

Bethlehem Morley

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 29 Robinson Rd, Morley

TwentyFourth Sunday after Pentecost

October 30th, 2016

Reformation Sunday



Worship:

Sundays at 9.30am
Sunday School at 9:45am
fortnightly in term time
— NOT TODAY

Welcome

Worship blessings in Christ as you gather here today to receive God's good things. If you would like to talk further concerning faith in Christ or about the Church, please contact our Pastor or one of our lay-assistants. Visitors are warmly invited to stay after worship for a cuppa with our members, and also to sign our visitor's book in the foyer

Contact Details

Pastor:- Pastor Matthew Bishop
Email: matthew.bishop@lca.org.au
Office Phone: 9276 7668



**LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
OF AUSTRALIA

where love comes to life

Our Mission

Being fed with the grace of the Triune God through His Word and Sacraments, Bethlehem Lutheran Church is called to share this Bread of Life with the spiritually hungry of our community

Entry Psalm: Psalm 100

Leader: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

People: *Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.*

Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, in mercy you give the light of your gospel to your church. Keep us in sound teaching, so that we may firmly believe and faithfully follow your saving word, and finally, with its holy comfort, die in peace and joy. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Scripture Readings:

Ex 19:3-7 The Israelites at Mount Sinai

1 Peter 2:4-10 The Living Stone and the Holy Nation

John 15:12-17 Love one another





What's in a church birthday? '...so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to the others' - Romans 12:5.

Today we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA). Many of you, or at least your parents, grew up in churches overseas that are much older. 50 might not seem like much! Our bishop Rev John Henderson makes the same point in another way (see the bulletin insert) noting we are in churchly terms only really coming out of adolescence! Others see the LCA as a continuation of what came before - so something commonly thought to have its first major presence in Australia from 1838 (in Adelaide). And some of you probably wonder what the fuss is about - coming to church is after all, about hearing Christ, not celebrating earthly institutions.

None of the above is invalid. Indeed, Jesus Christ is eternal (John 1:1) and it is his church (Matt 16:18-19), which he has given us to receive the forgiveness of sins through (Matt 18:18 / John 20:22-23) and life eternal (John 11:25-26). In this way, we are all part of something that is much longer than any human time frame. And its key business is Christ and the life he gives. That is the ultimate reason why we thank God for 50 years of the LCA!

But in doing so we also recognise that for many of us the LCA in all its earthly shapes, locations and forms is nevertheless a big part of how God's life and our salvation has been mediated to us in Word and Sacrament. Strongly connected with this is the friendships, families, schools, community care, media, and fellowship that have supported us, brought us God's joy and taught us discipleship. The 'half century' is also undeniably a decent 'chunk' of our mortal lives this side of eternity. And many of us find it inspirational that our church forebears wanted to do the hard work to settle doctrinal differences and therefore match the outward unity of the church with the inward unity that already exists as a gift of God (John 17:20-23)... and we feel inspired to do more of this ecumenically, while also making 'every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace' within the LCA on 'lively' discussions.

