



# St Mark's Matters

It is with great joy that I commence my vicarage alongside Gods people at St Marks Mount Barker.

As I write in my first day in the office, Christmas planning is well underway, and I can sense the anticipation around the community already. I am grateful that Olivia and I are able to be here for such an important time in the church year.

Christmas, for almost every family, is heavily laden with traditions. The food we eat and when we eat it, who we buy presents for and when we unwrap them, how we decorate our houses and what kind of tree we like to put in our living rooms are just a few things that come to mind. Olivia and I only married at the start of this year. So, we still carry out many of the Christmas traditions of our respective families and do our best to be part of festivities on both sides. As time goes on and our Christmases slowly become more separate, we will develop our own traditions, likely being a mixture of what we have grown up with.

Us human beings find a lot of meaning in traditions and rituals, and I believe Christmas is the prime example. Even though we tend to see things like mistletoe and reindeers around the world. It is often the one time of the year when entire families get together and I think our traditions and rituals help us to feel a sense of belonging and reminds us where we have come from. This is especially meaningful in 2020, when many families have been unable to see each other in person (rather than on the screen).

God created us to be with other people and with him. Just as he gave Eve to Adam to be his companion, so he gives us families, friends, and church communities to experience this life with him. He made us this way because he is the way. He instructed the Israelites of the Old Testament to pitch a tent for him to come and be with them in, and later in the temple. At Christmas, we are reminded that he became a sandal- wearing, fish-eating human being. He didn't have to do this, but he wanted to be with his people in person. One day he'll return to be with us again.

I don't think Jesus would be a huge fan of video calls and virtual meeting - he's big on being with his people, here and now. Even though COVID restrictions can stop us being with one another, God is always with his people, whether it is in the incarnate Christ or by his holy spirit. Be comforted by the God who comes to be with you this Christmas.

I look forward to our journey together over the next few months.

In Christ,

Vicar Mitch

Published  
Quarterly in  
Interests of  
Members &  
Friends of  
St Mark's  
Lutheran  
Church  
Mt Barker

# The Christmas Story

I think I can confidently say that this Christmas will be unlike any other Christmas we've celebrated before. Traditionally, Christmas for my family, has been a gathering of around 30 people for a meal. We catch up with the cousins and their children whom we usually haven't seen since the Christmas before. There is no certainty it will be like that this year.

This year has been a year of 'uncertainty' so I thought it would be good to look at how Joseph and Mary dealt with uncertainty during the time we consider to be that first Christmas.

Joseph was a man who probably thought his whole life was moving in the right direction. He was betrothed to Mary and looking forward to the day of their wedding feast and a happy married life when he learnt that Mary was "pregnant through the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 1:18).

Joseph, being a man who understood law and grace, was faithful to the law, and yet also didn't want Mary exposed to public disgrace. So he thought he should divorce her privately.

No sooner had he made this decision than an angel appeared to him and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit." (Matt. 1:20)

And so the uncertainty began, or so you would think, but we read, When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. (Matt 1:24) Any uncertainty Joseph may have had was calmed by his immediate choice to do what the angel told him to do.

This ability of Joseph to calm any uncertainty by taking immediate action was displayed again when some Magi from the East appeared one day and laid gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh before his Son. An angel once again appeared to him in a dream and told him to take Mary and the child to Egypt because Herod was going to search for the child to kill him.

Now it's true that such a message was probably motivation enough, but we read, So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, (Matt 2:14) Joseph took immediate action. He didn't allow uncertainty to take hold.

Joseph wasn't completely immune to fear and uncertainty though, for we read that after he was told to return to the land of Israel he didn't return to Judea because "he was afraid to go there" but instead he was guided by yet another dream to settle with his family in the district of Galilee, in a town called Nazareth.

The account of Joseph's actions prior to the birth of Jesus, and after, teach us that in moments of uncertainty God is always wanting to guide and direct us. We just have to be alert to His promptings, and once we are certain of His will, to act upon it. When we do this we don't allow the seed of uncertainty to take root in our lives.

What can we learn from Mary about how to deal with uncertainty? We read in Luke's gospel account that God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary and he said,

'Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' (Lk. 1:28) This greeting troubled Mary, she obviously didn't consider herself "highly favoured", so therefore she probably felt a certain amount of uncertainty.

