



GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Life in the Vine

THE MAGAZINE OF GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 2025 | VOLUME 31, ISSUE 1



WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF LIFE IN THE VINE.



Imagine being the first person to pick and try an olive. After biting one and finding it inedibly bitter, you would be forgiven if you cut down and disposed of the tree never to try and taste one again. Instead you persevere and find a way to cure the fruit - a process that is still continuing today (see Olives the Australian Way, pg. 12).

In reflection, like an olive, God did not give up on us sinners. Instead he created a new process, so that we, inheritably broken and condemned, are all saved. And that was Jesus.

As we enter the Easter season we are reminded that **“we must never stop looking to Jesus. He is the leader of our faith, and He is the one who makes our faith complete. He suffered death on a cross. But He accepted the shame of the cross as if it were nothing because of the joy He could see waiting for him. And now He is sitting at the right side of God’s throne.”** Hebrews 12:2 ERV

In this edition, from front cover to back, we see the needs, but also rewards, of focusing on Jesus through the many activities and programs of our community. Examples include Healings, School and other group activities as well the continuing search for a Pastor.

To **Focus on Jesus** means to fix our thoughts and actions on Him. We seek his guidance and strength from His teachings and example, and trust in His power and love. Focusing on Jesus and His resurrection remind us that with God, nothing is impossible.

Wishing you a blessed Easter.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL



BY JON SCHUTZ
GGLC CHAIRPERSON

“...I thank everyone who provided something extra to help out as we headed toward the end of the year.”

At the Half Yearly Meeting, it was resolved that Church Council could open discussions with the District on finding a part-time interim pastor “if it deems necessary”. Given the “no” on our call to Pastor Ben Hentschke, it has been deemed necessary, and I am pleased to share that the District has agreed to the request. An Expression of Interest (EOI) was sent out to pastors in March with a closing date of April 4, so if you are reading this then nothing could be finalised before LITV went to press! Watch this space.

The role of the interim pastor as expressed in the EOI would encompass:

- Providing support for the lay preaching team
- Filling in gaps in pastoral care
- Supporting the prayer healing ministry
- Providing a presence in the school from time to time
- Delivering 1-2 messages per month

According to the pastor’s availability, the role could be negotiated from 0.1FTE up to 0.6FTE, and would remain until a pastor accepts a full time call.

Recognising the ongoing load on our lay preaching team during the vacancy, we have also started providing them with a small amount of financial compensation in the form of an honorarium for messages preached. The District has kindly agreed to fund the honorarium payments from the LCA Transfer and Support Fund (for brevity let’s call it the Transfer Fund). The purpose of the Transfer Fund is to provide finances for the transfer of pastors when taking a call and to pay locum pastors during vacancy, and congregations in vacancy pay a proportion of a pastor’s wage into the fund.

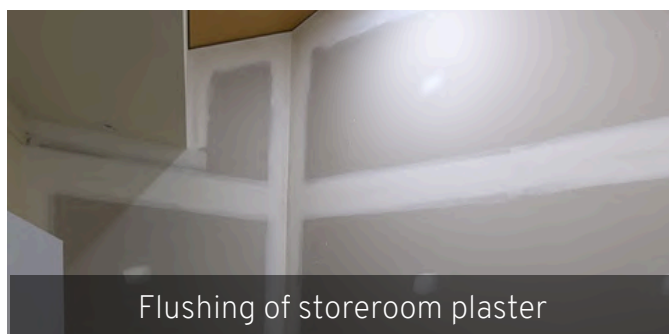
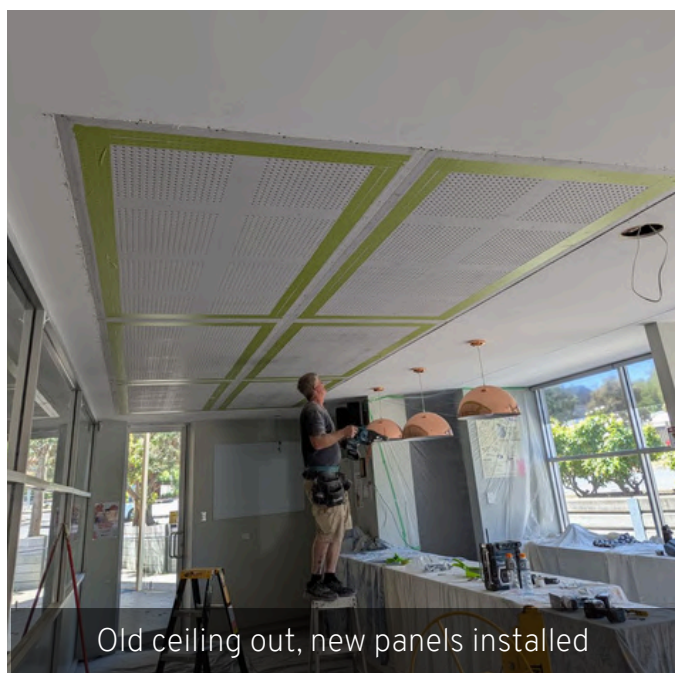
Last year we paid \$63,255.20 into the fund but only claimed around \$3000. There is clearly an imbalance there, and although it may not be so extreme for all congregations in vacancy, the District has recognised that the fund rules need some fine tuning and is working on it. In the meantime, we have received permission under the current rules of the Transfer Fund to allow payments to lay workers in recognition of the pastoral care role they provide to the congregation.

