

ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

WHERE ARE WE AND WHERE ARE WE GOING

Esperance is a thriving growing community that has many exciting opportunities with people coming from all over to live and work. In recent years the focus has changed from a rural, fishing and tourism based economy to the massive investments brought on by Ravensthorpe Nickel and other mining ventures which the Esperance port services.

The change has been very rapid over the last few years. While this can be a challenge to our church it also demonstrates the type of people and their natures that make up our community.

In Esperance, we have a strong, friendly, far flung self-supporting congregation with a good cross-section of ages, interests and backgrounds. Currently we have a reasonable balance between town and rural families.

Service attendance can range from 30 to 70 depending on seasonal factors. We have a significant number who travel from outer lying areas, some who travel over 100 kilometres to attend worship. For this reason, a worship meeting is currently being held in Cascade (105 km north-west) once a month.

Our congregation is a diverse group that needs to work harder at becoming a fellowshiping family. There are many opportunities to re-contact and make new contact with a wide range of ages and family structures. We desire a Pastor who can lead and motivate us in taking on the challenges that God presents.

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Due to the range of ages, interests and backgrounds represented in the congregation our worship services have been a good blend of traditional and contemporary styles.

- Sunday Service is held at 10am
- Children's talk during the service
- Sunday school 10:45am
- Kids Club during the service every third Sunday of the month

Lay Support

- 5 lay readers
- 3 accomplished organists
- a guitarist
- a team of 9 dedicated Sunday school teachers
- 7 pastoral assistants (male and female)

Other activities include

- Youth
- Ladies Fellowship
- Small Group Bible Studies
- Teen Challenge supporting visits twice a year

MANSE

The manse is located at 10 Backland Street, Esperance, which is opposite the church.

It is a well-kept, four bedroom brick veneer home with a good sized study and one bathroom and separate toilet.

CHURCH BUILDINGS

Offices and Rooms

- Administration office with a photocopier
- Pastor's office (if desired)
- Well equipped kitchen in the church building used for morning teas

Other Equipment

- Electric keyboard
- Sound system
- Overhead projector

Other Buildings

- Multi-purpose building behind church incorporating **two open areas**: 1 section is currently let to a community group for after school care (includes office, storeroom and kitchen), and the other which includes a kitchen is for church and community use (the toilets are shared and everything else is separate including the play areas).

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE WE ARE GOING

Kalgoorlie-Boulder is a booming mining town with the advantage of having many minerals (primarily gold and nickel) and many companies involved. We are the service and transport hub of the area and thus our community includes people who work in mining, government, hospitality, tourism and various small to large businesses.

Our major current project is to finish the new Sunday School Building – and we still have the following to do to it and the Church and surrounds, before we can declare things to be finished:

- Connect Power and finish off Electrical side of things
- Paint (as of July 2008 currently underway)
- Upgrade outside toilet to one appropriate for disabled access
- Improved disabled access to the buildings – mainly paths

Being a small group, this has taken us much longer than anticipated – but we had a great boost earlier in 2007 when many from the Esperance Congregation came up and helped for a weekend.

A year or two ago we had reached quite small numbers, but we have had some new additions over the past 18 months, which has helped invigorate things. Near the end of 2007 we had 18 to 25 at each service (including kids) – since then we have had a couple of new families as well as several singles join our worship. We are becoming a multicultural congregations with people for PNG, Indonesia, Zimbabwe and other African countries

Our congregation has benefited greatly from Pastor Brian's monthly visits, and the general feeling seems to be of hopeful anticipation as we enter this Call Period. We will miss Brian and Elaine, but our congregation has always had a strong independence, and great faith and support is given to the Lay Preachers/Readers and the rest of the Leadership here.

We have a desire to become more outward focused – as in how better to evangelise within our community, within our work places, within our schools and within our families. We also want to continue to be a friendly and open congregation. We also need to work harder at studying the Bible together and at praying together.

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

As a small group our services tend to be a little less formal and we enjoy both modern choruses and classic hymns.

- Sunday Service is held at 9:30am
- Children's talk during the service
- Sunday school during the sermon

Lay Support

- 1 lay preacher (able to do lay communion) and 2 lay readers
- 1 pianist
- 2 Sunday school teachers
- Children/youth help by collecting offerings, welcoming at the door and doing Bible readings

Other activities include

- Small Group Bible Studies
- Fellowship meals

CHURCH BUILDINGS

Equipment

- Electric keyboard
- Music system – some services we use CD music
- Small kitchen good for morning tea

Other Buildings

- Sunday School room – being used while under development

THE PARISH OF ESPERANCE & KALGOORLIE-BOULDER

The congregations of Esperance and Kalgoorlie-Boulder have had a close working relationship for many years in spite of the 400 kilometre distance. Our parish has an annual meeting and fellowship time with Pastor's monthly trip helping us to keep in touch.

Our parish executive consists of a chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary.

In servicing our parish and meeting district commitments, our most recent Pastor travelled approximately 30,000 km in a year. It is important that prospective pastors appreciate that Esperance is 700 km from Perth (and Kalgoorlie-Boulder is 600 km from Perth) thus peer support is not exactly "around the corner". Previous pastors have found value in being involved with the Ministers Fraternal in Esperance and on the mailing list for the Fraternal in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

When travelling to Kalgoorlie-Boulder we do try to arrange billeted accommodation with members of the congregation. It is advantageous to know in advance the number of people coming and times of arrival and departure. A fellowship meal is normally held during that weekend.

Whilst we do have a parish structure the Esperance congregation takes responsibility for the Pastor's salary, housing, travel, etc. Kalgoorlie-Boulder contributes a small portion towards these costs. Currently the main aim of the parish structure is for the mutual support and fellowship of the two congregations.

PARISH OFFICE BEARERS

Chairperson	Glenn Crouch	0438 932 133	glenn@esbconsult.com
Vice-Chairperson	Peter Hoffrichter	(08) 9072-1255	
Secretary	Marie Schutz	(08) 9075 3042	tmshutz@bordnet.com.au

ESPERANCE OFFICE BEARERS

Chairperson	Ray Arnold	(08) 9079 2052	kangadowns@wn.com.au
Vice Chairperson	Malcolm Leske	(08) 9079 2068	ruth.leske@bigpond.com
Secretary	Pam Welke	(08) 9071 5913	pwelke@bigpond.com
Treasurer	Trevor Schutz	(08) 9075 3042	tmshutz@bordnet.com.au

KALGOORLIE-BOULDER OFFICE BEARERS

Chairperson	Wayne Astill	(08) 9091 4560	sueastill@wn.com.au
Secretary	Glenn Crouch	0438 932 133	glenn@esbconsult.com
Treasurer	Matthew Leske	0421 448 775	Matthew.Leske@bhpbilliton.com

FURTHER INFORMATION – HELPFUL WEBSITES

- ✓ Goldfields Esperance Development Commission - <http://www.gedc.wa.gov.au/>
- ✓ Esperance Visitors Centre - <http://www.visitesperance.com/>
- ✓ Esperance Info - <http://www.esperance.info/>
- ✓ Kalgoorlie Info - <http://www.kalgoorlie.info/>
- ✓ Esperance District Education Office
<http://www.det.wa.gov.au/education/deo/esperance/schools.html>
- ✓ Esperance Senior High School - <http://www.esperanceshs.wa.edu.au/>
- ✓ Curtin University - <http://www.kalg.curtin.edu.au/>