The angel Gabriel reassured her though that the favour bestowed upon her came from God!

He then went on to explain to her just how highly favoured she was. He told her she was to conceive and give birth to a son whom she was to name Jesus. This son would be no ordinary son for he would be "called the Son of the Most High". God would, "give him the throne of his father David" and he would, "reign over Jacob's descendants forever" and, "his kingdom will never end."

Having taken all of this in, Mary's response was, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" Mary's uncertainty was on a very basic level.

Her understanding of the Scriptures had taught her that the LORD had promised His people a Messiah who would be their Redeemer so in some respects what Gabriel told her was nothing new. What was uncertain to her was how this long promised event would be fulfilled through her.

Gabriel told her the "How?" of the event wasn't something she needed to worry about. The work of the Holy Spirit would achieve the "How?" As if to reinforce this He also told her that her elderly relative Elizabeth was six months pregnant.

Upon hearing this Mary's response was, "I am the Lord's servant. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Any uncertainty was replaced with a humble, unwavering acceptance that what God said would happen.

Mary obviously wanted to share her news with Elizabeth for she immediately went to visit her. The Holy Spirit, working through the excited baby within Elizabeth, revealed to her the news Mary wanted to share.

Elizabeth proclaimed to Mary, "Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

Elizabeth's words remind us that blessing comes from believing in God's promises. As Gabriel reminded Mary, "For no word from God will ever fail.", therefore we should never be uncertain if God has made a promise, for He will fulfil it.

Mark Frost



## MY CHRISTMAS



### Christmas At Grandmas

**One year Grandma make the Christmas pudding. Unfortunately she overdid the alcohol in the mixture. My aunty tasted it and lucky she did not serve to us . It was politely removed and she buried it in the garden. Could have been a very merry Christmas for us kids !**

**Grandma gave all us grandkids the same present one year..a glory box. I thought glory boxes where for only girls. I still have mine. It houses all my tax records and memorabilia. Great pres Grandma.**

**Michael Pfeiffer**

## Reflecting on Christmas time

Have you ever noticed how time bends around Christmas? Time seems to speed up as the days count down and we try to complete our Christmas "to do" list. Time also slows down as we watch family members interact with one another. We savor those moments, knowing how special they are. Space also seems to bend at Christmas. We can sometimes feel very far away from the people that are closest to us as we try to negotiate Kris Kringle arrangements and who's bringing what for Christmas lunch. Likewise, those spending Christmas away from their loved ones know how achingly large the chasm of distance can be at this time of year.

The bending effect that Christmas has on time is explored in lots of well-known books. The most famous example is Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' where Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future. In C.S. Lewis' 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' the White Witch uses her powers to stop time in its tracks. When her powers weaken and winter starts to thaw, Father Christmas returns to Narnia exclaiming, "I've come at last...she's kept me out for a long time, but I have got in at last." In another book that I like, 'A Christmas Mystery' by Jostein Gaarder, a young girl called Elisabeth runs two thousand years back in time to pay homage to the Christ Child. It might be a coincidence that all of these books focus on the interplay of Christmas and time, but I think lived experience would also suggest that there is something unique about the effect that Christmas has on the passage of time.

My personal example of this comes from many years ago. I was sitting in Adelaide's Bethlehem Church. It was Christmas Eve. The aisles glowed with candle light and warm air filtered through the church's open doors. The pastor, a well-loved English man, delivered a sermon that I will never forget. Recalling his childhood experiences in England he brought to mind the crisp snow, the rich food and the gentle carolers so vividly I felt transported back in time. When I asked my mum recently if she recalled this sermon, her face beamed. Time collapsed yet again as we reflected on the experience of being mother and daughter side-by-side in the pew.

There are lots of people this year not spending Christmas in the place or circumstance that they would like. I hope that time and space bends kindly for these people - perhaps with a cherished memory of Christmas past catching them off guard, or a small gesture from someone that cares about them helping to reduce the chasm of distance. Most importantly though I hope that the Christian message will break through to all people. I hope we will all be reminded that our time is in God's hands (Psalm 31:15) and that the birth of Jesus many years ago is as important and relevant to us now as it was back then.

