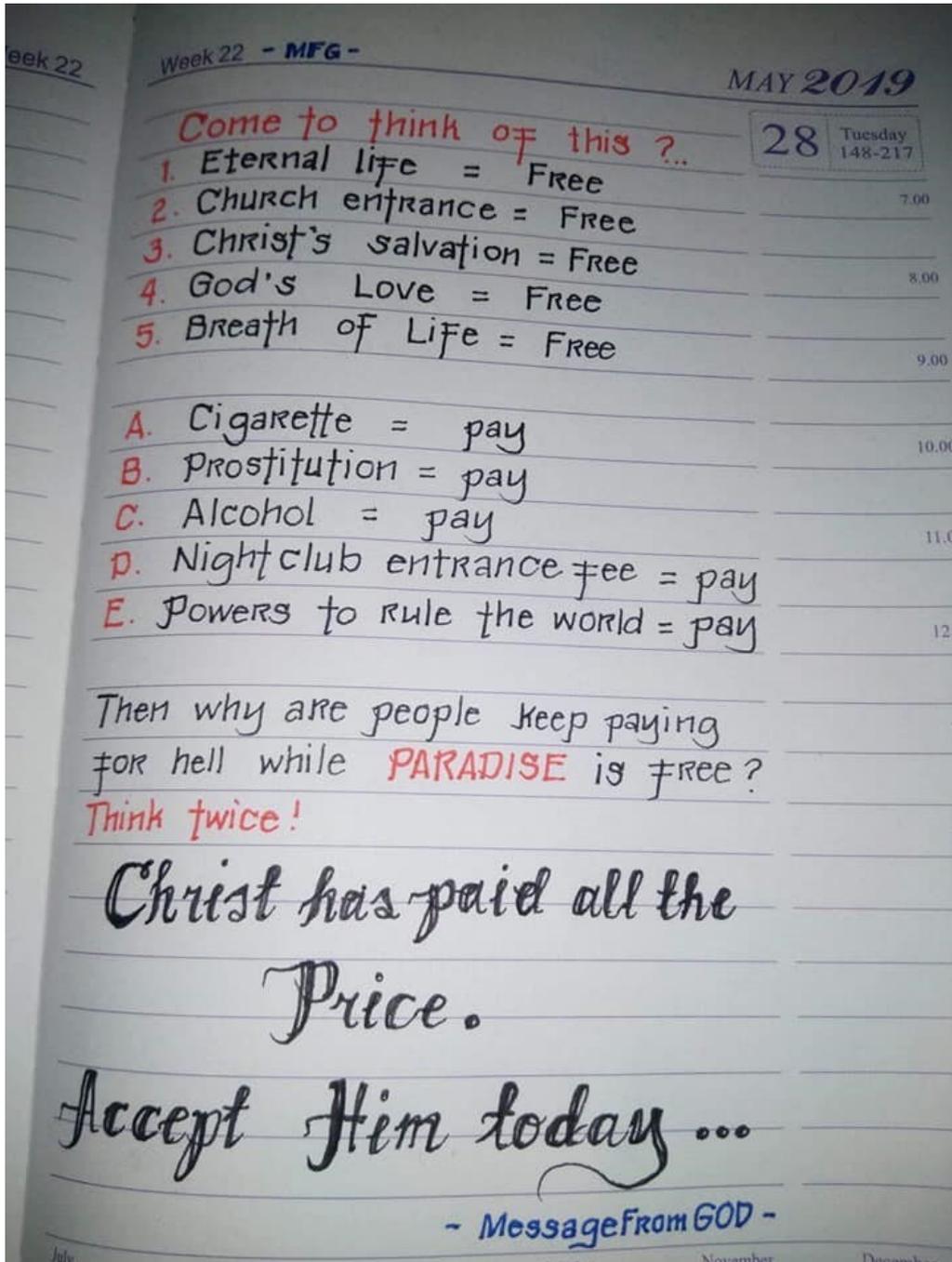


The Trinity View

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Horsham

March 2024



PastorHans Peethala

– God’s message –



Romans 5: 1-5

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us”.

This is the word of the Lord! Thanks be to God. Amen

Greetings in Christ name.

I wish you all a Blessed New Year and I am sure all of us have been hoping for a better year as we journey through 2024.

Let’s take this time to listen to each other and we will soon realize how obsessed we can be with the word “HOPE”.

