



# Alberton Lutheran Parish

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## *The Messenger* November 06 - February, 2007, Issue 4.

### In this Edition

	Page
From Pastor's Pen.....	1
Parish News and events.....	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lutheran Women of Queensland: Zone President: Lyn Eggert reports</li> <li>• Parish Family Event: Splashtacular – All Welcome</li> <li>• Lords News from Principal: Garth Hunt</li> </ul>	
Lutheran Holiday Program Report.....	3
What's Happening at Bethlehem, Woongoolba.....	3
November/December Calendar	Insert
January/February Calendars	Insert
News From St. Peter's, Alberton.....	4
Parish Register and Contact Points	4

### From Pastor's Pen

I'm in the process of clearing away duplicates of old Bulletins and past "Messengers" at the moment. This type of office 'administrivia' is becoming less taxing as time goes by and things are stored electronically. The 'paperless' society, however, is still far from a reality. As I go through the process, I can become caught up in reading 'old news'; and being amazed at the memories that flood back. Was that really five years ago that those events took place? ☺ ; or, 'I remember that!'

Lutheran Holiday Program was that kind of experience for me too. Even though I was only able to be at Lutheran Holiday Program for one day this year because our Church's General Convention of Synod was on at the same time, it was a fascinating day. One of the mums, who stayed for the day to see her child settle in, was listening to the Bible account of Jesus helping His disciples to learn to pray. The light shone from her face as she revisited the story as an adult. "I haven't heard that in years!" she exclaimed. More than looking through old bulletins and having a happy memory, she was looking back into her own life and seeing a time when Jesus had been a joy to her; and she recognised that she wanted to hear the things she remembered from Scripture classes and Sunday school. There she was, 'surprised by joy' that she was getting something from a children's program. Here was Jesus helping her to value afresh what she hadn't considered vital in a long time.

She moved on with the ring of the bell to the next segment of the morning and I remained with the activity I was helping to run. That was my bit of joy that morning and I hope the experience of the children and mums who heard the good news lasts in their hearts and grows.

The prophet Isaiah promises God's people that His word always achieves its goal – God's plan is fulfilled. Nothing excites me more than that promise nor gives my human side a greater concern. The two sides of the internal discussion I have with myself are: "How can reading or hearing the Bible do that?" and then "What if it doesn't work like it's supposed to?"

The Holy Spirit, who renews my life, draws me to answer my questions with quotes from Scripture:

**I am not ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes; ...for in the Gospel a righteousness is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: The righteous will live by faith."**

Romans 1: 16 & 17

"What if it doesn't work?" Well I can't stop the process of people rejecting the Good News, but I can share it with others and let God do his work as planned. It's His promise, not mine. Expose yourself to the Bible, which is no ordinary story and test out God's promise for yourself. May you be surprised by joy and renewed in your spirit.

*Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Greg.*

Pastor Greg Vangsness

## PARISH MATTERS

**News from the Ladies Zone President** – At our recent Lutheran Women of Queensland Executive Meeting at Corinda, the following items decided, may be of interest to you.

**LWQ Convention 2007** at Gatton (West Murton Zone). It is forty years since the Constituting Convention was held at Gatton. We, along with the LCA, have reached a milestone in our history. The Theme of the forthcoming convention is “Shining Like Stars.” Date of Convention is the 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> of August; and our guest speaker will be Shirley Klinge.

Anyone who has memorabilia relating to LWQ would be most welcome to advise Gatton ladies so that a display can be prepared.

Just a bit of food for thought: LWQ Convention 2009 could be held in Gladstone.

**Retreat 2007** will be held at Koojarewon from the 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> of March; the theme of which is “Wake Rise Shine”; and will be hosted by Wide Bay Burnett Zone.

Total fee will be \$65.00. Day visitors **must register** and pay the day fee of \$10.00 LWQ is not able to allow non-registered people to take part. So don't disappoint yourself. Closing Date for booking is the 16<sup>th</sup> of Feb., 2007.

**New LWQ Bookmarks** have been made and are available for 50 cents each. The Bookmark explains our aims. Everyone uses bookmarks, so why not purchase one for yourself or a friend and keep LWQ in your thoughts and prayers with this little reminder?

Wujal Wujal and Coen communities have very limited supplies of Bible Story books to read to their children. They would greatly appreciate Bible Story books, or any Christian videos/DVDs. They do not expect all materials to be brand new; but request that those things which are sent are in good condition. Contributions can be collected locally and given to David Spanagel for transportation. Thanks .

Lyn Eggert.

