

MARTY VISITS BETHLEHEM (AS DOES THE BISHOP)*

By Pastor Matt Bishop

On Sunday 8 October a special guest all the way from Wittenberg via Illinois in the United States helped with services at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Morley.



It was none other than a plump and plush Martin Luther - or 'Marty' as he is affectionally known - seen here helping to read the lesson that day.

With such rarefied company in our midst, Bishop Mike also felt compelled to join us that day. Bishop Mike fittingly gave a great sermon bursting with the Gospel on Isaiah 55:1-7, to which Marty said a loud 'Amen'. After the service Bishop Mike met with Bethlehem's leadership and pastor for a general catch up, and a time of encouragement and prayer. Marty sat quietly through most of this, perhaps even slightly overawed at being in the company of a Lutheran Bishop (no such thing in his day), and musing a little as we unpacked the challenges for Christ's church in 2017. He agreed, along with Bethlehem congregation, that Bishop Mike's visit was much appreciated and a blessed encouragement.



In true form Marty gave the last word to the Word:

'Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, as

indeed you are doing' (1 Thess 5:11 - NRSV)

*It's just possible that not everything in this story is true... although certainly the Bishop's sermon was excellent and his visit much appreciated!

For your own 'Marty' email the team in Illinois at www.reformationgear.com

ST JOHNS CAROL EVENING



Saturday 16 December

in the front courtyard at the Church.

The evening starts at 5.30pm and finishes about 8pm.

Please bring comfy chairs or picnic blanket & a picnic dinner.

There will be candles & popcorn available for a gold coin donation.

Reverse Santa

We will have the opportunity to give something on the evening rather than focussing on receiving. Therefore please bring something along that can be given as a gift to refugee kids of various ages. These gifts will then be given to the Red Cross for distribution.

NOTE Red Cross asks that nothing of a religious nature or toy guns etc be given.

Wishing You All
**A HAPPY
AND HOLY
CHRISTMAS**

Hi all, it is something special to know that there is a wider family that are praying for us. It is a time when it is difficult to think much wider than to the concerns of others just around us, with the danger to look inward instead of upward and, with Jesus, outward. But by the grace of God we are progressing forward into whatever new opportunities, challenges and blessings await us.

Strategic Planning Outcomes:

We were blessed since the last newsletter to have a visit from Shannon Hood who led us through a time of reflection and visioning for the future. It helped to clarify – God's gifts among us and how these can bring help to others; His faithfulness throughout our past; our history of faith, boldness and service with the activity of God around us; and ways we believe God is leading us forward.

Some of the outcomes were:

- ✓ to realize we know we have something important and special to bring to our wider community as a Lutheran Fellowship
- ✓ our mission and ministry is bigger than Sunday worship so we don't want to have all energy used up just preparing for that
- ✓ we need to keep our focus on our mission and ministry as we grow forward into new opportunities and the next step in our congregation's history
- ✓ God is with us and He is making a new path for us to travel along with Him.

From this we have decided:

- ✓ To have 2 worship services a month [1st & 3rd Sundays – *Pastor Dieter has agreed to lead HC on 1st Sunday*] and 1 special Sunday gathering (with a meal) [4th Sunday] where we focus on, celebrate and train in our mission and ministry. [*Looking to Bishop Mike and District for help here*]
- ✓ To simplify our leadership structure to serve where we are and help move forward: basically two teams – one for Admin; and one for Mission and Ministry. Toward this end we have a couple people elected to pray, liaise with Bishop Mike and work forward toward the formation of the Mission and Ministry Team.

Youthcare Fundraising Dinner:

Friday 24th November we hosted the first course of the Bunbury YouthCare Progressive Tea fundraiser. Sixty-five guests gathered in the College chapel area to be served by the Fellowship. The men and women put in to make it a memorable start to the evening with a variety of delicious Hors d'oeuvres.

It was a great opportunity to catch up with people from across the Christian Churches and hear different stories of God's touch and theirs – especially for the chaplaincy program in the various State Schools in the area.

Bibles for the Kindy and Pre-Primary Students:

Friday 1st December Brian and Glenys Waldhuter represented the Fellowship at the College chapel and presented gifts to the Kindy and Pre-Primary students of the College.

