

the Trinity View

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Horsham March 2019

SAVE THE DATE!

Celebrating the 50th anniversary
of the dedication of Tandara Lutheran Camp
buildings 19/10/1969–19/10/2019

Sunday 20 October 2019

Worship and lunch

For details email:
50thanniversary@camptandara.com



The Trinity View
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Peace Memorial Garden

Have you seen it?

Sometime in the last few years, a bequest was made to Holy Trinity with the request that it be used to beautify the church in some way. The church council discussed how this might be done and decided to establish a church garden that would act as a memorial to our fellow Christians who have gone to be with Jesus. This has been done under the direction of the Properties Committee.

Where is it?

Look in front of Peace Memorial Hall to the left side at the property line and you will see it. Perhaps many of you who come on the church grounds from the east side of the church and into the church from the front door or into the hall from the back door have not really had a very good look at it. Do take a few minutes sometime to stop and appreciate it and maybe even take another quiet moment for a prayer.

What's in it?

Low native bushes have been planted in it. The three wooden crosses that were once used during the Lenten season in the front grass area

(now been gravelled) have been placed here permanently. These, of course, have always represented Jesus death and resurrection and the two thieves who were crucified with him one of whom Jesus' promised would be in heaven with him **and one who rejected him.**

Three large stones have also been placed in the garden. You might use your imagination as to what they could represent. The stone in front of the tomb comes to mind but since there are three one might also think of God being a triune God and our congregation being Holy Trinity. Last of all have a look at the mosaic on the ground. This was created at the last Church camp at Rocklands.

So have a look and thank God for the people who have spent the time and money to create a visual testimony of beauty to our God.





Pastor Gus Schutz

Pastor Gus and Elly are away for Recuperation Leave until Pastor Gus returns to the office on Tuesday 23 April. God's blessings for a refreshing and safe break.

Pastor Geoff Scheffe



For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body; Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

1 Corinthians 12:12,13a, 27

For some time I have been receiving comments that I should update you with what a 'typical' month looks like in the life of your pastor. When I use the word 'typical' it is done with the understanding that there is no such a thing as a 'typical' month in a pastor's life. But to give you all a bit of an idea, here is my monthly Church Council / Pastoral Assistants report for February.

Wednesday 23 January – Lynda, Dennis Grosser and I travelled to Warracknabeal for our first zone pastors meeting of the year. We welcomed the new additions

to our zone, Pr Carl Thiele (Nhill parish) and Pr Lucas Matuschka (Rainbow parish). The main agenda item was discussing the Lenten roster. It was confirmed that all parishes, excluding Dimboola-Edenhope, would participate. This year the theme is 'Gospels of Lent'. It was reinforced to all the pastors that Holy Trinity services will be with Holy Communion. We all then enjoyed a lovely lunch at the Creekside Hotel.

Friday 25 January - I met with the 2019 interns at Tandara to plan for their installation service. I also led a staff devotion.

Sunday 27 January – At the combined morning service I had the privilege of commissioning our Church Council members and Pastoral Assistants as well as blessing ALL (approximately 80) of our volunteers. We had the privilege of having Jacob Fabich play both piano and organ at this service.

Sunday 27 January – Rosie, Jacob Fabich, Pr Levi Graham and I travelled up to Rainbow for the installation service for Pr Lucas Matuschka. The service was presided over by Bishop Lester Priebenow. I have been commissioned as Pr Lucas's mentor pastor.

Monday 28 January –

Australia Day public holiday – Rosie and I went to Epping to visit Rohan. We also took him our old clothes dryer for his household to use.

Wednesday 30 January – Lynda and I met to plan ahead for some of this year. 'Knowing Jesus' schedule amongst other things.

Thursday 31 January – some of the worship music planning team met to plan ahead till May. Due to illness and holidays some of the key band leaders were not able to participate.

Sunday 3 February – Pr Gus presided over the Same God Different Service (SGDS), including the installation of new teachers/teacher aides and the dedication of Holy Trinity College principal teachers and staff.

Sunday 3 February – I preached at a Holy Communion service for the installation of the 2019 Tandara interns at Tandara. Rosie and I then stayed down at Halls Gap overnight.