A 3-year-old daughter says, “I hope I will have so much fun today”.

A 6-year-old says, “I hope my birthday will be the best day ever”.

A 14 year old says “I hope I could get that bike and I will have so much fun”.

A 22 year old says, “I hope I get that job so I can pay for my UNI”.

A 35 year old says, “I hope I can get that promotion so that I can buy a house”.

A 45 year old says, “I hope I can buy my dream house and enjoy with my family”.

A 65 year old says, “I hope I can retire well and travel around the world”.

A 75 year old says, “I hope I could do the things I used to do”.

What are you hoping for in 2024?

A Theologian Paul David Tripp in his book wrote “New morning mercies 2014 says “from hoping a certain meal will be good to hoping that we will have the strength to do the things we should do, our lives are fuelled and directed by hope. What we are all searching for is hope that won’t disappoint us, that won’t leave us in the end. And we all convince ourselves that what we have placed our hope in, will deliver.”

Everything that we hope in life reminds us that we will be disappointed when it doesn’t happen.

Hear the good news! True Hope is not found horizontally but True Hope is found vertically at the feet of JESUS the MESSIAH who is our only HOPE.

Jesus is the HOPE that God sent for us. Jesus is the HOPE that will never disappoint us. Jesus is the Prince of Peace who fulfills our hope for Peace in our lives. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life that our HOPE will not disappoint us. This is the blessed assurance we have in Jesus. Let us rejoice in the Lord always knowing we have received Jesus our HOPE who will never disappoint us”. Amen

In Christ Peace. Amen

Pastor Hans

Be careful what you water your dreams with. Water them with worry and fear, and you will produce weeds that choke the life from your dream. Water them with optimism and solutions, and you will cultivate success.

Always be on the lookout for ways to turn a problem into an opportunity for success. Always be on the lookout for ways to nurture your dream.

Lao Tzu

More grows in the garden than the gardener sows.
Spanish proverb



WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?

What are we waiting for?

I am sharing a message with you because it touched my heart when I read it. I have shared a story before from Marie and Japhin who are missionaries for YWAM in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Early February 2024 Marie wrote this story.

Did you take a bus this morning? What were your thoughts? Were you running late? Secretly hoping for the workday to be over already? Shivering in the cold?



Imagine standing at this bus stop. It is on the outskirts of Kyiv, in a suburb called Irpin. It was once a place where Kyiv's growing middle class would move. Those who worked hard and made it. You won't find Soviet apartment buildings here, but family cottages and schools with English curriculum. The streets were swept and clean, the bus stops freshly painted.

February 2022. From a suburb everyone wanted to move to, Irpin turned into a hellish place. The only crime of its residents? Being en route to Kyiv, the capital Russia wanted to capture. Now, the whole world knows the name of this small suburb. Not for its schools and parks, but for the unspeakable atrocities Russians committed there.

Recently, I met a girl from Irpin who evacuated. Don't you want to return, I asked her. I tried, she said. But when I looked out of the window of my house, I just saw the dark forest. And I just could not stand the memory of who came out of this forest in February 2022.

The truth is, every time I pass through Irpin I feel the weight of this darkness.

A few weeks after the Russians left, graffiti started to appear on bus stops. Soon, the whole route from Kyiv through the liberated suburbs was marked by bus stops with one and the same message:

Lynda Henstridge

*Young People and
Family Ministry worker*



"God exists. He is holy, blessed, powerful, eternal." On some bus stops, more attributes of God are added: "He is a good, loving Father."

Imagine yourself waiting at this bus stop. After everything you endured, somehow you survived and this morning you're waiting for the bus to go about your day. But it feels trivial. Bland. Pointless. After losing everything and maybe even someone, what's the point of trying to go back to square one to build it up again? Only to have it taken away again?

And then you see this message.

I have passed it hundreds of times and I cannot but wonder about the person behind it. Who faced gruesome evil and declared it powerless. A person who saw victory beyond the grave and proclaimed this truth over the city. A person who did not count it foolish to declare Almighty God over a place where people with guns and tanks came to play god.

I can only imagine the nights spent to paint this message all over the place. And until today, nobody removed it.

My question is, would you? Lift up this Gospel message over your life circumstances? Would you declare it over your city or rather shy away and keep it private? Would you find it offensive if someone spoke it into your life? Would you erase it?