The Kindy children received a 'Candle Bible for Little Ones'; while the Pre-Primary children received 'The Beginners Bible'.

The Pre-Primary gift began a number of years ago as a graduation present for the children as they were about to go into Primary School. The gift to the Kindies was added a two years ago after seeing the children (*under Mrs Honman*) grow such an enthusiasm for reading the Bible stories in the Kindy class that they would compete just to be able to get a turn to read the Bible in the class.

Closing Service for the College:

Friday 8th Dec was the last day for the students at the College and with that we had a special conclusion with the Closing Service for the College at 2pm. Bishop Mike joined us to conduct the Closing Rite as part of this. It is a recognition of God's work over the time and of His continuing presence for the future. It was a chance to say thank you and to bring closure to one era and seek blessing on everyone for the next.

Nativity Presentation:

Preparations are underway for our Nativity Presentation also – which will happen this year on Christmas Eve: 6pm for tea, and 7pm for presentation (we have been told this can still happen in the chapel area of the College). At the time of writing we are still waiting for the outcome of the sale of the property.

Pastor Rodney and Jenny Final Service:

Separate from the closure of the College has also been the financial situation of the Fellowship. Part of the new strategy for the Mission and Ministry of the Fellowship has also looked at how our mission ministry can most effectively happen and grow with the finalizing of Pastor Rodney's tenure here at the end of this year.

His final service will be on the 31st Dec. 9:30am in the College chapel followed by a shared lunch.

Thank you again for your prayers. May they also return with blessings to each of you.

LONGEST LUTHERAN LUNCH—KATANNING

On 29th October 2017, Pastor Tony Traeger led our Holy communion service at St Stephens Lutheran church Katanning with a congregation of about 50 people from Narrogin, Katanning and Albany congregations. A few visitors from around the countryside joined us as well.

The sermon preached was the one Bishop John Henderson wrote from Romans 3: 19-28. "... a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law."

Our luncheon was a feast of shared salads with roasted beef and lamb topped with gravy followed by the desserts and the cutting of the 500th anniversary cake made by Jenny Forrest and iced by Eileen Lange.

There was lots of chatter with catch ups all around and a couple of guess the lollies in the jar and guess the weight of the cake games kept everyone amused.



2018 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Article Deadline	Publication Date
27 March	9 April
19 June	29 June
12 September	28 September
26 November	14 December

Please email your items to: 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/lcawaneews/>
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

Thank you for your patience when there are delays.

Find us on Facebook

WA Lutheran News—[facebook.com/groups/603159279744975/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/603159279744975/)

Lutheran Women—[facebook.com/LutheranWWA/](https://www.facebook.com/LutheranWWA/)

LYWA—<https://www.facebook.com/LutheranYouthWA/>

The WA Lutheran News is a closed group, if you would like to join please email to: kaz@esbconsult.com



*Cutting the Cake
Pastor Tony Traeger,
Audrey Brook -Narrogin,
Alexis Webster-
Katanning, and Judith
Pech- Albany.*

ALBANY LUTHERAN - LADIES FELLOWSHIP ADVENT & BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

By Arlene Gimondo

Greetings to all, our Bishop Mike, Pastors & Congregations along with Sister Fellowships and Guilds in WA and all readers.

On November 29th, a joyous afternoon tea was held at St Paul's, Albany as the Fellowship ladies and invited guests gathered together celebrating the end of another Church year, the beginning of the Advent Season and two of our older ladies birthdays, which fall at this time of the year.

Mavis, now nearing ninety played the organ as we sung several songs to welcome in the season. We had a short explanation of the Advent Wreath, door prizes were drawn, Happy Birthday song sung to Wilma & Christa, take home Advent Bags distributed and a selection of mouth-watering food served.

One guest commented on leaving to that she would keep her name tag for next year.

We were blessed to share in love & fellowship once again. May you all have a joyous and blessed Season.



St Paul's long time members – R-L: Mrs Wilma Hewitt, Mrs Christa Jeremic, (the birthday girls), Mrs Mavis Anderson and Mrs Olive Pech, who is an amazing 99 and as she added getting close to 100!

