

Wodonga Lutheran Parish

St John's Lutheran Church
Victory Lutheran College



Committed to Sharing Jesus



**First
Sunday in
Lent**

**21st
February
2021**

Welcome to members, friends & visitors.

We pray that you feel at home as you worship our Lord Jesus with us today.
Our Lord's love and peace be with you.

Retired Pastors: Ernie Kiss (0475 000 637)
John Simboras (0438 810 109)
Graham Zweck (0427 815 795)

Chairperson: Jenny Simboras (0407 495 773)
14 Havelock St, Wodonga
Ph: (02) 6024 7072
wodluthp@westnet.com.au
www.wodongalutheranparish.org.au

College Principal: John Thompson
College Chaplain: Andrew Dewhirst

28 Drage Rd, Wodonga
Ph: (02) 6057 5859
reception@vlc.vic.edu.au
www.vlc.vic.edu.au

WORSHIP LEADER: Pastor John Simboras

VENUE: Victory Lutheran College

READINGS FOR THIS WEEKEND

Genesis 9:8-17 God's covenant with Noah
1 Peter 3:18-22 The flood a symbol of baptism
Mark 1:9-15 The baptism, temptation, and preaching of Jesus

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday	Mark 1:9-15	Thursday	Ephesians 6:10-20
Monday	Genesis 22:1-19	Friday	Hebrews 2:9-18
Tuesday	Numbers 20:1-13	Saturday	Psalms 22:23-31
Wednesday	Job 1:1-12		

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In our prayers this week:

- **We pray for the following that are in need at this time:** Pastor Graham ZWECK; Shirley BULLOCK (ESTIA); Ruth FRAUENFELDER; Phyllis HEINER [Yackandandah Health Aged Care]; Robert HASLAM; Gregory & Kerry JENNINGS; Melva KLEMKE [Westmont]; Laurel McRAE [Yallaroo Albury]; Frieda PTSCHLINZEW [Culcairn]; Dianne WILLIAMS.
- **Victory Lutheran College** - **Lord in the coming week our staff return to Victory. We pray for a successful year as we come together for our Opening Service on Thursday at the River. We pray also for peace for our staff families and their extended connections in 2021.
**Lord after a week of preparation our students return to Victory. We pray for the returning students, the new students, and the students who have left VLC to begin new challenges. And for our Foundation Students who start on Friday. Included in this is the Foundation teachers as they work with the students beginning their journey.
- **Goulburn Murray Parish – congregations of Shepparton and Echuca** – Pastor Matthias Prenzler and Julie.
- **Lay Worker** – Kathleen Mills.
- **Grampians Parish – congregations of Ararat and Stawell** – Pastor Chris Raatz and Katie.
- **Tandara Lutheran Camp** – Manager Darren Linke, Kerry & staff/intern team.

MISSION INTERNATIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS

- - The organisation and passion from Kaye Mathwin-Cox, Athalie McArdle, Janri Lauren, Ellyda Silalahi and those involved in the partnership between Unity College, Murray Bridge, SA and SMA HKBP Pamatangsiantar and SD HKBP Latihan Pemantangsiantar, Indonesia.
- – God's peace for Burundi Pastor Emile Nkurunziza and his wife Violette, after the death of their new born baby in early January, that they may find hope in the promise of eternal life poured out in the waters of holy baptism

MASKS NEEDED DURING WORSHIP

Due to the COVID case in Melbourne as from Wednesday 3rd Feb at 11.59pm, masks will need to be worn again at the worship service.

PARISH UPDATES - 17TH FEBRUARY 2021

VICTORY SUNDAY

With COVID restrictions for religious ceremonies now lifted, the Victory Sunday will go ahead as advertised.

**Victory Sunday at Luther Hall, Victory Lutheran College
9am**

followed by morning tea.

Observe COVIDsafe plans - wear your mask, social distance 1.5m, sign in and sanitise your hands as you enter Luther Hall and before you take Holy Communion.