We are just passengers and pilgrims, passing through, waiting for the life to come. The question is, what message do we leave, as we are waiting?

With God's blessings,

Lynda

Chairman's Report for February 2024

Greetings to all in our wonderful congregation

The AGM has been successfully held and the many servants to our congregation have been commissioned into service for 2024 – all at the service on 25th February. I thank all those who willingly serve in whatever capacity they are able.

Hall Floor repairs

This work is scheduled for April – after Easter. It will take up to 3 weeks and will probably result in fumes and smells leaking into the Church. As a result, if needed, we will shift services to the College for as many Sundays as necessary. More detailed information will be provided once we know the actual situation.

There is also ongoing repair work being done on our Hall building – guttering looks like it needs to be replaced and window flashings to name a couple. Thanks to our properties Committee for their attention to this.

Lenten Services

These have commenced and are held every Wednesday (7.30pm) through to Easter. The Wimmera pastors are alternating between Churches so we will have a different pastor each Wednesday. These are without Communion.

Eat and Chat

This continues on Wednesdays from 5.30pm – a great opportunity to do just that!

Way Forward – The Question of Women's Ordination

An after-church information session will be held in March (probably 24th) to outline progress and provide information. Steve Cramer, our Synod delegate and Pr Hans, will lead this meeting for those interested in attending.

The LCA suggest that a reserve delegate be appointed in case our delegate is unwell or unable to attend. We would welcome persons interested in this role to make themselves known so the Congregation can vote/select the appropriate person.

Jacobs Well

As detailed in the Book of Reports, Jacobs Well has been able to achieve a small surplus for the 6 months to December 31. This is a great result, and we thank all who have made an extra special effort to support this outreach. A number of donations have been made and this has helped greatly. We need continued support of Jacobs Well – as the next 6 months are typically quieter and expenses continue.

Another request is for interested persons to provide some time to assist in voluntary helping – training will be provided. Also, there is expected to be a position for a smaller number of hours per week (on a regular basis) for paid service. This is to cover the hours the shop is open

and to also allow Julie to have holidays and time off for illness etc.

If you think you might be able to help, or would like more information, please contact Julie at the shop.

Bible Study Groups

We are looking to start more Bible Study groups and ideally would like as many people as possible to be part of one. This is one of the outcomes of our Planning Day last year. A study program will be provided, and we need leaders and participants. Early days yet – this is just advance notice so you can think about how you might get involved.

Finances

It is early in the new year – however our Treasurer reports that finances are going ok for January. I thank you for your contribution to the annual budget – we are indeed blessed and we have much to give thanks for. The Thanksgiving Service was a recognition of this recently.

Education Support Financially -

Our Holy Trinity Lutheran College has many parents and students and some of them are struggling financially. Some make the decision to take their children out of our college as they can't afford the fees. This also impacts the College as a child is lost, and government funding is also lost. Of greater concern to us as a church, is that a child does not receive a Christian, caring education and can get lost in a non-Christian environment. The longer a child hears God's message of love from Christian teachers and is part of a Christian environment, the greater the possibility of growing a lifetime faith.

How can you help? Prayer is one powerful way. Another is to donate money to the College to specifically go towards the fees of children whose parents are unable to pay. A program is being developed to allow this to happen. If you felt led to do this, contact can be made directly to the College noting you wish to help to provide a Christian education for those otherwise unable to pay. I am happy to be contacted if you prefer.

In some cases, donations to the College attract tax deductibility so this may be of interest to some also.

I am also exploring other options along the lines of establishing a Trust Fund for this purpose. People may also consider the long term and make provision in their Wills as a bequest. In the immediate term – donations can be made direct so as to help now. Thank you.

Thank you again to our many helpers and encouragers. Pray for God's leading and for all the church community, that we may continue to serve together in harmony.

We have much to be thankful for. May God bless you.

Peter Cramer - Chair

SPECIAL PEOPLE



Baptisms

Hudson Jon Zerbst, son of Tanner & Krysty Zerbst – 10 December

Wren Isabelle Winfield, daughter of Tom & Sarah – 23 December

Funerals

Peter Cooke - 4 December

Gwenda Hedt – 8 December

Harold Ruwoldt – 5 January

Lois Cramer - 9 January

Barbara Giddings – 11 January

George Smith - 19 February

Bryan Nuske - 27 February

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 Sox 519, MARDEN, SA 5070

Ring the Freecall number

1800 644 628

Email to complaints@lca.org.au

Afternoon Guild Report

'Conversations with Jesus' is the theme of the Bible Studies from The Lutheran Women, written by Maria Rudolph, wife of Pastor Michael Rudolph. Pastor Hans led a discussion on 'Conversations: Jesus and ...the woman at the well (John 4:5-42) at the February meeting.

