

## 2015 WA DISTRICT CONVENTION & OPENING OF ST JOHNS COURT

By Karen Crouch

District Convention was a massive undertaking for the St Johns congregations. Pastor's conference preceded synod from Wednesday to Friday, Synod held over the weekend starting on Friday night through to Sunday with the opening service and celebrations for St Johns Court. The volunteers did a marvellous job to pull it all together.

### Extracts from the Popular report

It is not often that a popular report starts by talking about a building but this one has to because the building was so important to the whole weekend. The brand new St Johns Court was where all the meetings were held over the weekend, the new kitchen feed many people every meal except breakfast, the new lounge and outdoor areas were filled with chatter and laughter and the underground parking was often mentioned with wonder. In short it is a building where we can be church together.....

Sunday morning about 520 people gathered for the Opening and Dedication service for St Johns Court. The church was full and the Court building allowed others to view the service on big screens in the lounge and main hall area....

**The rest of the report and photos can be found at:**

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



## FLOWER DISPLAYS AT CONVENTION

By Karen Crouch

I first saw Claire Robins preparing this stunning display in the main gathering space on the Friday of Convention weekend. Her husband was trimming the thorns from the roses and she was using her one good hand to place them just where she wanted them.



Claire Robins had started her "preparation" for Convention and the opening of St Johns Court by tripping over and breaking her wrist. But the show must go on, so Claire and her helpers installed six different floral works of art around the meeting hall, lounge and church.

Each arrangement was based on a Bible verse, a pamphlet was available to describe each one and give reasons why certain elements and colours were used. The one above titled "Praise God" is based on Psalm 18:2 "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer".

The one in the Hall was called "Sing Glory to God" based on Psalm 16 which inspired Martin Luther to write the hymn "A Mighty Fortress is our God".



In the Sanctuary was "Worship God" based on Psalm 127:1

"Unless the Lord builds the house its builders labour in vain"

## OCEAN FOREST FELLOWSHIP MEMBERS GET THEIR HANDS DIRTY WITH JESUS

By Pastor Rodney Witmitz

It wasn't quite Mother Theresa work – but it was following Jesus: meeting the need of people in our community, beginning with the family of God.

With tree roots and general wear having made the paving quite dangerous members were rallied to rock up to a working bee to help the family make it safe for Pat.

The family were very thankful for the help. As they said: "You have turned a 'one day job' of the past twelve years into a reality.

It was hard but very satisfying work for all those involved – and left behind something of the flavours and colours of Christ (salt and light) in the community.

We are now looking forward to the next opportunity to connect, as a fellowship, with Christ's Service to the world.



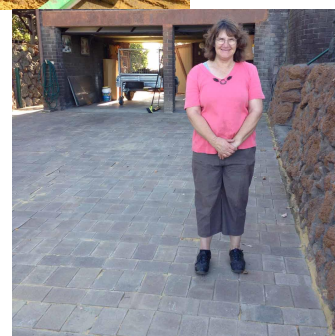
Clearing



Levelling



Job Done!



## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH – NARROGIN

### 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

15<sup>th</sup> February 2015 marked 100 years since the dedication of the first Church in Narrogin area, on the Lange farm.

25<sup>th</sup> July 2014 was 60 years since the church was moved into Narrogin itself and rededicated.

### Time to Celebrate

Thanksgiving/Celebration service

16<sup>th</sup> August 2015

All welcome to help us give thanks for 100 years of Lutherans worshipping in Narrogin.

*See page 3 for the story of how the church in Narrogin started.*



### DADS & KIDS CAMP 2015

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May

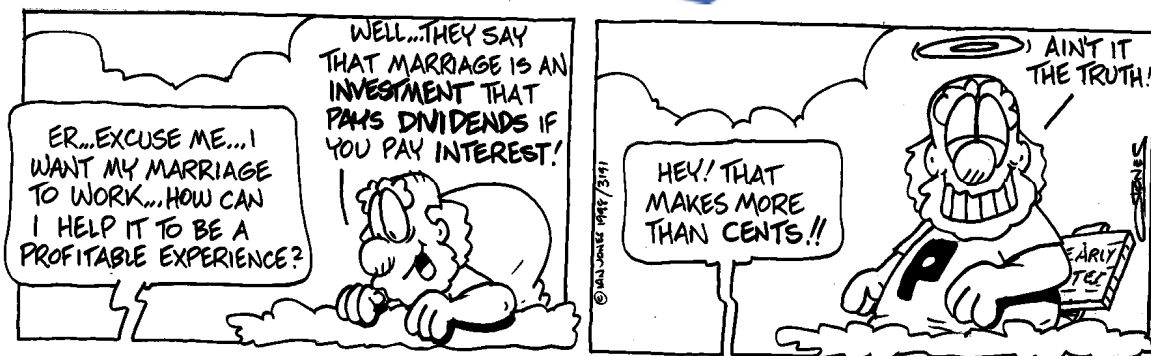
Advent Park Campground, 345 Kalamunda Rd, Maida Vale

