discipleship/education; service; prayer; equality.

We will be presenting these at the HYM for discussion, and if there is general agreement, for approval of the congregation. These will then form the foundation for the next steps in our Strategic Planning process, to set out strategic goals for the years ahead.



Stations of the Cross - Easter 2022



Pongference '22 - Sat 4th June

We have been following the new Child Safety Standards processes defined by the LCA earlier this year. Allyson Dutschke conducted the self-assessment and made recommendations to Church Council for the Child Safety Plan, which has now been accepted and formalised in the CSS framework. This has been a useful exercise in identifying strengths and weaknesses in our approach to child safety across our programs, and now we have steps in place to address areas where improvements can be made.

Having been at the helm of the Fete Team for the last 4 years, Lesley will be taking a break. We are enormously appreciative of Lesley's leadership and the success it has brought.

Also Kate Hampel as Treasurer is unable to continue next year. We thank Kate for her work this year. Andrew Schmidt has kindly agreed to stand for the Treasurer position at the upcoming HYM.

Dave Shrowder has been taking care of the Pastoral Care Team since 2017. Thanks Dave for your work over this time and thanks to Allen Kupke for stepping in to the role.

There has been a flood of happenings since the last edition of Life in the Vine: apart from record-breaking rains and actual floods we have a new monarch, prime minister and premier. Greg has declined three calls. We have also had Picnic and Prayers in the Park, Easter, Youth Car Wash, an AGM, Trivia Night, Pongference and Pong, Fete, Teaching Saturday, and put up some big signs. The world population overflowed the 8 billion mark. Back then we still thought the Somerton Man was an international spy. If you are still in the smallest room in the house and perchance are yourself considering becoming a spy, it may interest you to know that while noise-cancelling software can block sounds like television or radio, it cannot handle the sound of running water—which makes bathrooms ideal spots for discreet conversations.

Well. I hope you enjoy the rest of our water-themed Life in the Vine.



“...has been a flood of happenings since the last edition of Life in the Vine...”



NEWS FROM GGLPS

BY WILL WALLACE
PRINCIPAL

We are in an exciting place as we enter 2023, which will see the building of our new Foundation classrooms ready to open to students for the first time in 2024, as well as continued planning towards our proposed Early Learning Centre. The school is commented on positively and widely in the community, which was reflected in us receiving the national 'Five Star Innovative Schools Award' to reflect the quality of our teaching practices, curriculum design and innovation in education. Similarly we were delighted to be the first school in South Australia to receive School Aid National Accreditation from the Governor-General for our community service programs—both of these accolades reflect the hard work and dedication of our great team of staff and students.

Thank you to the efforts of our School Board, led by Mrs Tammie Switala, and our Finance Risk and Audit Committee for all of their sterling work this year, along with our Mission and Ministry team. Our many volunteers in these roles have given much time, knowledge and experience to the school this year, from which we will benefit greatly.

The second semester of the year has been an enjoyable and productive one, full of many student highlights. Saachi Singh represented the school beautifully at the IPSHA Junior Orator Competition at Prince Alfred College, and our virtual debating teams enjoyed a range of debates against schools from across Australia. Bishop Paul Smith visited as part of one of our units of inquiry with year 5/6 where we have been learning about innovations, and we were able to have the opportunity to view and learn about his electric car.



“The school is commented on positively and widely in the community, which was reflected in us receiving the national 'Five Star Innovative Schools Award'...”



Bishop Paul Smith Electric Car

Year 4 students enjoyed visiting Endeavour College for an art workshop, and our Year 4 - 6 students also attended the Combined Connected Schools Worship Service at Endeavour College.

A number of our staff attended the biennial Australian Conference for Lutheran Education in Melbourne, and closer to home we also enjoyed our whole staff spiritual retreat which was held at Nunyara this year.



Staff Spiritual Retreat - Nunyara

Our P & F welcomed our new Foundation families with an amazing BBQ evening, and also hosted a fantastic quiz night in early November and supported our community fete which proved to be excellent opportunities for our school and church to come together.