Jack and Jan Janetzki, using a power point presentation, spoke about the history and restoration work at the community of Farina in South Australia.

The meeting on Tuesday 5th March will be the AGM.

On the 2nd April, the meeting will be held in the Community Centre at the Sunnyside Lutheran Retirement Village. Bring a Bible and a plate of afternoon tea to share with the ladies who reside in the village, who are unable to attend our regular meetings.

The meeting on the 7th May will be in the Education Centre.

The World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday 1st March at the Salvation Army Complex.

Holy Trinity is rostered to do Meals on Wheels from the 8th – 12th April.

The LWV Convention will be held in Warracknabeal in May. More details later.

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

Secretary, Afternoon Guild

History of Holy Trinity Church

Personal histories and stories

Childhood memories of coming to church and being involved in the youth group, Sunday School. Also the Ladies Guild and Women's Fellowship, the Men's Group and sporting groups.

We will be collecting information about the Rest Home now called Sunnyside Lutheran Retirement Village. Jacob's Well has a good history too—as does the school.

Photos of confirmation. Wedding photos at the church

These are all part of our history and it is planned to take some time (year or two probably) to collect as much information as we can, especially if it is something uniquely in your story

You can use hand written stories into the office (labelled Church History) or email them to the Church Office holytrinity.horsham.vic@lca.org.au.

Photos can be left at the office and they will be scanned with the original then returned to you.

Thank you for sharing these precious memories,

Verna Rudolph

We need to stop
just pulling people
out of the river.

We need to go
upstream and *find*
out why they're
falling in.

-Desmond Tutu



This is what God's kingdom is like: a bunch of outcasts and oddballs gathered at a table, not because they are rich or worthy or good, but because they are hungry, because they said yes. And there's always room for more.

Prayer and You.

Martin Luther had a prayer for the morning when he woke up, and a similar prayer for the evening before he went to sleep. In these prayers he gave his whole self to the Lord. He prayed Father, Son and Holy Spirit as though they were not just an extension of his public life in Wittenburg, Erfurt, but they were his actual real and demonstrative family members.

God the Father to him was the awesome and completely faithful adult figure that brought into being every part of Martin's life, from his first stirring as a baby, through his exhaustive and productive life as a theologian and teacher, right through to his final breath. Everything was created for Martin to appreciate and enjoy and contemplate and thank the Creator for.

Jesus, His Son, was to him the epitome of redemption and sacrifice and forgiveness as never seen before or experienced by humanity. Jesus was the consummate brother to Martin as it was to Him that Martin spoke on every topic and at all times of the day. From his ablutions, to travel, to conversation

and debate with his peers, Martin confided in Jesus as his Savior.

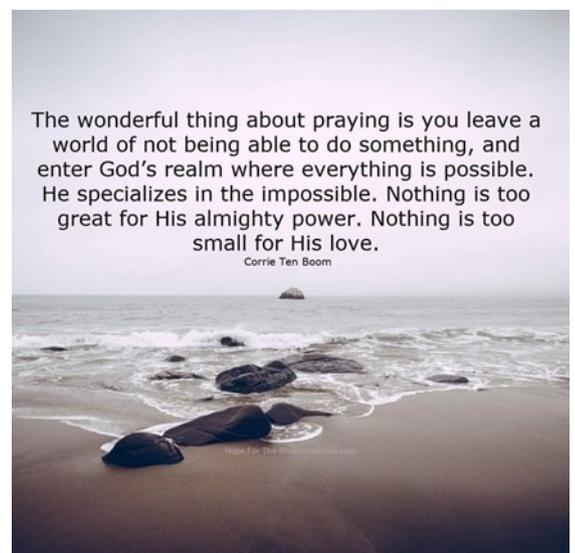
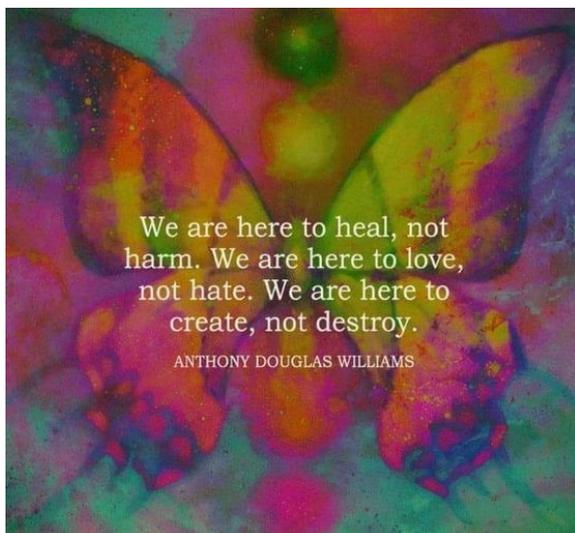
The third member of the trinity, The Holy Spirit, gave Martin the power, the insight and the authority to share the Gospel message in all he aimed to achieve, but not by his will, but by the Father's will. In fact, this member seemed very much like a loved uncle who Martin could confide in and respond to through the trials and challenges of his life.