CHANGE IN SERVICE TIMES

**As from and including
Sunday 28th February 2021
there will be one service in the Parish
at 9.30am.**

The Parish Council felt the need to change the worship service schedule as a duty of care towards our retired pastors. Having one service will take a lot of pressure off our retired pastors and will also allow for fellowship after the service.

EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday	9.30am - Ps John	after service, Annual General Meeting
Maundy Thursday	7.00pm - Ps Graham	
Good Friday	9.30am - Ps John	
Easter morning	9.30am - Ps Graham	

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Wodonga Lutheran Parish will be on **Sunday 28th March** after the **9.30am** service. Please put this date in your diary and plan on being there as the business of the Parish is discussed. If you need to write a report please get this to Heather in the office in the coming week.

Cont'd

MORNING TEA

Having a COVIDsafe morning tea comes with an added cost. Coffee and tea must be served in a disposable cup with the sugar and biscuits individually wrapped. All of these disposables are costing the Parish about \$1 per member every Sunday. We do not want to stop having a cuppa after the service and so are asking you if at all possible to give a gold coin donation to cover these costs. If you don't have a coin on a particular Sunday, don't worry, still have a cuppa, the fellowship is the most important thing.

WODONGA PARISH HAS A VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT QR CODE

The Parish is now signed up with a Victorian Government QR code. Every person that is at church, or in the hall or office for longer than 15 minutes must scan the QR code. These records will help with any future contact tracing that may be necessary in slowing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Some visitors may not be able to scan a code. Our posters displayed throughout church, hall and office, have a unique six-character location code they can enter via the Service Victoria app (available through the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#)).

Help will be available to those who are unfamiliar with QR code technology.

Please be assured if you can't register your attendance via QR code, sign in sheets will still be available.

Having the QR code we will be permitted to have more people in one space, from 1 x 4 square metres to 2 square metres.

The QR code will be displayed throughout the church, hall and office, as you enter any of the buildings for you to scan.

The most important thing is to register either electronically or by the sign in book, sanitize your hands and keep a COVIDsafe distance 1.5m, when in the church, office or hall.

CONFIRMATION EASTER CAMP

The Parish Council has offered to pay 50% of the registration fee to any young person from the congregation wanting to go to the Easter Camp at Warrambui this year. This camp is for those recently Confirmed or who are at this time having Confirmation instruction. The Parish Council would encourage all parents who have young people and who are eligible to attend this faith growing camp, to seriously consider taking up the offer of financial assistance. Young people who have been to this camp in the past years have said how much they have grown in their faith walk and their love for Jesus.

SEE YOU SUNDAY 21st February!

It is a great relief that we are able to worship again. I will see you all on Sunday at Victory Lutheran College at 9am.

Cont'd

PARISH CALL MEETING – 14th MARCH 2021

Bishop Lester will be the Guest Preacher at the **9:00am Service on 14th March**, before chairing the Parish Call Meeting after the service. The Call Committee will present their selection of Pastor names at this meeting.

CLOSING OF ST MARK'S YACKANDANDAH CHURCH **14th MARCH 2021, 2pm**

As Bishop Lester will be in the Parish on Sunday 14th March for our Call Meeting, he will also officially close St Mark's Yackandandah Church. Pastor Graham Zweck will be Guest Preacher.

This service will commence at 2pm at 15 Wellsford Street, Yackandandah. All members, past and present, of the Parish and friends are invited to this special service.

As time is short, could all members please advise their family and friends of this special occasion and invite them to attend.

Serving Him with you, Jenny Simboras
Chairperson, Wodonga Lutheran Parish

Reports and Motions for the Parish AGM 2021

Annual General Meeting 28th March 2021

A Call is made for the Committees and groups of our Church to submit their annual reports for the AGM in 2021

Closing date for reports is Friday 26th February 2021.

Please submit electronically to the Chairperson of the Parish or drop a hard copy into Jenny's pigeon hole in the Church.

