



GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Life in the Vine



THE MAGAZINE OF GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2024 | VOLUME 30, ISSUE 2



Community Fete - pg. 17

WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF LIFE IN THE VINE.

The Wise and Foolish Builders

We hear in the parable of the two builders (Matthew 7:24-27), the importance of building upon solid ground. As we build (and live) our lives, we all experience the ups and downs, and through the storms of life we become aware of how firm our foundation is—or isn't. Jesus tells us "These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock" (*The Message*).

In this edition of *Life in the Vine*, we see the struggles of building foundations in our Church Manse and School Building Works. However we also witness what happens when we put our faith and trust in Jesus Words through events like the Fete, Colin Buchanan Concert, Messy Church and other successful activities.

So as we enter this Christmas period, we remember the real reason of the season—that is the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone and it is in Him we can put our faith and build (live) our lives on His Word. Jesus is the foundation that will never change, give way or let us down.

May Jesus (as your foundation) be a blessing this Christmas and New Year!

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

BY JON SCHUTZ
GGLC CHAIRPERSON

At a Special General Meeting in 2018, we as a congregation unanimously supported a resolution in favour of ordaining both men and women, a resolution that was later tabled at Synod with the backing of many other congregations. Six years later, Synod voted in favour. That we at GGLC should have such a single-minded view has perhaps made our navigation through this issue look like plain sailing, where other congregations have had stormy times and there have been a few shipwrecks along the way. Even now there are congregations that are working to tear themselves off from the LCA rather than fit within the Way Forward framework that allows either practice—that is, to have a male pastor only or being open to either a male or female.

The lead up to the 2024 Synod did present challenges for our call process, as we found that pastors were somewhat preoccupied and awaiting the outcome of the ordination vote before being willing to consider a call. After our call to Pastor Mat von Stanke in the middle of the year was declined, the Call Team started working on the next round of calling, but before making much progress—on the advice of the District Office—went into hiatus pending the Synod outcome.

Whilst the Call Team has now resumed and is working on having a recommendation for a Call Meeting with the Half Yearly Meeting, the task of finding a pastor who would be the right fit for GGLC has become a little more difficult—a proportion of pastors available for call have made it clear one way or another that they are aligned with the practice of ordination of men only and would not fit in with our thinking at GGLC. At some stage God will open the door to the right person—male or female—and in the meantime we continue to be blessed by the ministry of our six young adult lay preachers and various visiting pastors.



“...there have been a few shipwrecks along the way.”

As we are now just over one year into vacancy, we are looking at ways that we can make the current model of lay preaching more sustainable, including having an interim part time pastor and some form of recompense for the lay preachers. Discussion on this will be included in the HYM.

As we look to employ a full time pastor again in hopefully the not-too-distant future, the predicted shortfall in offerings remains a concern—particularly since we also want to minimise the amount we need to borrow to finish off the manse. At the Finance Team Meeting in mid November, it was predicted that we will be \$17,000 short—in excess of 10% of the offerings budget—at the end of this year. Overall we are looking at a deficit of around \$7500 on the total budget, not quite as bad as the offerings shortfall since our salary expenses were lower than estimated, due to the ongoing vacancy. We do still continue to pay for a portion of pastor’s salary (into the LCA Transfer Fund), which started at 90% at the beginning of the vacancy and will drop to 50% in the second year.

The budget for the manse build is on track. To make the final payment it is expected that we will draw down on an LLL loan that was recently approved, for \$70,000. We expect to borrow about \$50,000, but have some contingency in there. Although this is better than the \$110,000 loan we had when we started the manse sale/build process, \$50,000 is a bit of a lukewarm sum for a loan and as we get closer to the final payment we may explore whether we can wipe it off completely by drawing on savings and an appeal. Being free of loan repayments will ease the burden in future budgets.

It’s been quite a busy time with the fete, call process, various other meetings and demanding bits of paperwork in the last couple months, so I’m taking an early minute on writing this article and have leant on ChatGPT to finish it off for me (and it hasn’t done too bad a job): *As we continue to navigate the challenges and opportunities ahead, we are reminded of the faithfulness of our congregation and the commitment we share in serving God’s mission. Though there are uncertainties, especially in calling the right pastor and managing our financial needs, we trust that God will guide us through this season. Together, with prayerful hearts, we can lean into His provision, confident that He will provide the leadership and resources we need to move forward as a vibrant and united community of faith. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Him as we embrace the journey ahead.*



**“...we trust that
God will guide us
through this
season.”**



NEWS FROM GGLPS

BY WILL WALLACE
PRINCIPAL



What an apt topic for *Life in the Vine*—wise and foolish builders! A key project which has been a major focus this year for the school has been finalising the construction of our new Foundation Classrooms and seeing these opening up and the joy on our children's faces (and those of the adults too!) as we began to use these amazing contemporary spaces.

It is hard to believe that the project has run through to completion and the new buildings are now a reality. Ironically, we had plenty of challenges with the foundation of the new building with our reactive clay soil and a water leak through the site. It brought to mind more than once during the process the Biblical reminder to build our house upon the rock and not the sand! Fortunately we have ended up with about double the original specification of concrete in our physical foundations in this instance, so we're feeling quite rock-like!

A huge thank you to our School Board and Finance, Risk and Audit Committee, as well as to Tanya Rowland for their valued work on the project and perseverance throughout, as well as to Craig Vale our architect, and Comace, our builders.