A special weekend away for Dads and their kids aged 5-12. Camp forms will be out soon!

[lywa@wa.lca.org.au](mailto:lywa@wa.lca.org.au)



LYWA (Lutheran Youth of Western Australia)





## NARROGIN GETS IT'S START 100 YEARS AGO

By Lyn Alcock with Eileen & Robert Lange

Foresight and faith of one man  
still appreciated 100 years on.

Frederick William Lange's strong faith and commitment to his Lord was the driving force behind the commencement of the Lutheran congregation in the Narrogin area of Western Australia, and his descendants continue to be actively involved in the congregation to this day. He was born in Germany in 1843 and migrated to South Australia in 1855.

Frederick, his wife Augusta, and their 10 sons and 2 daughters left Melrose in South Australia in 1903 after several years of severe drought, with the promise of fertile land in WA, which had been reconnoitred and purchased previously by 3 of their sons. They sailed to Albany on the ship "Marloo" and from there they travelled via bush tracks and coach roads to Wardering, near Narrogin which was later renamed Ockley. They brought with them wagons, drays, horses and wooden horse troughs filled with 900 lbs of homemade bacons, hams and sausages well cured, as well as farm tools and a single furrow plough. They also brought sheep and cattle purchased in Albany. The food they carried was soon supplemented by the local kangaroos and wallabies. The farm was initially called 'Langeville' but in the late 1920's it was renamed 'Melrose' as it is known today

Apart from clearing land and building straw huts and mud block houses, Frederick quickly made contact with Pastor Edwin Fisher in Perth and Church Services soon commenced in the six-roomed homestead which had been constructed by the three sons prior to the family's arrival. Pastors Mensing, J.Hansen, Wolters, and Moody serviced the congregation

of Lange family members over the ensuing years and in 1915 a Church was constructed on the farm costing the Lange family £286/18/6. This Church was dedicated on Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 1915. School was commenced in the Church vestry in 1917 with a public school teacher, until a separate school was built in the Church grounds in 1920. This school was operated until 1941 when the building was relocated to the nearby school in Wickepin.

After their arrival, all the sons soon purchased farms in the area, but Depression times and the rabbit plague in ensuing years meant that these farms were gradually sold off until only the original farm remained.

With the congregational/family members dispersing over the years it was eventually decided to move the Church brick by brick into Narrogin. This was completed and the building rededicated in 1954. This was a cheaper option than building a new Church.

Frederick's nobleness of character and his simple belief in the wisdom and power of his Saviour guided his life at Ockley and these characteristics were extolled at his funeral in 1927. He was seen as an amazing influence in the district, both in the Church and in the farming community. Love of his family and hard work were always underpinned by his strong faith in his Lord. .

Following Frederick's death, Melrose farm was run by Frederick's 8th son Harry, followed by his son Geoff. Sadly Geoff died at age 43 years in 1971, but his wife Eileen and young sons Robert and Michael engaged John Mattner to continue working the farm until the boys were old enough to do so themselves. They have been joined by their sons Braden and David in recent years. Frederick's foresight and influence are still felt and appreciated by the Lange family today.



Left  
Trinity Lutheran Church at  
'Langesville' Wardering,  
now called Ockley



Right  
Frederick & Augusta Lange

## ESPERANCE WELCOMES NEW PASTOR

By Karen Crouch

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2015 an installation service was held at St John's Esperance welcoming Pastor Jason Pokela, his wife Bernadette and Olivia (9), Marcus (7), Hudson (5) and Spence (3).

