



VINEYARD
Lutheran School Clare Valley

Term 1 Week 10
3rd April 2020

Upcoming Events 2020

Saturday 22nd – Friday 28th August
Book Week

Vineyard Term Dates 2020

Term 2: Mon 27th April – Fri 26th June (9
Week Term)

Please note: Vineyard Staff PD Week
will be Mon 29th June – Fri 3rd July 2020

Term 3: Mon 20th July – Fri 25th
September (10 Week Term)

Term 4: Mon 12th October – Thurs 10th
December (9 Week Term)

EASTER GIFT FOR STUDENTS

The Mid North Lutheran
Ministries has kindly donated
our lovely Easter message
books, "Jesus died and rose
again"...He What? Who?
What? Why? How?.....WOW!!

They will be handed out at
assembly this afternoon and
we do hope that you may
take some time to read it to or
with your children. God Bless.

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Principal: Michelle Keller

Vineyard Wire

How to Have Brave Faith When Life Gets Scary

Let's face it. Life can be scary.

We watch the news and feel like Chicken Little. The sky always seems to be falling.

We lose sleep over our loved ones, our lost ones and our little ones.

We worry about the economy, finances and employment.

We shake and shudder when more medical testing is required or the diagnosis is not favorable.

We are anxious with "what ifs" and "whys."

It's understandable that we wrestle with the opponent of fear. The world is broken and life isn't a Hallmark movie or a fairy tale. (Although I do love a good Hallmark movie!) In the same token, **while I realize it's completely normal for us to process emotions of anxiety and unrest, the Bible says that it is not God's plan for us to crumble in its wake.** (2 Timothy 1:7)

We can't let fear run our lives. Fear was never meant to control or consume us.

The good news is that God doesn't just tell us to suck it up and deal. He gives us the tools we need to help us in the fear-fight.

Proverbs 1:33 says, **"but whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm."** I sure do like the promises in this verse. Yes, please. I want to live in safety and be at ease. Order me up some of that, God! (You want this too, right?)

So how can you and I have a brave faith when life gets scary? Let's consider the text and break down the promises found in Proverbs 1:33 by looking at the: *who, what, and why.*

...but whoever listens to me...

WHO is the "me" we need to listen to? The context of the chapter lets us know that the *me* is God's wisdom. I listen to God's wisdom when I go to Him with my fears instead of allowing them to grip me. When I pray and place my anxieties in His care. When I reflect upon God's Word, power, plan, and strength more than on the words of that analyst on the news channel. God is the source of the wisdom I must listen to.

WHAT does it mean to "listen" in this verse? The Hebrew word *shama'* is used. *Shama'* means to hear, listen to, yield to, obey. (Strong's H8085) So to listen to the wisdom of God does not simply mean that my ears need to process His wisdom. It means that my *heart* needs to process and implement His wisdom. It is not just about hearing

audibly, it's about hearing spiritually ... and responding accordingly....*will live in safety and be at ease without fear of harm.*"

WHY does it matter if I accept and walk in God's wisdom verses my own? My own wisdom is limited. (1 Corinthians 1:25) It's subjective and faulty. And while the implementation of earthly wisdom can and often does bring some benefit, it will not always lead me to the safety and ease I long for deep inside.

God's wisdom is perfect. It leads my heart, mind and soul to safety and rest in a world that is filled with scary realities and uncertainties. And it's free for the asking! He gives us wisdom when we ask for it. That promise is found in James 1:5. "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach and it will be given him."

When we ask for and listen to God's wisdom – when we hear it, yield to it, apply it and obey it – we will live in peace. Not the world's peace – God's peace. We will be at ease in Christ. Not with perfect lives, but with lives that are not controlled by fear and anxiousness. We can and will experience calm in spite of the chaos.

I hear your push back. *Really? That seems too easy. It's just not that simple, Gwen.*

Don't get me wrong. I'm not trying to tap an easy-button here. The biblical instruction might be simple, but the implementation of it isn't. **If you and I are going to live with a brave faith we need God's help.**

Remember? Jesus said that apart from Him we can bear NO fruit. (John 15:5) What does fruit have to do with this conversation? Glad you asked...

And the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace... (Galatians 5:22)

Peace. God's peace is more powerful than the fears of this earth and His peace abounds in His presence.

It's evidence of the Holy Spirit at work within us.

When you and I spend time with Jesus... when we look beyond our fears to His sovereign strength... when we trust in the wisdom of God and set our hearts on His Word, we find the peace our hearts long for.

Devotion submitted by Shelley Upton



From the Principal

WELCOME

Greetings to you all in this wonderful community here in the mid north and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you as the new Principal at [Vineyard Lutheran School](#), Clare.

I began my teaching career at [St Marks's Lutheran Primary School Mt Barker](#) in the early 90's and then spent many years overseas teaching in New Zealand, South Korea and Kuwait.

I returned after some years and taught in the Catholic system and the Education Department in South Australia and Victoria and more recently at Murray Bridge, Unity College. I was a foundation student when the school was opened at Murray

Bridge Lutheran Primary School, so the nostalgia was simply delightful!

