



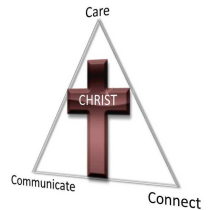
Jesus said, "I am the vine,
You are the branches."
John 15.5

*Our mission:
"Making Christ
known in the com-
munity 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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20th December 2009—4th 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 messages 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

Micah 5:2-5 *But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from old, from ancient times. Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of the brothers return to join the Israelites. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be their peace.*

As we get closer to celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus, we hear from the Word of God the prophecies of old. Again, this text today predicts the time of Jesus' birth. What struck me here is the last sentence "And he will be their peace". It is perhaps so poignant that in the rush that is our 21st century lives that we should reflect on this. That during all the planning and preparation, the cooking, shopping and wrapping of gifts, rehearsals and celebrations, we should take the time to ponder the wonder that he will be our peace.

May you have peace in your world and our world this Christmas time.

Dear Father God, as we continue in our preparations for the celebration of the birth of Your son, our Saviour, may we feel the peace that is beyond all human understanding. We pray that all may come to know Jesus as their peace. Amen

Robyn Oatey

Worship Opportunities

Readings for today	
Micah	5: 2- 5
Hebrews	10: 5-10
Luke	1:39-45
Readings for 25th Dec	
Isaiah	62:6-12
Titus	3:4- 7
Luke	2:8-20

Today 20th Dec	9.30 am 6.30 pm	Contemporary worship Christmas Drama presentation (<i>Dress rehearsal</i>)
Monday 21st Dec	7.00 pm	Christmas Drama presentation (<i>Dress rehearsal</i>)
Thurs 24th Dec	7.00 pm	Christmas Eve drama
Friday 25th Dec	9.30 am	Christmas Day worship with HC
Sunday 27th Dec	9.30 am 6.30 pm	Service of Carols with HC Salt Factory worship
Thurs 31st Dec	7.00 pm	New Year's Eve worship with HC—Taize style



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

We are taking up the thrust of this month from **Creating confidence to share your faith**—in asking ourselves what evangelism style did Elizabeth have. I am particularly taken back by the joy in the Gospel reading for the day (*Luke 1:39-45*) and see Elizabeth as a teacher. The theme is: **"The joy of the Christmas lesson."** I am taking up three aspects of the incident when she meets Mary (3 lessons) today: We are favoured and like Elizabeth we can ask *why me?* We are talking about our Lord when we are talking about Christmas. Thirdly, like Mary, we are blessed through the faith in what the Lord says to us.

Speaking about Christmas...

The Christmas Eve drama: **Law and order: Bethlehem** will be presented tonight in the Salt Factory time slot and on Monday (7pm) as well as Christmas Eve. I know you will enjoy it and it is something you can invite your non-church going friends to. (It probably hasn't the emphasis on children that we often have had in the past.)

So on **Christmas Day** we are celebrating "A children's Christmas" featuring the skit: "*Jesus Christmas party*", a children's address: "*Christmas: meet the cast*", a short message and Holy Communion as well as lots of carols.

Next Sunday is itself a **carol service**: based on 9 of our most favourite carols. We will learn some of the history behind these carols and look at them a little more closely. **David & Tania Nelson** will be commissioned for their mission trip to Myanmar next Sunday as well.

We are celebrating **New Year's Eve** with a taize style worship Service on Thursday fortnight (at 7pm.)

Going back to the thrust of the month "**Creating confidence to share your faith**". We were given a couple of tools: "**My personal mission field**" and "**My focused prayer list**" a couple of weeks ago. How are you going in using these? Jeff Wegener has volunteered to help anyone who is struggling with these to assist them in drawing them up.

As I announced last week, **Ministry of Care**. The Pastoral Carers are implementing a different approach to the care in our congregation. We still maintain the best care we can offer at GGLF is *in and through our Fellowship Groups* and through *our spontaneous caring* (when people see a need and just act - as an expression of their God given compassion). But to encourage our whole congregation to be *more caring* we are making our pastoral care meetings an opportunity for the ministry of care. In other words they are **open to all who would like to be encouraged and supported in whatever caring for the congregation (and others) God has put them in**. So **you** are welcome to come along and be encouraged and supported in your caring **and you don't have to join the team to do this**. You may come just the once or come back to these Ministry of Care meetings as often as you like. The first meeting is **27th January 2010**. Please join us in our Ministry Of Care.