Two years have passed since the LCA introduced a new child safety framework that is aligned with the National Child Safe Principles. Every two years, a Child Safe Assessor (who we nominate) has a look at our practices in relation to each principle and provides recommendations on a plan to address any weaknesses. Thank you to Allyson who has taken on the Assessor role now for the second time. One of the actions from the previous plan was to increase awareness of the Child Safety Standards for members, and I hope that people have observed and studied the various posters throughout the facility.

On the finance side, we ended up meeting our 2024 budget target (a \$1900 surplus) and whilst some of this is due simply to the timing of payments and receipts, it is still markedly better than the position predicted at the Finance Team meeting in November, so I thank everyone who provided something extra to help out as we headed toward the end of the year. Concurrently with this we were running a fundraising appeal for the acoustic panels in Cafe Connect, raising \$4905 as a significant offset to the cost (ex GST) of \$6420 (including lighting upgrades and finishing flushing of the plaster in the storeroom). Thank you to all who supported this—it has substantially improved the acoustics of the cafe space, although there is still more that can be done.

It is still early days as far as this year's finances are concerned, but there are ongoing signs that offering amounts are trending down.

On March 23, a forum was held for Lutheran community leaders in the northern zone, to discuss the challenges happening in our area—e.g. fewer ordained ministers, many vacancies, membership numbers and finances under pressure. The obvious answer is for there to be increased sharing of resources between communities, but what resources and how this can be practically done are still questions to be resolved. The primary outcome of the forum was to set up a working group to further examine the issues and develop some proposals.





NEWS FROM GGLPS



BY WILL WALLACE
PRINCIPAL

School Update: A Strong Start to 2025

It has been truly invigorating to welcome back our staff and students for the 2025 school year. The energy around our café, church, and school campus is palpable as everyone settles into the new academic term.

Focus on Jesus

As we navigate this school year together, we are reminded of our foundational commitment to keep Jesus at the centre of all we do. The theme for this issue of Life in the Vine is a most fitting one - Hebrews 12:2: "Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end. He did not give up because of the cross! On the contrary, because of the joy that was waiting for him, he thought nothing of the disgrace of dying on the cross, and he is now seated at the right side of God's throne."

This verse inspires our community to maintain our focus on Christ through both challenges and celebrations, remembering that our faith journey begins and ends with Him.

IB Evaluation Preparation

Our staff team has been diligently preparing for the upcoming external International Baccalaureate evaluation of our school scheduled for August. As an IB school, we undergo a comprehensive external evaluation every five years to ensure we maintain the highest standards of international education.

The International Baccalaureate Organisation has provided us with key dates for our evaluation process:

- Preliminary review documentation submission: February 15, 2025
- Self-study questionnaire deadline: May 1, 2025
- Tentative evaluation visit: August 6-8, 2025

Please note that these dates may be adjusted as the IB has requested a hybrid visit with at least one evaluator on-site, rather than a fully remote evaluation. The Board held an additional meeting on Tuesday, March 11 specifically to review our Primary Years Programme in preparation for this important evaluation.

Staffing Updates

It is a pleasure to share several staffing updates:

- Mel Bishop continues to recover from her leg injury and we greatly appreciate your continued prayers for her healing. It's wonderful to have Mel back with us this year.
- Tanya Van Zwol has joined our team part-time as a teacher's aide (LSO), primarily supporting our Foundation students.
- Sharlene Rothe came on board late last year to provide two days per week support to our Business Manager, Tanya Rowland, as a Finance Officer.
- We extend warm congratulations to Emma Wachtel (and her husband Luke!) as she prepares to take parenting leave from the end of this term for the remainder of the year. We wish them all the best for this exciting new chapter.
- Miss Brianna Stanley has been appointed to teach Foundation with Mrs. Hughes from Term 2 onwards. Brianna joins us from Tyndale Christian School, where she gained valuable experience across various classes, including small group classes for students with additional learning needs, as well as Foundation.

Enrolment Growth

We are pleased to report current enrolment of 210 students, which is aligned to our budget projection for the year. We are also looking forward to welcoming around 10 mid year Reception students in July.

Marketing Initiatives

Our marketing efforts continue in full force, with particular thanks to Robert Mills for his ongoing dedication in this area. Current focus areas include links with local preschools and day care centres, letterbox drops and enhanced online advertising.



Term Highlights

Joel and Lauren have done an exceptional job promoting Ignite and youth programs, and we anticipate strong momentum in these areas with significant involvement from school families. The term has progressed smoothly with several notable events:

- Middle of Term Breakfast - Pancakes for Shrove Tuesday (with tremendous support from our church volunteers)
- Our regular Ash Wednesday Service
- SAPSASA Swimming
- NAPLAN testing
- A visit from musician Jon Madin
- Year 5/6 camp at Victor Harbor
- Resumption of school band and choir activities

We look forward to continued growth and success throughout the remainder of 2025, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus as we learn and grow together.