I have taught all school levels in public and private school settings as well as holding many and varied management roles including the High School counsellor for some years.

I wish to share some of my background with you as it is my firmly held belief that I have been called by God to be here at this time. I arrive at our lovely school in unprecedented circumstances whereby our normal routines and functions have been abandoned.

Every fabric of our life has been changed and we are all dealing with extra pressures, stresses and anxious moments. Not uncommon for a school setting!! However completely exacerbated and overwhelming.

It is at times like these that we focus on our Lord's eternal Grace and Salvation which is freely given to us. It is my hope that you can be consoled in the knowledge of God's love for us to guide us through these difficult times.

Our aim at Vineyard Lutheran School is to continue to provide a vibrant learning community for your child, which together with God's guidance, we can forge into the future with confidence knowing that we are surrounded by His love for us.

To close I would like to thank **Michelle Keller** for her dedicated and tireless approach to create and maintain a wonderful school community here at Vineyard, which is ready for growth. Her vibrant, positive nature and commitment to her work has allowed for our school to be in a strong position to grow and prosper in the future years ahead. Thank you and God Bless you Michelle.

With Easter approaching I shall leave you with a parting Bible verse which has given me daily strength throughout my journey in life.

For God loved us so much that He gave His only Son to die for us, so that whoever believes in Him shall rise again (just as He did on the third day) and have eternal life. John 3:16

God Bless you at this difficult time and always.

Geoffrey Strauss

PUPIL FREE DAYS NEXT WEEK

As notified earlier, next week will be a **pupil free week** as suggested by the Australian Government and being implemented by all Clare Valley Schools, to allow teachers the time to set up what will be known as their "**Diverse Learning**" environment.

As per normal Pupil free days, students remain at home and work is not set. We are aware that some of our parents are 'essential workers' and that they may not be able to find care. Our local OSCH are offering a programme for all students in the Clare Valley, as they do for us in our mid-year PD week / pupil free days. Details are available from Jennie in our Office or Allison at OSHC ph: 88421430.

If parents have difficulty accessing care, I encourage you to contact me so we can provide assistance.

ZOOM

On Thursday night at 6pm a **ZOOM session** was conducted to introduce parents and caregivers to the programme for interactive communication online. Thank you for those whom attended and I hope you are comfortable with the process.

Staff at Vineyard Lutheran School have already been setting up the **ZOOM** programme which we will be using as one of the interactive computer mediums for connecting online for **Diverse Learning** remotely. This will primarily be used for checking in with children to maintain connectedness with their class. At this stage, work will be set via Seesaw and email as previously mentioned.

At this stage next week will be spent setting up this interactive **ZOOM** platform whereby students will log on in the morning and make contact with their teacher and class.

SCHOOL CALENDAR TERM 2

Given the amount of changes that have occurred and cancellations to date, we will not be issuing the Calendar for Term 2 until first week next Term to allow any changes that will take place to be included.

MAINLY PLAY

mainly play is conducting its sessions and Amy has transitioned this for online delivery through the internet programme ZOOM. The first session was held on Wednesday and this will continue on next week beginning at 9.30am. All welcome and free to join.



BUILDING UPDATE

You will notice that outside the front of our school the outdoor learning area is nearly complete. Excitement is building and we are still looking forward to handover / occupancy at the end of this week. Our new fence is being constructed and we look forward to a new and safer access procedure for the school once we resume normal operations.

School Notices

Mid North Lutheran Ministries – Service Times

No Services this week due to COVID-19 cancellations

MID NORTH LUTHERAN MINISTRIES FACEBOOK PAGE

If you are on Facebook you can keep in touch with what is happening in the Parish by joining MNLM 'Blessed to be a Blessing' Facebook page.

Enjoy the Easter holidays and stay safe.

Family & Staff Prayers

Over the last week in staff devotion we prayed for the: Nurk, Nolan, Kloock and Kaur families, staff member Amy Gogoll and St Michael's Lutheran School, Hahndorf.

Chapel services are held every Monday at 8.50am. Family and friends are welcome to join us for these services.

Birthday Blessings

God's Blessings to everyone who is celebrating their birthday this week.

3rd April Charlie Schunke
5th April Aaren Lane

Students of the Week – Term 1, Week 7 – Class Awards

Nicholas Harvey – For demonstrating **Quality**. For cheerfully chatting and being friendly and helping Mr Strauss get to know everybody at the school.

Maddison Harvey – For demonstrating **Quality**. For doing really fantastic work when I visited her class recently.

Kayla Amundsen – For demonstrating **Humility**. For responding really well to direction and being positive and helpful!

Cooper Clark – For demonstrating **Appreciation**. For his wonderful welcoming manner this week.

Mitchell Weatherley – For demonstrating **Love**. For including others in the hide-and-seek chasey game and for helping Mr Grosvenor sort through paper work instead of having free time. Such an awesome attitude towards others!

* REMINDER *



Just a reminder for all those families that use the School buses that next week there will be no buses running.

Attachments with The Wire

Please find included the following attachments with The Wire:

- A letter of farewell from Michelle
- Preparing your Family for a COVID-19 Outbreak



From Pastor's Pen ...