Merry Christmas!

Meghan Pfeiffer

I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2:10-11

I enjoy the Christmas season. I love the cheerful decorations, boiling our English fruit pudding, stuffing the turkey, spending time with my family and friends. However, my very favourite part of Christmas, by far, though, is singing carols with members of my church family — and, above all, 'Joy to the World'!

2020 has certainly been challenging for all of us. At St Mark's we've had a bumpy ride but I find 'joy' in knowing that the Christmas spirit is well and truly alive! Members of our Student Representative Council were asked what was special to them about this Christmas...

**Emma - 11**

I wake up really early because I'm excited and then have to wait for the rest of my family to wake up. After everyone is up we open our presents and then we have a special breakfast like pancakes. We then just spend time together.

**Theo - 7**

I am excited about Christmas because I love opening presents. I hope this year Santa brings me a robotic dog!

**Noah - 10**

My favourite thing about Christmas is seeing my family and just being together!

**Sienna - 11**

I spend Christmas with both my families. We usually have lunch with a relative and sometimes we travel to Loxton to see mum's family. Being with my family is special.

**Saphira - 9**

Every second year we go to Sydney to see my mum's family. I get to go to my mum's cousin's house and have Christmas lunch. I get to even stay with my grandpa and auntie together with my cousins. We have a sleep over! This year is the year we go to Sydney! That's if the borders don't close!

**Ella - 9**

I wake up really early. Usually my brother comes down to my bedroom and we go wake up mum and dad. And then we usually go to the lounge room and open our stockings. Mum makes us open our stockings one at a time because she wants to film us. AND then we open our big presents! Nan, my aunties and my Pop all come over!

**Jack - 7**

I am excited that we can probably see our family. They live in different states of Australia. Maybe we can do more fun stuff because most of the restrictions are finished.

**Poppy - 7**

I'm excited about having lunch with my grandma and auntie!

**Chris - 10**

I'm excited that I'll get presents. Dad's also coming home two weeks after Christmas... he's been serving in Dubai!

**Thomas - 6**

Presents! My favourite thing about Christmas is presents and my second favourite is that I spend it with family. My mum makes stockings to put presents in and my dad cooks a big feast for the family – for all my cousins, aunties and uncles!

**Annabelle - 5 ½**

Presents! And also Christmas trees! These are my favourite things!

We pray that with the birth of the peace child on December 25<sup>th</sup> that we all will be blessed with peace and joy in our own hearts, our families, our community, our nation and our world.

Merry Christmas to you all. Loredana Saracini Deputy Principal

# Christmas Reflections

Baby Jesus in the hay  
Prickles pierced your tender body  
Splintered by pain as on the tree  
You later suffered at Calvary.  
Mother Mary watching you  
Counting toes as mother's do  
From the angel she has known  
You to be God's Holy Son.



Shepherds heard the news from heaven  
Left their sheep to see this child  
Who became the Good Shepherd  
Giving his life for the sheep  
Lost in the wilderness of life.  
The homeless, the hopeless, the bereaved.  
The lonely, the weary the jobless  
How will he come to them this Christmas?  
If those of us who are filled with good things  
Give only to those who already have everything?  
Lord, help me to see through your eyes the needs to  
Be met, where the hurting cries  
Of those less fortunate spear the skies.  
And give me ears to hear them  
A heart to love them  
And hands to reach out  
With the blessings you provide.