SAVE THE DATE

Community Fete

Sunday 19th October

10.30am to 3.00pm

Presented by the Golden Grove Lutheran Community

GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

cafeconnect

GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN PRIMARY SCHOOL



CALL TEAM REPORT



BY LEE NORREY



The search for a pastor continues...

The Call Team's search for a pastor to join Golden Grove continues. I know this is taking longer than we had hoped but we, the Call Team, are still very positive and committed to finding the right fit for us and not simply inviting whoever is available.

A lot of thought is going into the very long list of available pastors, about 107 names, and how we are narrowing that list down to people we would like to meet with. Allen Kupke has been essential in that regard by highlighting pastors who already have the experience we desire and have worked in a similar setting to what we have here at Golden Grove. Early on in this process Jon Schutz created a spreadsheet where we have been able to directly compare skills and attributes for each pastor. The team has found this a helpful tool.

Many of the pastors we have contacted have said that they believe they are still called to where they are and are not willing to consider a move. We only need one...We are hopefully speaking to a candidate this week and rest assured that we will continue to do all we can until we have secured the best pastor for our church.

If you have any questions or know of a pastor that you would like us to consider, please contact me on 0414 346 062 or email me at leeanne.norrey@gmail.com.

“We only need one...”



HOUSE WANTS A PASTOR EPISODE 4

BY JON SCHUTZ

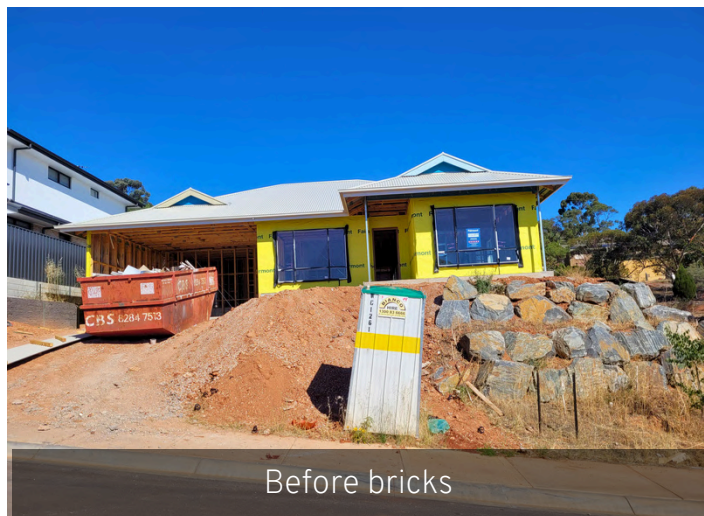
In the previous episode, we heard how a landscape that looked like a scene from an old Western movie (desolate scorched earth, tumbleweed blowing across the plain, airs of orchestral music filtering in over the noise of the wind, no signs of humanity for miles—that sort of scene) was transformed into a scene from *The Block* (where they show people building houses—that sort of scene) and in the blink of an eye (that could be mistaken for a coma if one were to blink for that long) we reached the point of having a complete house frame.

A few more semi-comatose blinks later, we had roof, gutters, windows, plumbing, gas and Christmas.

In the building industry there are few things more effective for causing an extended work site shutdown than Christmas.

Time marched by and then it was March. A team of brickies marched in and bricks were completed in less than two weeks. This was good news, as an earlier estimate based on prior progress had the bricklaying task taking 30 years. Then came air conditioning, electrical wiring, insulation and plasterboard on the ceilings and walls, all within a few days. With just a few more essentials (e.g. coffee machine, Netflix subscription), one could almost live in it.

From here we should reach completion in 4 months. If we call a pastor now, he should arrive in 4 months.



Before bricks



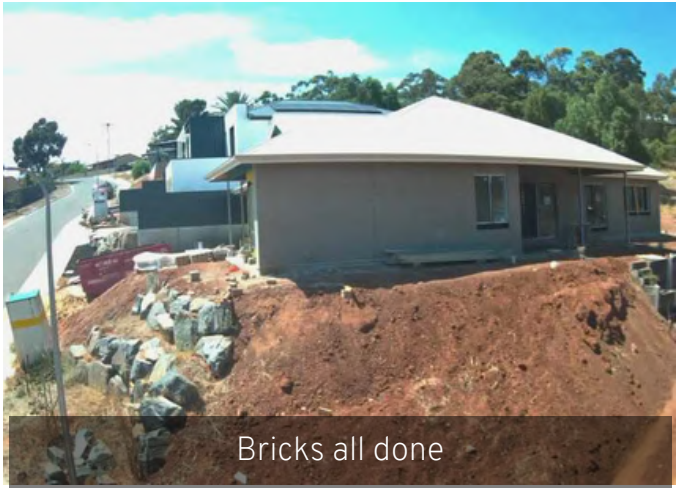
Bricks-in-progress



Centre of Operations



Lots of Bricks



Bricks all done



3rd Little Pig would be proud



Rush hour on Gully View Ct



Doorbell-ready



Aircon, electrical



Plasterboard-ready



Kitchen - you can almost smell dinner cooking



Lounge, nearly



PRAYER MINISTRY



BY JON SCHILLER

As we head towards Easter we take the opportunity to reflect on what Jesus did for you and me. We celebrate Jesus setting us free. He reminds us to continue to keep our eyes fixed on him, no matter what is happening in our Life and no matter what is happening in the world. Jesus is Alive, he is a Now God, he paid the ultimate price for us. Jesus is a gentleman, he won't force anything upon us, he gives us all free will. He is willing if we are!!

