weekly news

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church | Para Vista

ACCEPTANCELOVEHOPESERVINGGROWING

31 March 2024

Easter - Our Living Hope

This is the week that changes everything. Without Good Friday we're lost in our guilt and shame, alienated from God, and showing the worst of ourselves to others. Without Easter we have a dead Jesus, empty promises, and nothing to pin our hopes on.

But through Jesus we have a living hope (1 Peter 1:3). Everything Father God promised, all that he offers, every possible transformation, it all comes true because Jesus is alive.

If you don't feel that way, I invite you to investigate the Easter message anyway. After all, those first followers didn't expect him to be alive even though Jesus foretold it. He met them amid their doubts and fears, struggles and loss.

Likewise, Jesus meets you right where you are. I invite you to join in celebrating Jesus, our living hope.

Pastor Peter Steicke

Bible Readings: Luke 22:14-23, Matthew 27:11-26, Luke 23:32-47, Romans 8:9-11, Luke 23:55 -24: 1-12 (NRSVA).

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.

Community Family Support News

Wednesday Worship

You are invited to Wednesday Worship here at Good Shepherd!

This week Pastor Stephen spoke of our separation from God and the lengths that He went to reunite us. Jesus took our sin and gave his life for us on the cross. Our school choir shared the song 'This blood'. Please have a look at this week's devotion for a reflection of what was shared. You may also like to check out the display board in the café! Next week the greatest story of all time continues with Jesus' resurrection. We are going to be in party mode as this news is definitely worth celebrating! You're invited... Join us Wednesday at 8:50am!

KAPS Recap and save the date!

It was great to get together for our first KAPS gathering for the year. Our focus was 'Easter'... Activities delved into different parts of Jesus journey to the cross. There was a lot of participation in the worship service as people shared the Easter story including his victory over death through his resurrection! We now share in his victory and can have life with him! It was great to share a tasty meal afterwards and get to know new friends.
Our next KAPS event is on 28th April from 4pm (the afternoon before school returns for Term Two... It won't be a late night). Save the date and invite your friends and family! Once again, here is the yearly planner so pop the dates in your diary now!
Rachel and Georgie

GFH (Growing Faith at Home)

This weekend (Easter) is arguably the most significant weekend in the Christian calendar as we reflect on and celebrate God's great love for each of us, through Jesus' death and resurrection. This week's GFH resource offers some thought-provoking questions and ideas to explore with others. You might like to create your own 'Resurrection Eggs' at home to help retell the story of Easter with those you love! There are some hard copies of Holy Week activities in the café for you to take home and enjoy over the long weekend.
God bless you with His love and peace this Easter.

School Snippets

We were blessed today with glorious weather. Our four new teams: Wirra (green), Tirntu (yellow), Pari (blue) and Kardla (red) had fun competing together. Pari made history today, winning by a relatively close margin. We are grateful to everyone who worked together to make the day so enjoyable. For more of what we've been up to use this link to access our school newsletter : https://inewsletter.co/J1WDLx/latest Of course you may like to pick up a hard copy in the café area or front foyer of the church. Alternately, I am happy to arrange your own copy if you would like... Just let me know! God bless you this Easter as we reflect on God's love and celebrate Jesus' victory and what it means for us!
Georgie

Daylight Saving Time Reminder

Reminder that daylight saving ends on Sunday, 7th April and our clocks go back one hour...so enjoy the extra sleep!!

Hot Cross Buns!