Greetings in the Name of Jesus. We live in interesting times, don't we, BUT ... **"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."**

Hebrews 13: 8

SO... what does that mean to us?

God's attitude towards us does not change based on the times we live in; how good we are today or any particular time. He LOVES us always! His love is never greater nor less, depending on how He is feeling, like our love can be. He doesn't withhold loving us, when he gets angry or hurt, like we can do in many situations.

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because **God is love**. In this the love of God was revealed among us, that **God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.**" 1 John 4: 7 – 9.

According to what you just read from the First Letter of John, God doesn't have love to give. **He IS love!** What's the difference, you might ask? Well, if I have something to give out, eventually I will run out of that thing; and someone will go without. BUT, if I **am** something, well I can't run out of being me, because that is what I am.. Now God, the great "I AM" Is eternal. He doesn't have a beginning or an end. He will be around forever. AND... God IS love!

God will always love those who are in a relationship with Him. He will offer this relationship as long as earthly time exists. Remember the words and promises of John 3: 16 – 17: **"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."**

There is good news for us in interesting times, times when our human nature wants to ask the big questions: Does God exist? Is He always good? Is He always good to us? Is He powerful enough to help and save? Why does he let bad things happen IF He really loves us and is all powerful?

I'm not going to try and answer all these questions right here and now, but Jesus is God's answer, the answer to all those questions.

This Sunday is the celebration of Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem proclaiming peace with God, to all people, through Himself. You can read it for yourself in Matthew 21: 1 – 11. I don't recommend that you run out into the streets and crowd them out with shouts of "Hosanna!" Not for now with strict regulations on public gatherings; but I do encourage you, in your own homes, to continue to trust in the one who is powerful to save, the one who is eternal, the one who loves you with His healing and faithful and complete self-giving, self-sacrificing love. This love provides a relationship with the Almighty God. This love makes it possible for us to love in interesting and stressful times. This love will carry us through to times of earthly peace once more; ultimately to the heavenly peace in the presence of this loving God, revealed in Jesus Christ, which has no end. So shout your praises to this "God with us" and for us at home!

Next week, I will give some thoughts on the Easter event which changed the world forever; and provided the healing we need most for now and all time. Until then, God bless and keep you, smile upon you with His undeserved love, look you lovingly in the face and give you His peace.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Greg Vangness
Parish Pastor – Mid North Lutheran Ministries

Community Notices

Please see the school notice board in the stadium for further information on these and other event



Firewood for Sale

PREPARE yourself for the cold winter ahead by stocking yourself up ahead of time with fuel for the furnace!

Vineyard Lutheran School once again has **Wood for sale** - \$200 for 7'x4' trailer.

Please take advantage of this great offer and help support our wonderful school.

Now is the time to come and get your wood pile stocked with **free delivery** within town districts or to be negotiated.



Your questions answered Supporting your family through the pandemic



Join us for a 30-minute conversation addressing your questions about how to best support your children and family during the COVID-19 pandemic. We would love to hear your questions. Please submit them when you register.

Our Family and Relationship Counsellors and Parent Educator will answer your questions and talk about some other common concerns and stresses being experienced by families.

Topics may include:

- How to talk and respond to your children's questions and fears
- How to manage your household whilst in self-isolation
- Self care for parents
- Bonding and connecting with your family
- Managing fear and stress in yourself and your partner

To register:

<https://www.lccare.org.au/supporting-your-family-through-pandemic/>



Week 11 PUPIL FREE DAYS

Please advise

Alison or Chris if your child requires special dietary food. when booking in.

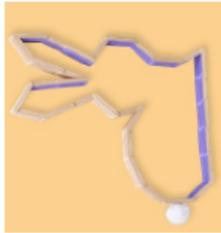


Wednesday 8th April

EASTER CRAFT

Make a pop stick
Easter Bunny

\$65



PLAYGROUND/OVAL

MORNING TEA: Fruit, Veg, Cheese & Crackers
LUNCH: Nachos
Chocolate Pudding
AFTERNOON TEA: Fruit, Veg, Dip & Crackers
Honey Crackles

Monday 6th April

EASTER CRAFT

Colour In an Easter
Flower Pot



\$65



NATURE PLAY

Let your mind be creative with the wonderful collection of Loose Parts on the Oval.

MORNING TEA: Fruit, Veg, Cheese & Crackers
LUNCH: Toasties
Pikelets
AFTERNOON TEA: Fruit, Veg, Dip & Crackers
Biscuits

Thursday 9th April

EASTER EGG HUNT & EASTER BASKETS



PLAYGROUND/OVAL

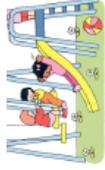
\$65

MORNING TEA: Fruit, Veg, Cheese & Crackers
LUNCH: Hamburgers
Hot Cross Buns
AFTERNOON TEA: Fruit, Veg, Dip & Crackers
Mystery

Tuesday



PLAYGROUND/OVAL



MORNING TEA: Fruit, Veg, Cheese & Crackers
LUNCH: Lasagne, Garlic Bread & Salad
Jelly
AFTERNOON TEA: Fruit, Veg, Dip & Crackers
Chocolate Crackles

Friday 10th April



GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY