

The Trinity View

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Horsham

December 2023



But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth

Peace

to those on whom his favour rests."

Luke 2:10-14 NIV



Pastor Hans Peethala

Greetings to you in Christ's name.

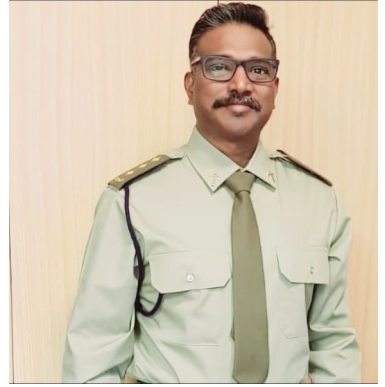
For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. Psalm 36:9

We have entered the season of spring and harvest. It's a season where earth springs to life. The trees looked lost without the leaves and flowers, the ground looked lost without the green grass. People looked lost with so many layers of winter clothes. But now in spring all that was lost has been found. The trees are filled with green tender leaves, the flowers bloom and the grass is green. And we find people showing off their beauty as they come in their spring and summer outfit.

This is a season of life. People are planning for graduation, for Christmas celebrations and holidays at the coast, etc. A time of fun and laughter. Joy springs to life and people are dressed like they are full of life.

The Psalmist proclaims in 85:11 "Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven". We are reminded that God's righteous one is ready to come down to us so that God's faithfulness may spring to life. We are

preparing for Advent, which is the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us continue to experience the joy that God pours into our lives so that we may spring to life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Thank you for your love and prayers. We have settled in well and feel blessed to be here in Horsham.

I wish you a blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year 2024.

And as you go into the New Year, may this promise go with you...

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Jeremiah 29:11 English Standard Version

God Bless.

Pastor Hans



.. the shepherds said to one another "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." Luke 2:15



THE CLUELESS/RELUCTANT ORCHARDIST.



Lynda Henstridge
Young People and Family
Ministry worker



Do you like the title of my Trinity View article? Well, that explains me to a T. Do you remember a few years ago the Kids Time team planted five fruit trees on the north side of the church property? Two apples, one pear, one mandarin and one orange tree. I don't know how this happened but I happen to appoint myself as the keeper of this orchard. Even though I was raised on a farm that had a good sized orchard at Vectis, I was not the person to take care of it, I was a little kid at the time so I am clueless about fruit trees and how to look after them. Do you know how many times I have YouTubed 'how to espalier fruit trees'? And how much do I cut off and leave so there is enough branch so there are fruit spikes for the next year, is it old wood or new wood? And who knew that you prune pears and apples differently? Did my pruning affect why one apple tree hardly has any fruit and the other tree has loads of apples on it? Probably Yes.

This week I discovered little pear slugs on the leaves, I had to google this new trauma. I have thrown lime over the pear tree and the tiny slugs don't like it. The next trick is keeping the codling moths at bay with the cardboard pieces wrapped around each tree trunk and spraying the scale and black soot off the citrus trees with soapy water! There is not enough airflow around the trees and hence the problems, I suspect.

As I was writing this I thought of how God is our gracious gardener. His care and love for us is constant. There are many times when we are damaged and broken, He gently dusts us off and rearranges our 'branches' so we can grow and produce fruit. If we are planted in the wrong place, He can renew us and restore us where we are! What a gracious and wonderful God. He can even rid us of the pests and things that inhibit our growth. We can try and fix ourselves and look for remedies to get rid of the scale, black spot or pests that take our eyes off God. We put our trust in the things of this world and find ourselves in a mess.

God in His goodness sent His Son into this world to take away our sin, to restore us as His Children and to give us a life that can bring glory to Him.

As we turn our thoughts to Christmas and the Gift of

Baby Jesus, may we be reminded of how much God our Father loves us. A tiny baby born in a stable over 2000 years ago with the biggest job in the world to do. This baby's birth was announced by Heaven's multitude of Angels, my mind cannot even conceive such an event. The Son of God as a tiny baby, came to experience our broken and hostile world is so unconceivable. God's love for us is so immense, His grace for us so undeserved, we can not imagine or comprehend His sacrifice for us.

"This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins" (1 John 4:9-10).

Let us ask our Heavenly Father to continue to rearrange, prune us where we need to be pruned. He will pick up the pieces of our lives that that need to be dealt with.