### FAMILY SPLASHTACULAR

We are having a family fun night at The Woongoolba Pool. Please bring along all of your family and friends to enjoy a great night of fun and games.

The event will be held on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> of November starting at 7pm.

We hope to see you all there!

For any details please call Fiona on 55462644

## LATEST NEWS



### FROM PRINCIPAL OF LORDS: GARTH HUNT

The amended development application for LORDS was submitted to Gold Coast City Council on 5<sup>th</sup> October.

By the time you read this article we should have our Acknowledgement Notice which will allow us to formally present the documentation to the concurrence agencies. These are the Office of Urban Management, Department of Natural Resources and Mines, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Our legal and town planning team are confident that our amended application meets the requirements of the GCCC and the concurrence agencies.

The key concurrence agency remains the OUM. From our meetings during the past twelve months they are aware of the details of our application and have promised to complete their part of the process within 2 weeks of formally receiving our application. However, LORDS will be the first application to test the twin criteria of location and community need under the regulations of the South East Queensland Regional Plan.

Our next step is to meet with our local politicians to ensure they are aware of the details of our amended application. In this regard, Margaret Keech has been very proactive in supporting our work and assisting in brokering a number of key meetings.

When we enter the Public Notification stage I would ask each of our supporters to write letters of support. I will provide more details of this at a later date.

I thank you for your prayers and the continued support of the Alberton Parish. Each week we receive enrolment enquiries at our office. The community is eagerly waiting for us to be able to confirm our commencement date.

Garth Hunt  
Principal

### Lutheran Holiday Program 2006

Our program for this year is over and planning has begun for 2007.

We had 95 children attend and, even though our helper numbers were down on previous years, we all survived the busy few days. Some of the highlights were:-

- the children learning the Lord's Prayer – working through each of the petitions
- we had a temporary fence keeping all the children safe from the busy road
- we raised over \$500 to support the Australian Lutheran World Service project in Sudan
- we had a visit from the "Mouse Circus"
- the pre-school/kindy had a visit from a boat and a jeep and a brown snake
- 12 chickens kept the children entertained each day
- the daily skits kept us on the edge of our seats waiting for the capture of the "blue cheeked bee eater" by Bakari
- 300 or more people attended our closing concert on Friday evening

A huge thank you to those members of parish who attended at the program and helped us each day; and also to those who helped in any way before or after the program. We can't run this important mission without your help. At this stage it looks like our program for 2007 will be Son Treasure Island.

After 16 years of the successful program running in our parish, I would like to make a major change. This change would entail the program being run over 5 half days instead of the current 2 ½ day program. I believe the children will benefit from a little longer time in each session and only learning one Biblical Principal each day. I would appreciate your feed-back on this idea (good and bad). Nothing has been finalised as yet in this area.

Please keep this important mission of our church in your prayers.

Thank you  
Jenni Keith

**"My word never returns to me empty. It always accomplishes that which I purpose,"**  
**says the Lord. Isaiah 55: 11**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BETHLEHEM, WOONGOOLBA

### We are going to The Bethlehem Pre-school and Kindy for our service on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>

November at 9.30 a.m. We don't have to sit on the Kindy chairs (after all they are a bit low!) Our strong young men carry the hall chairs over for the morning. It is a great atmosphere at the centre as we join with the families who attend the Kindy.

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**The ladies of the Church** invite all ladies to join in a **Christmas Luncheon** on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 11.45 a.m. at the Beenleigh Tavern. Please bring a gift to exchange for the Secret Santa to the value of up to \$5. Please book with Cathy on 55462266.

.....  
**The Church Ramp** – It has been decided to proceed with the ramp. Plans are in Council at present and once they are approved work can commence. All donations towards the cost of building the ramp will be gratefully accepted.

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**Our Annual Advent Tea** is planned for Sunday night the 26<sup>th</sup> November at the Woongoolba church hall 6.30 for 7.00p.m. Bring along a main course and dessert to share. Come and celebrate the advent of the Christmas season. Book display available on the night.

### **Jacobs Well** **Community Carols By** **Candlelight**



will be held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00p.m. A sausage sizzle begins at 5:30p.m. Local identity: Don Waters will be compare for the evening; We plan

a community choir (are you interested in joining a community choir for the program – please phone Helen on 38041743) A Fire Works display will take place on the night. Bring along your torch or candle & chair or blanket. All Welcome

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**Sunday Kids:** Our children's Christmas Service is planned for Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30 a.m. Please come along and enjoy the presentation of the Christmas message!!