A number of our students achieved academic success across the various University of NSW competitions in English, Mathematics, Science and Technology. We also had 17 students graduate from the Children's University programme with the University of Adelaide, which recognises significant engagement with a range of extra-curricular and cultural activities.



Anzac Day Ceremony

The musician Jon Madin visited for a whole school classical music performance day, which culminated in each class delivering a performance, and our students participated in a range of Christian School Sport Association Gala Days including netball, Australian Rules football, basketball and table tennis. Foundation to Year 2 students also enjoyed the tri-skills gymnastics program and year 1 their annual sleepover. Book Week was a huge hit, with the children enjoying the traditional book character costume day, and we were recognised as a school for 98% of our students completing the Premier's Reading Challenge.



Children's University



Jon Madin Classical Music Performance Day



Year 1 Annual Sleepover

Each cluster group did a wonderful job of presenting their learning and knowledge at their respective Celebrations of Learning, whilst the Year 6 PYP Exhibition again proved to be a highlight of the school calendar for the depth and quality of research that the students undertook, presented and performed. Another highlight of the school calendar was our Special Person's Day, where we had many grandparents attend for the concert, classroom visits and a delicious morning tea. We were so privileged to welcome grandparents back into the school for this special day, which was last held in 2019 due to COVID.

Our year 3 - 6 Choir performed at the Festival of Music, which was an amazing evening of singing a broad range of repertoire.

Our links with Golden Grove Lutheran Church continue to grow, with the pong a thon being a great shared success between the school and the church, and the fete also benefited from the sponsorship of some generous school families. We are thankful for all of the work put in by many church volunteers into the fete which was again a successful day this year, despite the influence of the weather! Lauren also set up a prayer spaces activity for our students, who also continue to assist weekly with the Friday morning playgroup.

We held another 10 year reunion this year and look forward to the events that the remainder of the year holds, including year 6 Graduation Dinner and Graduation, as well as our carols evening, P & F Fun Day and Closing Service.

We farewell and thank Mrs Kayla O'Brien at the end of this year, who has done a fantastic job of teaching many students over the past few years, as well as Miss Ashley Jeon, Mrs Melissa Emmett and Mrs Deirdre Fox, all of whom have given our school wonderful service for over a decade. We also thank Mrs Tanya Wilson for her dedicated service to our school as she moves into a full time marketing role with the LLL, Mrs Sharon Trezona for her work in GGOSH, and Mr Jason Kupke for all that he has contributed to our school as chaplain—Jason has now completed his education studies and will be teaching at Good Shepherd next year. We welcome Tanya Rowland to our school as Business Manager, Melissa Laycock as Chaplain and Kelly Underwood as our Communications and Marketing Officer. Mrs Mel Arnold and Mr Luke Napier will also return to their teaching roles with us in 2023, and we are pleased to see them back!

“Our links with Golden Grove Lutheran Church continue to grow...”



Year 6 PYP Exhibition



The Grove Shopping Centre



Year 3/4 Swimming Lessons



Year 5/6 SACSA Basketball



PING PONG-A-THON

BY JOEL SCHILLER



We're a community that fought for freedom!

On September 16 and 17 as a Golden Grove Lutheran Community we fought for justice!

The school students kicked us off with great momentum, some having practised for this big event in the weeks prior out on the school courtyard table or during their Golden Time. This Pong was different though, being set up as Sunnybrook vs Grenfell vs Richardson and house points were awarded for participating in challenges and the opportunity to receive Pong dollars! It was a fierce battle, but Sunnybrook ended up taking out the win with a last-minute donation.



The rest of our community joined in after the school with many people from our church and school communities getting involved, as well as people from elsewhere. The final few hours on Saturday were my highlight as we had a large group of people rock up for lunch and to play pong. It certainly brought a much-needed final push at the end of our 24-hour event.

Each year our community astounds me! We have raised \$14,500 (our goal was \$12,000), up from our \$10,337 last year. One might say that we saw the donations flood in this year! You can still donate today by heading to their website www.pingpongathon.com.