We have continued to see our students enjoying school and achieving amazing things, with the last few terms bringing events including IPSHA Junior Orator, debating, Children's University graduation, basketball, netball and AFL competitions, and our number of futsal (indoor soccer) teams growing along with weekly netball and basketball. We've seen a regular weekly dance group commence from Term 3 which has been incredibly popular, as well as our school band, woodwind and brass ensembles grow immensely from their beginning back in Term 2. We are really blessed to have an amazing group of students at the school who have the enthusiasm to engage with the range of opportunities presented to them and make the most of their God given gifts and talents.



**“It brought to mind
more than once
during the process
the Biblical reminder
to build our house
upon the rock and not
the sand!”**

Our recent Year 6 Exhibition was again a great example of the quality of academic achievement and excellence that we enjoy in the school through the depth of student research and presentations. Having a wonderful team of gifted teachers and support staff helps immensely with this of course, and a huge thank you goes to our staff team for their incredible efforts again this year.

Congratulations to Lauren Neumann, who has been accepted into Lutheran Education Australia's Leadership Development Programme. This is a significant accolade for Lauren and a huge testament to the amazing work we have all seen her undertaking across the church and school for some time. She adds great value through her efforts and is a humble, God focussed leader whom we are blessed to have in our community.

Our Community Fete was an outstanding event again this year with absolutely amazing weather. It is so wonderful to see the Fete going from strength to strength each year and for us to be able to share with the broader public who we are as a community so authentically. A huge thanks to everyone who volunteered on the day and as part of organising the event, your efforts are much appreciated. Special thank you to Joel Schiller and the Fete Committee for your efforts!

Well done to our young adults team on your leadership of many of our worship services and messages throughout the year during the vacancy of the Pastor's position. It has been a blessing to see you all take on this opportunity with enthusiasm and a heart for Christ, and to have grown into the opportunity so effectively over the past 12 months. Many of our young adults have a strong connection with the school and it is a pleasure to see you flourishing in this way.

We have many wonderful volunteers in our community from Cafe Connect, to GGAF and through many of our other ministries and school connections like Messy Church and GLOW week (and a huge thank to all of our church volunteers who made that a massive success back in June!). Congratulations to Mark and Jenny Rawolle as two of the recipients of the Wright Volunteer Award this year, which Blair Boyer kindly presents to some of our great volunteers who have been a wonderful support of the school each year. We have really appreciated your long term support of our community over some decades now, particularly the Colin Buchanan concert, cafe and many, many things IT related to name just a few!

We wish our school and church community all the best for a blessed Christmas where we are able to celebrate the birth of Christ, giving thanks for the salvation that He brings and sharing this good news with others!



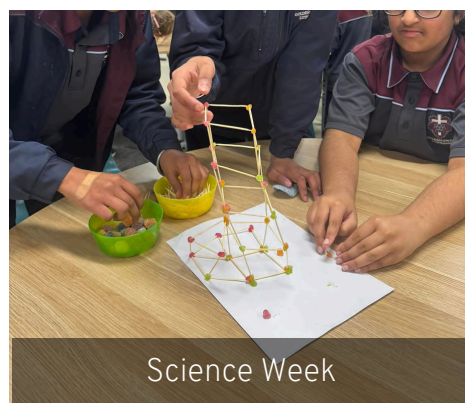
Art Gallery



IPSHA Junior Orator Competition



Ping Pong A Thon



Science Week

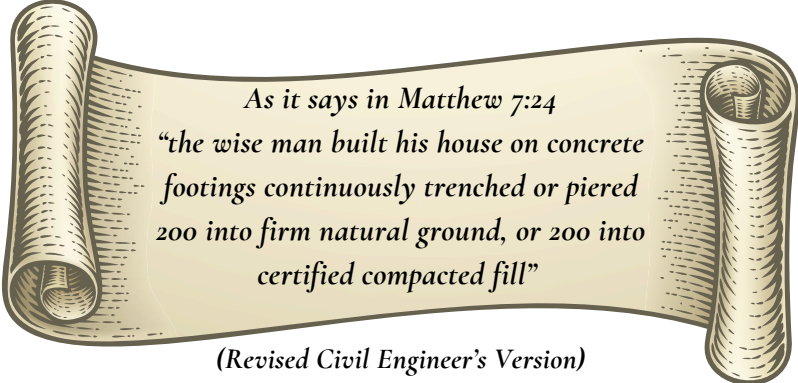


Visitors from Eisugakkan, Japan



HOUSE WANTS A PASTOR EPISODE 3

BY JON SCHUTZ

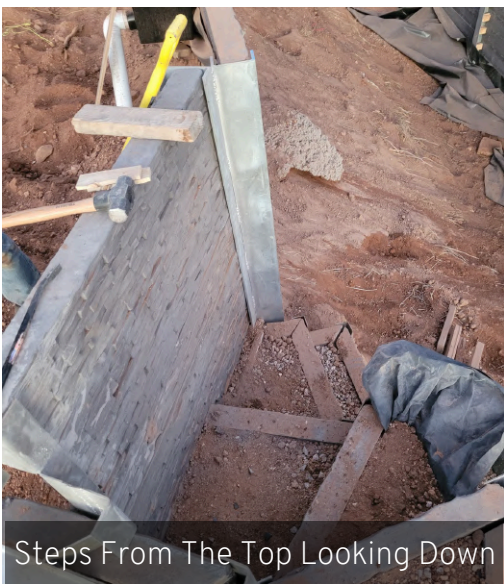


As it says in Matthew 7:24
“the wise man built his house on concrete
footings continuously trenched or ptered
200 into firm natural ground, or 200 into
certified compacted fill”

(Revised Civil Engineer’s Version)



Steps Under Construction



Steps From The Top Looking Down

But before we talk about footings, in the last issue you were promised some steps. To recap, after the building contract was signed in mid-November 2023 and Development Approval received in December, we had the task to complete several retaining walls in time to publish our feats in the May edition of *Life in the Vine*, which we did with a team of slave labour and a little professional help. Shortly after that we added some steps at the end of one of the retaining walls so that pastor could step out of the alfresco area and safely venture down the hill. That was the last thing we squeezed in before handing the site over to the builder, who immediately did nothing for months.