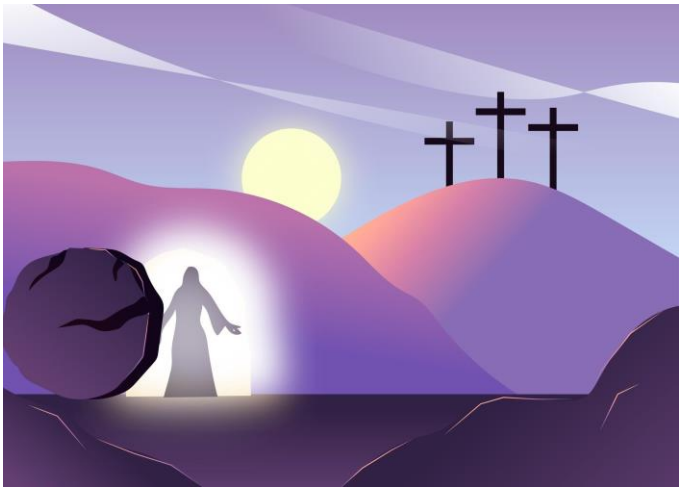
In keeping with tradition here at Good Shepherd, we would like to enjoy hot cross buns after both services on Good Friday. Please bring some to share- buttered, unbuttered, fruitless or choc chip- any way you enjoy them!

Trivia Time!!

A man dies and goes to heaven. St. Peter meets him at the Pearly Gates and says, 'Here's how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you've done, and I give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was. When you reach 100 points, you get in.'
"Okay" the man says, "I was married to the same woman for 50 years and never cheated on her, even in my heart."
"That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "That's worth two points!"
"Two points?!" he says.
"Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministry with my tithe and service."
"Terrific!" says St. Peter... "That's certainly worth a point."
"One point!?"
"I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for homeless veterans."
"Fantastic, that's good for two more points," he says.
"Two points!?!!"
"Exasperated, the man cries. "At this rate the only way I'll get into heaven is by the grace of God."
"Bingo! 100 points! Come on in!"
We often try to fix problems with WD-40 and duct tape.
God did it with a nail. AMEN...

Easter Services

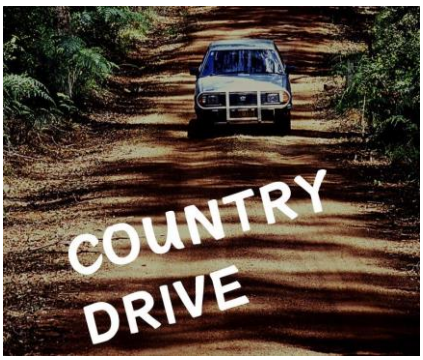
Easter is God's blessings to the world. It reminds us that hope must never be lost for as dark as the road may seem, there always lies light at the end of it. May all your prayers be fulfilled, and everyone have a pleasant Easter.



Ladies Fellowship

The next meeting of Ladies Fellowship is on **Tuesday 2nd April at 1pm.**
We will be having a study on the emotions of Easter — please bring your Bible to the meeting.
Please read Mark 16 if you can before the meeting.
There will be a trading table.
Hostesses will be contacted by email.
Apologies to Di Schlenk - Ph 0409 820 448

Good Shepherd Country Drive- Its On Again!!



Last time the hot weather wasn't supportive to do the country drive, but this time it's on!!
Come along for a family outing, anyone with a classic car bring it along. Have lunch and join in and play some games, but most of all have some great fellowship.
Venue: Whispering Wall (at the Barossa Reservoir)
Date: Sunday 14th April
Time: 12.15pm (at the park)
BYO Lunch, drinks & games + tables & chairs

Office News

Office Closure

The office will be closed on **29th March 2024** due to Good Friday.

Weekly News Items

Weekly News items are to be sent 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!!

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

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 bowls 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.

Diary Dates 2024

March

28th March	7.30pm 'Reflections' service with holy communion
29th March	Good Friday (Public Holiday)- 8.45am and 10.30am 'A celebration of God's love' service
31st March	Easter Sunday- 8.45am and 10.30am 'Living your Easter reality' service with holy communion

April

2nd April	1-3pm Ladies Fellowship Meeting
7th April	Daylight Saving Ends (our clocks go back 1 hour)

School Holidays

13th April- 28th April 2024

"...My victory and honour come from God alone. He is my refuge, a rock where no enemy can reach me."

Psalm 62:7 (NLT)

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

Email: churchenquiries@paravista.org.au

Look for us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube!

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