



Going With The Flow

A century ago, to be a true Christian was to be heroic, as Jesus was heroic.

As Sydney Carton, the anti-hero of Charles Dickens', **A Tale of two Cities**, was heroic!

In the book, **Miracle on the River Kwai** by Ernest Gordon, the author, recounts how the prisoners of war found **the strength** to make life easier for the prisoners who were worse off and **deeper into despair** than themselves. How they helped **the more physically incapacitated** to survive. How they organized church services to **spread hope**, how they scrounged books to start a lending library; and that copies of the New Testament were the most in-demand. Men under extreme stress in the midst of a foreign jungle, came across Jesus, discovered **the Spirit of Christ** and found **the strength to be heroic**.

As Henry Lawson wrote, "The Spirit of Christ is everywhere where the heart of a man can dwell!"

Going with the flow starts with **finding out more about Jesus** and joining in with what **His Spirit** is doing.

Chris McAleer

Bible Reading: Acts 17:22 - 31 (NIV)

Podcasts of weekly messages are available at www.paravista.org.au

[Prayer Requests](#)

Please forward all prayer requests to the church office via churchenquiries@paravista.org.au or phone 8263 5087. If you know or have spoken to anyone who does not have access to a computer, please assist them to submit their request and offer to pray with them.

[Funeral Service](#)

Family and Friends of the late Jodie RENFREY are invited to attend her Funeral Service to be held in the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Montague Road Para Vista, on TUESDAY 24th September 2024, at 1.30pm followed by a private cremation.

In lieu of Floral Tributes a Donation in Memory of Jodie can be made to Gicancer.org.au or via envelopes available at the church on the day.

[The Board - Expressions of Interest](#)

The Board is seeking additional members. While we are looking for general members, in particular we are looking for people with Secretarial and HR skills. Please prayerfully consider this and submit your nominations by email to

churchenquiries@paravista.org.au, or direct to the office. Note, there is a selection process and not all submissions will be successful. Should you require any further information, please talk with a current Board Member or contact the church office.





September

21 st September	5pm Young Adults
22 nd September	4-6.30pm KAPS
29 th September	Community Lunch after combined 10am service
29 th September	Lutheran Care Food Collection

October

1 st October	1pm Ladies Fellowship, Guest Speakers Stephen and Liz Zanker
26 th October	8am Men's Breakfast
26 th October	Young Adults
27 th October	Lutheran Care Food Collection
27 th October	4-6.30pm KAPS
29 th October	Ladies Fellowship

November

1 st November	7pm Friday Evening Service
9 th November	9-5pm Global Leadership Summit

Global Leadership Summit

This year we are hosting the Global Leadership Summit 2024 on **Saturday 9th November 9am-5pm** here at Good Shepherd Para Vista Lutheran Church.



Attending the Global Leadership Summit will provide you with an opportunity to gather with others in positions of leadership. Together you will listen to speakers who will inspire and encourage you to grow personally and professionally. You will also be given time to share the joys and struggles of ministry and share how you are leading in your church community.

Contact the church office on 8263 5087 if you are interested in attending.

Property Team - Expressions of Interest

The Board is undertaking to reconvene a Property Team. The team is to be a small team to work with the Administration Team Leader and School in aspects of property management. We are seeking people who would be interested in helping in this area. Contact the Church office if you are interested or require further details.

Can You Help - Hairdresser Needed

Meet and Eat is looking for someone to donate an hour or two once a month to cut hair on a Monday night. Some of the people who attend cannot afford a hairdresser and so this would be a blessing to these people. If you are or know a hairdresser who would be interested in this, please contact the church office on 8263 5087



From The Board

A Combined Ministry Team and Board meeting was held on 13th August. This meeting looked at looked at aspects, such as the different roles of each group, ways of improving communication, the Way Forward and options for our Congregation while we are in vacancy.

The Australian Institute of Company Directors - Not-for-profit governance principals are being worked through by the Board. There are eight principles in this document, and we worked through three of these in a Saturday morning workshop. The intent of this is to ensure that we are using good governance principles and to give confidence that all aspects are covered.