Benching of the block started in mid July and was completed in under 3 days, the excess soil going to backfill the retaining wall on the boundary.

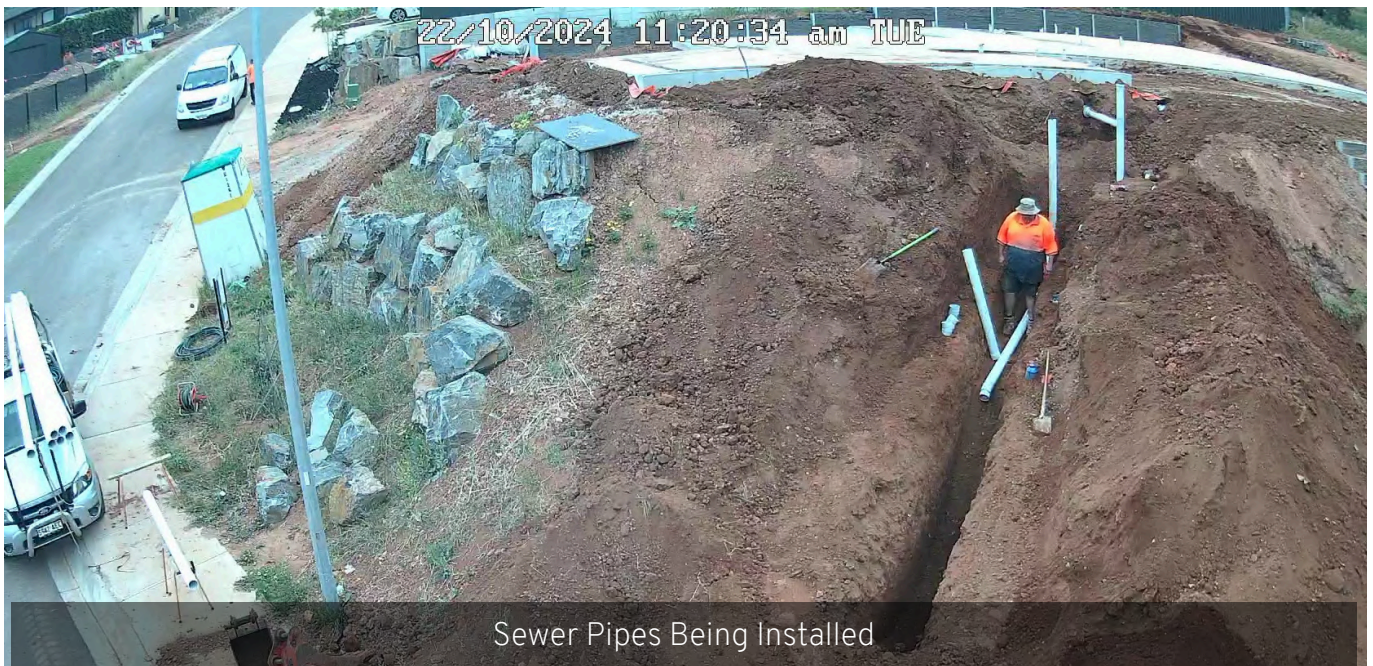
Here I must interject that over 50 years ago, Taiichi Ohno developed the Just-In-Time (JIT) manufacturing philosophy in Toyota’s vehicle manufacturing plants in Japan. JIT results in delivery of a product at the rate and time that the customers need it. One of the pillars of JIT is the elimination of waste, which comes in seven forms, one of which is waiting time. This deserves a mention as it seems no-one in the Australian construction industry has yet heard of or thought of adopting JIT such that trades could be working on site contiguously to complete the work in weeks instead of years.

Back to the main plot, several weeks passed. Then the footings contractor started and showed promising progress, digging a whole three holes in one week (yes three whole holes). The breakneck pace continued and six weeks after starting, the footings were complete.

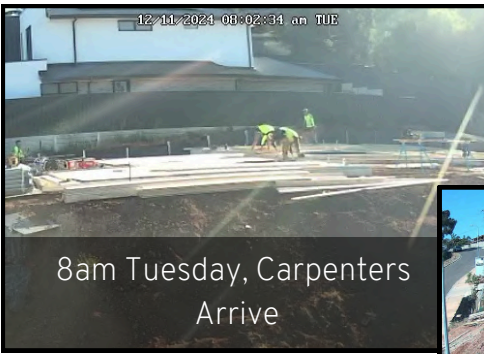


Evolution Of Progress With The Footings

Several weeks rolled by, during which time an examination of the footings would have revealed that from deep within the bowels of the layers of concrete and steel, several pipes emerge at the outer edges, their purpose being left to the imagination of the reader to flush out. Eventually the drainage contractor arrived, did his business, and was gone again in about three days after discretely burying it all like a cat does. I doubt that contractors in this line of work live very glamorous lives, but their service to society should not be underestimated.