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Christmas Day Services will be held at Bethlehem Church Woongoolba at 8.30 a.m. Come and join the celebration of Christmas and "the Reason for the Season."

## NEWS FROM ST. PETER'S, ALBERTON

**Explorer's Club** on Friday afternoons has a 'new' group of mum's handling craft and cooking activities once again. Yvonne Buhner continues to direct the afternoons and much to our joy, we have new children joining in. We praise God for the chance to relate the truth and love of our Lord, Jesus Christ to the children and parents in this relaxed setting.

Mum's, of the parish, if you are looking for a relaxed and friendly environment for your kids on a Friday afternoon this is the place. Come along and meet our other mums and stay for a cuppa and a chat.

**KID'S CHURCH** is held in conjunction with church at the 9.30a.m. services. Children can join their parents in church & continue in the hall from the second song. Here they have a Bible story, singing, craft and games as well as a snack. All children are welcome!

### Children's Christmas Service

The children's Christmas nativity will be presented on **Sunday Evening 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 6p.m.**

Come and discover *What this world needs* and a *Different kind of King*. This worship service is one of praise and thanksgiving to God for our Saviour Jesus Christ. Come along and sing the familiar carols and listen and watch as our children present the nativity scenes.

View our wonderful Christmas tree – a real treat for us as its size amazes the children and adults alike each year. A special thank you to the Burow family for keeping this tradition up for us each year.



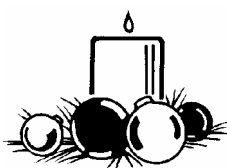
Following the service we celebrate further by having dinner together in the hall. Each family is asked to bring along a main course and a dessert to share.

Please come along and bring your relatives and friends for a relaxing, friendly evening.

### Carols by Candlelight – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7p.m.

Another opportunity to join with friends and the local community as the Alberton Progress Association joins with the St. Peter's congregation in hosting the annual Carols by candlelight or torchlight if you prefer.

Come along and share in singing your favourite carols. We begin at twilight.



Bring mum, dad, children, grandparents and friends. A special visit from Santa is a joy for all the children as he arrives to the singing of Jingle Bells and has a bag full of packets of sweets for the children. You can take a photo of Santa with your child if you wish. This is a free event. You are welcome to bring along a plate of goodies to contribute to supper in the hall and don't forget your candles or torches.

### PARISH REGISTER – Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths

Baptisms-	Born	Baptized
Remmi Belle Keith	15-11-2005	02-04-06
Sonny James Kleinschmidt	13-02-2006	16-04-06
Mitchell Dean Ludcke	27-03-2006	23-04-06
Mattea Leigh McGuane	31-10-05	28-05-06
David Ray Nemuth	17-01-06	04-06-06
Mitchell Christopher DeRaugo	24-07-05	25-06-06
Amity Jasmine Maas	08-11-05	30-07-06
Michelle Marie Dicker	15-05- ? ☺	10-09-06
Charmayne Elesia Porter	05-04-03	10-09-06
Michelle Lillian Porter	08-11-00	10-09-06
Chloe Jane Saunders	28-02-06	15-10-06
<b>Marriages-</b>		
Daniel Watson/Rebecca Harker		15-01-06
Nicholas Coe/Sheree Marks		04-02-06
Dion Robinson/Sharni Billiau		19-03-06
Shane Wohlsen/Christina Apps		06-05-06
Jason Truloff/Khyla Eggert		24-06-06
Brett Brehmer/Rebecca Connah		01-07-06
Carl Haack/Lauren Price		29-07-06
Sky Williams/Angela Brewood		07-10-06
Jason Kleinschmidt/Michelle Dicker		21-10-06
<b>Deaths-</b>		
Gerald Dahlenburg		25-02-06
Lucas Graham Cran Smith		09-04-06
Wallace Cecil Brauer		16-04-06
Kevin Patrick Maher		11-05-06
Dominic John Dimauro		27-07-06
Janet Wakeford		17-05-06

#### Parish Pastor

Rev. Greg Vangness  
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E-mail : pastor@albertonparish.org.au

#### Parish Chairman

Mr. David Huth Tel.: (07) 5546-2279

#### St. Peters Lutheran Church, Alberton

185 Alberton Rd, Alberton  
Contact: Mr. Geoff Rossmann Tel.: (07) 5546 2131

#### Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Woongoolba

Cnr. Mill Rd. & Staplyton  
Jacobs Well Rd., Woongoolba  
Contact : Mr. Lee Zipf Tel.: (07) 5546 6353