Bishop Greg preached about loving being a doing word and encouraged Jason and his new congregation to work together to show forth Christ's love in the community of Esperance and the wider parish area of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. He also reminded Pastor Jason and the whole congregation that the best sermon is lived.

When congregational chairman Mark Wandel presented Pastor Jason with a token of office he recalled that at the ordination service in December, Bishop John Henderson had told the newly ordained pastors that they would be called into the wilderness so Mark proclaimed loudly "and so welcome to the wilderness!".

Pastor Jason spoke to the congregation humbly and said that he would fail from time to time and invited the members to please come and see him about that because he wanted to always be working in and for reconciliation.

### WELCOME TO KALGOORLIE-BOULDER

Wilderness without the ocean!

Pastor Jason greeted the PNG families of the congregation in their own language having spent some of his growing up years in PNG.

He was brought into the church with drumming and singing for his first visit to St Paul's on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2015.



*Left: Bishop Greg presents Pastor Jason to the congregation.*

*Below: Pastor Jason and family are welcomed by the congregation.*



### 2014 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Article Deadline	Publication Date
19 June	30 June
11 September	30 September
27 November	15 December

Please email your items to: [waneews@wa.lca.org.au](mailto:waneews@wa.lca.org.au)

Current and old WA Lutheran News are available for download from the new website and also 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



## NOT ANOTHER YEAR OF ROSTERS!

At the start of a new year as a 'church member' it is interesting to think about whether you're again going to be burdened by volunteering for numerous roster 'duties' or perhaps you might look at this in a different way when you are asked to help . . . . . and better still if this year you don't wait to be asked perhaps!!

We are the Church, Christ's 'Body' with Him as the Head . . . . . so the idea of a 'volunteer' kidney or a 'part time and grudging' tibia in a functioning body doesn't really make sense does it?

- Some of us who 'volunteer' are sharing our 'spiritual gifts'
- Some of us are sharing a skill or talent
- Some of us give of our time because we want to be good team players
- Some of us are on a roster because of guilt - guilted by the knowledge that in a small church there are few people to help so we'd better 'do it'

. . . . . but could it be that every little act of service or kindness in our local congregation is an opportunity to bring 'worship' to our King

. . . . . so

- ✠ for those who 'clean' . . . is it just vacuuming, dusting and mopping, getting the chairs set straight. . . . or do we have an opportunity each week to prepare the Sanctuary for the King and His Bride?
- ✠ Many of us like to always sit in the same seat each week – how about as we set out the chairs we pray God's blessing on the person who will sit there
- ✠ for those who provide the flower arrangements each week . . . is it just flowers and vases and whether its arranged artfully . . . or could it be that in a similar way to a bride wanting to have flowers – your gift will bring beauty and joy to the Bride
- ✠ for those who care for and teach our children . . . is it just child minding or just lessons . . . . or are you being allowed the privilege of serving the Kingdom of God (Jesus said the Kingdom of God belongs to children)
- ✠ for those who play an instrument or sing . . . . is it that you like to play and sing and is it just about a song list that you hope everyone will like. . . . or is yours a sacred role to help us each and together to build a throne of praise on which Christ can be enthroned
  - ✠ And for us in the congregation is it just about a tune we like or DON'T like, or clapping we dislike . . . . . or is it about the precious and awesome privilege for the fruit of our lips and heart to bring honour and joy to God's heart

We who follow Christ are identified as:

- ✠ Servants (Matthew. 20:25-28)
- ✠ Priests (1 Peter. 2:4-9)
- ✠ Friends (John 15:14-15)
- ✠ Sons and heirs (Romans 8)

But even if you can't quite fully see the spiritual importance or opportunities in your acts of 'work or duty or service'. . . . . as children of God who come each week to God's House to worship Him, maybe it will help with the 'task' if we look at it in the same way we look at the way we are in our own homes . . . we don't just skip making the bed or cleaning the dishes or mowing the lawn, we don't just refuse to take part . . . . . we all have chores and we are expected to make the house run smoothly and happily and not leave it all to someone else.

We are each a child of God, part of His family with the privilege to serve Him and each other  
Not ANOTHER year of rosters!