“One might say that we saw the donations flood in this year!”



Thanks to those who prepared food, beverages and supported the event including Robert and Liz Mills, Luke Wachtel, Geordie Mills, Grant Hampel, Lauren Neumann and Kayla O'Brien. I certainly couldn't run the event without all your help.

The Pong movement continues all year round, so if you want to check out the impact testimonies of what other Pong communities are doing just head to their Facebook page @PingPongAthon or search for their website. If you would like your very own Pong merch you can head to the Pong store (accessed via their website) and be just like me!



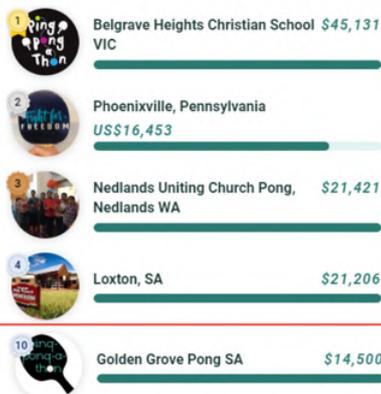
Where we compared to other pong events

ping-pong-a-thon
serve up some justice.
Our 2022 Goal: \$400,000

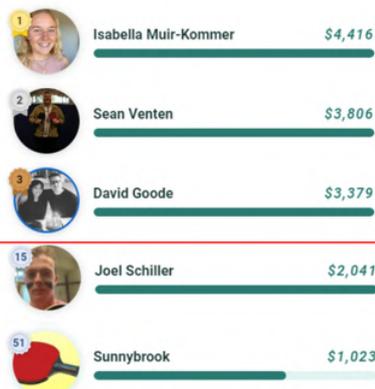
\$406,212 raised

\$400,000 goal

EVENT TALLIES



INDIVIDUAL TALLIES



Free lives

Funds raised support the work of several organisations combating the slavery of some of the most vulnerable young people in our world.

Some of the artwork created by GGLPS students





CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

BY LAUREN NEUMANN



What a year it has been. I can't believe that it was only 12 months ago I took on the role. In some ways I feel as though I have been doing it forever and, yet, in other ways—it feels like I have just begun. When I took over, I had so much to learn and comprehend. Standing up talking in front of children is natural, but to adults as a congregation—well... that was just daunting! However, I feel as though I have overcome this with the help of God and those around me.

Over the past 12 months I have tried to come in with fresh eyes and new insights, whilst still listening and learning along the way. With so many areas to cover, I have begun small with room to build as we progress next year. Some of exciting things that have occurred this year are;

- Engaging with our school community in partnership through an Easter story for Foundation students, prayer spaces day (Year 1 – 6), prayer labyrinths lesson (Year 1/2) and telling the Advent story through Godly Play (Foundation – Year 2).
- Engaging with our Connected Schools Kindergarten (Salisbury Lutheran Kindy) through mainly music sessions.
- Promoting Youth events (Ignite and Senior Youth) through assembly.
- Changing the format of mainly music to unstructured play at the beginning, followed by snack and then finishing with music.
- Introducing more sensory play (rice, flour, jelly) into the unstructured playgroup time

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our children and youth through mainly music, Ignite and vine Kids. Each week can be so different, but it is amazing to see the relationships occurring. When I look at the Bible verse from Isaiah 43:2; When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. I feel as though God has been with me as I begin this journey with the young people in our Church community. None of this could at all be possible without the support of all the amazing volunteers who I work with each week. Their knowledge, wisdom and positive attitude has certainly kept me going week to week.

As 2022 rolls to a close and we look to 2023, keep an eye out for some of the new things that are happening with our young people.

“...keep an eye out for some of the new things that are happening with our young people.”





CONFIRMATION

BY KENDALL KAHL



“allowed the confirmands to look deeper into the contents of the Catechism, and also things outside of this...”

The confirmation course is one that is extremely important to the Lutheran church, and within our community. Pastor Greg and Joel Schiller have devoted every second Friday for the past 18 months (and countless more hours) to covering the extent of this course with 8 of our youth from years 7-12 (including myself).

