

**Pastor Leon Rosenberg**

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**14th December 2008— 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 with us today.



Tea & coffee is available in the Fellowship Centre following morning service and at 5.45 pm a light tea is available prior to the evening service at 6.30 pm. Please feel welcome to join us.


**TWO MINUTES**

"They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendour. They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities". *Isaiah 61v 3,4.*

There is nothing more majestic than the sight of a very old tree with its huge knarled trunk, countless branches of all sizes and shapes that spread a huge canopy of shade and seem to continue to reach up into the sky as though it had a mission to keep on reaching out. This is especially true of oak trees. Despite wars, disease, famine and flood, they seem to live forever, giving a sense of security in an ever changing world; the acorns providing sustenance for wild life and also new seedlings which will go on to grow into beautiful trees! This is how I see God in all his glory and faithfulness. The great "I Am" and the "Ancient of Days" is always there for us, ready to shelter us, to protect us, to rebuild us, restore us, provide for us and reach out to us. All we have to do is to trust Him and no matter what happens, He will always be there, sure and continuous, in all His splendour, just like the oak trees. I may be getting old, but I am continually "gobsmacked" at how great our God is! Thank you Lord.

**Pauline Taylor**

**Worship Opportunities**

|   |                             |                                  |   |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
|  <p><b>Readings for today</b><br/><b>Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11</b><br/><b>1 Thess. 5:16-24</b><br/><b>John 1:6-8, 19-28</b></p> <p>Readings for 21st Dec<br/>2 Sam. 7:1-11, 16<br/>Rom. 16:25-27<br/>Luke 1:26-38</p> | <b>Today 14th Dec</b>       | <b>9.30 am</b><br><b>6.30 pm</b> | Contemporary worship with HC<br>Salt Factory worship                    |
|   | <b>Sunday 21st Dec</b>      | <b>9.30 am</b><br><b>6.30 pm</b> | Contemporary worship<br>Christmas Play ( <i>First Dress Rehearsal</i> ) |
|   | <b>Christmas Eve 24 Dec</b> | <b>7.00 pm</b>                   | Christmas Eve Drama " <b>The Shoe Box</b> "                             |
|   | <b>Christmas Day 25 Dec</b> | <b>9.30 am</b>                   | Christmas Day worship with HC   |
|   | <b>Sunday 28th Dec</b>      | <b>9.30 am</b><br><b>6.30 pm</b> | Contemporary worship with HC<br>Salt Factory worship                    |

**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 in the church.

**Activity sheets for young readers and writers—Families with children of all ages, please notice there are new activity sheets (e.g. word puzzles) available for various age groups. The sheets will be changed over periodically. Please help yourself - they can be found with the children's toys, pens and papers etc.**

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

Welcome to our worship this morning. We are taking up the character of Simon in the sermon series this morning. This series is based on the text below: **Luke 7:36-50**. The theme is "How do we respond to God's love", especially his love at Christmas.

<sup>36</sup> When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. <sup>37</sup> A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. <sup>38</sup> As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

<sup>39</sup> When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

<sup>40</sup> Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you."

"Tell me, teacher," he said.

<sup>41</sup> "Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, <sup>42</sup> and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

<sup>43</sup> Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven."

"You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

<sup>44</sup> Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.

<sup>45</sup> You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. <sup>46</sup> You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. <sup>47</sup> Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little."

<sup>48</sup> Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

<sup>49</sup> The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

<sup>50</sup> Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

We are getting so close to Christmas. I hope you are using this time just to think about what God has done for you at Christmas and letting the people around you and those you come across know of God's love for them in Jesus by what you do and what you say, how you treat them and how you remember them in your cards and letters.

We are also approaching 2009. Please note the advance dates below

**Thank you to Pastor Len and the whole team of Friends of Asaroka and those that hosted and supported our friends from Papua New Guinea.** It was our small way of reminding the people of PNG and ourselves here in the LCA that we are still in partnership with the church there.

**Advance Dates in 2009:** (from last few week's Bulletin)

- Pastor's annual leave **29/12/08-11/1/09**
- Confirmation/Rev 320m Camp; **16-18/1/09**
- Sundays in January at 6.30-7.30m: **4,11,18,25/1/09** : a DVD series in the worship centre (instead of Salt Factory worship)
- Thanksgiving Sunday: "Rest, work and play" and school staff and Teachers' installation service: **1/2/09**
- The next Gathering proposed date **14/2/09**.
- Confirmation Service: **22/2/09**
- Everyday Evangelism: Wednesday; **4, 11, 18, 25/3/09**

Pastor Leon

**Thanks for being with us over these last two weeks. What a wonderful blessing it has been for us all. May God bless you as you return home to Goroka and your families on Tuesday.**



## Salt Factory Worship

**Tonight: 6.30 pm service**

**Reminder there will be NO Salt Factory catering during the school holiday period, ie 14th Dec 2008—1st Feb 2009.**

## YOUTH SPOT

There is a camp meeting today (Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec), at 4:30pm. If you are planning to be a leader at the REV 320 camp please come to this meeting even if you haven't been a part of the process so far. We would love to see you there!! So this meeting is for everyone interested in leading at the camp.