. . . . . are we again going to be burdened by volunteering for numerous roster 'duties' . . . . or is there an opportunity for ME and YOU to bring 'something more'

*Annon*

# Holy Land Pilgrimage

## Following the footsteps of Jesus

*“Spiritually enlightening”*

**11 Days Fully Escorted Tour** 6-19 October 2015



### TOUR PACKAGE PRICE

**\$6530** \* Per Person  
Twin Share

Single Room  
Supplement  
Additional  
AUD \$1260

### Your tour hosts:



#### Graeme Lienert APM

**Mr Graeme Lienert**, APM, Assistant Commissioner of Police (retired). Frequent traveller to Israel and neighbouring countries. Since retiring from the WA Police Force, Graeme has led many tour groups to Israel. He has established over the years invaluable local knowledge and relationships that will enhance your Holy Land Tour. If you would like to know more about Graeme Lienert's escorted tours please call **0419 909 909**, email [egtravel@icloud.com](mailto:egtravel@icloud.com) or visit [www.graemeliert.com](http://www.graemeliert.com)



#### Gale Mashiach

A trained and registered Guide with the Israeli Ministry of Tourism Gale has been leading groups of Pilgrims throughout the Holy Land for many years. She is internationally recognised for her knowledge of local issues and is well acquainted with the history of modern and biblical Israel. Gale travels widely, to share her understanding of the Holy Land and what it means to Pilgrims.

### Tour Inclusions

- Return economy airfares Australia/Tel Aviv/Australia
- Accommodation in quality hotels with meals (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner as indicated B,L,D)
- Transportation - bus and driver for touring and group transfers to and from airport
- Government Licensed Tour Guide: English and Hebrew
- Entrances fees - Historical sites, Museums, Parks etc.
- Tipping and Gratuities
- Airline Ticket and Departure Taxes for Tour Package Flights

### Tour Exclusions

- Travel Insurance - Mandatory, if you are not choosing the option offered by Olive Tree Travel a copy of your policy is required
- Drinks with meals
- Individual activities on free days
- Individual Airport Transfers apart from the group
- Single room supplement (\$1260 additional to tour cost)
- Visas
- Wheelchairs

**See itinerary on next page**



# Itinerary - Holy Land Tour - Following in the Footsteps of Jesus

**Day 1:** Tuesday 6 October 2015  
Depart Australian Capital City for Tel Aviv, Israel

**Day 2:** Wednesday 7 October 2015 **Jerusalem - Mount of Olives - Bethlehem**

07:00 am Arrival at Ben Gurion Airport Tel Aviv, where we will be met and assisted by Immanuel Tours representatives and our Israeli Tour Guide, Gale. Our Pilgrimage of the Holy Land begins with a drive to the top of the Mount of Olives to take in the majestic view of ancient and modern Jerusalem, the centre of the Biblical world. We continue to Bethlehem where we visit the Church of the Nativity, the birth-place of Jesus, (Mt 2:1) and Shepherds Field, where the Angel of the Lord proclaimed the birth of our Saviour. Overnight Jerusalem. (BD).

**Day 3:** Thursday 8 October **Palm Sunday Road - Gethsemane - Old City Tour**

Today we descend the Palm Sunday Road, via the Church of Dominus Flevit, where Jesus wept over Jerusalem. We walk to the Garden of Gethsemane, the night Jesus was betrayed. (Lk 22:40-46). Entering the Old City, through Lion's Gate, we visit the Pool of Bethesda, the site of the healing of the cripple. (Jn 5: 1-18). Following in the Footsteps of Jesus, we walk the via Dolorosa – the Stations of the Cross and continue to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Overnight Jerusalem. (BD).

**Day 4:** Friday 9 October **Yad Vashem - Dead Sea Scrolls - Ein Kerem**

We visit Yad Vashem, a very moving and impressionable memorial for the victims of the Holocaust. We continue to the Museum of Israel to view the Shrine of the Book, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed. Drive to the picturesque village of Ein Kerem, birthplace of John the Baptist the son of Zacharias and Elizabeth (Lk. 1:5-17). Free time. Overnight Jerusalem. (BD).

**Day 5:** Saturday 10 October **Masada - Dead Sea**

Descending through the Judean Mountains we visit the Fortress of Masada, site of the last Jewish rebellion against the Romans in 73 AD. Ascend by Cable car to the summit to view the restored remains of Herod's Summer Palace, now a UNESCO site. We continue to the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth - to float in the therapeutic natural waters. Time to relax. Overnight Jerusalem. (BD).