Reports are required from: Pastor, Treasurer, Parish Office, Music Coordinator, Ladies Fellowship, Project Manager Redevelopment.

Parish members are invited to submit motions/proposals for the AGM in accordance with the Constitution. If you are unsure please speak with the Chairperson.

*And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. **Romans 8:28***



LUTHERAN CHURCH

OF AUSTRALIA

where love comes to life

Wodonga Lutheran Parish

14 Havelock Street, Wodonga 3690

www.wodongalutheranparish.org.au

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATION FORM

I, **nominate** _____
to serve as a member of the Parish Council of Wodonga Lutheran
Parish, as:

- ☐ **Parish Chairperson**
- ☐ **Parish Secretary**
- ☐ **Parish Treasurer**
- ☐ **Member**

Nominated by:

Print Name

Signature

Seconded by:

Print Name

Signature

Thank you for your interest in supporting the work of the Parish Council. You may bring the nomination form to the Parish Office, or place in Jenny Simboras' pigeon hole.

Deadline for nominations will be Sunday 7th March 2021

Parish Nominations for service in 2021

Interested in becoming more involved in Wodonga Lutheran Parish or know a fellow parishioner who would be?

If so, consider running yourself, or nominating someone for seats on the Parish Council. Elections are scheduled for the AGM on 28th March 2021.

The Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are elected annually and ordinary members can nominate to continue. It is important for the members to be informed and involved with the functions of the Parish. Please consider a run for a council seat and accept this needed and important leadership role.

Nomination forms are available at the back of the church and also in this weekends bulletin. Place filled in Nomination Forms in Jenny Simboras' pigeon hole.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in it various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

DISTRICT CONVENTION DELEGATE NEEDED

The Vic/Tas District will meet in Convention on Saturday, 22nd May 2021, at Geelong Lutheran College.

If anyone is willing to attend this **ONE DAY** convention as our Parish Delegate, please contact

Pastor Ernie Kiss ASAP on 0475 000 637 or ernie.kiss@lca.org.au

DINE-OUT

Dine-out [brunch/lunch] for February will be held after church on Sunday 28th February at 'The Stump' (to be confirmed). Please let Marie Hill know as soon as possible if you intend to attend so she can book a table.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

At their Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd February 2021, the following members were elected as office bearers. President: Noreen Kelly; Vice-President: Marie Hill; Secretary: Lenore de Garis; Treasurer: Sheryl Parsons.

DISTRICT eVOICES VICTORIAN/TASMANIAN DISTRICT

<https://lutheranchurchofaustralia.cmail20.com/t/ViewEmail/t/B241EC011748069D2540EF23F30FEDED/5068D6C3513CC68E2018F019E6F15D33>

LCA eNEWS

<https://lutheranchurchofaustralia.cmail20.com/t/ViewEmail/t/5D4609B6A251617C2540EF23F30FEDED/D7674E8DAB845250CE63909E3969C05F>

SAFE CHURCH WEBINAR - SATURDAY 27 MARCH 2021, 1.30PM – 3.00PM AEDT

In recent years, PSD has held a Coordinator Network Day on a Saturday in late March. This year instead, we invite coordinators, pastors and other leaders to join us online for a Safe Church webinar. Child Protection Project Officer Mary-Ann Carver will speak about the draft LCA Child Safety Standards for Congregations, which align with and will help to implement the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. The church is not beginning its child safety journey, but rather, it is seeking to further the very good progress that has already been made. **Please do put this online event in your calendar!** The link will be sent around closer to the time.



Growing
FAITH
at home

21 February 2021

FIRST SUNDAY
IN LENT

Caring Conversations

Share your highs and lows of the day, or respond to the following questions:

1

What is temptation?
Share about a time when you felt tempted.

2

Jesus spent 40 days in the desert, where he was tempted by Satan. What do you think it was like for Jesus to spend that time alone in the desert?

3

How did Jesus fight Satan's temptations? How does God help us when we are tempted?