Thankyou to all the leaders who have helped out with the youth events this year! It has been a fun year with many different events and much planning. So thankyou for your commitment and involvement in the events and the meetings. 😊

We are still looking for people to be involved in Salt Factory services next year. If this interests you please come and talk to me about how you can help. Thank you!

Alyssa 😊

## NEW FEATURES FOR OUR CHURCH

**A new Song Request Book** – is in the foyer. All requests considered! If you'd like to be contacted when your choice is to be played, please put your name in the book too.

**Coming soon to the Library – STORY TIME!**



**Scene 3 Children's Practice  
for Christmas Play TODAY  
after morning service.**

Also practice after morning service next  
Sunday 21st Dec.

**QUIET Christmas Craft available TODAY**

for the little ones in the children's area (*to the right  
of the seating*) after the Children's Address.  
Older children who wish to assist are welcome to join  
in.

**Christmas craft evening  
for Christmas Eve service**

**Tuesday 16th December at 7.30 pm**

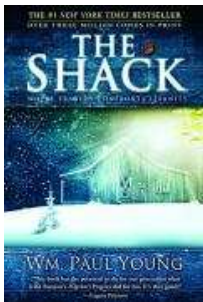
at Alison Ahrens' place, (47 Yulinda Tce, Gulfview  
Heights). Please bring old Christmas cards.

**ALL WELCOME.**

**Christmas Flyers for  
our Christmas service times**

You are invited to take some A5 Christmas flyers  
available from the Church Foyer for distribution in  
your neighbourhood and to friends and family.  
There are also a few A4 size flyers available if anyone  
would like to take one and put it up at your local shop-  
ping centre. *Thank you*

**St Stephen's congregation and the choir of St Pe-  
ters, Blackwood invite you to join them for Les-  
sons and Carols, with Holy Communion, at 11 pm  
Christmas Eve at St Stephen's Lutheran  
Church, 152 Wakefield Street, Adelaide."**



**"The Shack" by William P Young**

I highly recommend this book. It is avail-  
able from our library and in many book-  
shops. (I found "Word" to be the cheap-  
est). Yes, like the blurb on the back  
cover - it gave me both tears and laugh-  
ter. It's very well written. I love the depic-  
tion of God. It answers in a novel style  
many of the questions we have about  
suffering, why did God let it happen, how  
to deal with loss. It is a great Christmas present and an  
evangelism tool - especially if you would talk about the  
book with the person you give it to.

Pastor Leon

**FREE to give away**

Cream tubular single bed (mattress not included).  
Excellent condition.

Contact Di Collins 0431 373 616



**Approaching Marriage**

Next **Saturday 20th December at 1.30 pm**  
**Renee Rogers & Matthew Swift** will cele-  
brate their marriage in our church.  
Please feel welcome to come along and  
share this special occasion with them.  
You are also welcome to stay for Coffee  
and Cake after the ceremony.

**Wanted: pre-loved toys and books**

It's time to tidy up / top up the children's busy bags to keep  
our little ones entertained during services.

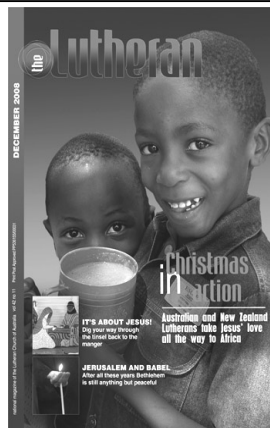
If anyone is having a clear out, please consider donating clean,  
small, quiet toys and books, especially board books, so they  
can be loved some more!

There is a box in the foyer at the library end for your kind do-  
nations!

If there are any questions, please ask Lesley Friedrich,  
0402036183.

**The Australian Christian Diary 2009**

Three copies of this diary are available for purchase at  
\$10 each. If you would like to purchase one please see  
Judith.



**DECEMBER EDITION OUT  
NOW!**

Looking for a gift  
that lasts all year?  
A subscription to  
*The Lutheran*

**40% more magazine for the same low  
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land

Contact LCA Subscriptions: 08 8360 727  
lutheran.subs@lca.org.au

**Offering Envelopes for 2009**



Sets of offering envelopes are available from  
the entrance table for GGLF members 18  
years and over. For married couples only one  
set has been allocated per couple.