The prayer ministry is very much part of this of where God wants us to intervene, to be his conduits to be his hands and feet, to set us free from whatever is hindering us. Jesus did not leave us helpless. He sent the Holy Spirit, the God of the universe, to live inside of us. WOW!!

Acts 1:8 - You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come... and to witness...to the ends of the earth.

In the Healing Team we have many opportunities to pray, for people's family members and/or their friends, and not all of them know Jesus. Just like the Roman Centurion (Matthew 8), if they are on your heart when we pray it's like they are there (in the spirit).

At times it can be difficult praying for your own family members, especially when you see them suffering, it's emotional. A young lady had a brain aneurysm. She had over a 6-hour operation and was in a coma. About 3 weeks later after the operation we received a call from the family. They said the doctors are concerned that she may never wake up from the coma so we went to the hospital. The parents were emotionally drained and were having trouble fixing their eyes on Jesus to get a clear focus on what to pray for (very understandable). We stood in the gap and whilst we were praying for the young lady, she woke from her coma.



“...continue to keep our eyes fixed on him, no matter what is happening in our Life...”

Prayer is not a chore, it's an opportunity to interact with the God of this universe. It's just trusting God and that when we pray things change! Having the confidence and trust that it's not us but the Holy Spirit at work.

At the last Healing Service we had the opportunity to pray for a lovely couple that both were in desperate need of healing. The lady was using a walking stick and he had a walking aide. She was in a lot of pain (10 out of 10 pain level). They eagerly joined in at the prayer station where we got to know them, to feel relaxed and ready to receive what Jesus had already paid for. They had only been to this church once for voting and they had walked through the Community Fete. It took courage to walk into a strange environment. Both of them walked out very happy. They looked refreshed and their walking had improved lots and her pain had gone.

The Healing Service is only small part of what we do to support people in need. We had a young lady with 2 young children, who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. We went to her house to pray for the family as the whole family is affected. We continued praying with her over the phone on a regular basis. These regular discussions were to keep her 'eyes' focussed on Jesus rather than fear and doubt, and to provide support she needed in those dark times. We continued to keep these conversations going until she received the all clear!! Thank you Jesus!!

The Healing Service is held the first Sunday of each month. It is a lighthouse for people in need, knowing that help is here. For those who can't always make it to the church service, we can provide help by phone, email and personal visits to homes or hospitals.

This ministry has been going for 15 plus years and the Healing Services for over 7 years and we have seen many many people set free. We would love for you to join us at the prayer station. You have the option to just listen, or release an encouraging word, to tune in to what God is guiding us to say, and/or pray for the person when you're ready to do so.

God has blessed us by providing the tools!!

Blessings from the Prayer Healing team!!

**“The Healing service is
first Sunday of each
month. It is a lighthouse
for people in need
knowing that help is
here.”**





OLIVES THE AUSTRALIAN WAY

BY JOHN FIELKE

GGLC members John and Sue Fielke have been creating award winning table olives since 2021. Once again their olives are for sale at the GGLC's Café Connect with all proceeds of those sales going toward the GGLC budget. Comments on the olives include:

- I don't normally like olives but I really like these
- they are refreshing; they taste fruity

The olives are available as whole, pitted or sliced olives.

In the Bible, olive trees are mentioned 25 times and olive oil 160 times (Source Google). John (Fielke, not the Gospel) says "God has truly blessed us along the journey of processing an ancient biblical food through the people and resources provided to us."

John has a patent and trademark on his "Olives the Australian Way" process. Through his employer (University of South Australia) and Department of Education's Australian Economic Accelerator funding John is leasing the Viva Olives factory at Loxton to help expand production of Australian grown and processed table olives.



Olives Available From Café Connect



Sue and John Fielke with industry awards for their table olives.

John and Sue are spending most of their week days at Loxton and sell their fruit in bulk 220 litre barrels to resellers of olive products in Adelaide and Melbourne. In 2024 they processed 17,000 kg of olives and at the end of March 2025 are just starting receipt of what is expected to be over 60,000 kg of olives. Australia currently has 20,000 ha of olive trees which are mainly for olive oil. John and Sue's 5 year plan is to take the Loxton factory to 500 tonnes of olives per year and seek corporate investors to license the process and plant 10,000 ha of olive trees for table olives. These trees will provide enough fruit to process 100,000 tonnes of table olives for local and export markets.



