



Jesus said, "I am the vine.
You are the branches."
John 15.5

*Our mission: "Making
Christ known in the
community so that all
may worship Him
and receive the gift of
eternal life"*

GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

www.gglf.org.au

*Our goal:
Care,
Communicate,
Connect
so that people
know CHRIST.*



Pastor Leon Rosenberg

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Tea & coffee is available in the Fellowship Centre following morning service

Please feel welcome to join us.

16th December 2012—3rd Sunday of Advent

WELCOME to all worshipping with us today

Greetings to any visitors here with us. We are pleased to have you join us and we trust you have felt welcomed and pray the Holy Spirit may enlighten and empower us with the message shared today.

Before Worship

The Gospel reading (**Luke 3:7-18**) today continues the passage from last week about John the Baptist. His confrontational style might stun us- especially when we consider he is addressing those who came out to be baptized by him. What was John calling for? The "fruit of repentance" - in other words to show that you mean what you say, instead of seeing that as your right ("we are children of Abraham"). It begs the question of us, "What should we do?" John answered the crowd and in particular the tax collectors and the soldiers. But what would he say to you in your position (your vocation)? This led to the query of whether John was in fact the Messiah- the long expected one. This in turn led to John's wonderful description of Jesus' ministry (in verses 16, 17): he "baptizes with the Holy Spirit and fire", he judges and takes care of his own: "His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." (Verse 17)

I hope you can rejoice in that, because the second reading (**Philippians 4:4-7**) calls on us to rejoice – rejoice, in a gentle way. Why? Because "The Lord is near". But what about all the worries we have? He gives an answer to that: Prayer. Listen for the blessing of peace this text gives.

The first reading (**Zephaniah 3:14-20**) also has that theme of joy. The Lord is victorious. I love Verse 17 *The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.* Just think of it: The Lord rejoices over us! He rescues us, he gathers, he actually praises and honours US. What's more he brings us home and restores us! This is a picture of heaven but may we have a glimpse of it in faith, in this life-time.

Prayer: Father please give us the faith to believe your promises, the peace of knowing you have all things under control and the joy to celebrate what you are doing for us. Father, may we show the fruit of repentance. Show us we pray, just what that fruit would be in our life. Amen.

Pastor Leon

Worship Opportunities

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Today 16th Dec | 9.30 am | Contemporary worship NO Salt Factory worship at GGLF—TTG Carols in Civic Park 7.00 pm |
| Sunday 23rd Dec | 9.30 am 6.30 pm | Contemporary worship with HC Presentation of the Christmas Drama |
| Monday 24th Dec | 7.00 pm 9.30 am | Christmas Eve drama presentation Christmas Day service with HC |

Family Friendly Worship

At Golden Grove, we love everybody to be involved in worship.

Please encourage children and visitors to join in the singing and prayers, and to stand and sit at appropriate times when they are able. This is best done by leading by example!

For our 'little ones' - Quiet bags & busy books are available for worship time from the children's area inside the church.

The "Kids at Heart" team run a **QUIET** craft table during the sermon. That way, the children have some time with their parents during the morning services, and also a little bit of time to be creative, to wriggle around and to learn about our God and what He means to us through artistic activities, with their friends. All children are welcome to join in this time. It is not appropriate for unattended children to play in the foyer at any time during the service. Please ask an usher if you require assistance, or speak to a "Ministry Leader" if you would like to help young families during worship times.

Thank you for worshipping with us!

Pastor's Column

Today on our count down or up to Christmas (we light 3 candles of the Advent wreath- "the candle of Joy"), we have the newly ordained and soon to be installed at Brinkworth parish, Pastor James Leach preaching. He is preaching on **Philippians 4:4-7**- one of my favourite Bible verses: *Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

You are encouraged to join the community in the **TTG Carols at Civil Park**. There will be **no Salt Factory worship this evening**.

The **"Kid's at Heart"** team are preparing the **"Inn Keeper's Surprise"** for next Sunday. I hope you can make it. (Dakota will also be baptised on that day.)