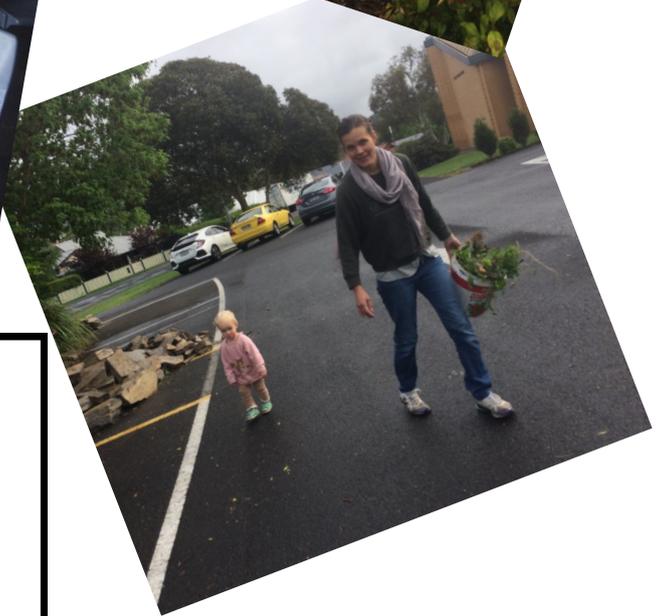
## Epiphany

Kings on camels riding far  
Following the guiding star  
Come to see the King of kings.  
Gifts they bring but best of all  
With worshipful hearts before you fall.  
We kneel with them in humble awe  
Help us Lord to love you more  
Than we ever have before.

Joy Christian (16.1.92)



# St Marks Working Bee



**The recent working bee at St Marks was well attended.**

**Jobs completed included:**

**Window cleaning**

**Removal of weeds**

**Trimming of trees**

**Replacement of rock garden surrounds**

**Pressure cleaning of church paths**

**We thank all those that attended to help out!**

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## Church Library – New Additions

*7 Lessons from Heaven: How Dying Taught Me to Live a Joy-Filled Life*  
by Mary C. Neal M.D.

**found on the 'Inspirational' shelf**

What happens when you die? Dr. Mary Neal went to heaven and came back with a profound experience and many lessons to share. After dying in a kayaking accident in 1999, Dr. Mary Neal realized that heaven is real. She shares what it is like to meet Jesus and angels, and most of all, how this experience has impacted her life.

Inspiring and powerful, *7 Lessons from Heaven* is a book meant for believers. Combining both spiritual and medical aspects, the lessons to be learnt are practical and can be life-changing. In this book, Dr. Mary Neal answers the biggest question of all: How does knowing heaven is real change our lives on Earth?



*Ten Amazing Muslims Touched by God*  
by Faisal Malick

**found on the 'Inspirational' shelf**

In their own words, ten amazing Muslims tell their stories about how God chose to reveal Himself to them in extraordinarily supernatural ways. Most of these men and women are devout Muslims, while others are scholars of the Qur'an and Hadith—some are just ordinary Muslims searching for answers from God.

*Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven*  
by David Jeremiah

**found on the 'Inspirational' shelf**

This book will answer and clarify the most important questions Christians have about their future eternal home. If you have had questions about heaven let Pastor David Jeremiah help you close the gap between what the Bible says about heaven and what you know. This series pulls the curtain back--to the extent Scripture allows--to reveal the glorious and utterly amazing realm of heaven. It will transform your perspective here on earth!



**Movie – *Do You Believe?* (rated M)**

**found in the DVD racks**

A dozen different souls, all moving in different directions, all longing for something more. As their lives unexpectedly intersect, they each are about to discover there is power in the Cross of Christ, even if they don't yet believe it. When a local pastor is shaken to the core by the visible faith of an old street corner preacher, he is reminded that true belief always requires action. His response ignites a faith-fuelled journey that powerfully impacts everyone it touches in ways that only God could orchestrate.



**Movie – *Moms' Night Out* (rated PG)**

**found in the DVD racks**

All Allyson and her friends want is a peaceful, grown-up evening of dinner and fun - a long-needed mums' night out. But in order to enjoy high heels, adult conversation, and food not served in a bag, they need their husbands to watch the kids for a few hours ... what could go wrong?

## Rest in Peace Lynette Wiebusch

Pastor and Lynette came to St Marks in 1995 and retired in 2004. We extend our deepest sympathies to Robert and the family on their loss.

Lynette Wiebusch was LNAA's founding president and served in that role for 10 years, as well as editing the LNAA newsletter *IN TOUCH* from 1992 to 2018. She was responsible for introducing the concept of what is now known as pastoral care nursing to the LCA, and was the LCA's first pastoral care nurse, serving at both Mount Barker and Dernancourt, in South Australia. She was a founding board member of the ecumenical Australian Faith Community Nurses Association and chaired the board for several years. She was also a founding board member for the global network, Lutheran Parish Nurses International. She was one of the first three graduates in Luther Seminary's Graduate Diploma in Theology (Faith Community Nursing) and co-wrote LNAA's *Introduction to Pastoral Care Nursing* course. Last year, the Parish Nursing Council of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in the United States adopted this course as its distance education program.