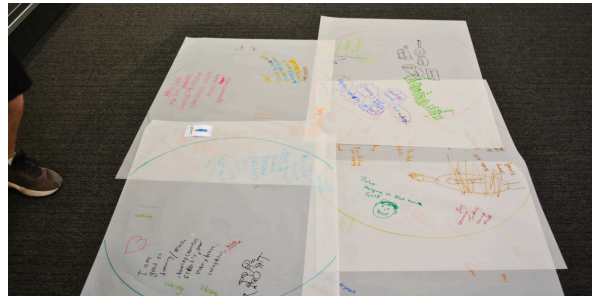
MESSY CHURCH

BY LAUREN NEUMANN



We have had one Messy Church event this year following on from our success last year. We kicked off with 'Jonah's Messy Olympics'.

Families engaged in a variety of activities that allowed them to show their throwing, fishing and running skills. As always, the children enjoyed playing with each other and spending time participating in the activities with the leaders.



We looked at the story of Jonah and how, even though he kept running away, God never gave up on him. He also picked Jonah to go because he had the talent of words and speaking.



God never gives up on us so how can you use your talent to follow Jesus and share His love with others?

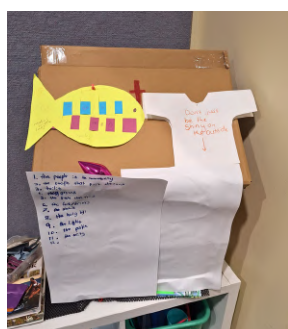
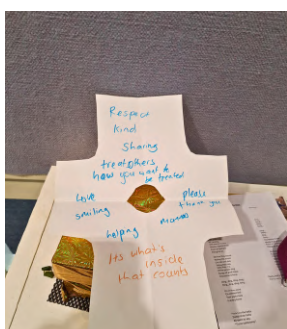


VINE KIDS

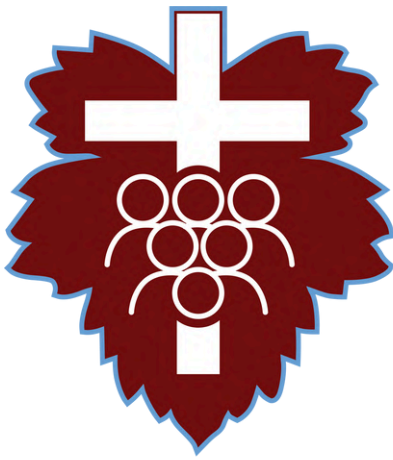
BY LAUREN NEUMANN



This term in Vine Kids we have been following the lectionary series. We have explored what is 'church' and how we are part of the church. Our children have done several activities including looking for 'ducks' like Jesus looks for us. We have explored what love is and how following Jesus, reading the Bible and singing Christian songs helps us grow in our faith in Jesus.



I have also had the opportunity to connect with the classes at Golden Grove Lutheran Primary through Godly Play. This connection with the school is amazing to see as they learn more about the Bible and Easter through Godly Play, the resurrection eggs and prayer space activities. This time is invaluable to our students as they get the opportunity to sit and be still as they feel the presence of God in our space.



**GOLDEN
GROVE
LUTHERAN
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**
P & F

**GGLPS PARENTS
AND FRIENDS**

**BUILDING
COMMUNITY
THROUGH
FELLOWSHIP
AND SERVICE**



BY SARAH KUMELA
P&F CHAIR

“...the P&F Committee strives to create spaces where families can come together, focus on what matters most, and grow in faith.”

The Parents and Friends (P&F) Committee is a dedicated group of parents, caregivers, and friends of the school community, working together to create a supportive and inclusive environment for all. The P&F plays a vital role in organising events that foster connection, celebrate milestones, and support the school's growth. Our efforts are deeply rooted in the Christian values that guide the school, with a strong focus on building relationships and creating a sense of belonging for families. As the school's heartbeat, the P&F committee helps bring the community closer through shared experiences, all while focusing on the teachings of Jesus Christ as our ultimate guide.

The work of the P&F is multifaceted. Through a range of regular events and activities, the committee serves to nurture both the spiritual and social well-being of the community. Some of the key events that the P&F organises include the Date Night, which allows parents to enjoy a well-deserved evening out, the Special Persons Afternoon Tea, where students invite special people in their lives to join in a meaningful time of connection and celebration and Middle of Term Breakfast, where families can gather together before school and enjoy a yummy pancake, hot cross bun or bacon and egg muffin. These events create spaces for families to bond, build friendships, and feel a sense of community.

In addition to these regular events, the P&F also hosts several cornerstone activities throughout the year. One such event held at the beginning of this year was the Parent Information Night Drinks, which provided parents the opportunity to gather, meet teachers, and learn more about the academic year ahead while simultaneously catching up with other parents over a few drinks and nibbles. The Foundation Family Welcome Night was another popular event, where new families to the school were welcomed and given the chance to meet other parents. The Sports Day BBQ is an annual event that unites families in support of the school's athletes while offering yummy sausages in a fun, relaxed atmosphere for all to enjoy.

All of these events, while diverse in nature, share a common thread: the goal of focusing on building a stronger, more supportive community that reflects the love and teachings of Jesus Christ. As we gather together for each of these events, we are reminded of the importance of keeping our focus on Jesus. This message is beautifully encapsulated in Hebrews 12:2, which says, "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."