On **10th January 2010** the PNG Missionary Fellowship are celebrating their annual **Mission Festival/PNG Reunion** here at our morning service. The ex overseas missionaries are running the service, our Pastor Len is leading the worship and Dr. Dean Zweck is preaching. You are invited to the pooled lunch and the presentations in the afternoon.

This week:

Today: 6.30pm Christmas Drama: Law and Order: Bethlehem
Monday: 7.00pm Christmas Drama: Law and Order: Bethlehem
Thursday: 7.00pm Christmas Drama: Law and Order: Bethlehem
Friday: 9.30am Christmas Day worship with HC

The following week:

Thursday: 7pm New Year's Eve Worship with HC

In lieu of Salt Factory Worship tonight come along to the dress rehearsal for our Christmas Eve drama "**Law & Order: Bethlehem**"

6.30 pm TONIGHT

Please note: There will be **NO** Salt Factory catering tonight through to Feb 2010 during the school holiday period.

Worship times for January 2010

Please note that during January there will only be **ONE SERVICE** held at 9.30 am.

In lieu of our 6.30 pm service a DVD series will be run.

CHRISTMAS GIVING

The offerings received at our Christmas services will be given to support the work of Australian Lutheran World Service & Lutheran Community Care. If you wish your offering to be tax deductible you will need to enclose your donation in an envelope clearly marked with your name.

For those who work late etc on Christmas Eve and would still like an opportunity to worship the following is offered as an alternative Christmas Eve service

Christmas Eve Herald Service
with Carols, Readings & Holy Communion
11:00 pm 24th December
Salisbury Lutheran Church
10 Waterloo Corner Road
Salisbury

All welcome

YOUTH NEWS

REV320 CHANGE CAMP
Fri 16th to Sun 18th January

If you are in Year 7 or higher for 2010 then you are invited to the REV 320 CHANGE CAMP. Everyone is always going through change but many of you are going through big life changes. At this camp we're going to explore how we face these changes while we also go canoeing, swimming and do other such fun activities. Change is good—let's celebrate it with a great Camp at the start of year.

For details or registration form please contact Paul Swansson on 0432 646 064.

KIDS AT HEART



Here comes Christmas!

Today the children will be making Christmas cards for the visitors at the lunch here on Christmas Day however for any children who missed out on finishing their nativity scene there is still an opportunity to do so this morning.



Blessings,
Lesley and the [K@H](#) team.

Paul Swansson, Adele Leach, Emi Schutz, Dave Shrowder, Pastor Leon

WANTED

There are still some places for children to participate in a Christmas Day play. Please contact Lesley Friedrich on 0402 036 183 or Jacquie Schutz on 0411 426 158 if your child is interested. There will be a practice at 11am this morning.



FREE HAPPYLAND CHRISTMAS CARDS

Send a Christmas card to a young child and invite them to Happyland.

*Designed to share Jesus - God's Christmas gift - and to introduce young children to Happyland.
Inside message : "Let's celebrate God's gift of Jesus this Christmas and always."
Order from www.happyland.com.au or FREECALL 1800 353 350.*

PRESS RELEASE for Advent Calendar:

"It's that time of year again - Christmas...!"

The LCA website Christmas pages [include](#) an Advent Calendar this year. Each day you can uncover new Christmas stories and ideas from communities, congregations, schools and departments across Australia and New Zealand.

This is a great way to share Christmas events and rituals that are celebrated in our congregations and communities. Each community and congregation celebrates Advent and Christmas in a unique way. Sharing our ideas and events means that more people can get involved this Christmas.

To access the page, just follow the link from the LCA homepage.

Law & Order: Bethlehem

Golden Grove Lutheran Fellowship District Criminal Court

JUDGE METELLUS

COURT 1 - R v King Herod - Conspiracy to Murder (For Trial)

On Christmas Eve at 7pm Golden Grove Lutheran Fellowship will be hosting a unique event, the trial of that dastardly villain King Herod. Come and hear the witnesses tell their tales of awe, wonder and faith as they present the Christmas story in a new fresh and compelling way.