REFORMATION 500 COMMEMORATION EVENTS AT ST JOHNS

By Monica Bodenstaff

In this 500th anniversary year of the Reformation as the churches around the world planned their celebrations St John's was not to be left out. Ever enthusiastic, Graeme Lienert gathered together his A team of Simone Micke, Pastor Peter, Pastor André, and Leonora Hotker to organise the numerous events of commemoration to be held at St John's. Many thanks to this team who worked so diligently to plan the events in such specific detail that Graeme felt comfortable leaving for Germany to celebrate the Reformation with a group of Lutherans from Australia knowing all was in hand.

St John's was pleased to celebrate this milestone with a combined service with Grace Lutheran church (Asian congregation) and parishioners from various suburban WA congregations on Sunday, 29th of October and an Ecumenical commemoration of the Reformation held on Tuesday, 31st of October.

The wonderful celebration on the 29th of October was led by Pastor André with Pastor Ku giving one reading in the language of his congregation and Bishop Michael Fulwood delivering an inspirational and thought-provoking message. We had 280 people attend this uplifting worship service, with a large number having to worship in the hall as they could not fit into the church. The singing and music were sensational, with Patrick Elms sharing his musical talent by playing the organ for our service (Patrick has worked on our organ for years, however this was his first time playing in a service for us.) Patrick treated us to a 30 minute recital before the service commenced. Thanks to the other musicians who led us in worship and the melodic Grace choir who sang How Great Thou Art and Holy, Holy, Holy during communion. The only word to express the floral art of Claire Robins and Kay Robinson is "perfect". They decorated the church, gathering space and hall with the most outstanding display of floral artistry, with the thought and meaning behind the displays being inspiring. Your hard work is much appreciated ladies.

The service was only the beginning of the celebration, as after worship we were treated with the Longest Lutheran Lunch. There was an abundance of delicious food, both Asian and German, with the best array of desserts you could ever hope for. We were entertained with some excellent music in the courtyard and all those who stayed enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship. Thanks to all the behind the scenes people (too many to mention) who worked so hard to make this day a huge success.

The next stage of celebration was an Ecumenical commemoration of the Reformation, which was led by Pastor Peter on Tuesday 31st of October. We started at 5.45pm with a shared meal (thanks to those who provided and organised the food). This gave time to mingle with the many guests (121 in

total), with some from other churches. The evening then commenced with a short play by Pastor Peter and Pastor André at the doors of the church. (Pastor André making a very good Luther). We entered the church to the Organ Prelude - Fugue in E flat major composed by Bach and played so beautifully by our guest organist Dominic Perissinotto.

Pastor Peter had written a program to include participants from other denominations - thanks to Rev Paul Chung from the Korean Presbyterian Church, Rev Steve Francis the Uniting Church Moderator, Rev Richard Moore from the Baptist Church and Tania Watson from Churches of Christ for assisting with the readings.

It was great to have Pastor Matt Bishop from Bethlehem Morley assist in this program by reading two of the Luther letters, with Pastor André reading the other two.

This commemoration gave us a little more insight into the works of Martin Luther, focussing in on what was meant by Word Alone, Grace Alone, Faith Alone and Christ Alone. I am sure we all went away knowing a little bit more about what it was that Luther was trying to reform in the church. The songs Pastor Peter chose were predominantly ones written by Martin Luther, with further opportunities throughout the service to sit back and appreciate additional organ voluntaries by Dominic.

Thanks to the WEGS ladies who paid for the two guest organists.

To add to the reformation celebrations the German Consulate asked if they could put up a Poster display about Luther for a fortnight at St John's.

On the 11th of November we had a viewing of the Luther movie with afternoon tea beforehand. The movie was very enlightening and was enjoyed by approximately 40 people, many of whom were not from St John's.

Thanks to the many volunteers who made these events the success that they were and of course to our two wonderful Pastors who worked so diligently to make the Reformation commemorations so memorable.



Martin Luther (Pastor Andre Meyer) after nailing his 95 Theses on the "church door". Narrated by Pastor Peter Hage

INTERGENERATIONAL REFORMATION 500 CELEBRATION AT BETHLEHEM WITH AN ECUMENICAL DASH!