In the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, it can be easy to lose sight of what truly matters. But just as a race requires a clear focus on the finish line, so too does our journey in faith require a focused attention on Jesus. Each event the P&F organises serves as an opportunity to gather and refocus our attention on Christ, strengthening our faith and our community in the process.

Whether it's through a relaxed evening with friends, a warm welcome for new families, or a simple gathering over middle of term breakfast, the P&F Committee strives to create spaces where families can come together, focus on what matters most, and grow in faith. Through our collective efforts, we continue to build a community centred on love, faith, and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

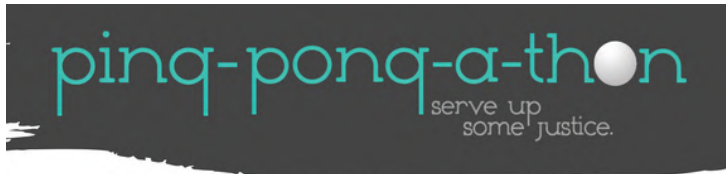
Let us continue to keep our eyes fixed on Him as we journey together, united in purpose and in faith.



2024 Trivia Night - Heroes vs Villains



2025 Term 1 MOT - Shrove Tuesday



August 15-16

PING PONG -A- THON



BY JOEL SCHILLER

We are ponging on August 15 – 16, Friday to Saturday.

This will be our seventh Ping Pong A Thon and we have raised just shy of \$68,000 over our previous six events which is huge! This total not only includes the donations from people within our community but extends far into our networks of family and friends. I'm confident that this year we can crack the \$80,000!

Let's focus and remember that we are being the hands and feet of Jesus by setting captives free!

This year's event will feature everything we know and love about the Pong, but with a slight difference... What will that be? You will have to wait and see.



“...we can crack the \$80,000!”

BE THE CHANGE VOLUNTEER & MAKE THE DIFFERENCE



CAFE CONNECT NEEDS HELP!
Become a volunteer today!

We are flexible:

- MORNINGS
- AFTERNOONS
- WEEKLY
- FORTNIGHTLY
- CASUAL

Training provided

? For more information please see Robert in Church Office



YOUR TIME, EFFORT, AND PRESENCE AS A VOLUNTEER WILL MAKE A WORLD OF A DIFFERENCE THROUGHOUT THE GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN COMMUNITY!



National Volunteer Week is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering. This special event provides an opportunity to highlight the important role of volunteers in our community and invites people not currently volunteering to give it a go.

As Café Connect is a volunteer operated business, we acknowledge and thank all our current volunteers, but we are in need of more. Our café is valued throughout our community and has become a place to build awesome community relationships, provide great hospitality and show through service, the wonderful good news of Jesus Christ. However we can not operate without volunteers.

If you would like to learn a new skill and have some time to commit, come on in to Café Connect and let us know.





ARISE YOUTH

BY JOEL SCHILLER
YOUTH COORDINATOR



In 2025 at Arise Youth we are setting our gaze on Christ by digging into scripture and discovering what God has to say to us. Yes, this year we have laid down a Bible reading challenge for our youth to take part in. Together we are discovering what God has to say to us in scripture, which has led to our youth intrigued to find out more, and asking questions about what they are reading.

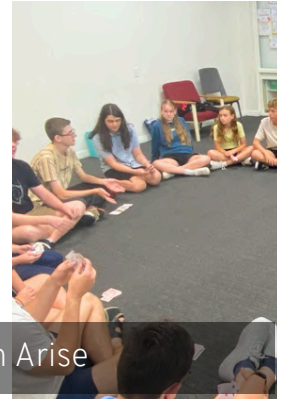
We also had a workshop night where our youth were equipped with Bible tools they can use when diving into scripture, such as Bible chain referencing, creative drawing using scriptures, and how to note take during sermons.

We've also had a panel time where our youth have been inquisitive, wanting to find out the answers to questions they've had, such as 'What are some things that have helped you through hard times?' or 'What is your favourite scripture and why?'.
 As usual at Easter we have our **Night to Remember** event for years 10-12, an opportunity to reflect and engage with the Easter story, and what the final hours of Jesus on earth looked like for him and his disciples.

Lastly, thank you to everyone who supported our bake sale stall at the GGLPS Sports Day on March 21. We raised a reasonable amount which will go towards reducing costs for our Arise merchandise.



Youth Arise



Workshop Night



Whisk it All!



Bake Sale @ Sports Day

A Night To Remember

Reflecting on Jesus' Sacrifice
April 17 - 18

Maunder Thursday Service | 7pm - 8pm
All welcome
Overnight* | Years 10-12 | 8pm - 10:30am

*Bible studies, Station of the cross, worship, chill, Hot Cross Bun breakfast
Those staying overnight need sleeping gear, bible and pen*

* Years 10-12 RSVP to Joel by Wednesday April 16 for catering purposes

Questions? Contact Joel Schiller on 0411 084 071

GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH



DAY CONNECT GROUP

BY ROSALIE HOKLAS

This group began many years ago as a need in the congregation. We were looking at ways that we could focus on Jesus and build relationships and connections with others in the church and school community.