Tuesday 5 February – I met with Ivy Jaeschke and family at the Dimboola Nursing Home to plan for Ron's funeral which will be at St John's, Jeparit on Tuesday February 12.

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School Activities Term 1, 2019



Babies physically well nurtured but not properly loved may stop growing, waste away, and die. Love is not only an emotional need but critical to survival. anon

[Ed: the same goes for children of all ages. And adults need love too]



Term dates

Term 1 : 30 January to 5 April
Term 2: 23 April to 28 June
Term 3: 16 July to 20 September
Term 4: 7 October -to13 December



School Newsletter is available on the website www.htlc.vic.edu.au

Lots of other information is available there too.



You do not have to make your children into wonderful people. You just have to remind them that they *are* wonderful people.
William Martin



Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in God.
anon

Principal's Report by
Daniel Weller
for term 1, 2019

Greetings from the Holy Trinity Lutheran College community.

At the start of each year I am regularly asked by a range of people how well the school year has begun. Quite often I respond with "It's been good, but busy", to which the response is usually, "But isn't it always busy?"

Schools are often busy places and now that our college has grown to include students in Foundation to Year 12 it has become evident that more than ever we feel this busyness. In these overwhelming times, however, it is wonderful to see how the college community of Holy Trinity has responded. The support for students, staff and parents is something that makes our school great and during the last few weeks of this term it has been reassuring to see the support that has been offered by all. Thank you.

This year the college has established three designated sub schools, with the inclusion of the relocatable Senior School block located adjacent to the current construction of the Senior School and Main Reception. This temporary building will remain until the new facility is complete closer to the Easter holiday break. The construction works for the new Junior School building have also commenced with this facility, along with the refurbishment of the lower

primary classrooms and staff room, to be complete toward the end of the year. It is truly an exciting time at our college and we ask for God's guiding hand during this time.

During the term both the Junior School and Middle and Senior School information evenings were held. Used as a time to provide families with information about the year ahead I would like to thank those members of our college community who were able to attend the evenings. These sessions are a valued time as connections between the school and home can be made as we positively influence and strengthen future learning endeavours for all students.

In 2019 we welcome the following new staff members to our community: Miss Lisa Somerfield (Foundation), Mrs Heidi Noller (Year 1), Miss Jemma Moody (Year 4), Mr James Withey (Junior School PE), Mr Shane Worthy (junior School Music), Mrs Georgia Thomas (English and Humanities), Mr Joshua Lloyd (English and Humanities), Mrs Jessie Ferguson (Science), Ms Anne Rogers (Food Technology), Mr Jarryd Noller (Chaplain) and Mrs Amanda Rudolph (Teacher Aide). I pray that their time with us is one of joy and fulfillment.

At the end of 2018 we farewellled Mrs Sue Glover (Junior School teacher) who resigned to work more in the family business, and Mr James

Headlam (Junior School PE) who was wanting to return home to family in Geelong. Mr Kris Cooper (Junior School Teacher Aide) has also returned to being a stay at home dad. Alicia Schneider and Claire Harvey are on maternity leave in 2019. It is worth noting that the college now employs 75 staff members in a range of teaching and non-teaching roles.

It is with joy that we congratulate Mrs Claire Harvey on the arrival of Piper Rose on 6 February. We pray God's richest blessing on her, Brock and Ava at this time.

Additionally, we congratulate Mrs Natalie Harding (nee Jones) on her recent marriage to Jamie over the holiday break, along with the engagements of Miss Elsbeth Zeegers to her partner Michael and Miss Jennifer Klinge to her partner Matt.

We give thanks to God for the ongoing learning opportunities that will be provided to students, teachers and families within our college community this year. We are, and continue to be, blessed by Him and will be forever grateful for his presence in our growing college. May God continue to look favourably upon us during the school year.

Kind regards,
Daniel Weller Principal.

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Tuesday 5 February – Heather, Lynda and I completed an on-line PS3 Child Safe webinar to maintain our P.S. accreditation.

Thursday 7 February – Rosie and I hosted the first of seven 'Alpha Marriage' evenings. I need to state that I am very disappointed in the lack of interest in this wonderful opportunity offered to our community.

Friday 8 February – The annual family night for Church Council and P.A. members was hosted by Peter and Jill Cramer. Many thanks to them for once again showing great hospitality.