Sewer Pipes Being Installed

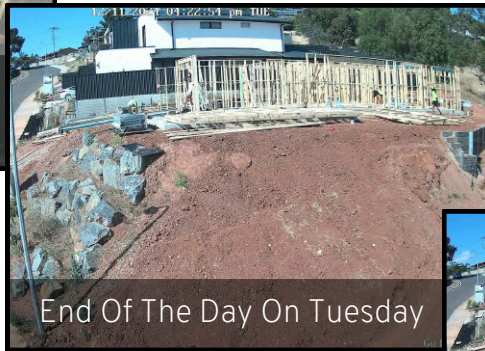


8am Tuesday, Carpenters Arrive

The JIT concept had still attracted nobody's attention as the one year anniversary of contract signature approached relentlessly like a dark shadow creeping over the bleak grey slab and the unglamorous pipes (ominous music playing).



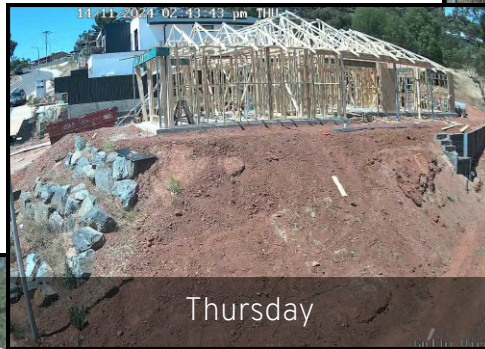
But then the chippies turned up - not the crinkle cut or salty old vinegary types, but a highly drilled army of carpenters, and they nailed it then bolted—from nothing, to something that looks like a house in 4 days (insert triumphant cries).



End Of The Day On Tuesday



End Of The Day Wednesday



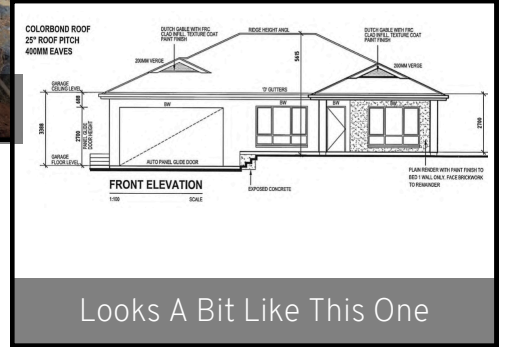
Thursday



Friday



Looks Like A House



Looks A Bit Like This One



View From The Master Bedroom

This brings us to the second milestone payment. Remarkably, the average time between a contractor leaving and the next arriving is counted in weeks, whilst the average time between a contractor leaving and an invoice arriving is counted in seconds. To get this far has cost around \$200,000 (including retaining walls).

Bricks, roofing, gutters and fascia materials have been delivered to the site, so watch this space... I'm sure it will all be ready Just-In-Time for our new pastor...

SURE THING AGENCY AND GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENT



COLIN BUCHANAN CONCERT

AUSTRALIAN SINGER AND ENTERTAINER

On Saturday June 15, Colin Buchanan graced us with his appearance as part of his national tour for his latest album 10, 9, 8... God is Great.

A huge thanks to Colin Buchanan for an amazing concert, and to all of the children, families and visitors who joined us, and our great church volunteers!





VACANCY? WHAT VACANCY?! (PART TWO)

DURING THE VACANCY, GGLC HAS BEEN BLESSED TO HAVE SIX YOUNG MEMBERS VOLUNTEER TO LEAD AND BRING MESSAGERS TO OUR SUNDAY SERVICES. HERE WE HAVE ASKED SOME QUESTIONS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THEM.

Occupation:

Student, OSHC worker, volunteer. Yes, I know it sounds like a lot but they are all things I love doing and would not give up any of them. I am studying full time across two universities, I am studying a Bachelor of Secondary Education through Tabor and filling out my major in Chemistry and Biology at the University of Adelaide. I work at the OSHC connected to Golden Grove Lutheran before and after Uni many days of the week, and love working with the kids and helping them to grow into the best humans they can be. Outside of both of these I am heavily involved in our Church community, having been a part of the youth ministry since 2016, plus co-running the young adults ministry with Noah Hahn and being involved in the Salt Factory band for the last 4 years.

What do I do for fun on my days off?:

I love to create! I have several hobbies but all of them have one thing in common, they involve creating something. Some of these include, Crochet, Quilting, Sewing, Drawing and Guitar. I love to explore and express the world around me with these things.

What is the most exciting adventure that you have ever been on?

Truth be told there are so many and I am not sure that I could put one above the other because they stand out for so many different reasons. I love the chance to adventure and adventure in the everyday, but this tale comes from a trip that my family and I went on at the end of last year. We were in Scotland and my Dad wanted to show us something that was off of the side of the highway. It was 4pm which meant it was pitch dark and so we pull over and slog through a marsh in the sleet to get to a lake and an island that we can't even see. While this doesn't sound exciting to everyone, I loved it and found such joy in skipping through the marsh with my brother and Dad getting absolutely soaked and choosing to laugh and make the best of it anyway.

Why have you decided to step up and contribute in leading and bringing messages to GGLC?

I could probably make this sound far more profound than I am going to but very simply when our pastor mentioned he would be taking a call elsewhere, the first thing on my mind was, selfishly, what does this mean for us? And when it was suggested that a group of us step up in this time, I said yes. Sharing the Bible both in an academic sense and in a personal sense is something that I have done quite a bit of, from youth to more public settings and felt and continue to feel the call to share God and His power and love.



Name: Lauren Kahl

Age: 23

Who is your favourite person in the Bible?

Not to give the ‘Sunday School Answer’ but I would have to say that it is Jesus. Not just for the salvation and all He did out of love for us but also for His compassion and vulnerability towards His friends.

Can you describe your daily spiritual practices?