Martin Luther once famously wrote '... God be praised, a seven-year-old child knows what the church is: holy believers and "the little sheep who hear the voice of their shepherd."' (see Article 12 of the Smalcald Articles). Taking Dr Luther's words to heart, our 500th Anniversary commemoration of the Reformation at Bethlehem Morley put our younger folk at the centre as they both taught us and showed us how to learn.

It all began with them telling the whole congregation the Reformation Story - by felt board - early in the Divine Service. With all the groundwork done, this made the subsequent preaching task much simpler for Pastor Matt.



LYWA
Camping
Dates
2018

Jan Camp 2018: Prayer Warriors

Friday 26th - Monday 29th of January
Bickley Outdoor Recreation Camp, Bickley

Dads & Kids Camp 2018

Friday 18th - Sunday 20th of May
Manjedal Activities Centre, Byford

YAC 2018

Wednesday 4th - Sunday 8th of July
Advent Park Campgrounds, Maida Vale

Leadership Retreat 2018

Friday 14th - Sunday 16th of September
Advent Park Campgrounds, Maida Vale



REFORMATION DAY IN GERMANY

An email except from Graeme
Lienert on Reformation Day.

We have had days of celebration in churches at St Thomas Church Leipzig, home of Bach, and now at Wittenberg where I was asked to choose a reader for the Epistle. Ilene Thiel from the Barossa read from the Lectern, only 7 metres from the door where Dr Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses today - 500 years ago.

With a full Church and choir, you may imagine the forte of the final hymn 'A Mighty Fortress is our God'

The congregation including our group then exited though the doorway where the 95 Theses were nailed, a true privilege as this door or is not normally opened.

11 YOUNG PEOPLE CONFIRMED AT ST JOHNS NORTHBRIDGE

Congratulations to:

Cheyenne Bailey-Kerber
Kerstin Brandsch
Henry Freeman-Dick
Britt Hollyock
Imogen Kowald
Alexandra Sellner

Rafael Sitorus
Owen Spicer
Jonathan Strunk
Yudita Tamba
Nathan Wilson



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UPDATE

By Monika Tropiano, WA Professional Standards Officer

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

By now many of you have seen the Bishop's comments on the new Ethical Standards of Behaviour clip that was circulated to congregations earlier this year. If you haven't seen it yet, ask your pastor or chairperson to show it to the congregation one Sunday morning. It is important that everyone in the WA District sees the clip. You can also watch it from your own computer. Here is the link;

<http://www.lca.org.au/departments/ministry-support/professional-standards/standards-ethical-behaviour/> Scroll down the page until almost the bottom of the page to see the video. It is 12 minutes long.

The Ethical Standards of Behaviour (ESB) is the core all the Professional Standards Training. It has been approved by General Church Council. Ideally all members of the LCA should view this video and come to the 4 hour Professional Standards Core training workshop that explores the issues. There is also a brochure which is available either through your congregation or on the LCA website which highlights the areas that the ESB cover.

Those of you who are over the age of 18 and are working with children (children = those under the age of 18) are reminded that you MUST have a current working with children card and should also have completed current Professional Standards training. The new regime for those working with children is

Attend 6 hour Professional Standards training which includes Professional Standards Core and Working with Child and Youth

Complete a Safeguarding children Child Protection Webinar

Complete an online SMO Module 2

Recognition of prior learning (RPL) is available for the webinar component and this most often applies to teachers and those working in childcare facilities, hospitals and the justice system. If you think this applies to you and you would like RPL, please contact me and I will help you through the process.

The webinars are provided regularly for the 4th Wednesday of each month. However, the timing is difficult for WA participants, and Marilyn Wall, the LCA Training Coordinator, is very helpful in working with WA members in finding a time that suits. The webinar can be done from home or in a group setting. Please

contact me if you have no idea how to start a webinar, or if you are wanting to set a date and time outside of the scheduled dates.

All registrations for training are now completed online. NO payment is required at the time of booking and the attending member's congregation is sent an invoice for attendees. All training dates are listed on the Professional Standards Department webpage and new training dates for 2018 for WA will be released shortly.