He gives us life giving water and nutrition from the soil around us through His Word and the Sacrament. As we reach out to others in the community and those in our own families during this Christmas Season, may the fruits of the Spirit be evident in all we do and say. This 'fruit Season' is a wonderful season to share our fruit with those who have less. Let the fruit of Joy, Love, Peace, Kindness, Goodness, Patience, Gentleness, Self Control and Faithfulness be your gifts to your community this Christmas and into 2024.

Thank you Heavenly Father for your gracious hand over us this Year. Thank you for the joy and the love that comes from knowing who we are and whose we are. Help us always to be aware of those in need and those we can encourage and support. May we always be thankful to where you plant us, help us grow and flourish as your children as we live each day with gratitude. In Jesus name Amen.

God's Grace and peace be yours,

Lynda Henstridge

Young People and Family Ministry Worker

Chairman's Report for December 2023

Greetings to all in our wonderful congregation.

This is written in the lead up to our Congregational meeting set for 26/11/23. Unfortunately, I am dealing with lingering effects of Covid – fortunately for me not at all bad. There are a number of others who have been suffering a lot from this and we pray for their healing quickly.

Over the last 3 months the manse work has been completed and the bills paid. There was a lot more work done than planned when this project started, some which we instigated by us, some which was covered by anonymous donors. The opportunity to upgrade and improve the building (bathroom, heating, air conditioning, blinds, painting, new driveway and an uplift) was taken and will add considerable value to the property and maintain the asset – as well as making it a lovely residence.

The recent Saturday morning planning session was well-attended (40+) and much discussion was had – with the room dividing into multiple groups and then each group reporting back their findings and thoughts/ideas. Church Council will work through these as we move forward.

It is pleasing to see increasing numbers in Church and especially new people who haven't been before. We look forward to welcoming all people. As we discussed at the Planning meeting – our Mission is Romans 15 v 7: "We welcome all people and share the love of Jesus Christ".

The decision concerning the hall coverings will have been decided. Thank you to all those who researched the possibilities and made their thoughts and concerns known. Whatever the outcome, we look forward to the renovations in the hall.

The new heaters in the hall have been installed and certainly are effective – although we might not use them too much over coming months! The new windows at the north end of the kitchen are also installed – looking bright and solid.

Financially, the year has progressed well, and we should show a surplus – again we have been assisted by outside gifts and contributions, as well as our regular members who give faithfully with thanks. Thankyou to Paul Rudolph who is our treasurer and works hard at keeping

all things in credit! We need an assistant to help him out – so if you can find someone to help him out – that would be appreciated!

Jacob's Well continues to serve the community and is a strong witness to those who visit. Unfortunately, sales have declined during covid and are struggling to recover a lot. Some areas like cards, have fallen well down due to people not sending cards so much and using social media instead. The outcome is that Jacobs Well suffered a loss in 2023 of over \$20,000. If this cannot be turned around, it will not be sound financial management to continue.

We either need considerably more sales (meaning you go into Jacobs Well and purchase items – and get your friends and others to do the same) – or have people contribute funds to Jacobs Well as a contribution to the mission outreach. Many people have indicated that "we can't lose Jacob's Well" – yes, I agree, but saying this won't fix this. Action is required and that involves \$\$\$.

On a lighter note – your Chairman and Pr Hans watched the final of the World Cricket Cup in peace together and I am pleased to advise Pr Hans is still talking to me! Apart from a boxing match – all was good!

I take this opportunity to thank all who serve at HTLC, both in an official capacity and those who help in any way they can from time to time. Continue to pray for your leaders that they may lead wisely and with enthusiasm and willingness – and may The Spirit guide us.

May God bless you.

Peter Cramer – Chair 22/8/23

UPDATE

At the meeting it was voted that the hall floor be sanded, mended and sealed. This will take two weeks and the cost is estimated to be \$17,500. This means there will be no tiles in the hall.

THANK YOU

A special thank you to all those who have served and will continue to serve as well as for those who are beginning to serve on the committees and as volunteers.