The prayer that Martin confessed is published in the Luther Catechism, and it can be located along with so many specific directives and explanations of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective.

I urge you to reflect on Martin Luther, his life, the Luther Catechism and particularly the holy Bible that made all Maerin's actions so very real and personal to him. Keep praying, keep on praying, and when you have prayed enough, continue to pray.

In Jesus' precious and glorious name.
Amen

Wayne Lentsment



Prayer is the ability to confide in God, through Jesus Christ using the power of the Holy Spirit. All three persons in the godhead are involved in prayer.

Stop. Rest a while.

Have a Bible passage ready.

Think about where God is in this message.

Ask God the Father what he wants from you.

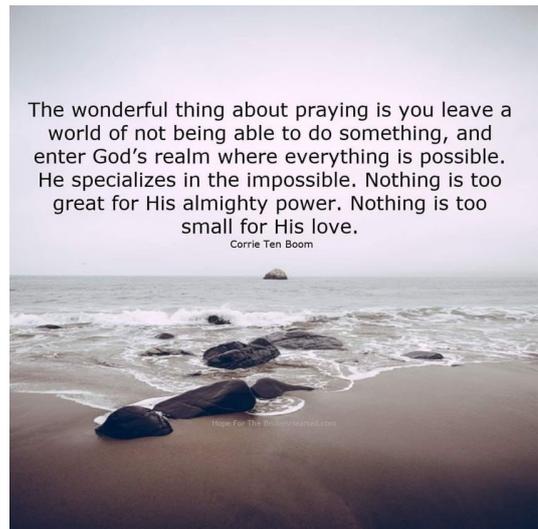
Seek Jesus in your current situation.

Know the Holy Spirit is working with you.

Write down thoughts that come to mind.

Talk to God about these comments.

Thank God for His guidance and His presence.

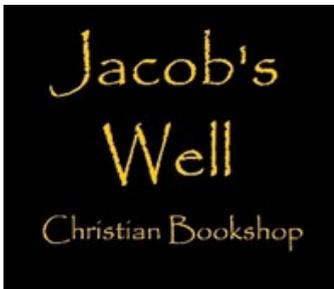


LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

“I thank you, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.”

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

“In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.”



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Deliveries around Horsham are welcomed

A Time to Hope

365 Daily Devotions from Genesis to Revelation

By Naomi Reed

Over my time at Jacobs Well I have had the opportunity to have a look and read many different devotion books. I must say I have enjoyed reading them all because there is always a good message for us all. However, I must say when *A Time to Hope* came into the shop, it intrigued me. There is not a lot else like it. So I started reading it and I am learning so much from it.

Many of us have favourite Bible verses that we draw comfort from, but we don't always know their context or understand how they fit into the main story arc of the Bible.