Our Board meeting on 20th August:

- Resolved to reform the Property Team. This was in the existing constitution, and we anticipate that we include it in the proposed document.
- Support further research that the Ministry Team is undertaking regarding the changing face of the LCA and shortage of Pastors and what this means for Good Shepherd.
- Our giving is in line with budget and our spending is down, mainly because we do not have a Pastor.
- The manse is being let for another 6 months (this is through a property management company) while we are waiting for a pastor.
- Working through the constitution continues. We are planning to have a draft for review later this year.

Our Board meeting on 10th September:

- We discussed and approved, with some minor changes, a role description for Community Development - Youth. This has been a joint development between the Ministry Team and Board.
- It has come to the notice of the Board that staff members are being approached during worship time. We ask that all respect this time of worship. We note that at times an emergency may necessitate this contact, however, please make an appropriate time to speak to staff. Thank you for your grace in this matter.

Synod 2024

General Synod which is happening in a few weeks. One of the major points of business for this year's Synod will be "The Way Forward" in Women's Ordination.

As this is quite a significant proposal, and following the recent seminar held here at Para Vista (Recording can be viewed here: <https://vimeo.com/992638895/4c5f162894>), I'd like to give you the opportunity to discuss any concerns or questions you may have with me, regarding the proposed Way Forward Framework.

There will be a discussion/forum on 29th September after the combined service, where I inform the congregation about the proposals put to Synod as well as answer questions regarding the Way Forward Detailed Framework.

To date, only 3 people have contacted me with questions or concerns. At the forum, I will only be answering questions that have previously been submitted.

If you would like to talk to me, please contact the church office at

kirchenquires@paravista.org.au and they will pass on your message to me, and I shall reach out.

If you have any questions that you would like answered at the forum, please send them through to the church office by Monday, 23rd September.

I will not be receiving any new questions on the floor.

Christa Schwarz

General Synod Delegate 2024-2027

KAPS is On Again This Sunday!

Life can sometimes feel like a puzzle... so this time we will be 'piecing things together' and having fun in the process as we enjoy a range of activities. We'll be having a devotion style worship and a meal afterwards. Why not invite someone along? The fun starts at 4pm... See you Sunday!

Rachel and Georgie



KAPS YOUTH EVENT YEARS 2-7
SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

\$2 per child donation
Parent/caregiver must be present

4pm-5:30pm Scavenger hunt
5:30pm-6:30pm Worship & dinner - all family members are welcome (food provided but welcome to BYO)

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Para Vista

For any queries, please contact Rachel P-0475582289



Combined Service/Community Lunch

On Sunday 29th September, there will be one worship service with Holy Communion at 10.00am. Following this, you are invited to a community lunch in the hall. Please bring your favourite finger food dish to share, and we'll enjoy a mix of everyone's contributions. It's all about good food, great company, and plenty of conversation.

September Lutheran Care Food Collection

Combined with the school the August food collection was amazing - close to 100 bags of donations. As is often reported in the media the need continues to be great as many families and individuals struggle to be able to afford to feed themselves or their families. While you are "out and about" here is what they need for September.



September Food Collection

All donations must be sealed and in its original packaging. Thank you!

- sugar
- coffee
- baked beans
- tinned fruit
- tinned spaghetti
- laundry powder
- soap

LUTHERAN CARE

We're on Facebook and Instagram!



Did you know that our church is on Facebook and Instagram? Check them out to receive reminders of our upcoming services, gatherings and events. A great way to keep informed and share opportunities at Good Shepherd with others! Why not 'like us on Facebook'?

Operation Christmas Child

Over 140 boxes have been distributed. If you have a box and decided that you will not be able to participate this year could you please return it so it can be used by someone else. Over 20 completed boxes have been returned. Boxes can be returned on Sundays and left on the high table in the cafe area or to the church office during office hours.

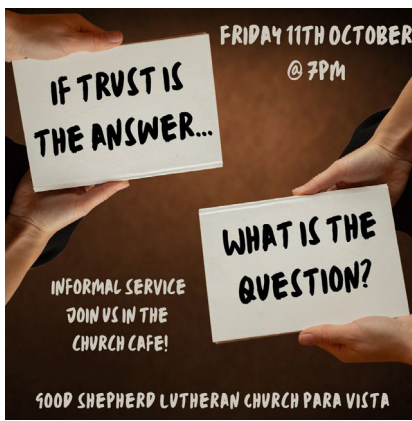


Return date is by Sunday 29th September.