SPECIAL PEOPLE



Baptisms

Braxton Keith Dickerson-Hale & his parents Andrew & Kira – 3 September

Teddy Jude Werner & His parents Aaron & Carly – 10 September

Jaxon Daniel Young & his parents Luke & Antoinette – 17 September

Hudson John Ritchi & his parents Brenton & Emma – 24 September

Wedding

Lacey Rudolph & Hayden Fleay – 14 October

Funerals

Harold King – 2 October

Every day
God thinks of you.
Psalm 68:16

Every hour
God looks after you.
2 Thessalonians 3:3

Every minute
God cares for you.
1 Peter 5:7

Because every second
He loves you.
Jeremiah 31:3



Holy Trinity Office

HOURS

9 am to 1 pm, Monday to Friday
Receptionist Heather Petering

ADDRESS

22 McPherson St, PO Box 14, Horsham Vic 3402
Phone 03 5382 1325

Email: holytrinity.horsham.vic@lca.org.au

Website www.lutheranhorsham.org

Facebook @[holytrinitylutheranchurchhorsham](https://www.facebook.com/holytrinitylutheranchurchhorsham)

PASTORAL STAFF

For after hours please ring 03 5382 1325

Pastor Hans Peethala

22 Bowden St, Horsham 3400

Phone 03 5381 0602

Lynda Henstridge, Young People and Family Worker

Phone 0422 821 829

THE TRINITY VIEW

Published four times a year for members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Horsham.

Editor: Verna Rudolph

Member contributions and feedback can be left at Holy Trinity's office. They need to be limited to 250 words or less and must include the contributor's name. Please be aware that many articles are copyright and where this is the case, they must include all relevant copyright information. We also request your understanding that articles can only be included as space allows.

Email: holytrinity.horsham.vic@lca.org.au

Please send your emails to this address

SEXUAL ABUSE COMPLAINTS

A confidential service responding to complaints of sexual abuse / harassment by church employees and volunteers has been set up with trained advisers to help work through the issues.

Write to:

Confidential

PO Box 519, MARDEN, SA 5070

Ring the Freecall number

1800 644 628

Email to complaints@lca.org.au

Afternoon Guild Report

The Afternoon Guild can look back at 2023 and thank God for the many ways we have been truly blessed as a group.

Thank you to the Bible Study leaders who have led the discussions on the 'Fruits of the Spirit'. We welcomed Pastor Hans and Cynderella in August and thank Pastor Hans for leading us in Bible Study.

The offerings have supported all the LWA and LWV Projects as well as the Holy Trinity Lutheran College, The Christian Emergency Food Centre, the air-conditioning in the hall, Lutheran Media, to name a few.

Two meetings were held in the Sunnyside Lutheran Retirement Village Community Centre, and it was lovely to welcome members who cannot attend the monthly meetings in the Education Centre as well as women from other Christian fellowship groups in Horsham.

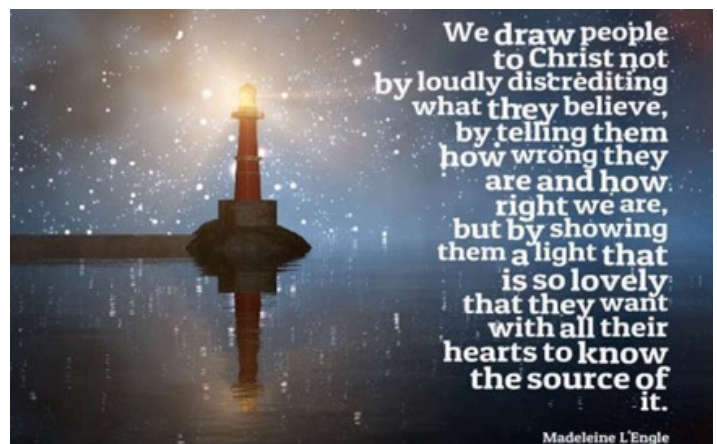
The Executive Committee is planning the Christmas meeting that will be held on Tuesday 5th December 1.30pm in the Education Centre. The 'Silver Strings' musicians will be entertaining us with a medley of Christmas and folk tunes. Please bring a place of afternoon tea and enjoy fellowship after the meeting.

There will be no meeting in January. However, the Executive Committee will be planning the program for 2024. Any suggestions for meetings, contact a member of the Executive Committee.

Check the bulletin for details of the monthly Guild meetings. All are welcome to attend.

For further information on the Afternoon Guild, contact the President, Marie Bergen on 0417 306 078 or the Secretary Cheryl Linke on 0458 911 514.

Cheryl Linke

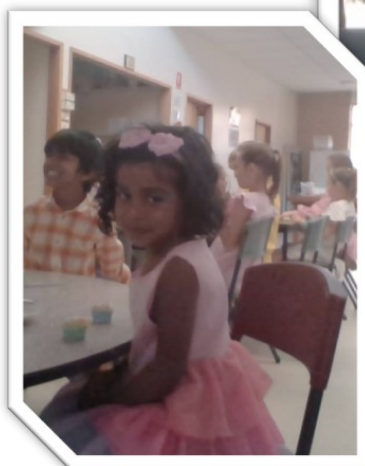


"Do what you can to show you care about other people, and you will make our world a better place."