The course typically spans from 2 weeks to 6 months, covering an insight to the basic theological concepts of the Lutheran denomination, with a focus on Luther's Catechism. This covers the 10 Commandments, The Lord's Prayer, and the Apostles Creed. Our church, however, covered the course over 18 months. This significant period of time allowed the confirmands to look deeper into the contents of the Catechism, and also things outside of this, including baptism, communion, and a variety of biblical stories. This duration also allowed students to spend time in reflection, sharing their interpretation, and bonding in fellowship with other congregation members.

At the end of their journey, confirmands developed a faith statement, summing up what they learnt throughout the duration of the course. This was then delivered to the congregation by the confirmand during the confirmation service, when they experienced the rite of confirmation.

Faith Statement

The following is a summary of my own faith statement, and confirmation verse:

“In all, I understand that through the generosity of the Father and the Son that he sent, I can and have received Christ as my Lord and therefore am immortal to death. Although I sin, I believe in the teachings of Jesus and his earthly body, and that because of the sacrifice of Jesus, I can repent from my sins and receive eternal life.

I admit that I sin, but I believe that the Holy Spirit convicts me and calls me, as a sinner, into the love and rebirth of Christ, and through this I receive the Holy Spirit dwelling in my heart. Therefore offer my life in service to God.”

Confirmation Text: Colossians 1:17

“He is before all things,
and in Him all things hold together.”



A recording of the Confirmation service (27/11/2022) can be found on the church YouTube channel.



GGLC

Youth



YOUTH REPORT

BY JOEL SCHILLER
YOUTH COORDINATOR



As the sun sets on 2022, I reflect on it and I'm grateful for how far we have come as a youth group. We began the year on leaders retreat by looking at Matthew 11:28-30 which says "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.". The passage I believe has really framed up our year and let me tell you why...

We have been super intentional in how we've structured the nights, to focus more attention on conversations of faith both in small groups and the Get Real panel nights we've had. It's been clear that we're on the right track through Neela's testimony at her baptism recently where she stated that youth has been a key part in her faith journey, as just one example

The youth dynamic changed this year. Last year a large group of year 12s finished up, this year many year 7/8 students have moved in. A lot of these youth are former GGLPS students, which has been awesome to see.

Once again, we will be providing a gift to the graduating year 6 students. The gift has been made by Eleison Co. I believe this is a gift, even though presented by our youth group, which shows the partnership that church and school have.



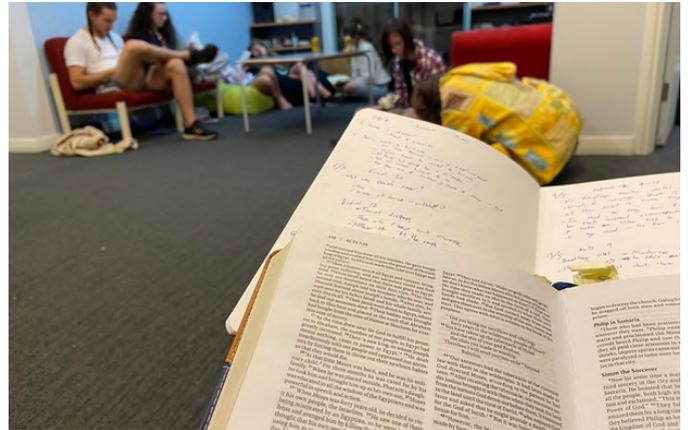
"...Matthew 11:28-30 which says "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest..."

In January we have SPIN (a camp for year 4-6 students) which Noah Hahn is co-directing and many of our leaders will be attending (If your child falls into this age bracket sign them up!), and we will have a leaders' retreat to prepare for the 2023 youth year.

During one of the first weeks in term 1 next year we are looking at having an Ignite/Youth Opening BBQ and Games. We are looking at the possibility of having it joined with the school too. Be sure to keep an ear out as we will send out details once we have them.