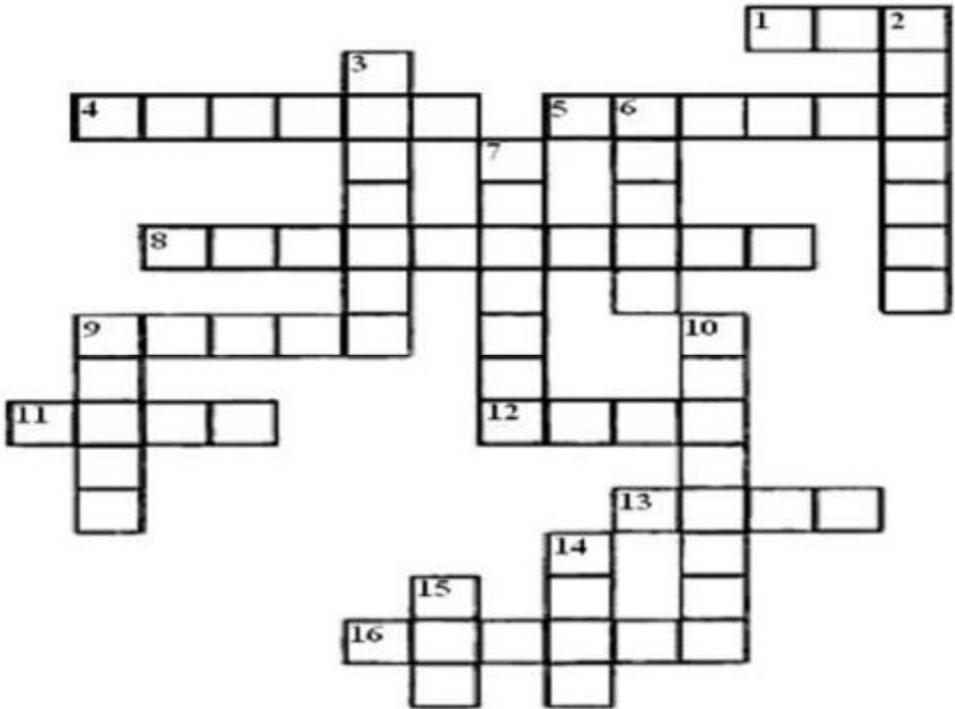
All of these things are important, if not crucial, and so we say: 'Praise the Lord my soul, and forget not all his benefits' (Psalm 103:2).

Just a reminder about our special Divine Services over the next few weeks on 6 November (All Saints Day) and 13 November (Reformation Commemoration). See full page notice in this Bulletin for further detail.



Lord's Prayer Crossword—Matthew 6:5-15

Across	Down
1. God the Father knows what you need before you _____ Him (verse 8).	2. God's _____ come (verse 10). 3. We need to forgive our _____ (verse 12).
4. Pray to God our heavenly _____ (verse 6).	6. On _____ as it is in heaven (verse 10).
5. Our Father is in _____ (verse 9). 8. We should not be like the _____ (verse 5).	7. If you do not _____ people, God the Father will not forgive your sins (verse 15).
9. Forgive us our _____ (verse 12).	9. Give us our _____ bread (verse 11).
11. Pray that God's _____ be done (verse 10).	10. God's name should be revered and _____ (v. 9).
12. Deliver us from _____ (verse 13). 13. When praying, go into your room and shut the _____ (verse 6).	14. Do not repeat useless phrases and words when you _____ (verse 7). 15. Forgive _____ when they do wrong (verse 14).
16. God the Father will _____ you (verse 6).	



Nov 6th—Sunday School : SUPER HERO SUNDAY, come dressed as your favourite Super Hero

Forthcoming special worship services and dates

9:30AM Sunday 6 November: All Saints Day commemoration.



During this service we will have a time of prayer and thanksgiving for our loved ones who over the past year (or so) have gone to their eternal glory. Please pass the names of those you wish to have remembered on to either Pastor Matt or a lay-assistant. Ephesians 1:11-23. **Children are invited** to dress in Super Hero

costumes - all will be explained on the day!!!

From 9:30AM Sunday 13 November:

Reformation commemoration, National Church Life Survey and Longest Lutheran Lunch. What a day!!! Straight after our service, which will commemorate being saved by grace through faith, the congregation will be invited to complete the National Church Life Survey. This survey is completed by Christians in their churches all over Australia to help with assessing needs and planning. Bethlehem Council would appreciate having as many of you here as possible. After this we will hold our Longest Lutheran Lunch - see insert in Bulletin.

LONGEST
LUTHERAN LUNCH



Sunday 27 November from 5pm: Advent tea and items. Please join us for a community tea (please bring a plate of food to share) followed by around an hour of Advent related 'concert' items, including from Bethlehem's Sunday School. A Sunday morning service will be held this day at Bethlehem, at the usual time.

Hampton High 50th anniversary, 3-4:30pm, 9 November 2016:

Further to last week's notice, it has now been confirmed by Hampton's executive that Bethlehem has been invited to assist the school chaplain run a stall from **3-4:30pm** which both promotes the Breakfast Club and offers a sausage sizzle. Funds from the sausage sizzle will contribute towards supporting the Breakfast Club in 2017. We thank God for this opportunity to have an active presence in the community.