<http://www.lca.org.au/departments/ministry-support/professional-standards/training-prof-standards/>

The new training is still being fine-tuned and the PSD has been grateful for the feedback we have received. One of the comments I receive most often is that the new training has far more references back to Scripture than the 'old' training. We do the training because we want to honour God in how we behave towards each other. The training is just a reminder of the many spaces that we occupy as church, and the many places that we can show how God's love comes to life.

One of the areas of focus for 2018 will be the Safety Management Online system (SMO). If you have done any of the training, you will have been made aware of SMO. This still causes concern for many, but we hope that by focussing on it throughout 2018, you will feel comfortable using it to the access level that is appropriate. Please do not stress about this, but contact me if you are unsure about what this means for you.

Thank you to all of you who have supported the LCA through this change and continue to support the church as we live in the modern world. Regardless of our time in history, we have always been challenged to use Jesus as our guide as we learn to respect, love and forgive each other.

Blessings and peace to you, and looking forward to seeing many of you at the Ministry and Mission Fest in March 2018. Come and say hello to me!

Monika Tropiano
WA Professional Standards Officer

monika.tropiano@lca.org.au

Mob: 0457 774 003

*Sign up soon for a great January
afternoon!*

January 2018!!

Ashes cricket, Big Bash Fireworks, Hopman Cup, Wildcats, Oz Tennis Open, all the top summer Aussie sports and now...



*Embleton Golf Course - Home of
Epiphany Cup 2018*

St John's Annual Golf Day promises to be a winner again soon after Christmas, with big numbers including former Cup winners, veteran greenies, novices, hackers and a galaxy of stars in the hunt for the much coveted Epiphany Cup.

It will be on a Sunday afternoon next month (January 2018). Date not yet available. More info about the golf is forthcoming. Newcomers VERY welcome.

Contact stjohns@stjohnsperth.org.au for more information.

CONFIRMATION WITH A TOUCH OF PNG

By Karen Crouch

Drums, tambourines and singing led the confirmees and Pastors into St Paul's, Kalgoorlie-Boulder on 26th November, in traditional PNG style.

Four young people confirmed their faith in front of a large crowd of friends and family as Pastor Glenn and Pastor Jason welcomed them as communing members of the congregation.

During the service we sang in both Pidgin and English and were treated to a song led by the PNG girls with their tambourines.

Marge Welke welcomed them into the Parish and presented each with a gift from the Esperance congregation.

A lavish lunch and cake were then served in the hall.

It is with joy we see God's kingdom grow in the Goldfields.



*L-R: Bafinu Katom, Miriam Ohuma, Matthew Gaulke, Sizwe Sibanda
With Pastor Jason and Glenn*

Below tambourines and dancing

Sabine Gonelli
M.Ed., M.Sc., TRBWA, AMEB 7

Violin & Singing Tuition

facebook:
Sabine's Studio 4 Violin & Voice - in Perth or via Skype

email: sago4vivo@gmail.com

call 04000 52535



CHURCHILL'S LEADERSHIP LIVES ON IN THE 109 TALENTED AUSTRALIANS WHO ARE NOW 2017 CHURCHILL FELLOWS

A new cohort of passionate and motivated Australians will travel throughout the world in 2018 in search of new ideas, innovation and excellence as recipients of a prestigious Churchill Fellowship.

With projects that disrupt and challenge the status quo addressing issues of national significance and local benefit, 109 enthusiastic Australians have today been announced as the 2017 Churchill Fellows.

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust was established in 1965 to honour the memory of Sir Winston Churchill, and fulfil his wish to offer people from all walks of life, the opportunity to travel overseas to gain new knowledge and insights that can be practically applied in Australia to positively impact our communities and society at large.

"It is more than 52 years since the Churchill Fellowship was first awarded in honour of Sir Winston Churchill, however the projects that will be aided by his legacy are still, as he intended, firmly focussed on the future," said CEO of the Churchill Trust, Mr Adam Davey.

"While our organisation and what it offers may be steeped in history, we are proud that it still remains extraordinarily relevant.

"This year, 109 people from a pool of 1140 applicants are being awarded Fellowships worth over \$2.8 million in total, fully funding their travel for up to 8 weeks," said Mr Davey.