That evening is the matinee performance of **"When God Almighty came to be one of us"**. It is also a great opportunity to gain confidence in the play to invite your friends. *Why not pick up a few flyers from the foyer to promote and remind people of this great out-reach event.*

At this time of the year we strongly support Australian Lutheran World Service (Our offering on the evenings of the Christmas' play presentation and also through our promotion of "Gifts of Grace") and Lutheran Community Care. However Matt and Mel Bishop have alerted me to another very worthwhile and urgent appeal: **The Syrian Refugee Appeal**. See the article in this Weekly Bulletin. If you would like to know more about the Appeal see Matt or Mel and if you would like to donate we can put you onto the website or put it into the offering plate in an envelope marked "Syrian Refugee Appeal".

On the front cover of the Weekly Bulletin we featured a section entitled **"Two Minutes"** where members of the congregation could present their own devotion based on the Bible readings for the day. Unfortunately the roster of those who wrote this devotion was getting smaller and smaller until only a few people were doing it. So we decided that I would replace that with something I would write and we called it **"Before Worship"**. If you would like to see the concept of "Two Minutes" reinstated in the new year, please let Judith know that you would like to be on the roster to do this.

Last week in the address I challenged us to pray (every day in Advent) the prayer to prepare (for Christmas) based on Philippians 1:9-11. This is the prayer: *Father, may our love abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that we may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled us with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ--to your glory and praise. Amen.*

I announced last Sunday that I have declined the call to **Burrumbuttock**. With the declining of this call it means a re-commitment of God's ministry here at Golden Grove and a beginning of a new chapter (however long that chapter is). I also feel that the Absolution last Sunday and the Sunday before (after the Day of Repentance) is significant as a basis from which to move forward.

I am excited about:

- The **same theme** for the Sunday and the school week (including our Friday morning worship). *I have themes for the first 6 months of 2013 and the bands are already working on songs for those Sundays.*
- The congregation using the **Daily Bible Readings** (listed on the back page of each Bulletin and in booklets available)
- The Manna Team ensuring that we get out a **text or email** to the wider congregation on the messages for the coming Sunday.
- **Visiting the Fellowship Groups** (on invitation)
- The possibility of a **mid-week Pastor led Bible Study**- (if there is interest)
- Closer cooperation with **other churches**.
- Taking up Judith's vision of a **prayer group** that meets regularly (for prayer, encouragement and training)
- Toying with the idea of having a **flexible day off each week** (either Thursday or Friday-*ie. taking Thursday off if I find ministry is taking up too much of my Friday*)
- Exploring the concept of **"The Golden Grove Way"**. (a term adapted from Endeavour) - More next Bulletin.

Salt Factory

REMEMBER THERE IS NO SALT FACTORY SERVICE THIS EVENING



Instead you are encouraged to go along to the

Tea Tree Gully Carols in Civic Park at 7pm

What a great thing God is doing

Update on monies received from
Day Pay Challenge : \$11 300
FFF Dinner \$ 4 500

Let us give thanks

Some encouragement from a "Two Minutes" contributor

It is nice to be able to contribute something to the worship life of our congregation but the thing I like about it the best is the in-depth thinking you do to prepare it. That gives you personally so much more than just the 2 minutes worth everyone else receives and then for the actual Sunday it makes the worship come alive more, God has prepared the 'soil' and it's ready to receive more of the good seed! I would encourage everyone to have a go. *Margey Knapp*

Seeking new Editor of Life in the Vine

This is an opportunity for a keen individual to serve the church and school communities by producing the Life in the Vine magazine from 2013.

Duties included sourcing articles from members of our community that have news or stories to share, and producing the magazine in an electronic format.

If you are interested or have any further queries, please email litv@gglf.org.au.

Pastor Leon

RosTers

for Next Sunday 23rd December

| PA + Opening/Closing up | Power-point | Music Group | Greeters/ Ushers | Readers 9.30 am only | Children's Address 9.30 am | Prayers 9.30 am only | Assistants with HC | Flowers | Church Cleaning | Salt Factory Catering |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Leon Pfeffer | Tanya Wilson | Pfeffer's | Hoklas | J & T Rawolle | Lesley Friedrich | Pastor Leon | Allen Kupke Pastor Len | Leanne Schiller | | |
| | | | Ken C | | | | | | | School hols No meal |



KIDS AT HEART Children's Christmas Play

During the morning service next Sunday 23rd December the children will be presenting a Christmas play called "The Innkeeper's Surprise".