Honestly no, but I will give it a shot. I could tell you that I read my Bible every morning or pray each night before I go to bed, but that wouldn’t be true. It is not that I don’t read the Bible or don’t pray but that that looks different each day. Sometimes I will get in my car and pray quickly that I am safe, sometimes I am thinking of a friend and thanking God for them, sometimes I am studying the Bible with the intent to share and sometimes just because I want to know more or keep reading. At times I will play guitar and sing worship to Him in the privacy of my own room and sometimes with all of you. My daily spiritual practices are wide and varied but one thing I can say for sure is I can’t get through three days of not doing any of these and not feel like there is something missing.

What does prayer mean to you?

Prayer to me is communication with God, much like with a close friend. Because that is God after all, we each have a unique relationship with Him. And much like with a close friend there is a time to vent or cry or be frustrated, but there is also a time to listen and share in joy and thank. My prayers aren’t always the most traditional or the longest but they always personal.

Tell us about your spiritual walk with Christ. Has He been revealing anything specifically to you in the last 12 months?

Over the last 12 months I have spent a lot of time in prayer and looking for discernment in several areas of my life. If things that I am doing are something I am meant to keep pursuing or if they were teaching a lesson that I needed to accept and then make active efforts to move forward in and potentially move on from. God has been showing me that while this can feel extremely isolating at times when it comes to human relationships God can work good through all. He answers prayers in ways that are at times obvious and at other times, not at all. And while not all situations are good and can feel so awful while they are happening, He can work good through that and that I need to continue to trust in His timing, because things come together in a way that I could never predict or express because they are far greater than I could imagine.



Name: Josh Vivian
Age: 25
Occupation: work in state politics

I was born down the road in Modbury but soon moved to the dry yet beautiful Riverland when my parents purchased their very own bakery café. I loved the bakery life, often helping my parents manage the shop, bake incredible food, and eventually got my hands out of the cookie jar and into graphic design and policy writing.

We started attending church as a family when I turned 11. As is the experience for many young people growing up in regional South Australia, there weren’t many others my age, but I gravitated heavily to worship and found my place behind the drumkit while my mum played keys. There is no doubt that my passion for worshipping the Lord through music paved the way for me to become firmly rooted in a church community and continues to strengthen my faith to this day.

With a strong passion for English and my nose always in a book, I left the Riverland to study journalism at UniSA. But after finishing my degree four years ago it’s clear God had other plans for the gifts he gave me. It has been a blessing to listen to God’s word and to use my love for language to contribute to Golden Grove Lutheran Church, sharing His love and His words with our community.



Name: Noah Hahn

Age: 25

Occupation: Camping
and Events Coordinator
- Blueprint Ministries

What do you do for fun on your days off?

I love to play music, sing, play video games, play volleyball, and design in all forms.

What's a skill you'd like to improve on?

I would love to take an improv class, to better help my confidence in public speaking and maybe even some comedy skills too.

Share one thing that you love to do that you get to do nearly every day.

I find such joy in spending time with close friends, and I love the fact that I get to nearly every day, between church commitments, sports, and everything else. I will say, I'm a bit of a sucker for staying a bit beyond my welcome.

What event in your life has shaped you most as a person? How did it do so?

Going on my first youth camp in 2012 really helped shape me into the person I am today. It's shaped my perspective on life and faith. While also introducing me to some of the amazing people who are in my life today.

I'm so thankful for the opportunity that camps have brought me, and wouldn't change it for the world.

Why have you decided to step up and contribute in leading and bringing messages to GGLC services?

Golden Grove has been my second home for my entire life. Having been born and baptised into this community, I've always been connected. From Primary school at GGLPS, to youth group, to starting and coordinating Young Adults. I've always loved the community here. When Pastor Greg announced he was taking a call elsewhere, I saw it as a good opportunity not only to try something new, and different, but also as a way to give back to community who has given me so much.

What's your favorite book of the bible and why?

Ephesians gives a very clear and relatable way to relate to the gospel. Particularly from the perspective of someone who gets things wrong. It has some very profound and core ideas about what it means to be a Christian. Reminding us that we are God's masterpieces, and that we are no longer strangers, but fellow citizens and saints with the household of God.

Who is your favorite person in the Bible?

Other than the Sunday School answer, I love seeing David's story. A fairly unsuspecting boy, who is chosen by God to lead his nation into glory. What really gets me about David isn't his righteousness, but instead his humanity. The fact that even though he sinned pretty dramatically God still chooses, and uses him for good.

What brings you the greatest joy in ministry?

Seeing childlike faith. Whether its in children, teens, or even adults. People who have nothing but curiosity to see just who Jesus is. Being able to see the awe they have is spectacular.

What causes you the most frustration in your ministry?

When law gets in the way of love. Its so easy to forget that the law was created to keep us safe, and instead use it to criticise others. Jesus came to fulfil the law, and he did so with love, and acceptance. He only criticised those who held themselves higher than others, and even in doing so, he did it with love and grace.

What spiritual gift do you "earnestly desire" (1 Corinthians 14:1)?

I think the gift of evangelism is one that I truly would love. Being able to speak Jesus into the lives of so many, particularly those who may have never been able to hear his message, or have perhaps heard a twisted version of it, and be able to show God's love and grace to everyone.



We thank our young leaders for their dedication and service!



PING PONG-A-THON

BY JOEL SCHILLER



House Team Captains With Trophy - Richardson



Golden Grove we 'Ponged Strong' in 2024!