Pleasingly, the school has requested we also ensure that signage stating our sponsorship of the breakfast is clearly visible. Some more helpers would be great - please see Pastor Matt if you can help out that day, even if for a short period.

Lastest newsletter available in the foyer.



Listen to FACE TO FACE and invite others to do the same. Download or listen online at www.facetoface.org.au, including on your mobile internet devices.

6th November Surviving Cancer (Pastor Richard Mau)

A cancer patient once said, "...it can sneak up on you like a thief in the night." Karen shares her story of surviving breast cancer and the hope that she found which gave her the strength to cope.

13th November Chronic Pain (Interview)

One in five Australians suffer chronic pain. It can be a debilitating condition, which can place strain on everyone. Stephen and Theresa share their journey of managing chronic pain and its effects on their lives, relationships and purpose.

20th November Being Carried (Pastor Noel Due)

Do you remember a time when you could trust someone enough to relax in their arms? Noel Due reflects on the sense of security he had as a child and the trust that carries him through his life now.

27th November Palliative Care (Interview)

What is palliative care? Some people think that it is just helping a person to die without pain. Listen to Diane and Rex share their experiences about helping a person to live as well as possible until their illness ends their life.

Happyland Christmas Cards

These free cards have been designed to share God's gift of Jesus at Christmas and to introduce young children to Happyland. The message inside talks about celebrating the birth and gift of Jesus. Order them today for your school or Kids Church classes or for any children you know that would love to hear the good news. You can order them from the Happyland website at www.happyland.com.au or www.lutheranmedia.org.au/happyland/christmas-cards or call us on 1800 353 350



Prayer Points



Today's *Prayer of the Church* has been written by the LCA for use in today's 50th anniversary celebration. The scriptural theme under which all its petitions are offered is written in today's Gospel lesson from St John:

Jesus says, "***You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you***"

(John 15:16 NIV)

- For all who work in the LCA
- For all who work and support the churches formal teaching ministries
- For all serving Christ in Lutheran education
- For the LCA's national administrative organisations
- For all serving in relation to church finances
- For the theologians of the church
- For the LCA's mission bodies
- For the LCA's aboriginal ministry
- For other national bodies of the LCA
- For the LCA's bodies that work in welfare and alleviation of suffering
- For ecumenical relations with other churches
- For all in this world who suffer that they may find the peace of Christ.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

- **Those dealing with health issues:** Ewald Schmidt, Elfrida Kaszanski, Lisa Sitarz, Jutta Chrulew, Carmen Lawson, Roslyn Zadow and Tristram Van Rooyen.
- **Those facing challenging circumstances:** Margaret and Ernst Klenner, Amelia Chrulew and family, Roslyn, Lois and Jye, Carmen's daughter Rihi and family, Royce family and baby Nicola, and Joanna Arkoi

Consistent with our prayers in Divine Service being for all people, our *Prayer of the Day* (earlier in the service) is specifically directed at the work of Christ's whole church on earth. Moreover, as we pray the *Prayer of the Church* later in the service we recognise the LCA is part of God's mission and serves the people of the world in the locations it has been tasked to work.

Questions about attending Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church?

‘Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and drink.’

Come to this sacrament:

- as a sinner who wants God’s forgiveness;
- as a baptised believer who trusts that Jesus died for the forgiveness of sin;
- as a guest who humbly accepts what Jesus gives — his true body and blood with the bread and wine ;
- as a witness who gladly joins in this public confession of the death of Christ.

Should you not wish to receive Holy Communion, you may remain in your pew or come to the altar to receive a blessing - crossing your arms to signify your intention.

COMING UP OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

November

- Friday 4th 6-8pm Confirmation Class**
Saturday 5th 9:30am Ladies Fellowship AGM
Sunday 6th 9:30am Bethlehem Worship
11am Ladies Fellowship Trading Table
7-10pm LYWA Grow
Sunday 13th 9:30am Bethlehem Worship

For Sale: Piano available, Golze and Friedrich make and made in Berlin.

See Mrs Carmen Lawson for details.