Children are very welcome to take part in the play.

There will be a practice **today** during the Kid's time and on Saturday 22nd December at 10.00 am.

Please let me know if you wish to be involved by phoning 0402 036 183 or leave note in our pigeon hole.

Thanks Lesley Friedrich

There is still time to experience the Joy of Sharing this Christmas...

Lutheran Community Care still requires help to assist the 100's who will access our services in the coming months.

If you have not already done so, could you help by making a donation to support the increase in demand for our services at Christmas and in the New Year?

A donation of \$50 can supply a hamper to an individual or small family while \$100 can supply a hamper to a larger family. Experience the joy of sharing this Christmas by donating to our 2012 Christmas Appeal. You can visit our website www.lccare.org.au or call our office at 08 8269 9333 to help families in need this Christmas. All donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.

ALWS Christmas Action packs

These packs offer another opportunity of reflecting God's love we celebrate at Christmas to others around us and have been placed in your pigeon holes.

ALWS focus this year is Burundi, the third least developed country in the world. The help given through donations is hands-on and practical and includes help for farmers to grow bananas and pineapples.

The Lutheran Community Care 2012 Christmas CD is still available. Featuring nearly 500 students from 19 Lutheran Schools, 'A Christmas Note 2012' mixes choirs, bands and bells performing classic Christmas carols all on one disc.

The perfect gift for family and friends or the ideal Christmas dinner background music, the CD is available for \$25 +postage. Contact Lutheran Community Care's State Office at 08 8269 9333 for more information or to purchase a CD. For a complete list of schools and songs, visit www.lccare.org.au.

Syrian Refugee Appeal

In Lebanon, a tiny country of 4 million people, preparations are taking place as an influx of **over 100,000 Syrian refugees** floods across the border. With such huge numbers of displaced peoples, the Lebanese government and the aid agencies in the area are struggling to cope with the humanitarian crisis.

As winter rapidly approaches these Syrian refugees are driven to leave their homes by violence and great fear. They are not only suffering **physical hardship** but **deep emotional turmoil**. They have found housing in tents, in flats - some unfurnished - and in schools and churches. Questions that face them every day are, 'How long will our meager supplies of money last? How will we get our kids into schools? Where will we find a doctor?' **There is no peace for a refugee.**

OM Australia is working with partner agencies in Lebanon to help provide relief. The following is what is being distributed:

Monthly Food Pack

A monthly food pack consists of milk, rice, sugar, beans, spaghetti, oil, processed cheese, processed meat, tomato paste, tea, chickpeas, lentils, toilet paper and tissues. The cost of this is **\$75 per family**. Families larger than eight will require two such food packages per month.

Winterisation Pack

The winterisation pack consists of a small stove, one blanket per person and two carpets. Families with small children will additionally receive milk and nappies. The cost of this is **\$120 per family** (for up to five family members).

While a hot Christmas approaches here in Australia, a **bitter winter is setting in on the Near East**. Hungry children need to be fed and kept warm. As you prepare for Christmas this year, please **consider the peace and joy your family could bring to a Syrian family** through the provision of food and warmth.

Daily Bible Readings for this week

Monday: (17/12/12) Ephesians 1:15—2:7
 Tuesday: (18/12/12) Ephesians 2:8-22
 Wednesday:(19/12/12) Ephesians 3:1-13
 Thursday: (20/12/12) Ephesians 3:14-21
 Friday: (21/12/12) Ephesians 4:1-16
 Saturday: (22/12/12) Luke 1:[46b]47-55
 Sunday: (23/12/12) Micah 5:2-5
 Hebrews 10:5-19
 Luke 1:39-45



2013 Aust Christian Diary
 Copies of these diaries are now available for sale at \$10 each from Judith Whaites. They are a great size to carry and have the daily bible readings for each day. Contact Admin office by phone or email if you would like to purchase one.



Welcome to Christian Vision Australia

Promoting Papua New Guinea (A Christian web site, reaching the world for Jesus.)

Includes a movie on the latest visit to Asaroka, photos a radio link....and more.

Web site address:

www.christianvisionpng.info/

LCC Christmas Hampers -

Collect Donations and/or Volunteer

We are also in need of Volunteers to help with the registration, packing and distribution of Christmas Hampers at Blair Athol. If you are interested in volunteering this year please call 08 8269 9300 and ask to speak to Audene or Verity.



Check out our online advent calendar at www.happyland.com.au

Click on a new star every day to discover more about Christmas.

There are videos to watch, recipes to create, and other fun surprises every day leading up to Christmas!

Lutheran Media Ministry



LCA, SA/NT District

District Office
 Job Opportunity

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

37.5 hours per week
 (negotiable)

Contact Judy Gilbertson on
 8267 5211 or 0400208184

Email: districtadministrator@sa.lca.org.au for information and job description

Applications close

Friday 11th of January 2013
Office closed 21st Dec – 7th Jan 13

Aid for Hearing Impaired

As an aid for the hearing impaired, the service is transmitted on 88.3 MHz FM radio.

Prayer Chain

Means a lot of people praying about an urgent or special need. For urgent prayer requests during the week you are invited to contact one of following people and the prayer chain will be set in progress. (Pastor Len & Claire Tscharke, Tanya Wilson, Judith Whaites.)

All requests will be kept confidential.

The prayer chain is available for everyone in both the church and school communities. Likewise if anybody feels they would like to be a part of the prayer chain we'd love you to join us.

Worship recording

Each service is recorded. DVD's can be ordered for a \$5 donation. See the Church Office.

Bibles

Bibles are available at the back of the church so that you can follow the Readings and Bible references in the Sermon.

We offer you one of these Bibles to take home, if you need one, and possibly bring back each week (so that *the one you use at home is the one you use in church*). If you would like to make a donation towards it - \$10 would be appreciated.

Meals Ministry

(A practical way we can share & show God's love)
Families rostered to support Meals Ministry in Dec. are: Heinrich and Thiel

When donating meals for the freezer we ask that you please attach some details to the container, eg name of the meal, date meal was prepared, a list of main ingredients, and heating instructions. Thank you.

Library

Don't forget the Library is open for browsing and borrowing.

Christian greeting cards always for sale from the Mobile Unit in the Fellowship Centre — Cost \$2 .

Pastor Leon's Message

is available in printed copy form immediately after the service from the Church Foyer . Please feel welcome to take a copy home.

Internet access

to weekly GGLF bulletin, Sermon, Life in the Vine, rosters and other info. You can get to it by going to www.gglf.org.au and then clicking Files.

Stamps For Missions

Remember to keep collecting your used postage stamps for missions. Box in Foyer.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

 Thurs 20 Dec Chris Thiel
 Sue Neale
 Sat 22 Dec Keith Gillard
 We hope your special day is
 blessed with God's love & grace

GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor: Leon Rosenberg

GGLPS Principal: Daryl Trigg

Youth Worker

Jason Kupke (0403 180 607)

Church Office Secretary:

Judith Whaites

Church Office:

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Office times

Mon-Fri 9.30am—12.30 pm

Board of Management & Ministry

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Luke Napier

Elder/Pastoral Care

Elnora Schmocker

Extra Member

Margot Mertin

Principal

(ex officio)

Pastor

(ex officio)

Treasurer

Simon Williams

GGLF Attendance & Offerings

(Offerings do not include electronic giving amount of approx \$12000 per month .)

The LLL Account No. for GGLF Regular Electronic Giving is 28190/S1/GOL

To transfer money into the LLL Golden Grove Lutheran Fellowship REG A/c please use:

BSB (Branch) number - 704942 and Account No. - 28190

| | | Attendance | Offerings |
|----------|---------|------------|-----------|
| Sun 9/12 | 9.30 am | 119 | \$1577.90 |
| | 6.30 pm | 35 | \$ 210.90 |

Total giving for November 2012
 (through REG & weekly giving) is \$19,246.86

Monthly average income required to meet budgeted expenditure \$18 350