Devotions



Daily Bible Readings

S	Mark 1:9-15	The temptation of Jesus
M	Genesis 9:8-17	God's promise to Noah
T	1 Peter 3:18-22	Suffering for doing right
W	Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus' temptation
T	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant
F	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	God will provide a way out
S	Psalms 25:1-10	Prayer for guidance
S	Mark 8:31-38	Jesus predicts his death

Discuss the bible reading. What word or phrase was important to you as you read these verses?

Rituals and Traditions



PRAYER

Lord, we worship you; God, we trust in you. We put our hope in you all day long.
Amen.

BLESSING

May God help you when you are tempted, and lead you along his good path.

Lent is a time to say "No" to sin and "Yes" to Jesus

Creative Response

Lent is a time to simplify our lives as a way to enjoy God's steadfast love and faithfulness.

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are traditional Lenten practices.

Consider some of the following faith practices to become part of your daily routine:

- Pray daily and include the Lord's Prayer.
- Read the Bible regularly.
- Sit in silence for prayer and meditation.
- Eat meals with others and include a mealtime prayer.
- Fast by eating smaller portions or simpler foods.
- Nurture relationships by spending time together.
- Listen to others as you engage in conversations.
- Give a donation of time and/or money to a service organisation.
- Commit to daily acts of kindness.

mealtime prayer

For food in a world where many walk in hunger;
for faith in a world where many walk in fear;
for friends in a world where many walk alone -
we give you thanks, O Lord. Amen.

verse for the week

The kingdom
of God is near!
Repent of your sins
and believe the
Good News!

MARK 1:15

Service



Make a "crown of
thorns wreath" to
serve as a home
devotional feature.

Make or purchase a grapevine wreath to use as the base.

Insert six purple candles, one for each remaining week of Lent, and a white candle to represent Christ.

Light one candle for this next week, two candles for the week after, and so on.

Begin Holy Week (on Palm Sunday) with all of the candles lit, then extinguish one candle each night thereafter.

Light the Christ candle as you celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday.



growministries
www.growministries.org.au

LUTHERAN MEN OF VICTORIA RETREAT

Is being held at Tandara Lutheran Camp, Halls Gap on 12th to 14th March 2021.
Theme: Psalms. Guest Speaker Darren Linke. Flyer & Registration Forms on the noticeboard for those interested.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This service will be held at St Stephens Uniting Church, cnr Beechworth Rd & Nilmar Ave on **Friday 5th March at 10:00am**. All welcome

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday 21st February 2021 at 9:00am

VICTORY SUNDAY – SERVICE HELD AT VICTORY COLLEGE

Pastor: Ps John Simboras

NO MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Sunday 28th February 2021 at 9:30am

2nd Sunday in Lent

Lay Reader: Phill Edwards

THIS WEEK:

Sunday	21 Feb	9:00am	VICTORY SUNDAY held at Victory Lutheran College (JS)
Tuesday	23 Feb	11am-3pm	Church Office OPEN
Wednesday	24 Feb	9am-1pm	Church Office OPEN
Thursday	25 Feb	11am-3pm	Church Office OPEN
		7:30pm	College Council Meeting
Sunday	28 Feb	9:30am	LAY Service (PE)

LAST WEEK: 14th February 2021

Congregation	Attendance	Communion	Notes:
St John's – 9:00am	0	0	COVID Lockdown in
St John's – 10:30am	0	0	place for 5 days
Total Attendance:	0	0	

NEXT WEEKEND: SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Sun 9:30am Wod Service without Communion **(PE)**

READINGS

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

ROSTER FOR THE COMING WEEKENDS SERVICE AT VICTORY

Readers	28 th Feb	9:30am	Sheryl Parsons
PowerPoint	28 th Feb	9:30am	Carla Vogelsang
Usher/ Counters	28 th Feb	9:30am	Lenore de Garis + 1
Church Cleaning	Feb 22 nd – Feb 28 th		J Zweck D Hawkey Families
Mowing	Feb 22 nd – Mar 7 th		Paul Vogelsang HELPER PLEASE