We also remind you of the opportunity of giving electroni-  
cally via the REG (Regular Electronic Giving) system.  
Forms and information about this method of giving are  
available from the Church Foyer. If you decide you would  
like to take up this option details on the form for our con-  
gregation are Golden Grove Congregation REG Account  
No 28190 S1 GOL at the LLL (BSB No 704-942).

For members who already use the REG system for giving  
please consider using a specially printed card (available  
from the entrance table in Church Foyer) to place in the  
offering plate rather than taking a set of envelopes.

Prayer Opportunities

**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. (Chris Hahn, Jan Wegener, Pastor Len & Claire Tscharke, Catherine & Wim Belgraver, Joan Hochwald, 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.

Video Ministry

Each service is video taped, with copies available immediately after each service. Please see the library to loan a copy. Even if you can't make it to the service, you can still participate in worship.

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 December are: Knapp, Neale & Nelson.

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

GGLF Attendance & Offerings

(Offerings do not include electronic giving amount of \$9567 per month from 35 contributors.)

|             | Attendance | Offerings |
|-------------|------------|-----------|
| Sunday 7/12 | 9.30 am    | \$        |
|             | 6.30 pm    | \$        |

**LLL 2009 calendars & annual reports**

Available today from our Church Foyer.

**POSITION VACANT**



**LCA, SA/NT District**

District Office  
Job Opportunity

Part Time Receptionist  
15 hours over 3 days per week  
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

Contact Judi or Helen on 8267 5211 or email [admin@sa.lca.org.au](mailto:admin@sa.lca.org.au) for information and job description.

**Applications close  
Friday 9 January 2008**

Please note the District office will be closed 12noon 19 December 2008 opened 5 January 2009

**House sitting**

Have your house 'sat' by a Canadian Lutheran Pastor and his wife, who will be in SA during March 2009 up until Easter (early April). Garry is a university chaplain at Concordia University College, Alberta and will be involved with the tertiary ministry when he is here with us. He is an experienced pastor of the ELCIC and wants to both learn from us and share his ministry with us. If you know of any possibilities for accommodation while he is here in SA, please contact Pastor Mike Pietsch (8370 3615 or 0409 725 573).

**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](http://www.gglf.org.au) and then clicking Files.



**LUTHERAN MEDIA**

Also refer to flyer on noticeboard for program details.

**RADIO—Listen to FACE TO FACE**

Download or listen online at [www.facetoface.org.au](http://www.facetoface.org.au)

14<sup>th</sup> Dec Getting Along With Others

So many people today are suffering as a result of broken relationships. They feel hurt, deceived, betrayed and angry. Their feeling of self-worth has been undermined and they believe that they've failed. Join Richard Mau. this week on *Face to Face*. He'll be talking about how the powerful gift of self-control can help you get along more peacefully with others.

21<sup>st</sup> Dec Christmas Is For Everyone— Pastor John Henderson

25<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Special "Christmas In The Bush "

**WEBSITES—**

For Christmas news, resources and free E-cards go to

[www.lca.org.au](http://www.lca.org.au)

Discover what's available on [www.lutheranmedia.org.au](http://www.lutheranmedia.org.au)

Children... Go to

[www.redboots.com.au](http://www.redboots.com.au)

Check out

[www.happyland.com.au](http://www.happyland.com.au). Happy-land is growing!

**TELEVISION—**View *ON MAIN STREET*, a half hour talk show tackling socially relevant issues.

Australian Christian Channel

4:30pm Saturday (AEST)

Austar Digital 182, Foxtel Digital 182,

Optus 49 / Digital 182

Digital 44 (Sydney), Transact (Canberra)

[www.onmainstreet.org.au](http://www.onmainstreet.org.au)

**GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP**

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**GGLPS Principal: Daryl Trigg**

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Judith Whaites

**Youth Team Leader:**


Alyssa Wurst  
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**Vision for Ministry Team:**

Pastor Leon  
Daryl Trigg  
Geoff Thiel  
David Bartel  
Alyssa Wurst  
Daniel Bartel  
Jon Schiller  
Brian Quick

**Management Team**

*Chairperson* John Fielke  
*Vice Chair* Daniel Bartel  
*Secretary* Tania Nelson  
*Treasurer* Andrew Schmidt  
*Assist. Treas* Graeme Hoklas  
*Property*  
*Extra Member* Dave Shrowder


  
**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

|       |        |  |
|-------|--------|--|
| Today | 14 Dec | Lachlan Ahrens                         |
| Sat   | 20 Dec | Chris Hahn<br>Sue Neale<br>Chris Thiel |

We hope your special day is blessed with God's love & grace