Christmas Service Planning

Volunteers are being invited to help plan Christmas Services. If you are willing to get involved as part of a team, or would like more information, please contact Merv Thiele or the Church Office.



[Informal Friday Evening Service at Good Shepherd](#)

Our next gathering is coming up on **11th October at 7pm** in the church café. The theme is 'If trust is the answer, what is the question?'

The service is informal, visitor friendly and interactive. Come along... Invite your friends and neighbours... We'd love to see you!

[Ladies Fellowship](#)

The next meeting of Ladies Fellowship is on **1st October at 1pm**. The AGM will be run first, then the usual business.

We will be having **Stephen and Liz Zanker** share on the topic *Blessed to Serve*.

Listed Hostesses are Beth and Milla. (unsure if Rae and Marilyn rescheduled from September)

There will be a trading table.

Please note that subs \$10, Magazine \$20 are due to be paid to Margaret by 29 October.

Also, Christmas Lunch money \$25 due at this date too. Please advise any food allergies.

We would like another member for our Executive. Please prayerfully consider this.

Apologies to Di Schlenk 0409 820 448



[Worship Opportunity](#)

On Wednesday Mrs Hulme, one of our valued staff members, shared a chapter of her faith journey with us. Have a look at this week's devotion or have a look at the display board in the café area for a copy. If you use the link, you can even watch the interview yourself! Our theme for next week is 'A marathon effort'. Some students will be sharing the message with us for our Closing Worship for the term, next **Friday 27th of September** (not Wednesday). As always, you are most welcome to join us at 8:50am for Worship and a coffee afterwards. A wonderful way to get to know others in our Good Shepherd family. (You could even pack some craft items and join the ladies in the craft group and make a whole morning of worship, care and connection!) Our next School Worship opportunity will be on the first day back of Term Four (**Monday 14th October**) at 9am.

[School Snippets](#)

The Stage Four students and their teachers have packed a lot into this term. This week they were camping at Mylor from Monday to Wednesday. Students engaged in a number of fun and challenging activities including archery, raft building swinging on giant swings as well as other team activities. It is wonderful to see young people stretch themselves and grow in confidence. For more of what we've been up to, here is the link to our school newsletter:

<https://inewsletter.co/J1WDLx/latest> or you may like to pick

up a hard copy from the stand in the café area. If you are more of a visual person, please have a look at our school's Facebook page.



Office News



Notices for Weekly News

Weekly News items are to be sent to churchenquiries@paravista.org.au / krishna.vasani@paravista.org.au by Wednesday Evening. Out of hours please leave a message on the answering system 8263 5087 or email the office and staff will respond as soon as they are able.

Café Time!!

Tea and coffee are available after Sunday services, and you are most welcome to come and enjoy!!



Connect Cards

Connect Cards are available as you enter worship. Please complete the card using pencils which are available from holders on the side of chairs in the worship centre. They may be placed in the offering boxes provided at exits as you leave. Connect Cards may be used for comments, small group or prayer requests or to communicate with office or Pastoral Care staff.

Name Badge Request

The cost for a replacement name badge is \$12. If you would like to order one, contact the church office on 8263 5087 or send an email to: churchenquiries@paravista.org.au

"...He alone is your God, the only one who is worthy of your praise, the one who has done these mighty miracles that you have seen with your own eyes."

Deuteronomy 10:21

Safe Church

In observing Christ's command to love one another, we are to treat each other with respect and dignity. In honouring people, we are also fulfilling our responsibility under the law of the land. The LCA and Good Shepherd Para Vista is committed to ensure the church is a safe place. If anyone feels they have been subjected to sexual abuse or harassment in any form by anyone who holds a position of trust in the church, please contact:

P: 1800 644 628 E: report.abuse@safeplace.lca.org.au

Weekly News submissions should be made by the Wed prior to Friday publication.

Regular Electronic Giving (REG): BSB 704 942 Acc. 100 354 939

Church Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9am-3pm (closed 12:30pm-1:30pm for lunch).

Church Website: www.paravista.org.au

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