Saturday 9 February – The

Worship Planning team set up the sanctuary in the church for the Thanksgiving services on February 10. We give thanks to God for welcoming Ben Toet through baptism at the 10.30 service on Sunday Feb 10.

Tuesday 12 February – I Conducted the funeral service of Ron Jaeschke at St John's Jeparit, followed by committal at the Jeparit cemetery and a luncheon in the air-conditioned comfort of the Jeparit Town Hall.

Monday 11 - Tuesday 12 February – HTLChurch hosted a group of people accompanying Dave Anderson and Roger Walk who gave a concert following a bring-and-share tea.

Wednesday 13 – Sunday 17 February – First I was at District Pastors' Conference at Tabor Lutheran Church, then at District Synod at Good Shepherd, Hamilton. All three services at HTLC were lay reading services without Holy Communion.

Our Lord is always good! I have a new opportunity to provide adult baptism lessons and, after baptism, confirmation lessons for one of our young mums. I also have, at the time of writing this, two baptisms booked in for March.

with God's blessings,
Pastor Geoff

Manse Refurbishment

Work on the Bowden St Manse is making good progress. The kitchen cupboards have now gone in. Some painting has been done. This renovation is an important upgrade to our manse as very little works have done for

many years. It will ensure our asset is maintained and improved for the longer term. Donations are still requested to pay for the renovation. Our Treasurer reports that \$8,264.80 of the anticipated \$30,000 cost has been donated so your help is still needed here. A big thank you to those who have already contributed

To donate please place your contribution in an envelope marked "Manse Appeal" and put it on the offering plate or speak to our Treasurer or the office staff about an electronic transfer of funds.



←
from

to

→



Pastor Greg**Lent:
Our****Journey Back
to God**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 and
Mark 1:9-15

What does the season of Lent mean for us today? Lent basically means the same as it always has. Here is an invitation from the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship (USA).

I invite you, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent, by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love and generosity, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God.

In order for that invitation to be meaningful for you and me, perhaps it's best to begin with some basics about this liturgical season of Lent. Much of this may be familiar to many of you, but I have learned not to assume that, especially in our day and age when people come to a particular church from a variety of different faith traditions, many of which do not follow the liturgical church calendar.

The word "Lent" comes from the Old English word *lencten*, meaning "springtime" – the time of year (northern hem.) when we notice new

birth and new growth due to days with more sunshine – more light! The season of Lent is the 40-day period of time (not counting Sundays) prior to Easter.

Somewhat similar in purpose to the season of Advent that precedes Christmas, the Christian Church uses this time for the purpose of preparing to celebrate the meaning of Easter. It does so by taking stock and a good hard look at our lives and journey of faith – as individuals and as the church.

For when we do, we will hopefully see how God has been, and is, actively working in and through our lives, and in and through the lives of others. In the process, however, we come to realize the reality that living the Christian way of life doesn't make our life any less difficult, or any freer of temptations.

That's why every year on the First Sunday of Lent the assigned lectionary gospel passage is often Jesus' 40-day struggle with temptation in the wilderness. As Lent begins, we are to focus on the wilderness experiences that we face, and the temptations that we struggle with most.

Ultimately, then, Lent is meant to be a time of honest self-examination and most importantly, a time of returning to God and to the ways of God – which Jesus summarized as loving God, and our neighbours as ourselves. This is put into perspective with the following Old Testament passage from the prophet Joel, which is also a traditional reading at the start

of this season.

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. (Joel 2:12-13)

Our hope, then, is that we rediscover (or perhaps discover for the first time) that God's love and grace is indeed sufficient - even if we find ourselves in the midst of very difficult life situations. The burning question for each of us, therefore, is how do we do that? Historically, Lent has been a time of self-sacrifice, of giving up the luxuries, and even some of the necessities, of life. This approach was taken as a way to relate better with the sacrifices that Jesus made during his 40 days in the wilderness following his baptism. The purpose of this self-denial was to help people focus more on their dependence on God.