Noah Hahn and Benjamin Ridley will be stepping back from youth. I am very grateful for the many years they have contributed to GGLC Youth, the leadership they have brought will very much be missed.

Have a great Christmas break and we'll see you next year!!!





GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN COMMUNITY FETE

BY LESLEY FRIEDRICH
FETE DIRECTOR

"...When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you..."

Isaiah 43:3

The above excerpt from our Isaiah theme is the perfect verse for our fourth annual fete. The weather was certainly testing, but with God's support, we threw a fete with successful outcomes in many ways.

We began the fete preparation with keen support from old and new sponsors. An increased number of free activities were organised for the potential crowd, the market stall vendors booked in and we were all but setup with 3 weeks to go. Then along came feelings of trepidation as we reviewed the weather forecast. This was a new experience for the fete committee!

We didn't quite have rivers, but we did experience showers and wind! Energetic reorganisation of the site in search of new positions for stalls was well received by many, and we were delighted with how many useful places we discovered! However, not all stalls were able to be protected and this curtailed the experience for some.

Overall patronage was reduced and sales were down. However, the inside stalls were busy and people were very happy. The Fellowship centre was well utilised for stalls and Devonshire tea, and remained busy all day. The café volunteers worked to their max, fulfilling our caffeine requirements.

For our wonderful facilities, we are very grateful. The Worship Centre and Courtyard were a place of comfort and rest on a wild and woolly day. The Musicians provided a terrific atmosphere once again, (and Ben and Sam were invited to play at another event!)



"The weather was certainly testing, but with God's support, we threw a fete with successful outcomes..."



The Church plant stall was blessed by numerous donations of plants. Moved to the entrance of the courtyard, it was a wonderful location, though it missed out on many sales due to people rushing through to get out of the rain. Having said that, many people will be enjoying home grown tomatoes this Christmas 😊.



The cake and produce stall didn't fail to be a success again this year. Thank you to many people who baked and produced beautiful conserves and preserves. This stall continues to be a blessing to lovers of home made produce, year on year.



Raffle ticket sales went well this year, buoyed by pre-fete sales through church and school. We were blessed by many wonderful donations of raffle prizes this year, bringing the prize pool up to \$5000.



Indoors, the market stalls, Café and Devonshire tea all surpassed expectation. The vibe was very positive and sales for vendors were very good. Many positive comments were received from vendors about how things were organised, the hospitality and promotion of the event using social media.

At the Half Yearly meeting on Dec 18th we will present a breakdown of how the different areas performed financially.



The IT side of things continues to expand and improve the way the event is pulled together—for instance, through online booking forms and site plans on the website.

A large number of people volunteered to support the event on fete day and this is our most precious resource. We are so grateful for the volunteers before, during and after fete day. Tasks large and small. Thank you.



There will be an overhaul of how we do things in future years, to reduce volunteer effort and maximise budget contribution, whilst ensuring the community has a wonderful experience of our hospitality and gains the benefits of a well organised entertaining day out.

The efforts of the core committee continue to grow and were extraordinary this year. Whilst there was some disappointment on the financial side of things, we were still blessed with good numbers of people who came, who enjoyed, who spent money on things of their choice, and who had a wonderful time.

Thank you God. We did pass through waters. They didn't sweep over us. You lifted us up to overcome the hurdles in front of us and we were blessed with another successful fete!

COMMUNITY FETE: YOUTH PERSPECTIVE



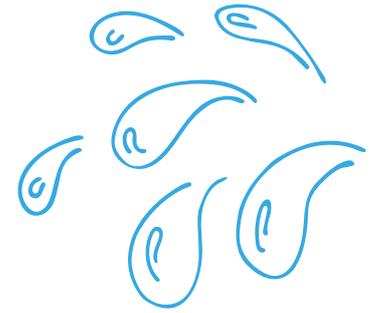
Undergoing Veta Morphus (Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology) this year, influenced me to join the fete committee as part of my 'major ministry placement'. This allowed me to gain an inside view into the aspects of the fete which may appear unimportant, when instead, intricate planning is needed.

Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through waters, I will be with you.". These waters can be metaphorically interpreted as challenges or buffers in life, which hinder our will or ability to achieve "success", but we can have assurance that no matter how high or low our waters/challenges are, God will be with us. In the case of a storm forecast for the fete day and over 25mm of water predicted, these "waters" could be taken literally (like when I had to tread through water to get my lunch)! Nevertheless, through the collaboration of the strengths/gifts of the fete committee members, and undoubtedly the guidance of God, new plans were put in place and the fete was still able to be a fun experience for all and a light in the community.

Chelsea



Thank you to All Our Major Fete Sponsors,
Stall Holders, Volunteers and Visitors!!



BAPTISM

BY NEELA AND ROHAN

The following are the statements that Neela and Rohan shared in front of the church congregation at their baptism on the 6th November....

Ever since I was small, I'd come to church and be welcomed by everyone. This has made me feel welcomed into God's family as well. Nights at GGLC youth have made me grow in faith and pay more attention to God's promises. I have walked away from each of the youth nights inspired to learn more. Today is the day that I will have the chance to become even stronger in my faith. Thank you everyone for always welcoming me, I feel I am so blessed to be supported by my church family.

Neela



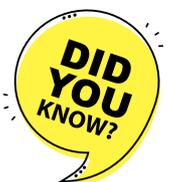
Thank you for supporting me in my journey to this day. The thought of an almighty God who loves and protects us often comforts me. My baptism means to me that I have been welcomed into God's family and that comforts me too. On top of my bed, I have one of my favourite bible verses from Psalm 4:8 that says 'In peace I will lay down and sleep for you alone Lord make me dwell in safety'. I hope every day I will grow stronger and learn more about God's love for me.

Rohan

Looking back on our baptism, we, as always, felt a sense of belonging on our special day. We felt very loved and it was nice to have most of our family there to support and celebrate with us too. We were happy that this day had finally come.

♥ *Neela & Rohan*

In 2022 Golden Grove Lutheran Church celebrated 15 baptisms!!



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY?

GGLC Youth Carwash Fundraiser - Sunday May 1



Federal Election Day - Saturday May 21



GGLC Trivia Night - Saturday July 30



GGLC Teaching Saturday - August 20



Jodie & Kuno's Wedding Day - Saturday November 26



LIVE BIBLE STUDY

WITH PASTOR GREG AND JOEL SCHILLER

We have covered so much in our LIVE Bible Studies this year. We have covered the books of Daniel, James and Ephesians which have been awesome! Jon Schiller and Will Wallace have popped in. On numerous occasions we have broken down the historical contexts and provided demonstrations of biblical concepts. Leading up to Christmas we have created 5 minute daily devotions which were texted out each day from Monday to Friday. A massive thanks goes to Kennan Wallace who does all the behind the scenes work!

To watch or catch up on any series, head to www.gglc.org.au and you find all bible studies under publications then live-bible-study.

WATCH NOW





TIGHT LINES

GOLDEN GROVE AMATEUR FISHING

2022 CATCH UPDATE

**Mission Statement: Giving all people opportunities to fish
in a Christ centred environment**

RAMCO (River Murray) - Saturday 9th April

The weather was perfect and the Carp were biting all day for the 42 fishers (including 9 Juniors) who made the river trip – an excellent attendance considering the distance to travel. This kept all line casters busy—children and adults—and all fishers were successful catching fish.

GGAF provided a sausage sizzle lunch thanks to the Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School for use of their BBQ trailer.

The weigh-in was rather unique as a result of the number of fish caught during the 6 hours—320 Carp in total—a club record. Total weight was 52.13 Kg. The larger Carp were caught at the lagoon nearby.

Senior winner was Meredith Glaetzer—a 66 cm Carp weighing 5.02 kg.

Junior winner was Zeke Jensen—a 36.5 cm Carp weighing .56 kg. Junior Dean Sweeney caught the most Carp on the day with 28. Other fishers landing 20 or more Carp were Letty Sweeney (Junior - 20), Simon Ahrens (20), Lou Goegan (22) and Ines Goegan (20).