What a joy it was to have the GGLPS students start us off with raising a combined total of \$2,124 (including the pong dollars contribution from challenges). The rivalry between Houses this year was intensified with the addition of the tally board in the school courtyard with many students checking it daily to see if their team was in the lead or not. A massive congratulations to Richardson for their well deserved win.

We also saw many keen people step up for the rest of the event, getting their friends to come along, while some stayed all night.

Overall, as a community we raised \$12,454.31!



Youth Hearing From Pongbassador Andrew

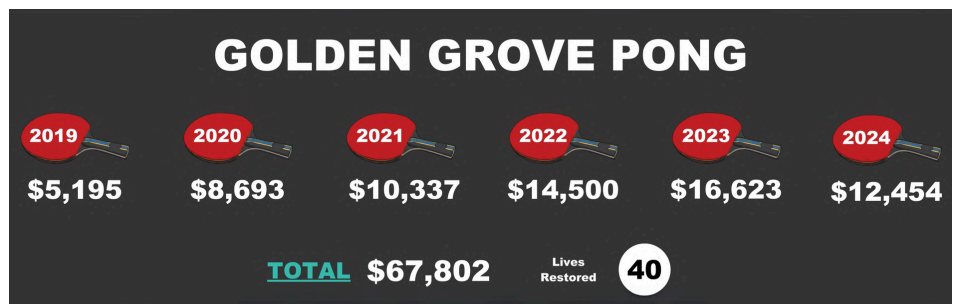
Congratulations to our Pong Master Award Recipients – Nathan Williams, Ruby Leuders, Brodie Trezona and Holly Schutz! Thanks for getting behind the cause with passion and going above and beyond in your efforts for the Ping Pong A Thon.

So, thank you for stepping up for the world's most vulnerable and playing or donating to a cause that is setting many captives free, and giving them the life that they were created to have. A life filled with them fulfilling their hopes and dreams.



Quadpong

“...thank you for stepping up...and playing or donating to a cause that is setting many captives free...”





IGNITE YOUTH

BY LAUREN NEUMANN



This term in Ignite, our children zoomed around the carpark, raced around the courts and navigated their way through what seemed like every cone that the school owns as they enjoyed 'Wheel Night'.

Over the year the children have enjoyed a variety of events including Pong-a-Thon, Catapult night and MasterChef. Each session children engaged in a devotional theme based on the activity that night. It is amazing to see the enthusiasm from the children as they sing, dance and laugh through the songs during this time. We have had a steady attendance of roughly 15-20 children attend each session. The children who attend continue to form amazing connections not only with each other but our leaders.

We wish to thank our amazing volunteers who help each event. I know the children truly enjoy chatting with you and seeing you each time.





ARISE YOUTH

BY JOEL SCHILLER
YOUTH COORDINATOR



Heaven's Voyage



Arise Cinemas



Youth Alpha

“...been exciting to see them come along...”

God is the creator of all and for us to Arise up into what God calls us into, we need to build upon His Word.

More than ever, this has been our focus in 2024, in our devotions and during our Bible study nights. We heard many devotions from our leaders, hearing testimonies, and starting our Youth Alpha series. Our Youth Alpha series has explored key elements of life and faith and exploring what Jesus means to us in this day and age.

Events included running our very own Arise Cinemas complete with a snack bar, while we watched *Night at the Museum*, jumping fun at Bounce, and our own Arcade on the weekend of the Fete.

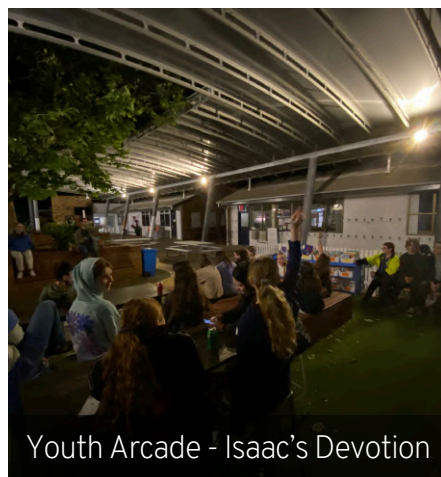
This year we had a large amount of year 6 students (from GGLPS and other schools) come along and experience youth for the first time. It's been exciting to see them come along and get involved, connecting themselves into a network of people (youth and leaders) that can support them as they make the transition from Primary School to High School. You could say they are building a firm foundation upon which they can continue building upon over the coming years.

A massive shoutout to all the parents who bring their children out each Friday to be part of Arise youth.

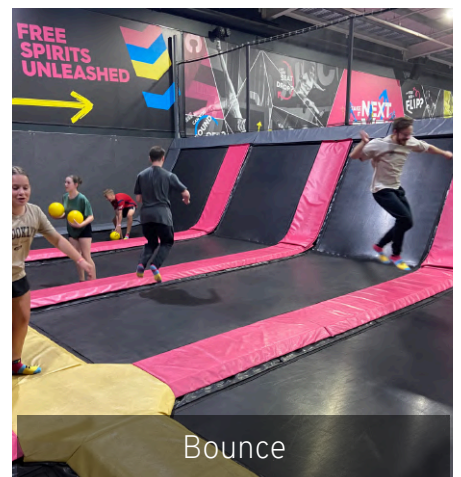
Please be praying that our youth, leaders and their families have a safe Christmas reflecting on Jesus, who is the reason for the season.