But for many years now, I have advocated not so much the "giving-something-up" method of drawing nearer to God (unless that works for you), but rather the "taking-something-on" approach. So perhaps the real question for you and I to ponder, and then respond to is: What could you add to your daily or weekly routine that would lead you to spiritual renewal? What would it take to revive and energize your spiritual life? The answer depends entirely on you. Maybe things like:
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School Council Report
Bryan Matuschka
Chairman
for term 1 2019

Greetings from the Holy Trinity Lutheran College Council. At a recent meeting of the Holy Trinity College Council we decided to change the format of the report to the Trinity View. For those of you who regularly read the Trinity View for updates on what has been going on at the College you will notice a change. Rather than a report of events of the past, between myself and our principal, Daniel Weller, we aim to implement a new format that looks at upcoming events in our college's journey and keeping you informed from an educational point of view and also in terms of planning from the College Council. For those who would still like a recap of the events of the past week, the school newsletter is available in hard copy on Sundays or for the more technologically savvy, on the college website or college app (Holy Trinity Lutheran College). Events at the school are also regularly communicated via social media on the College's facebook page. The College has always enjoyed a strong connection with the Holy Trinity Congregation. From the early days of the school, the support of the church community, both financially and spiritually, has been a blessing to the college and its mission to provide a quality Christian education. We pray that this strong connection continues. We are blessed to have a

quality College Council that provides a combination of youth and experience. This year we have welcomed Michelle Rethus on to the College Council and farewelled Richard Nagorcka, who has served the College so well over some 16 years on Council, 11 of those as chairman. While Richard's experience and dedication to the college will be missed, it also presents the opportunity for different input into the governance of the College. This year our College Council members are Daniel Weller, Fiona Friberg, Jenny Klowss, Sally Kuchel, Stuart Livingstone, Bryan Matuschka, Nicole Meyer, Barry Neumann, Kerri Nichols, Kerrie Pietsch, Jason Przibilla, Michelle Rethus, Greg Ruwoldt, Gus Schutz and Garry Wallace. We pray that God guides our decision making on the future direction of our College. It is exciting to see some of those decisions at College Council now coming to fruition. The new Senior School building has changed the landscape at the school site and is edging closer to completion with the internal fit out having commenced. New signage erected over the summer has also brightened up the college precinct while also enabling visitors to easily navigate their way around our College. Not nearly so obvious is that work has begun on the installation of the solar panel

array to the roof of our college buildings that will provide the majority of our power needs throughout the school day. Last week also saw the arrival of a new college bus, put in to service almost immediately to transport our remote students to and from school and to transport staff and students to school camps and other outings.



Work will also commence on our new Junior School building and refurbishment of our existing Junior School building later this year. From there, our focus will be on the development of a second stage of our Senior School comprising the addition of a gym and additional learning areas to support our expanding College. I pray that the College community will continue to be blessed by the many opportunities that God has in store for us, and that the College Council, staff, students and families remain in the prayers of our congregation.

Bryan Matuschka
College Council Chair

Book Review by Rosie Schefe

The Prodigal Prophet: Jonah and the mystery of God's mercy

by Timothy Keller
Hodder & Staughton, 2018

If you take a wander through the children's section at Jacob's Well you could be easily forgiven for thinking that Jonah is as important a figure in the Bible as Jesus. The story of Jonah and the whale is right up there in the best-seller lists – probably among the top three (or very lowest in the top five) stories represented for children. The reason for that is quite simple really – the story is dramatic, short and really lends itself well to illustration. But that's not why Timothy Keller is attracted to this small book from the Old Testament. Keller's thesis is that (quite apart from some of the prefigures of Jesus that theologians love to discuss) Jonah is much more like us than we might care to think, and therefore, we need to pay attention to what this book has to say about who really deserves to experience God's grace and mercy.

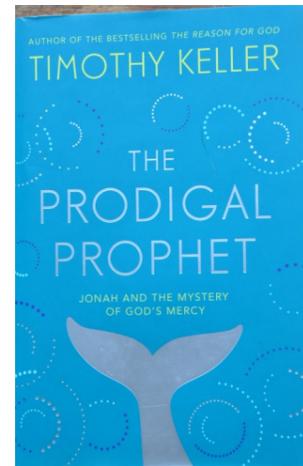
Initially this book was created from

three series of sermons that Timothy Keller preached on Jonah, each series separated by about 10 years. Knowing that it becomes easy to spot when sometimes he returns to similar themes with similar words or expressions, but that is probably not a bad thing in itself. What Keller does do is to look at the whole story: Jonah's rebellion, resignation, resurrection (after three days in the belly of the fish), 'repentance', reproach, resignation (again), recalcitrance and also of God's continual patience with his reluctant prophet. That insistence on the whole story, not just those dramatic bits, is what makes this book so relevant for us.