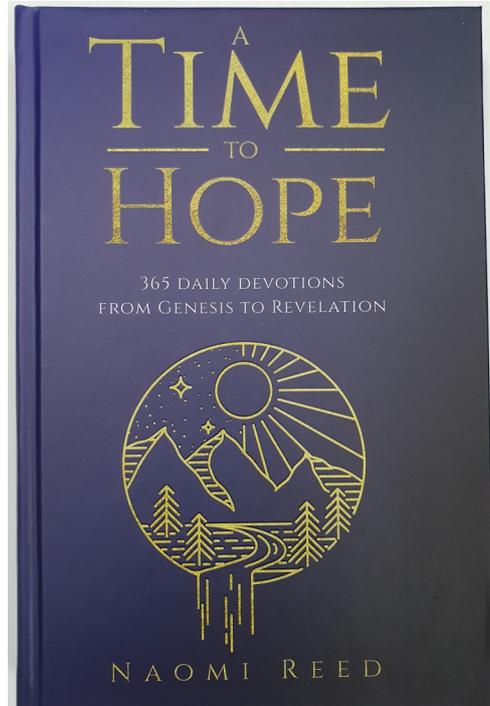
Tracing the big picture of God's story through the key themes and events from Genesis to Revelation allows us to see the abundant riches in God's Word. As you read the unfolding story each day, you can encounter God in all his glorious holiness and faithfulness.

Each day there is a bible reading, then some commentary about that reading and then finish with a prayer. This devotional encourages you to open up your Bible and read deeply!

If you have ever struggled to read the Bible from cover to cover, then this devotional will help you find a way in to God's big story and help you fall in love with Jesus all over again.

Available at Jacobs Well and online at www.jacobswellbookshop.com.au

By Julie Hedt



OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday
10 am to 4 pm

Saturday
10 am to 12 noon

Sunday

Our King is seated.

He is not frantically pacing.

He is not anxious or nervous.

He is not unsettled or scared.

He is seated, steady, secure.

Author unknown

Start of Year

The start of the school year at Holy Trinity Lutheran College commenced on January 23 with all staff gathering on-site in preparation for the new school year. The focus for the year centred around the following themes; communication, community, integrity, trust, utilising strengths, efficiency and relationships. Staff engaged in a series of activities over the course of the week which allowed them to explore these themes. Dr Shane Paterson visited the college and led a workshop titled 'What makes an authentic Lutheran School.' This session gave staff the opportunity to delve into these themes in greater



detail, exploring what culture means for Lutheran schools and HTLC, raising some thought-provoking questions and observations.

Staff Installation

A combined staff and congregation Installation Service was held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church to install Mr Jason Przibilla as the Acting Principal for 2024. New staff members as well as existing staff were also installed on this day. The service was led by Pastor Hans and we thank LEVNT



Executive Director Mr Colin Minke for attending and assisting with the Installation.

Opening Worship and Student Celebration

The school year for students commenced with the whole college gathering together for worship. At the conclusion of this service, our College Captains were introduced to the school community. Congratulations to the following students;

Junior School: Luella Burke, Matisse Hose, Jack Arnell and Nixon Beattie Middle School: Rachel Reichelt, Annabelle McKenzie-Packham, Ethan Stanley, Edward Jones

College Captains: Alannah Johns, Janay Van Buuren, Phoebe Whittaker, Rebekah Wundke



We wish our students all the best as they share our College spirit with their peers and the wider community.



The College also acknowledged the efforts of last year's Dux – Angela Rudolph and Approximate Accessit – Breanna Hawken. It was fantastic to welcome both students back to the college to receive their awards and provide some words of wisdom for this year's cohort of Year 12 students.



Camps and retreats

Starting Year 7 and Year 12 are big milestones for students. Both of our cohorts enjoyed time away in Halls Gap during the first week of term.



Our Year 7 camp focused on building positive relationships, developing leadership and organisational skills and preparing for a busy year ahead.

Meanwhile on the Year 12 retreat, our new top class enjoyed two days of team-building activities and exploring relationships. The group shared aspirations for the year ahead, discussed how to implement self-care for Year 12 and ended with an intensive study skills session to help them set up and navigate a successful examination period.



Inter-House Swimming Success

Last week, the College hosted its Junior Swimming Carnival for Years 4-6, and its Secondary



Swimming Carnival for Years 7-12 students.

It was amazing to see students in houses Wimmera, Mallee and Lowan don their respective colours and support their teammates as they



competed in various strokes in the pool and in "Fashions by the pool".

Congratulations to Lowan, who took home the Junior competition, and Wimmera, who won the Secondary carnival.

Houses now look ahead to their next sporting contention with the athletics in March.

The Year Ahead

With students and staff now settled into the new school year, we look forward with optimism as our students learn and grow through the range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities that exist in our Foundation to Year 12 College.

Yours In Christ,

Jason Przibilla,

FROM CHURCH OFFICE

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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

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