Bookings: Visit us on the Web at www.morley.wa.lca.org.au or email us at bookings@morley.wa.lca.org.au

Bookings—Other Events	
Sun 30th Oct	1-5pm Chinese Methodist Church
Sat 5th Nov	9:30am Ladies Fellowship AGM
Sat 5th Nov	5-6:15pm Children’s Choir
Sun 6th Nov	1-5pm Chinese Methodist Church

WORSHIP SERVICE – NEXT WEEK

25th Sunday after Pentecost— November 6th, (Green)

Readings: Habakkuk 1:1-4,2:1-4, 2 Thess 1:1-4,11,12, Luke 19:1-10

Flowers: Roslyn

Cleaners: Chrulew Family

All Items for the “Bethlehem Bulletin”, please email to Lorraine (Ischutz99@gmail.com) by Wednesday afternoon.

HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY LCA



50th 500
faith. freedom. future.



We've only just begun

A message from Bishop John Henderson

In human terms, 50 years is a reasonably long stretch of time. It is sufficient for birth, education, adolescence, maturity, family and career.

In church terms, however, 50 years is not so long. It's barely enough to get started. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the LCA, it is still a young church, perhaps just coming out of adolescence. Even the worldwide Lutheran church, at 500 years old next year, is not really so old, not alongside the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches.

As we reach our 50th anniversary, the LCA is just at the beginning of its life.

The LCA exists because millennia of Christians have fought the good fight and kept the faith. Through good times and bad, times of ease and times of hardship, times of growth and times of persecution, and even times of genocide, Christians have endured. Against all the odds, the church of Jesus Christ remains, and has handed on the faith through the generations.

Does that mean that Christians who lived before us were better than we are? Not necessarily. Each generation has to deal with its failings, weaknesses and sins. Each generation must learn the lessons of faith, hope and love. Each generation needs to

own its particular problems. At times, it looked like the church was dead. But ours is a resurrection faith. The church is not ours to create, or to bring to an end. As long as God is pouring out his forgiveness and grace, keeping his promise, the church remains.

As the LCA, we have the immense privilege of joining with this great cloud of witnesses. When we worship, pray, confess and serve, we take part in God's mission for the world. God is not finished with us. He is patiently bringing us to maturity. There is still so much to come.

Maybe it's true that, after 50 years, we are just coming out of adolescence. Adolescence is a time of impatient, uncertain seeking for identity. New sensations and experiences can shake our beliefs. We might even think we know better than our parents did. It is a period of risk-taking, and there is always the risk that the adolescent will go 'off the rails'.

But those who have moved beyond youth into adulthood know that the journey, though painful, is well worth it. Through the doubts and uncertainties, life becomes richer, deeper and more fulfilling. We grow in appreciating relationships, love and compassion. We come to understand that



Top: Reformation Sunday 1966: 'One church, one faith, one Lord' – a united Lutheran church gives thanks at Tanunda, SA. Left: God is faithful. While some congregations which were thriving 50 years ago have grown old and died, others (like St Paul's Shepparton, Vic) are growing and flourishing as God brings new friends to our communities.

the universe does not revolve around us. Knowing ourselves better, we are able to value others and place their needs above our own. And we learn how to balance impatience for change with the right level of resistance. We slowly learn the art of living, of being truthful and of being faithful.

As we reach our 50th anniversary, the LCA is just at the beginning of its life. We are rich in everything we need. Jesus is alive. We are resurrected in him. He has sent us the Holy Spirit. Generations of believers have

prepared the way for this moment. We have what it takes to live the new life of Christ, grow in his gifts, discover his promises, and get on with doing the work he has prepared for us to do.

Rev John Henderson
Bishop Lutheran Church of Australia



- 1966
- 1967
- 1968
- 1969
- 1970
- 1971
- 1972
- 1973
- 1974
- 1975
- 1976
- 1977
- 1978
- 1979
- 1980
- 1981
- 1982
- 1983
- 1984
- 1985
- 1986
- 1987
- 1988
- 1989
- 1990
- 1991
- 1992
- 1993
- 1994
- 1995
- 1996
- 1997
- 1998
- 1999
- 2000
- 2001
- 2002
- 2003
- 2004
- 2005
- 2006
- 2007
- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021