The central question for Keller is – what does the story of Jonah have to teach us about God's grace? Who is God's grace for? What is our part in spreading that grace among the people around us? What about those people who are different from us, hostile towards us and who openly or actively challenge our very core beliefs and values? Is God's grace for them too? Do we have a licence to hide our faith, our beliefs and our hope from others whom we KNOW are sinners, deep in their rejection of God? This book very clearly says that no, we do NOT.

I loved *The Prodigal Prophet*: despite the original book of Jonah being thousands of years old, Timothy Keller shows us that it is still very relevant to the society we find ourselves in. We are so busy being Jonah – keeping our heads down, maintaining the peace – that we easily lose sight of our mission to spread the gospel of God's saving grace, delivered to us through Jesus. It's also a reminder that there are still people out there who need to hear that gospel and that God is determined they will hear and respond to it.

The Prodigal Prophet is available through Jacob's Well (in the adult section!)



Remember Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. God did not put out the fire. He put Jesus in there with them. It is not about God "putting out your fires". It is about WHO is in there with you.
Anon

See Daniel chapter 3 for the full story

In ordinary life we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

ALTHOUGH ONE CANNOT GO BACK AND MAKE A BRAND NEW START, ANYONE CAN START FROM NOW AND MAKE A BRAND NEW ENDING.
CARL BARD

SERVICE TIMES

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

every Sunday

at 9 am with Holy Communion
10:30 am with Holy Communion
7 pm with Holy Communion
(please note when there is a fifth Sunday there is no Holy Communion)

Same God, Different Service

9 am with Holy Communion
First Sunday of each month

Holy Trinity Lutheran College

Junior School Chapel Worship
every Friday at 9 am during term
Middle & Senior School Chapel Worship
every Wednesday morning at 9 am

Sunnyside Lutheran Retirement Village

at Trinity Manor Chapel

Divine Worship

every Sunday morning at 9:15 am

Holy Communion

every first and third Tuesday
at 1 pm

Holy Communion is also held at the Matron Arthur Manor, Menzies and Kurrajong Lodge Nursing Homes as needed. Please contact the church office when a loved one is in any part of the hospital and would like a pastoral visit

HC at Ingenia Gardens Horsham

used to be called River Gardens Village
at 17 River Road, Horsham
11 am
second Thursday of each month

for service times during Lent and Easter
please see page 8

Holy Trinity Office

HOURS

9am to 1pm Monday to Friday.
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NEW WEB PAGE



for information, Bulletin, sermons, The Trinity View see our web page
www.lutheranhorsham.org

'THE TRINITY VIEW'

Published 4 times a year for members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.
Editorial Team: Verna Rudolph
Contributions and feedback can be left at Holy Trinity's office.

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Should 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.

SEXUAL ABUSE COMPLAINTS

A confidential service for responding to complaints of sexual abuse/harassment by church employees has been set up with trained advisers to help.
Write to: Confidential,
PO Box 519, Marden SA 5070
or use the Freecall number,
1800 644 628 or email to
complaints@lca.ord.au

SPECIAL PEOPLE



Baptisms

Maise Kay Hicks daughter of Craig & Kate Hicks – 9 December
Arlo David McMaster son of David & Brooke McMaster – 9 December
Jude Elliot Polack son of Matthew & Kate Polack – 23 December
Baxter Theodore Argall son of Shannon & Jenna Argall – 6 January
Sophie Mary Faith Hallam daughter of Robert & Ashida Hallam – 13 January
Ben Eric Toet son of Wayne & Olivia Toet – 10 February

Funerals

Brian Perso – 18 December
 Lowana Taylor – 7 January
 Ron Jaeschke – 12 February

Transfers Out

Emilie Whitehead – 8 February

Welcome into Membership

Les & Elsa Polack – 20 January

Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children.
Proverbs 17:6

Don't try to tell others to be more loving; let your life bespeak your love. Work on yourself, grow in happiness, and others will naturally begin to tune in to their higher potentialities. anon