"To have the opportunity to recognise and reward deserving Australians with an experience that we know will provide them with the traction they are looking for to progress their projects when they return is most satisfying and the Trust is here to support them through any bumps, twists or turns their journey make take into the future."

"We will be sending Fellows from all States and Territories of Australia around the world, to investigate everything from high-energy batteries and milk pricing, to sustainable shoemaking and driverless cars.

"The key to becoming a Churchill Fellow is your passion and drive to make a difference in your community and a good project that will allow you to do just that.

Churchill Fellowships have been awarded to 26 people from NSW, 21 from VIC, 18 from QLD, 13 from WA, 8 from the ACT, 9 from SA, 7 from TAS and 7 from the NT.

"It has been very interesting to see the diversity of topics that have come through this year in the successful Fellowship applications, while some share similar topic areas no project is the same," said Davey.

"For example, a number of the 2017 Fellows will explore interventions related to 'children in care' yet they will independently address different aspects of the varied circumstances children are in, while others are investigating technologies such as 3D Printing to solve health issues.

"We also have a number of Fellows investigating effective

support programs for people experiencing trauma caused by many different situations yet all are looking to provide them with the most effective tools to overcome adversity specific to the situation they find themselves in.

"It is an extremely exciting time for these deserving Australians, who took grasp of the opportunity to apply for a Churchill Fellowship that will expand their knowledge for the benefit of our country," Mr Davey said.

See where a Churchill Fellowship can take you...applications open 1 February 2018.

www.churchilltrust.com.au

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE with PETRA <> 12 – 25 August 2018

- Where the Bible comes to Life -

Join Pastor Peter Hage and others on this specially arranged tour of the Holy Land, which includes Petra. The tour has been planned to cover both the Old and New Testament eras from the time of Moses in the Wilderness to Jesus in the Galilee and Jerusalem, and takes you to most of Israel's most interesting sites, including the Dead Sea.

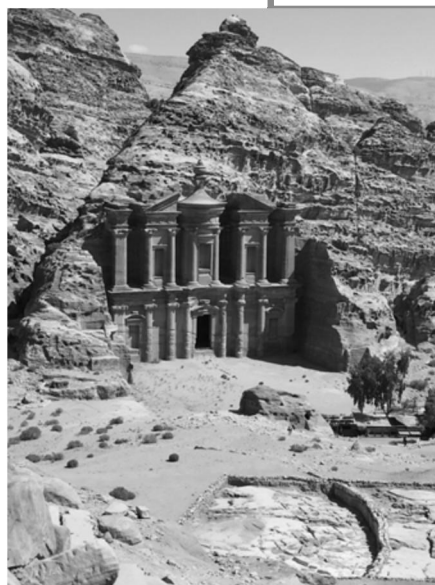
The detailed program includes the experience of a Shabbat meal in a Jewish home on the Friday night, worship services with Holy Communion in the Galilee, Jerusalem and Jordan, and worshipping at The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in the Old City.

Visits to a Kibbutz and a Moshav, each of which specialise in organic food production, have been included by popular request.

To obtain a booking form or a copy of the full itinerary, please contact Graeme or Trish:

Graeme Lienert
0419 909909
egtravel@icloud.com

Trish Cortizo
Free call: 1300 550 830
trish@olivetretravel.com.au



*The Lost City of
Petra*

Oberammergau Passion Play - 2020

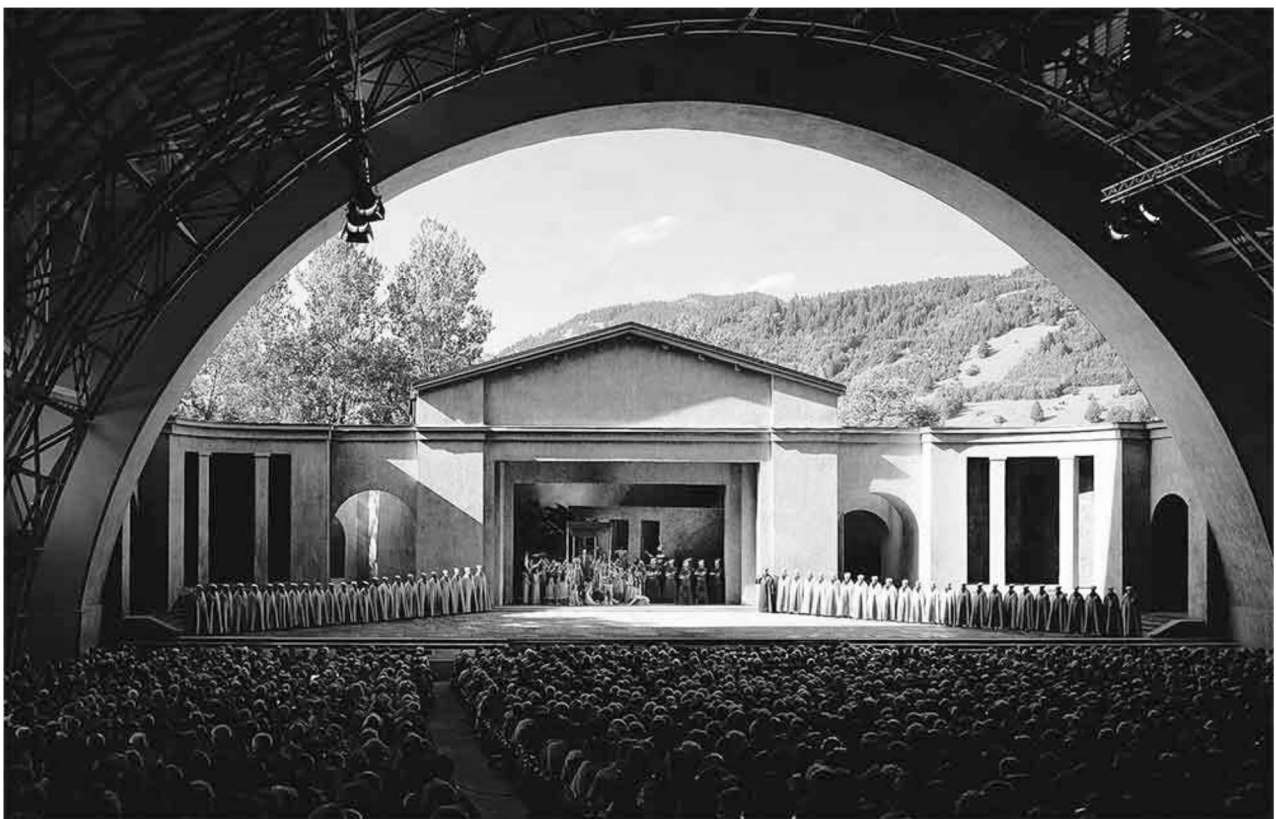
Share the experience of this Once-in-a-Decade Passion Play on a fully escorted Tour. Join Graeme Lienert in a fully escorted Euro tour in 2020, the highlight of which is the Oberammergau Passion Play. This highly acclaimed passion play occurs only every ten years, so the opportunity to go in 2020 is too good to miss. Seats at the Play must be reserved well in advance and tickets are limited.

Tour One: 27 May - 11 June 2020 includes Frankfurt, Wine on the Rhine, Heidelberg, Strasbourg France, Stuttgart, Augsburg, Munich, Oberammergau, Ludwig's Castle, Lake Constance, Zurich Switzerland, and Rome.

Tour Two: 31 Aug - 14 Sept 2020, includes Munich, Salzburg (Austria), Augsburg, Rothenburg Festival, Stuttgart Wine Festival, Oberammergau, Ludwig's Fairytale Castle and Rome (Italy).

Contact Graeme or Trish now for a tour itinerary and Registration form. Our tour hosts provide wonderful accommodation and added extras.

Graeme 0419 909 909 egtravel@icloud.com Trish 1300 550 830 Free Call trish@olivetretravel.com.au



Dead Sea Delights—Australian Holy Land tour group in Israel 14 October 2017.

Photo of Anna Ossy Orley (Angelic in white, and 87 years young) with the Holy Land Pilgrims, Dead Sea, Israel 14 October 2017

L to R. Gordon and Trish Mills (Londonderry NSW), Tim Prance (Port Elliot SA), Jin Sook Yoon (Perth WA), Malcolm Dean (Gawler West SA), Brian Beelitz (Belair SA), Ruth Dean (SA)