We hope you will be able to join us to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour. Why not invite your friends and family for a night of entertainment and worship.

We are also having Pre-trial hearings on **Sunday 20th December at 6:30pm, and Monday 21st December at 7pm**, so if you can't attend on Christmas Eve, or simply want to see the trial more than once, please join us on either of these evenings.

What will the verdict be? There is more than one ending, so come more than once and see a different result. There is also an opportunity to be on the jury and participate in the production. Decide for yourself, is King Herod guilty? Or innocent...?



GREY NOMADS WITH PURPOSE

- *Do you have energy and enthusiasm?*
- *Could you give 3 to 6 months (or more) of your time, wisdom and energy to serve in mission here in Australia? Would you be willing to travel with your caravan and stay in the caravan park in Shepparton?*

If you answered yes to any or all of these questions consider whether you would be able to join in an exciting mission opportunity with the people of St Paul's Lutheran Church in Shepparton, Victoria.

Check out the noticeboard for further details.

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. (Jan Wegener, Pastor Len & Claire Tscharke, 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. 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 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 \$10464 per month from 35 contributors.)

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

	Attendance	Offerings
Sun 13/12 9.30 am	115	\$334.10
6.30 pm	42	\$115.45

One Year Bible— Reading Plan for this week

Dec 20 Haggai 1:1– 2:23 Rev. 11:1-19 Psalm 139:1-24 Proverbs 30:15-16	Dec 24 Zech. 6:1—7:14 Rev. 15:1-8 Psalm 143:1-12 Proverbs 30:24-28
Dec 21 Zech. 1:1-21 Rev. 12:1-17 Psalm 140:1-13 Proverbs 30:17	Dec 25 Zech. 8:1-23 Rev. 16:1-21 Psalm 144:1-15 Proverbs 30:29-31
Dec 22 Zech. 2:1—3:10 Rev. 13:1—13:18 Psalm 141:1-10 Proverbs 30:18-20	Dec 26 Zech. 9:1-17 Rev. 17:1-18 Psalm 145:1-21 Proverbs 30:32
Dec 23 Zech. 4:1—5:11 Rev. 14:1-20 Psalm 142:1-7 Proverbs 30:21-23	



Offering Envelopes for 2010

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 electronically 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 congregation 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.

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.

LLL calendars &

Annual reports are available from the Church Foyer.

ALWS Gifts of Grace Catalogues

This Christmas why not give people close to you gifts that also bless those far away!

Each gift represents the help you can give people in poor communities through the ALWS Overseas Program. You could choose a gift of chickens, goat, bicycle, seed kit, sewing machine. Check out the amazing gifts on offer in the ALWS catalogue available from our Church Foyer and see how easy it is do. You can also buy Gifts of Grace on-line at www.alws.org.au/grace. Each gift you buy is tax-deductible.

Calling all Women

To LWSA 2010 Retreat @ Australian Lutheran College, North Adelaide from Friday 15th to Sunday 17th January 2010.

Retreat welcomes women of all ages regardless of whether you belong to a guild/fellowship.

Please refer to noticeboard for further details.

GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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Youth Team Leader:

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0432 646 064

Ministry team:

Christiaan Hersevoort (leader)
Sue Kriewaldt
James Leach
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Vision for Ministry Team:


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Daryl Trigg
Paul Swansson
Daniel Bartel
Christiaan Hersevoort
Geoff Thiel
Jon Schiller
Brian Quick
Elnora Schmocker

Church Office Secretary:

Judith Whaites

Management Team:

Chairperson John Fielke
Secretary Elnora Schmocker
Treasurer Dorothy Quick
Assist. Treas Graeme Hoklas
Property Daniel Bartel
Ministry rep James Leach
Extra Member Dave Shrowder


BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

 Today 20 Dec Sue Neale
 Chris Thiel
 Thurs 24 Dec Jessica McLuckie
 Fri 25 Dec Barry Taylor
 Sat 26 Dec Garry Heinrich

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