Church Council

The "Same God - Different Services" are proving popular and will continue once per month this year. We are continually looking for new ideas (topics and formats) and new voices to help make these services more meaningful and also connect with those from outside the congregation. If you can contribute in this important mission please get in touch with feedback or more. The office is seeing some technological changes. The WiFi has been upgraded and a large TV has been purchased and installed in the Ed Centre. This is proving a fantastic aid for Kids' Time and can be used for watching movies for Youth or other groups. We have also signed up to The Big Studio Movie License which allows churches to legally show full movies or snippets from all the big movie studios. The NBN has not yet been connected but a way forward has been presented which our team is working through this month which will also investigate the changeover of our aging phone system. The excellent work of the Properties Committee and volunteers continues to see work on Bowden St manse continue to progress as per plan. An open day has been proposed when works are complete. Thanks to the quick work of the Ladies Guild we now have air-conditioning in the Hall, a blessing during this Christmas Eve service. It was agreed that the Lenten offering will be split this year between the Young People and Family Ministry and Jacob Fabich's continued education at the Seminary. Jacob is a talented musician who is training to be a pastor. He assisted in one of the early February services with piano AND organ in the same service. His faith is a blessing and we hope to see more of him at Holy Trinity in the future. We are constantly looking at how we do things and how we may reach and minister to all members and non - members. We ask for your prayers and encouragement. Tim Rethus – Vice Chair (stand-in Chair for February)

Regular Electronic Giving

is commonly known as "REG" in our church

It is the modern way to 'set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that ... no collections will have to be made.'
1 Corinthians 16:2

Have you considered using Regular Electronic Giving?

Perhaps you find it inconvenient to always have cash for your offering or you can't get to church every Sunday or find it difficult to get into a regular pattern of giving. If so REG (offered by the Lutheran Laypeople's League) can help you. You would set up a Direct Debit amount to be transferred from your selected bank account to the congregation's REG account at regular intervals (weekly, fortnightly, monthly, or yearly). Your name is not included in the records sent to the church. Forms are available from the church office. For more information pick up a REG brochure from the table in the hall or go the www.lca.org.au/reg.



For regular attendees at church you are provided with a small card to put on the offering plate. Some people like to place a small offering when they attend as well as the REG offering. Others just pass the plate to the next person.



Proverbs 22:6

Train (or start) a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it. (NIV)

Point your kids in the right direction - when they're old they won't be lost. (The Message)

Teach your child how they should live, and they will remember it all their lives. (Good News)

Teach a child to choose the right path, and when he is older he will remain upon it. (The Living Bible)

Proverbs 20:30

Blows and wounds cleanse away evil, and beatings purge the inmost being. NIV

Sometimes it take a painful experience to make us change our ways. Good News)

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me - a prayer to the God of my life.

Why are you so downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God.

Psalm 42:1,2,8,11



Congregational Officials for 2019

Chairman Peter Cramer Vice Chairman Tim Rethus Second Vice Chairman Andrew Wundke Secretary Esther Bartlett Assistant Secretary Treasurer Arnold Niewand Assistant Treasurer Paul Rudolph Additional Members Allan Penhall, Steve Cramer, Lynda Henstridge, Bob Schilling Appointed Representatives from other groups School Council Rep- Daniel Weller PA Rep: Rostered Pastoral Assistant Properties Committee: Glenn Pietsch			
Pastoral assistants Maurice Rudolph Graham Potter Paul Latimer Darren Linke	Jan Janetzki Jan Bahr Wayne Lentsment	Robert Keller Gordon Mills	Youth Team Lynda Henstridge Emily-Rae Woodhead Greg Snowden
College Council Pastors, Principal Appointed PA P.T.F.A. Rep Stuart Livingstone	Bryan Matuschka Barry Neumann Greg Ruwoldt Kerrie Pietsch Nicole Meyer	Safe Place Policy Coordinator Ruth Sanders	
Ministry to Seniors Taskforce Lyn Matuschka Lorraine Clayton Glenda Bunting Reuben Grieger Helen Jordan David Tonissen Kathe Murray Val Stewart	Worship Team Pastor Geoff Noel Janetzki Rosie Schefe Betty Janetzki Jo Carroll Carolyn Barnett Carol McDonald		
Care 4U Team Appointed PA Gerard & Jan Ackland Ian Walter	Jacob's Well Committee Manager – Julie Hedt Peter Cramer Pam Rethus John Keller Gwen Wik Lorna Mills Linda Niewand		
Properties Committee Glenn Pietsch Graeme Schilling Jack Janetzki Shane Pietsch Denise Milich Alistair Henstridge Maree Petering John Keller	Lay Readers Ian Walter Richard Nagorcka Maurice Rudolph Wayne Lentsment Denis Grosser		
Children's Ministries <u>Kid's Time (Sunday School) Coordinator</u> Imogen Foster	Auditor Colin Kreymborg		
Head Ushers Simon Rethus Brian Rudolph	Mission Team Eric & Leanore Hedt John & Carmel Pietsch Pr Gus & Elly Schutz Jill Cramer		