### Advent candle conundrum

Every year I look forward to seeing the new Advent wreath and the weekly lighting of the candles that culminates with all the candles being lit on Christmas day.

I have wondered over the years whether it was possible to burn the blue candles, on the four Sunday's of Advent, to ensure that they are all the same length at the start of the Christmas day service when we light the white candle for the first and only time.

Assuming there are two services on each Sunday of Advent, each service runs for the same length and each candle burns at the same rate, can you find a solution?

There may be more than one way of doing this. My suggested solution is on page 16

Andrew Cecil

## Sisters' memories of Christmas as a child



The house smells of freshly cut pine,  
A decorated tree with balls that shine.  
Advent evenings, carols to sing,  
Plates of food the ladies will bring.  
Dressing up as the three wise men,  
Lots of fun when you're only ten!  
'Feliz Navidad' filling the room,  
As dad plays his Boney-M tunes.  
Will Santa come on Christmas Eve?  
Excitement builds at the presents he'll leave.  
Getting up early on Christmas morn,  
As we celebrate the day, baby Jesus was born.



By Katrina Phillips 2020

Christmas recollections make me smile  
Let's trip down memory lane for a while.  
School holidays, cooking & wrapping up gifts,  
Buying neighbours small pressies to give them a lift.  
Pestering mum and dad to put up the tree  
Meant a trip to the forest where they had them for free.  
Participating in the Christmas Eve service  
I've done this before, so no need to be nervous;  
All of the rellies come out to our place  
The lunch is fantastic, disappears with no trace.  
The oldies were tired and needed a sleep  
But the kids wanted pressies, so we started to peep.  
The reason for the season is the same today  
Be with us this Christmas, Lord Jesus we pray.

By Ali Schulz 2020



The staff at the Matters wish all a Blessed  
Christmas and a Happy New 2021.

We thank all our contributors throughout the  
year. We trust you have enjoyed the read.

## Hill View elects new Board of Management.

In 2020 the usual timeline of activities has been disrupted for almost every one.

We at Hill View have also been impacted in that the Annual General Meeting which is usually conducted in March was delayed until July. At that meeting we usually elect a new board. This year we had a vacancy following the resignation of George Golder after 2 years serving with us. At the time of the AGM in July we had also become aware that Pastor David Kuss, our Chair, had also resigned due to increased pressures of his other pastoral work.

So our board set about identifying members who could bring skills and experience which we need in a diversified manner, to effectively manage the operation of the Hill View legacy. We were blessed in that James Ziersch and Angela Strauss have each agreed to stand for election to the board in the interim until the next AGM due in March 2021. They individually bring a variety of skills and insights to our board which we believe with Gods guidance, will enhance our management of the Hill View activities into the future.



### The Hill View Board of Management for 2021:

Rear: Val Schild, Jane Hill, James Ziersch.

Front: David Schild (Chair), Judith Paech (Secretary), inset Angela Strauss and Paul Andrejic (Treasurer).



Start or finish each day in God's word



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## LOOKING FORWARD...LOOKING BACK

What are you looking forward to at this time? If you're a child you're probably feeling excited because it will soon be Christmas! Haven't we all been that child, anticipating the joy and excitement of receiving a special gift, hoping we won't be disappointed? Jesus never disappoints; Jesus is God's most precious gift to us, the gift who keeps on giving grace, life, love and peace, abundantly!

Looking back, what are your memories of Advent/Christmas? It's a bit of both looking back and looking forward to Jesus' coming at Christmas but also Jesus' second coming.