The group began meeting in a room in the school and eventually our home base became Pastor's office.

We meet every two weeks on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 10am – 11:30am. The format is cuppa and a chat, a Bible study and we finish with prayer.

How do we focus on Jesus and keep our eyes fixed on Him?

We delve into Gods word - the Bible, to find out who He is, what are His characteristics, the truth that He speaks, what is God saying from the biblical events, and what is He saying to us today. We learn so much about God's great love for us and His gift of GRACE to us through the death and resurrection of His only Son – Jesus. Why wouldn't we want to keep our lives focussed on Jesus?

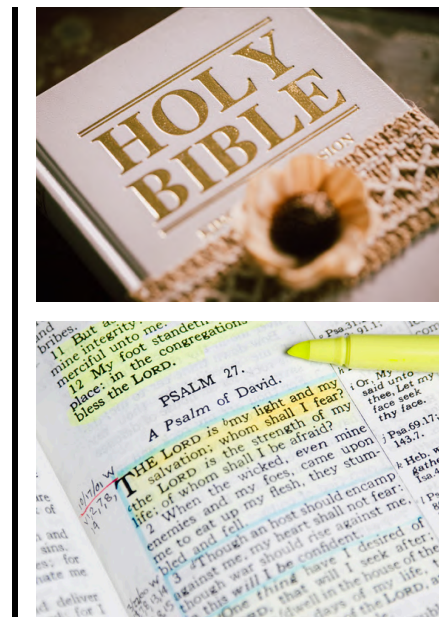
We dig deep and share what we discover finding lots of little gems. God speaks to each of us in different ways so our understanding and relationship with God grows. We have looked at the Psalms, parables, Jesus' healing, miracles of Jesus, resurrection events, death of Jesus, themes from synod, a funeral or church message, a single verse or a large part of scripture. We also have been using a video Faith series once a month by Ray Vanderlaan who shares biblical historical scenes and then relates them to this day.

“The beautiful outcome of this group is seeing faith grow...and prayer life become very active.”

When our eyes are focused on Jesus, we then can build our relationships with each other, to care, encourage, support and pray for one another and for the many needs and people of our congregation.

The beautiful outcome of this group is seeing faith grow, our relationship with Jesus' blossom and prayer life become very active. It is wonderful to see some of the group sit together at church and make connections with others during the week with cuppas or phone calls.

If you are looking at ways to help you focus on Jesus and build your relationship with Jesus, chat with Rosalie Hoklas, or come along on a Thursday morning to see what you think, or leave your name at the church office, and we will be in contact. We would love to see you and you would be most welcome.



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY?



GGLC Confirmation Service ~ 3 November 2024



GGLC Thanksgiving Service ~ 9 March 2025



Baptism - Sam Ridley @ Point Malcolm 6 April 2025



IGNITE YOUTH



BY LAUREN NEUMANN

What an amazing beginning to 2025 we have had with our junior youth 'Ignite'. Our opening games and BBQ night were well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was lovely to see some new faces amongst the old. Children played a variety of games in the worship centre before sharing a BBQ dinner with their families.

Our next event was a rather 'wet' one with water night being the focus. We explored the idea of Jesus walking on water and keeping our eyes focused on him as we go through life. Children then played a variety of games including drip, drip drop (a water variant of duck, duck, goose) as well as enjoying a water slide and a huge water fight including water balloons at the end.

It is lovely to see children connecting with different leaders and we thank those who are assisting us in this program.

“It was lovely to see some new faces amongst the old.”



Messy Music

MESSY MUSIC



BY LAUREN NEUMANN

“Children have been engaged in a variety of sensory and craft activities each week...”

This term in Messy Music we have been focusing on community helpers. We have explored emergency services to teachers and shop workers. Children have been engaged in a variety of sensory and craft activities each week as well as a music session. Children are ranging from 6 months to 5 years each week and whilst we continue to see our number fluctuate due to illness, it is lovely to see a core group of children.

We have also been blessed with connecting with Wynn Vale Kindy next door and having them come and attend a music session. I will also be taking the program to Homestead Community Childcare and running a session with them over there.

Once again thank you to the amazing volunteers I have each week come and assist. The playgroup coordinators from the school are leading with courage and cheerfulness each week and it is a blessing to have the year 5 and 6 students support the program each week.





TIGHT LINES



GOLDEN GROVE AMATEUR FISHING

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

Our club focusses on fishing and building relationships. During this Easter season we are reminded how important it is to focus on Jesus. His love for us was so great He died and rose again to give us new life in Him.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 2nd February

30 members attended the AGM held at the GGLPS Conference Room.