Young People and Family Ministry

Faith without fear

I am pretty sure some of you may be able to identify with me, why it is hard to share our faith?

Being Lutheran, sharing our faith and what we believe, is sometimes very daunting and a little bit scary. What if we say the wrong thing, what if we are asked really hard questions and we don't know the answer?

People who have been Christians more than 10 years say they are scared to share their faith because they don't know enough.

How do we share our faith with those around us? How can we share our faith without fear?

If there is someone you would like to share your faith with, first of all pray about this. God listens to all our prayers, even if it is a very short few words. He will enable you and give you the courage to speak.

Here are a few questions that can move a conversation from a secular

topic to a spiritual topic.

- * Do you have any spiritual beliefs?
- * To you, who is Jesus?
- * Do you think there is a heaven or a hell?
- * If you died tonight, where would you go?
- * By the way, if what you were believing is not true, would you want to know?

These are questions you can ask without having to give an answer. People aren't threatened by sharing their 'spiritual' thoughts. It is a good way to start the conversation. Just ask the questions without giving your thoughts. A loving way to ask this is to do it with respect. If they answer yes to the last question, then there is an opportunity to share what Jesus has done for you personally and for them too.

Isn't it wonderful to know that it is not our responsibility to convict? Conviction is God's job. All we can do is share. Once we have shared, we

have done God's will.

Witnessing for Christ is a no-lose activity.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? - We have all sinned and deserve God's judgment. God, the Father, sent His only Son to satisfy that judgment for those who believe in Him. Jesus, the creator and eternal Son of God, who lived a sinless life, loves us so much that He died for our sins, taking the punishment that we deserve, was buried, and rose from the dead according to the Bible. If you truly believe and trust this in your heart, receiving Jesus alone as your Saviour, declaring, "Jesus is Lord," you will be saved from judgment and spend eternity with God in Heaven. What is your response?

Lynda Henstridge

[Ideas and concepts taken from William Fay's book, Share Jesus Without Fear, published by Broadman & Holman Publishers, Nashville, TN.]

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- Reading more of the Bible, or a meaningful literary work.
- Study, like in a church school class or worship • Conversations with others about spiritual matters. • Prayer
- Mission work, such as putting in volunteer time at a local non-profit organization and spending time serving and helping others. • Long peaceful drives in the country
- Doing something artistic or creative, like photography or drawing or music or working with your hands – all the while reflecting on how God

has blessed you with this talent and ability.

- Journaling – writing about your struggles, your accomplishments, and taking stock of your life and your relationship with God.

So regardless of the path of renewal you take, the point of Lent is simple: Whatever works for you in order to draw you nearer to God, do it! Perhaps another helpful guideline is looking at the words of the apostle Paul in Galatians 5:22-23, where he states that the "fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

Through self-examination, are you currently

struggling with any of those in your life? If so, perhaps the question to ask this Lent is: What may be blocking my ability to love, to experience joy, to be at peace, to exhibit patience, to be kind, generous, faithful, gentle, or to exhibit self-control.

I have come to realize the need for drawing near, returning over and over again. My life drifts away from God. I have to return. My heart moves away from my first love. I have to return. My mind wanders. I have to return. Returning is a life-long struggle that is renewed each Lent...God's love does not ask any questions. God is glad to see us home.

**God bless you all,
Pastor Greg**