20 people enjoyed tea at the Waikerie Hotel.

WAITPINGA BEACH - Sunday 1st May

27 fishers enjoyed a pleasant day of surf fishing at Waitpinga Beach near Victor Harbor. A total of 39 fish were caught—a mix of Salmon Trout, Mullet, Tommy Ruff, Flathead and Sweep.

Senior Winner was Lou Goegan with a 43.5 cm Flathead weighing .54 kg. Lou also landed the most fish (12) followed by Roger Glaetzer (9).

14 attendees finished a great day with tea at the Hotel Victor.



Dean Lands Biggest Carp at GGAF Camp



RAMCO (River Murray)



Lou lands Waitpinga Flathead





Spot On Tackle Night

TACKLE NIGHT - Monday 6th June

The Spot On Tackle Night this year attracted 39 members and friends in the Conference Room of the Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School. GGAF member Keith Hasler provided an entertaining presentation on his experiences and knowledge of Reservoirs in South Australia, many of which are now open to fishing under licence.

Following a short break Steve & Lyn Castle from the Spot On Fishing & Outdoors shop at Salisbury Plain demonstrated and advised on 1. Maintenance of Rods, Reels and Fishing Gear, 2. Crab, Yabby & Shrimp Nets and their respective baits and 3. The various types of lures available to use for different fish species.

Thanks to Spot On for also providing a number of door prizes at the end of the evening.



Golden Grove Amateur Fishing Club acknowledges and thanks the City of Tea Tree Gully for the Community Grant of \$700 to assist with the purchase of equipment – being 2 Gazebos, 4 Safety Vests and 15 Legionnaire Hats. The new equipment supports the club's program of events to enhance safety and protection from the sun and inclement weather conditions.

BEACHPORT (South East)- 15 to 18 July

33 travellers ventured to the Limestone Coast to check out fishing and other points of interest at Beachport—based at the Beachport Caravan Park. Fishing time was limited due to cold, windy and wet weather which persisted throughout the weekend. The long Beachport jetty (770m) and the Salmon Hole beach/surf fishing were fished with only a few salmon trout caught. Touring the nearby spectacular coastline, the railway museum at Beachport and visits to Southend and Millicent were popular pastimes as well as shopping and coffee/tea breaks at cafes. A family BBQ was held in the caravan park on the Saturday night—thanks to Christine McCulloch for arranging and preparing the food with assistance of members. Most members also enjoyed a meal at the Beachport Hotel on Sunday night.



GGAF Champions 2022



MOONTA BAY - Saturday 13th August

On a windy and at times wet wintry day 40 people travelled to Moonta. Not all ventured on to the jetty however those who braved the conditions were fortunate to encounter a school of Tommy Ruffs for the most part of the day. Fish caught totalling 264 included 4 weedy whiting and a Salmon Trout.

Total weight of fish landed was 8.3kg. Bag limits of 40 Tommy Ruffs were caught by Roger Glaetzer and Graeme Hoklas closely followed by Peter Van Loggem with 38. Club Member Senior winner was Ian Zimmermann (Zimmo) with a 22cm Tommy Ruff (.09kg). A fine country hotel meal was enjoyed by 29 attendees at the Moonta Hotel.

WEST LAKES - Sunday 11th September

Fine weather greeted an excellent attendance of 50 fishers (including 13 Juniors) at West Lakes for an event which included training for children including casting, rigging and baiting hooks. In addition to landing a few undersize fish there were 6 legal fish caught—species being King George Whiting, Garfish, Salmon Trout and Tommy Ruff. Jenna Scott was the day's winner with a 37 cm King George Whiting weighed in at .33kg. A sausage sizzle BBQ was provided by the Club with Jenna's cooking skills on show.