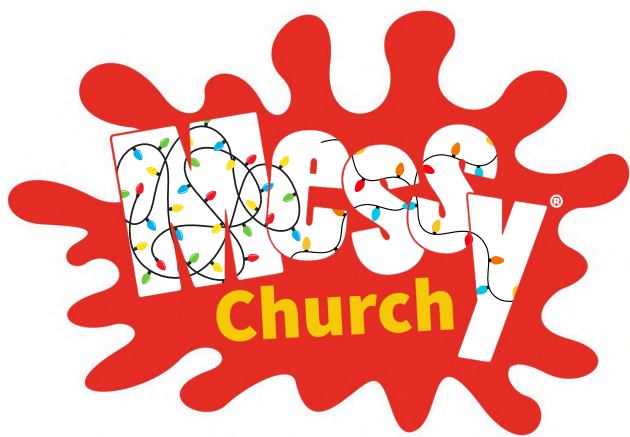
Youth Arcade



Youth Arcade - Isaac's Devotion



Bounce



MESSY CHURCH

BY LAUREN NEUMANN



Messy Church has continued to flourish this year. We have had 4 events (1 per term). Each one has been themed around the statement 'I am..'. All were held on the second last Friday of each term except for the final one which was held on a Sunday.

Term 1 saw us look at God as 'I am the vine.' This was a lovely way to tie in our School Bible verse from John 15:5 which states Jesus says "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." We did all things vine-related. We create vine leaves from clay, collected grapes (balls) for our baskets and used tissue paper to create grapes on vine leaves.

Term 2 was exploring the theme 'I am the good Shepherd'. We looked at the parable of the lost sheep and how a shepherd looks after their flocks. After much fun finding sheep everywhere and creating fluffy sheep, we created a big shepherd to remind us that we have a big shepherd in Jesus who will always look for us and protect us.

Term 3 brought a science theme to it with 'I am the light'. We looked at how light helps us see and how to make a basic electric circuit. We focused on the verse from John 8:12 that states 'When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."';

Finally, we finished the year off with the theme 'I am Christmas'. This was held as the first Sunday of Advent and was a lovely fellowship service. There were a variety of activities, including a stained glass window craft and a scavenger hunt that ended with finding Joel in a donkey onesie holding lollies.

Thank you to all who attended, assisted and gave their support no matter how big or small. From helping in the café, to cutting up craft supplies or leading an activity, we are grateful! We are looking forward to this ministry continuing next year and beyond.



GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN COMMUNITY FETE

BY JOEL SCHILLER
FETE DIRECTOR



How good was the 2024 Community Fete?!

On Sunday October 20, it was a beautiful sunny day, where we saw over 3,000 people attend. Thanks to all who came along to support the day.

In the weeks following the fete I've been asking GGLPS students what their favourite things were at the fete, many saying the rock-climbing wall and pony rides.

Overall, we had 120 stalls, activities and food trucks which provided everything we could ever want at a fete. Our food trucks were certainly a hit, with many people taking the opportunity to have pizza, tacos, ice cream, lemonade or anything else that they had to offer. New this year was our touch a truck sections which included a fire truck and police car; also, our showbags were enjoyed by many.

Our healing tent prayed for over 50 people this year, while our café was selling a drink every 80 seconds.

Congratulations to all the winners of our raffle and for all who contributed by buying a ticket! The GGLPS P&F received a portion of ticket sales to go towards their projects.

Thanks to all of our 120+ volunteers who had various roles throughout the day, the largest amount of people we've had involved in this capacity. You are the reason it ran so smoothly!

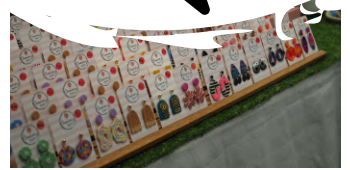




Everyone involved was friendly and engaged and worked together



Awesome atmosphere!





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



So many people,
lovely vibe, lovely
event,
well organised!

Volunteers
amazingly helpful!

FEEDBACK





TIGHT LINES

GOLDEN GROVE AMATEUR FISHING 2023 CATCH UPDATE



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

FISH COOKING NIGHT - Saturday 18th May



GGAF members and friends were treated to an excellent night of cooking and entertainment in the Golden Grove Lutheran Worship Centre. Attendance totalled 78 including Master GGAF Chef Geoff Thiel and wife Julianne Polner, who together with Jack, Lauren and Ash Thiel all participated in the cooking and demonstrations on the night. Tables booked included people from Salisbury and Hampstead Lutheran Churches and Tea Tree Gully Walking Group.

Four dishes were created - all attendees were served with each dish – a mammoth effort totalling over 300 servings on the night. A Squid and Chorizo Pizza was the speciality of Jack and Ash including the making of a Polish Pizza Dough. Geoff and Julianne then made a Hearty Seafood Chowder which was preceded by an explanation of how to make a Fish Stock. Geoff demonstrated how to Pickle Fish (in vinegar) which led to preparation of a German Whiting Salad. The last dish was Indian Amitsari Fish with Yoghurt Dipping Sauce with flathead. Lauren entertained the crowd with fishing humour and anecdotes.

A copy of each recipe was provided for attendees. Door prizes were drawn during the evening including a donated fish plate and fishing gear.

Thanks to all GGAF Committee and Club members who assisted with preparation before and during the evening. Special thanks to Mark Rawolle for set up and operation of cameras (including overhead for watching cooking process on the big screen) and microphones thereby creating a very professional night.

TACKLE NIGHT - Monday 3rd June

The Spot On Tackle Night attracted 34 members and friends in the Conference Room of the Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School. Steve, Lyn and Kym from Spot On Fishing & Outdoors shop at Salisbury Plain provided demonstrations and fishing tips on all aspects of river fishing – including rods, reels, bait, berley, yabby nets, shrimp nets, lures and other accessories.