Rosalynn Carter

May her memory be a blessing.

We hurry through life and the holidays forgetting to look around and just breathe. Take time to smell the pine, appreciate the lights, listen to the music, and be with your loved ones. Author unknown



WHAT HAPPENS IN KIDS TIME?

What a blessing and privilege to share Gods love with these precious children each Sunday for Kids Time. Sharing our faith together is such a wonderful opportunity to buildup of their faith and trust in our Saviour Jesus Christ. During the year Rosemary, Akala and Lynda have taught and provided ways in which the children can express their love for Jesus. The children love listening to the stories, playing games, singing songs, and making craft together. They love having an older sibling or young person join in encouraging and mentoring them during Kids Time.

One Sunday a month the children stay in Church and participate by reading the Bible readings or praying the prayers. This is a way we can grow their faith, watch their parents, and church family's faith and remind them that they are part of the church now.

Please pray for our children and their families as they continue to trust and grow their faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Holy Trinity Lutheran
**Church-Family
Camp**

10,11,& 12 November 2023

ROCKLANDS LODGE
1478 Rocklands Rd Rocklands



A Weekend to
relax, refresh,
reconnect and
enjoy time with
family.



Focus on the Family Australia

Idea for Advent devotions and activities

A free resource from the internet is on the website

[Focus on the Family Australia access free resources](#)

Click on the one which is called

An Advent Journey

Can be printed out to give to family members and then used when looking after grandchildren, children neighbours and yourself.

There are 42 pages and in order to save paper you can choose to print two pages per sheet, double sided and flip on long side..



Lutheran Tract Mission

For devotions to cover Advent through to Epiphany

Also tracts, booklets and small cards

Some are free and available to download and print

Some you will be able to order and pay for.

ltm@org.au

May your Christmas celebrations bring glory to God with hope, peace, joy and love to all people.

AND

The year ahead continue to be blessed to overflowing with the best of God's warmth and light,

because

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Those who dwelt in the land of intense darkness and shadow of death, upon them a light shined.

Isaiah 9:2



Phone 5382 3769 Fax 5382 3769
Email jacobswell41@bigpond.com
Website www.jacobswellbookshop.com.au
Facebook [www.facebook.com/ Jacobs-Well-ChristianBookshop/14566306620](http://www.facebook.com/Jacobs-Well-ChristianBookshop/14566306620) 0838
Shop at 42 Roberts Avenue, Horsham
Deliveries around Horsham welcomed



A couple of different comments from customers we hear often.

“There are so many things to look at”

“I’m so glad you are here. You can’t buy nice Christmas cards anywhere else”

“It is so nice to find a Christian bookshop. There are not many around any more”




OPENING HOURS
Monday to Friday
10 am to 4 pm
Saturday
10 am to 12 noon
Sunday

It's Christmas Time

make it a Jesus Christmas

At Jacobs Well

Beautiful Nativities Christmas Cards
Books Decorations and Ornaments
Perfect Gifts



Support your Christian bookshop
41 Roberts Ave Horsham
Ph: 5382 3769
www.jacobswellbookshop.com.au



God's blessings to be with you now, in all ways and always, to bring you love, hope, joy and peace in all you do that brings good to all people and glory to God.



FROM CHURCH OFFICE

For the ongoing support of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

you may use either of these Banking details

To Direct Debit your offerings to Holy Trinity's Personal Bank Account

Account Name: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

BSB: 033-629

Account Number: 48 0145

To give through REG at the LLL

Account Name: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

BSB: 704-942

Hospital Patients and sick at home people

Please note that the hospital no longer makes available the list of patients to pastoral care visitors (pastors and others)

This means that the church office and pastors do not know if any of our members are in hospital. PLEASE ring the office (5382 1325) so that pastor can visit. This includes people in the nursing homes too.

Alternately, patients can ask the hospital staff for a visit from their pastor — please do this.

LCA/NZ PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
Reflecting God's Love

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

If you think a child is at risk of harm ...

- In an emergency, call 000 (Australia) or 111 (New Zealand).
- If it is not an emergency, call your local police and child protection authority.



The Trinity View

If undeliverable return to

Horsham Lutheran Church

PO Box 14, Horsham 3402

Print Post Approved No PP326780 /7

Surface
Mail

**Postage
Paid
Australia**

label