KINGSTON-ON-MURRAY ANNUAL CAMP

- 21st to 23rd October

The Camp at Kingston On Murray Caravan Park attracted 39 attendees to a rapidly flowing and rising Murray River. The nearby Cobdogla Sports Club was popular for Friday night dinner. Competition fishing on Saturday commenced 7am through to 5pm for weigh in. Conditions were great for fishing and produced 81 fish (including 1 Silver Perch and 1 Murray Cod which were returned to the river). All other fish were European Carp ranging in size from very small to very large. Total weight was 74.9kg including a 3.9kg (74cm) Carp landed by Junior winner Dean Sweeney. Dean's fish was larger than the Senior winner Allan Hasler who caught a 3.74kg (68cm) Carp.

cont...



Tommy Ruffs Galore at Moonta



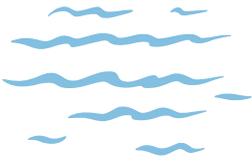
Excellent Attendance at West Lakes



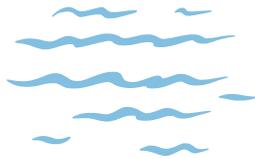
Jenna catches King George Whiting



Annual Camp at Kingston On Murray



Letty at Kingston On Murray



GGAF stall at Community Fete

Junior Letty Sweeney caught the biggest number of fish—18 Carp. A BBQ tea followed weigh in at the well appointed Camp Kitchen. Thanks to all who sourced and prepared meats, salads and desserts including Christine McCulloch for arranging purchases while unable to attend the Camp. Due to constant rain on Sunday morning from 7am to 9am only one lonely fisher cast a line—namely Peter Van Loggem—who landed 5 Carp (1.1kg) and therefore was the Senior winner with largest fish (.82kg).

As rain continued to fall 29 people enjoyed lunch at Banrock Station following which a short talk was provided including vineyard, winemaking and wetlands history and ongoing activities. Thanks to Peter Van Loggem for arranging the lunch and talk.

COMMUNITY FETE – Sunday 30th October

GGAF participated at the annual Community Fete held on the grounds of GGLC and GGLPS with a stall. Many thanks to those members who manned the stall in sometimes inclement weather.

PRESENTATION NIGHT – Saturday 19th November

51 members and friends attended the annual Presentation Night held in the Worship Centre. President Graeme Hoklas MC'd an informative and fun-filled program including Powerpoint presentations of each event, numerous door prizes and fishing quizzes. Prizes were presented to Senior & Junior competition winners of each event and Graeme thanked the 2022 Committee for their dedication in planning and attending events. Members totaled 65 including 13 juniors. Steve & Lyn Castle from Spot On Fishing Tackle Shop were sincerely thanked for their ongoing support and sponsorship during the year. Special acknowledgement this year was awarded to Ruth Zimmermann for her dedication and loyalty as a member of GGAF. The 2022 Senior Champion was Peter Van Loggem and the Junior Champion was Letty Sweeney. Both were first time Champions.



Website: <https://www.gglc.org.au/church/index.php/ministries/ggaf>
Enquiries to Graeme Hoklas 0419 828 091 or hoklasgr@gmail.com



Christmas Eve Worship
 7-8pm Saturday 24th December 2022
 GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 21-23 Richardson Drive, Wynn Vale

PLEASE JOIN US

Christmas Day Service
 Sunday 25th December 9.30 am

All Christmas Services Livestreamed
 on YouTube and Facebook

gglc.org.au [@gglc.lca](https://www.facebook.com/gglc.lca) [GGLC YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGGLC)



CAFE CONNECT NEEDS YOU!

Would you like to help in our cafe?
 Join our team today and become a volunteer!

We are flexible:
 ~morning shifts
 ~afternoon shifts
 ~weekly
 ~fortnightly
 ~casual

Reopening January 30th 2023

Training provided

For more information please see
 Robert in Church Office or Pastor Greg

Your time, effort, and presence as a volunteer
 will make a world of a difference throughout
 the Golden Grove Lutheran Community!



Knowing Christ and Making Him Known

“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.” John 15:5

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-  (08) 7200 0090
-  [GGLC YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGGLC)



Let's celebrate Jesus this Christmas. May your heart be filled with His love and the joy that only He can give!

Merry Christmas
 AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