**Day 6:** Sunday 11 October **The Holy City - Hezekiah Tunnel**

Our day begins with Sunday Service at the Church of the Redeemer, where we worship with fellow Christians from throughout the world. We continue our tour to Mt Zion, to visit the Upper Room of the Last Supper (Mk 14: 14-15). We conclude our day with a walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel; exiting at the Pool of Siloam, where Jesus healed the blind man (Jn 9:1-11). Free time. Overnight Jerusalem. (BD).

**Day 7:** Monday 12 October **Garden Tomb - Western Wall Tunnels - Temple Mount**

Today we visit Gordon's Golgotha at the Garden Tomb, a quiet and reflective location. We enter the Old City passing through colourful market lined streets to the Western Wall, the most Holy site for the Jewish people and visit the Temple Mount. We are guided through the Western Wall tunnels, exposing the full length of the retaining walls. Overnight Jerusalem. (BD).

**Day 8:** Tuesday 13 October **Jericho - Jordan Valley - Galilee**

We depart Jerusalem and continue to Jericho, the first town conquered by Joshua. Ascend by Cable car to the Mount of Temptation, where the Devil tempted Jesus. (Mt. 4: 8). We drive through the Jordan Valley to the Galilee, passing by Mt Gilboa where King Saul and his sons met their death (1 Sam. 31). Overnight in Tiberius. (BD).

**Day 9:** Wednesday 14 October **The Pilgrim Shrines - Sail on the Sea of Galilee**

Today we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, exploring the biblical sites of the Galilee, where many miracles of Jesus occurred. We visit Tabgha, the Church of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes (Mk 6:30-44), the Mount of The Beatitudes (Mt 5:7) and Capernaum, the ancient Town of Jesus. Drive to Ginosar to see the 'Jesus boat' a restored fishing boat of the kind in use some 2,000 years ago. We conclude our day sailing on the Sea of Galilee. Overnight Tiberius. (BD).

**Day 10:** Thursday 15 October **Cana - Nazareth - Haifa - Tel Aviv**

We leave the shores of the Galilee to visit Cana where Jesus performed his first public miracle (Jn 2:1-11). Our Pilgrimage continues to Nazareth to visit the Church of the Annunciation, which stands over the grotto that tradition holds to be the home of the Virgin Mary. Continue to Haifa to view the Baha'i Gardens and the Shrine of the Baha'i faith. Making our way to Tel Aviv we pass by Caesaria Maritima on the Mediterranean Coast. Overnight Tel Aviv (BD).

**Day 11:** Friday 16 October **Jaffa - Carmel Market - Shopping**

Our day begins in the nearby town of Jaffa, an historical and biblical port on the Mediterranean coast. In Jaffa we visit St Peter's Church and the House of Simon the Tanner where Peter had his vision. We continue to the colourful Carmel Market to experience the locals shopping in preparation for the Sabbath. Free time. Our guide Gale will be on hand to assist with directions. Overnight Tel Aviv (BD).

**Day 12:** Saturday 17 October **Tel Aviv - Free time - The Mediterranean**

Following breakfast, we pack for our homeward journey. Free time. In the afternoon, we visit Sarona, the home of the Templers (1868 – 1948). Farewell dinner and transfer to Ben Gurion airport for departure to Bangkok (BD).

**Day 13:** Sunday 18 October - Arrival to Bangkok for connecting flights to our respective Australian Capital Cities.

**Day 14:** Monday 19 October - Arrive home with memories to last a lifetime.

Tour designed by Immanuel Tours and G & G Travel

\* Price of \$6530 is subject to a minimum of 20 full paying adults, currency fluctuation, and increase in Airline Ticket/Departure Taxes - conditions apply

\* Please note if you are not travelling with a companion and a suitable same gender roommate is not available, you will need to pay the single room supplement.

## What to do Next?

1. Obtain a booking form from Trish Cortizo from Olive Tree Travel. Contact: 0421638453 / 1300 550 830 or Email: trish@olivetreetravel.com.au
2. To secure your place a deposit of \$600 is required by 6 June 2015
3. Final balance will be due by 30 July, 2015

### WHO TO CONTACT:



Trish Cortizo  
Olive Tree Travel  
0421 638 453 Ph: 1300 55 08 30  
trish@olivetreetravel.com.au  
www.olivetreetravel.com.au



Proud Member of the International Institute for Peace through Tourism