Advent is the looking forward, the precursor, the lead up to Christmas that most in our society overlook, or are mostly in total ignorance of. Advent has been usurped by commercialism and dare I say it, by Christmas. Advent for Christians is a time, like Lent, for repentance, for reflection, of giving thought to our relationship with Jesus. *'The Advent season,'* writes Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *'is a season of waiting, but our whole life is an Advent season, that is, a season of waiting for the last Advent, for the time when there will be a new heaven and a new earth.'* In the society in which we live, waiting is a scarce commodity. It's an age of instant gratification! I want it and I want it now! Technology plays a big part in this as does advertising. We're told you must have it now or life will be miserable and unfulfilled without the goods and gadgets we want you to buy.

Looking back we reflect on how God gave us Jesus as a baby. What a dramatic story Christmas is. The very Son of God is born not in the most up to date hospital with all the hygiene regulations and COVID-19 safe facilities...Jesus is born in the very opposite circumstances of what we'd expect, among the filth of a stable to the humble, God-fearing Mary and Joseph. Dramatic to say the least! Now back to Bonhoeffer. *'We can, and should also celebrate Christmas despite the ruins around us. I think of you as you now sit together with the children and with all the Advent decorations-as in earlier years you did with us. We must do this even more intensively because we do not know how much longer we have.'* Quoted from a letter to Bonhoeffer's parents, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 1943, written from Tegel prison camp. Then Bonhoeffer writes to his fiancée, Maria. *'Celebrating Advent means being able to wait; waiting is an art that our impatient age has forgotten. It wants to break open the ripe fruit when it has hardly finished planting the shoot. For the greatest, most profound, tenderest things in the world, we must wait. It happens not here in a storm but according to the divine laws of sprouting and becoming.'* Bonhoeffer continues, *'be brave for my sake, dearest Maria, even if this letter is your only token of my love this Christmas-tide. We shall both experience a few dark hours-why should we disguise that from each other?'*

Yes, we also experience what seems like the 'darkness' of waiting, but the light is coming, yet it's already here. But Bonhoeffer's prison door never opened, at least not in life. As the Third Reich crumbled in April 1945, Hitler ordered the execution of some political prisoners who had conspired to overthrow him. Bonhoeffer was hanged on the 8<sup>th</sup> of April 1945, just ten days before German forces began to surrender and less than three weeks before Hitler's own death by suicide. Bonhoeffer was just 39 years old. *'Life in a prison cell may well be compared to Advent,'* he wrote to his best friend Eberhard Bethge as Christmas approached in 1943. *'One waits, hopes, and does this, that, or the other-things that are really of no consequence-the door is shut and can only be opened from the outside.'*

As I write, twenty one young people are being confirmed in their Christian faith. What will their faith journey be like, or yours? How eloquently Bonhoeffer has expressed the importance of observing Advent. This man lived out the faith he professed, took up his cross, following Jesus' example, and left a beautiful legacy of his writings to inspire our journey from Advent to Christmas and beyond. I pray each one of us can take time to reflect on waiting, preparing our hearts for Jesus' coming to *'open the door from the outside.'*

Come Lord Jesus, come! Joy Christian

*(All quotes come from a book of reflections on Advent and Christmas 'God is in the Manger' based on the writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer.)*

## Meet our 2020 Confirmees



Amelia Pfeiffer	2 Tim 3:14-15	I chose this verse because it is telling me to remember what I have learnt about the Holy Scriptures and what they have taught me and other people. It also says that if you remember what you have learnt from them, Jesus will redeem you from your sins which is through him and his teachings.
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Bethany Crowder	John 15:9	This text makes me feel reassured and nurtured by God.
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Billy Sumerling	1 Chronicles 16:11	I chose this verse because it is great advice to live by, when people are in trouble they don't usually look for the Lord.
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Cooper Lang	Proverbs 4:23	The verse teaches that you shouldn't always open up to all people but choose good people to open up to.
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Damon Martin	Psalm 51:10	I feel like it represents my personality and who I am.
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Eli Paech	Isaiah 40:29-31	( Out of all the texts I saw, this one really stood out to me because it says how God gives us strength even in hard times and that when we feel lost, we can turn to him.
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## Meet our 2020 Confirmees



