



WA Lutheran News

Dec 2008

AUSTRALIA DAY IN ESPERANCE

The Esperance and Kalgoorlie/Boulder Parish will be celebrating the installation of Pastor Adrian Kramer on Sunday 25th January 2009. Pastor Adrian Kitson will be officiating. Service starts at 10am. Fellowship lunch to follow. The Parish would welcome any visitors who would like to join them.

Pastor Adrian Kramer

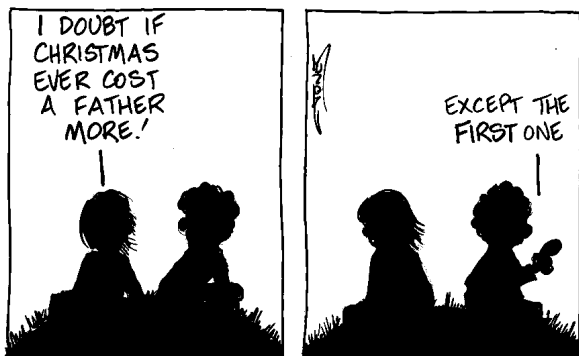


FAITH WARRIORS JAN CAMP

For youth 13 years and older.
Friday 23rd to 26th January 2009 at Nanga Bush Camp, Dwellingup.
Info has been sent to churches but if you need more or can't find a form contact Kane Fulwood at fulwooka@yahoo.com.au or 0411 847 895
Or Jaren Hart on 0432 667 202 or 30479793@student.murdoch.edu.au

LAY WORKER INSTALLED AT OCEAN FOREST

Di Thiele was welcomed into her service recently by the congregation. She is taking up the call to be youth worker and chaplain to the college.



PASTORS AND CHURCH WORKERS CHAT

The WA Pastors and church workers gathered for a day on Dec 1. It was a great day of excellent food and great conversation at the Duncraig Manse, the home of Pastor Milo and Anna Velebir. Di Thiele came and was introduced to everyone.

MARK YOUR 2009 CALENDAR

- Living Waters have successfully called Pastor Richard Schulze to work as Chaplain in the college. Pastor Richard will arrive in mid/late Jan from Wangaratta, VIC.
- March 27-29, 2009 - The WA District convention at Duncraig.
- The LCA will be hosting its national Synod convention in October 2009 in Melbourne.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Most Holy & Majestic Father,

There's so much "hype" around Christmas time. I have to admit that I enjoy all the jolly jingle and festive frolic as much as anyone. But, Lord, as I enter into the fast-paced season ahead, help me walk slowly and quietly.

Let me stop and listen to the angels sing of the greatest news ever told!

Let my heart, mind and soul join the chorus. "Glory in the Highest!! The Messiah has been born!"

Among all the bright sparkling lights and cheery holiday tunes, let my spirit travel once again toward Bethlehem to honour and worship Jesus, my King! The Prince of Peace, the Lord of Hosts, Mighty Counsellor, Son of God, the Lamb. All Your love, mercy and power somehow made flesh in the tiny form of a humble baby born in a manger. Let me worship the only one who is worthy to take our sin away and open the gates of all eternity!

Amen



LIVES LOST AND THE LIVING HOPE

On the 26th of October my precious daughter Sarah had her last seizure. It caused a catastrophic head injury which took her life on the 28th of October. She was buried at the Rockingham Memorial Park in Baldivis on the 7th of November after the most beautiful funeral at the Rockingham Lutheran Church. Staff and students alike as well as church members filled the church with butterflies which were always special to Sarah and to me have always signified new life. Sarah has her new life with no helmet, no seizures and the freedom to which she always aspired.

On the 10th of November I had major surgery performed from which I thankfully have recovered well.

On the 15th of November at around 8.40am my husband Peter's life was tragically taken in a road accident on his way down to the farm near Collie. For unknown reasons (at this stage) a trucks trailer careened sideways and rolled onto Peter's ute killing him instantly. The Police have assured me that Peter did nothing wrong and had no chance.

Peter's body was laid to rest in the same grave as Sarah on the 26th of November. One child told me that now he could read her more stories in heaven and that she wouldn't be lonely now.

People ask me how I can possibly cope with all of this and my answer is that I am not sure that I am. I know that there are many people uplifting Karl and myself in prayer on a daily basis and am sure that it is this that is holding me up...nothing of my own doing. I can say that I have had 17 years of doing things the hard way and therefore may be a little more resilient than most but maybe that was all part of God's plan.

The spiritual, emotional, practical and financial support that I have received from Living Waters Lutheran College, the Rockingham Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Church of WA, the West Arthur Community and even people I don't know from around Warnbro have been extremely humbling. Because there has been such a lot happen in such a short time I find that I am unable to answer every sympathy card that was sent for both Sarah and Peter. I had started replying to those for Sarah but then Peter's accident put a stop to that.

Thank you for the cards, the flowers, the food, the phone calls, the prayers and the donations which have been given to Karl and I. These words seem so inadequate but are meant to express a profound depth of gratitude to all of you.

I want to leave this letter with an excerpt from Sarah's eulogy and the verse which is something that I cling to fervently.

I urge you to follow Sarah's lead, Take time to smell the flowers. Look intently at God's wonderful creations. Feel the sand between your toes and fingers. Laugh, sing and dance for joy, Hug your family and friends. Tell them and show them that you love them. Live every moment. And when you worship the Lord do it with freedom in the knowledge that He loves every one of you and is eagerly waiting for you to love Him back.

From 1 Peter 1:3-9

3Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4**and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, **5**who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. **6**In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. **7**These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. **8**Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, **9**for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

God Bless and Thank you
Janet Nuske



Have you got any news about your parish or congregation? Share with the WA District. I need prayer points, praise points, news and views. Please email your items to: wanews@esbconsult.com

Current and old WA Lutheran News are available for download from:

<http://www.esbconsult.com/lcawanews/>

On the website you can also sign up to get an email informing you of when there is a new newsletter ready for download.

Karen Crouch, Editor, WA Lutheran News