Following tabling of reports from the President and Treasurer the following members were elected to the Committee this year:

President – Graeme Hoklas

Vice President – Peter Van Loggem

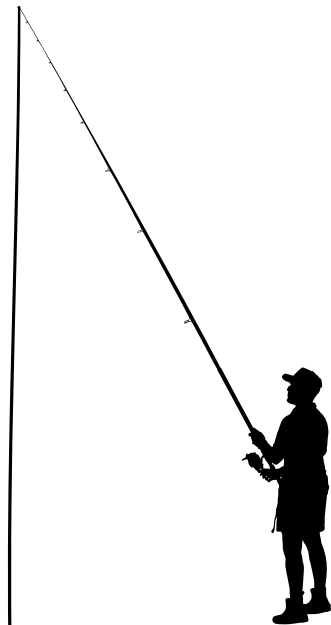
Secretary – Keith Scott

Treasurer – Chris Simanis

Other Committee Members – Ian Zimmermann, Geoff Hill & Mark Caldicott

Congratulations to Keith Scott on his election as new Secretary following retirement of Christine McCulloch.

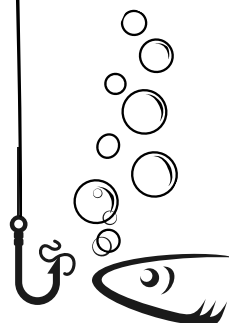
The 2025 program outlined to members includes first time visits to Normanville and Lake Bonney and return to Kingston-On-Murray Caravan Park for the annual camp in October.



Annual Membership is unchanged:
Seniors \$20
Juniors (under 16) \$5.



GGAF AGM





Goolwa Beach



The Cockling Carusos



Sausage Sizzle Cooks



Jaralde Park for Lunch



Goolwa Cocklers

Website:

<https://www.gglc.org.au/church/index.php/ministries/ggaf>

Enquiries to Graeme Hoklas

0419 828 091 or hoklasgr@gmail.com

COCKLING at GOOLWA BEACH



Saturday 8th February 9am

49 cocklers attended an excellent family day at Goolwa Beach. Cockles were plentiful along the beach to the right of the car park (no four-wheel drive vehicles required). Those keen to gather the bag limit (330 per person) were not disappointed. The weather was comfortable. After cockling and the opportunity to freshen up GGAF provided a BBQ sausage sizzle at Jaralde Park near the Goolwa Wharf. Thanks to GGLPS for use of their BBQ trailer.

CRABBING at WEBB BEACH

Saturday 15th March 10am



After monitoring the weather at Webb Beach the GGAF Committee decided to cancel the crabbing. The combination of severe heat (38 degrees) and moderate to strong winds would have made crabbing difficult and lunch and crab cooking uncomfortable afterwards.

REMAINING PROGRAM FOR 2025

6th April (Sunday)

Cadell-Claxton Reserve 10 am- 4 pm

3rd May (Saturday)

Normanville 10 am – 4 pm

2nd June (Monday)

Spot On Tackle Night

27th June–30th June (Fri-Mon)

Lake Bonney Caravan Park (Barmera) & Moorook

26th July (Saturday)

Ardrossan Jetty 10 am – 4 pm

31st August (Sunday)

West Lakes 9 am–2 pm

10th-12th October (Fri-Sun)

Annual Camp at Kingston On Murray Caravan Park

19th October (Sunday)

Community Fete 10.30am at GGLC/GGLPS

15th November (Saturday)

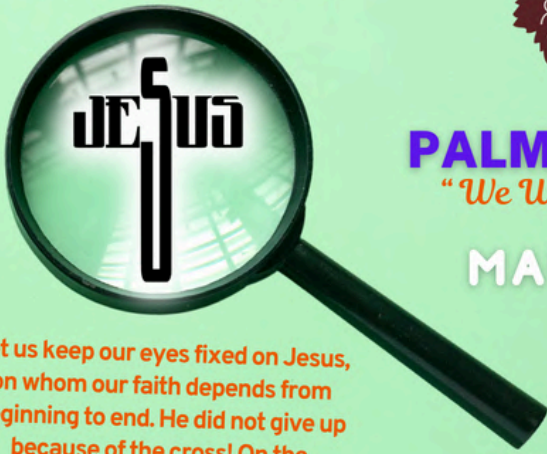
Presentation Night at GGLC 6.30 pm

Note: Events may be subject to change.

"Focus on Jesus"



2025 EASTER SERVICES



Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end. He did not give up because of the cross! On the contrary, because of the joy that was waiting for him, he thought nothing of the disgrace of dying on the cross, and he is now seated at the right side of God's throne.

Hebrews 12:2

PALM SUNDAY 13th April - 9.30 am & 6.30pm
"We Welcome Jesus"

MAUNDY THURSDAY 17th April - 7 pm
"Jesus at the Centre"

GOOD FRIDAY 18th April - 9.30 am
"Jesus Paid it all"

EASTER SUNDAY 20th April - 9.30 am
"Jesus' Triumphant Victory"

CELEBRATE WITH US THIS EASTER
Broadcasting All Services LIVE - Please visit www.gglc.org.au for links

OPEN
8 to 11am
2.30 to 4pm
Mon - Fri
School Term Days

dine in or
takeaway

cafeconnect



Growing with God in a Loving Community

"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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GGLC YouTube

Golden Grove Lutheran Church and the Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA) is committed to providing a safe church environment for children and young people. For more information please visit LCA Child Safety Standards for Congregations <https://www.lca.org.au/child-safety-standards/>