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



Chefs At Fish Cooking Night



Spot On Tackle Night





WAIKERIE HOLIDAY PARK

Friday 28th June to Monday 1st July

Attendance was 29 on a cold and wintry weekend. Fishing was difficult due to the weather however those who ventured out had some success catching European Carp. This was a non-competition weekend and therefore no points were awarded for any catch.

The Waikerie Caravan Park put on a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday morning and all were treated to a BBQ tea on Saturday night. Thanks to Christine for organising meat, salads and dessert and other helpers in preparation.

Good attendance at the local hotel on Sunday night with 20 members enjoying some great food.



GLOW WEEK - Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School



From Monday 24th to Wednesday 26th June GGAF presented, entertained and demonstrated fishing equipment, tips, casting, knots, rigs etc to 8 students each morning.

Monday included casting practice on the school oval (and helping erect 3 tents). Tuesday was spent at the Wynn Vale Dam – we were fortunate that the weather was OK however no tight lines. Students improved their casting techniques and patience.

Wednesday included casting practice on the school courts. Each student was given a “showbag” including 4 fishing magazines, GGAF can cooler, GGAF brochure, PIRSA brochure for size & bag limits at the end of



the session. Four students who did not own a rod/reel were gifted one from GGAF and the others received squid jags.

Thanks to Graeme, Zimmo, Chris and Peter for volunteering their time to assist with this community event.



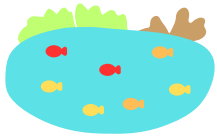
PORT NOARLUNGA JETTY

Saturday 10th August



Pt Noarlunga was sunny and calm all day with 23 fishers attending and enjoying very pleasant weather conditions. Fourteen fish were landed - 9 tommy ruff, 4 salmon trout and 1 King George whiting. Senior winner was Allan Hasler with a 38.5 cm King George whiting. No Junior winner.

Ten attendees enjoyed a meal at the Pt. Noarlunga Hotel following weigh in.



WEST LAKES Sunday 8th September

Attendance was outstanding with 58 people including 13 Juniors who participated in the Casting Competition. Cool and overcast weather did not deter the group. Rod and Reel combo winners were Ethan Van Loggem and Harrison Brice-Thompson.

Fish landed included several bream (all undersize), salmon trout, King George whiting (undersize) and mullet, however, only 2 were of legal length. Winner was Ian Lange with 23 cm Salmon Trout and runner up was Angela Lange with 100 g Mullet. A BBQ lunch provided by the club was enjoyed by all.



ANNUAL CAMP at MENINGIE 11-13 October Lake Albert Caravan Park

Friday Night – over 20 members enjoyed a Coorong Mullet, Salad, Chips and Dessert for \$20 at the Meningie Bowling Club

Excellent attendance of 53 fishers for competition on Saturday. Weather was perfect all day for fishing. Total fish catch was 40 European Carp for a total weight 59 Kg.

Leading numbers of fish caught were Graeme Hoklas with 7 and Roger Glaetzer 6.

Junior Winner was Oliver Kennet with a 3.38 kg Carp and Senior Winner was Lou Goegan with a 3.66kg Carp.

The large Park Camp Kitchen was the perfect venue for the Saturday Night BBQ meal. Thanks to Christine for organising the meats, salads and dessert and Mark for coordinating the BBQ.

On Sunday Peter Van Loggem organised a tour (not part of the GGAF event) with the Coorong Wildside Tour for 20 participants. It was an excellent introduction to the Coorong environment by boat and foot through to the open sea.



Children Casting At West Lakes



Ian With Winning West Lakes Catch



West Lakes Crew



Meningie Annual Camp



Oliver With Winning Carp At Annual Camp



Senior Winner Lou At Meningie



GGAF Stand At Community Fete

COMMUNITY FETE - Sunday 20th October

Many GGAF members and the public visited the Club's carpark stall. The Fete was a great success again this year and blessed with a perfect spring day. Thanks to Zimmo, Geoff, Chris, Peter, Ray for helping man the stall.



ANNUAL PRESENTATION NIGHT

Saturday 16th November



Presentation Night Attendees

Fifty Seven 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 and Junior competition winners of each event and Graeme thanked the 2024 Committee for their dedication in planning and attending events. Membership this year totalled 65 including 10 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 Chris Simanis for his dedication and loyalty as a member of GGAF including the last 12 years as GGAF Committee Treasurer.

The 2024 Senior Champion trophy was presented to Graeme Hoklas and Junior Champion trophy to Letty Sweeney.

Christine McCulloch has advised that she will be stepping down from the GGAF Committee at the end of this year and was presented with a gift and "Thank You" card for her outstanding service as Club Secretary over 12 years.



2024 Junior Champion Letty Sweeney



2024 Senior Champion Graeme Hoklas

Website:



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

Enquiries to Graeme Hoklas
0419 828 091 or hoklasgr@gmail.com

May the joy and peace that were present at the birth of Christ be present in your home this season.



Merry Christmas
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR



GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH



GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH




Christmas SERVICES

Sunday December 22nd - 6:30pm
Salt Factory Carols

Tuesday December 24th Christmas Eve - 7pm
Christmas with The Chosen "The Shepherd"

Wednesday December 25th Christmas Day - 9:30am
Service with Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS WITH
THE CHOSEN
"THE SHEPHERD"



Today, in the city of David, the Savior was born to them which is Christ the Lord.



GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday 24th December 7pm

Christmas is a time to reflect and celebrate the birth of Christ. To celebrate Christmas Eve, The Chosen invites you to come along and share a special episode about the birth of Christ through the eyes of a young shepherd, based on Luke verse 2.



GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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/>