Evie Krieg	Proverbs 3:5-6	I chose this verse because it talks about areas of faith I would like to improve in. This verse is something to remember when I lose my way.
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Georgie Schultz	Jeremiah 29:11	Gives me hope that everything will be o.k. as it is a promise from God. For he will set us free and give us peace.
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Hannah Zweck	Psalm 119:105	I chose this because it reminds me that God's word is a light in darkness and that he will lead us out of darkness into the light through his word.
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Holly Paech	Psalm 62:2	I have chosen Psalm 62:2 because I felt like it is something helpful and I should live by it. It also reassures me that God is always there for me and any problems that I have I can go to God with them. He really is my rock, if I did not have God I would have nothing. He is my salvation and my fortress with him I will never be shaken.
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Isaac Lockwood	Jeremiah 1:5	( God created me and everything begins with that.
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Jessica Luxon	Colossians 3:2	( These verses remind me to always look ahead for the things to come. To look forward to things in an optimistic way. To set your goals and desires on something high, rather than something that can be easily accomplished.
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Stacey Dowling	Romans 8:38-39	This speaks to me, saying that nothing can separate us from God and his love. He will be with us through thick and thin.
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## Meet our 2020 Confirmees



Maddison Norris	Deuteronomy 31:6	I have chosen this text because it is saying be strong and courageous and do not be afraid because God is with us which is certainly true, whatever your situation - always remember to be strong and courageous because God will always be with us.
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Maya Krieg	Romans 15:13	Believing in God fills you with joy. This verses is a reminder that no matter what happens you will always find happiness with God.
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Mitchell	Psalm 31:14	I think this verse means that if you trust God, he will be loyal to you and nothing will separate you from his love.
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Ruby	Psalms 27:1	I wanted something to relate to throughout most situations, something relevant and something that makes me feel calm and collected.
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Ruby	Isaiah 42:6 (CEV)	I have chosen this because it says that he is always by my side and that I have been chosen by Him to go into the world to bring light.
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Ryan Schwarz	Romans 14:8	This verse refers to all Christians, staying with them as a life time promise, urging them forward to not slack off in faith because of how important faith is.
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Sophie Lockwood	1 Samuel 16:17	I chose this text because people judge you on your appearance when it really shouldn't matter. God doesn't care what you look like because he already knows you.
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# CHURCH REGISTER

## Baptisms

Date	Name	Born	Parents
01/11/20	Indiana Smith	4/6/20	Aaron & Tori
15/11/20	Katie de Haas	2/9/20	Matthew & Stacy
06/12/20	Clementine Barnett-Pierce	3/10/20	Adam & Philippa B-P

## Weddings

Date	Bride	Groom	Location
10/10/2	Tammy Graetz	Timothy Footner	Bordertown
4/12/20	Zoe Kleinig	Jaymes Lovelady	Dawesley

## Membership In

Date	Name
11/10/20	Kym & Marie Mills

## Contact St Mark's

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Email <pfeiffer241@gmail.com>

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Candle A
Week 1 – 8.30
Week 1 -10.30
Week 3 – 8.30
Week 4 – 8.30
Week 4 – 10.30



Candle B
Week 2 – 8.30
Week 2 -10.30
Week 3 – 10.30
Week 4 – 8.30
Week 4 – 10.30



Candle C
Week 2 -8.30
Week 3 – 8.30
Week 3 – 10.30
Week 4 – 8.30
Week 4 – 10.30



Candle D
Week 2 – 10.30
Week 3 – 8.30
Week 3 – 10.30
Week 4 – 8.30
Week 4 – 10.30

**St Marks**   
Lutheran Church  
SHARING THE LOVE OF JESUS

35 Hampden Rd Mt Barker

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CHRISTMAS EVE @ ST MARKS



Keep updated using the web site or having the Sunday bulletin delivered each Friday by email by registering online. St Marks Matters is also distributed electronically to



Birthday Gathering



Happy Birthday Enice

## Out & About At St Marks



It has been a privilege to publish  
*St Mark's Matters*.

HO-HO-HO! 🎅



THE FOUR STAGES OF A  
MAN'S LIFE...

1. You believe in Santa
2. You don't believe in Santa
3. You are Santa
4. You look like Santa

HO HO HO



Josephs ordination



The Flaxley Fire!!!

The Editor  
Thanks You!

So true!



School choir at Rudolfs Christmas



Ladies fellowship honey biscuits Yum!



The new school front