



NEWSLETTER

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2026

EVERY GOOD
& PERFECT
Gift
FROM ABOVE

If you are visiting today, welcome!
Please join us after service for a cuppa in the hall.

DIARY DATES

- January 4 : Service 9.30 a.m.
 - January 11: Service 9.30 a.m
 - January 15: Church council meeting 7.15 p.m
 - January 18: Service 9.30 a.m.
 - January 25: Service 9.30 a.m HC with Pastor Ray Pace.
- No Bible Study throughout January.

CALL TO REDEEMER

At our Call meeting on the 14th December we voted to call Pastor Kees Sturm to be Pastor for our congregation. We pray God's guidance on Pastor Kees as he makes his decision.

Church garden - Working Bee 🐝🌱

We hope you have noticed how tidy the gardens are after our working bee. We filled two utes and a small truck with garden waste!
Thank you to all who helped.

Christmas Appeal - Lutheran Media

Thank you for your generosity – as at the printing of this newsletter we have raised \$420.00 to support Lutheran Media ministry in our Christmas Appeal this year.

Church Council have made the decision to match the amount raised and donate \$840.00.

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR AGM 2026

The 2026 AGM is on Sunday 22 February- please put this in your diary.

All elected positions are vacant and open for nomination. Nomination Forms are available from the Notice Board trolley. Please place completed forms in the box.

We have recently had 2 people resign from the Church Council and we also need a member for the Northridge Village Management Committee.

Please consider serving God and the Congregation by nominating.

Engage Youth -- 2026:

Engage Youth will be holding their regular Youth night on Friday 6th February in our church hall. The evening starts at 6.30 and finishes at 8.30.

Engage Youth may attend various Sunday services and assist with welcoming, reading & prayers etc.

Please pray for Ashley Genrich and the Engage Youth team as they plan and work through events for 2026. Strengthen the youth leaders with wisdom and endurance to be lights in their communities.

A radically inclusive epiphany!

by Pastor Stephen Abraham

This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:6).

Read [Ephesians 3:1-12](#)

Well, our Christmas season has ended, and the Epiphany season has begun!

In this first week of Epiphany, we celebrate with wonder at God becoming manifest and living among us in the person of Jesus Christ. I've always found it fascinating that in this season, there seem to be two great 'epiphanies': God has come to earth as one of us, and Jesus is recognised as 'King of the Jews' by non-Jews, the Gentile Magi of the East. This second 'epiphany' ultimately resulted in the message of salvation through Christ Jesus coming to the whole world.

Just think about it. Pick up your Bible (physically or mentally) and look at the spine. In the first two-thirds of this great revelation of God's will for the universe and its inhabitants, if you wanted to know the Living God, understand the great mysteries and be a part of the Great Plan, you had to be one thing: Hebrew/Jewish. No ifs, no buts. Until now ...

Read Ephesians 3:1-12.

It's hard to comprehend with our 21st-century Western ideals of inclusivity just how profound this shift in thinking was – that you can be an heir to the promises of that first two-thirds of the Bible (the Old Testament) without first being Jewish.

You don't have to be born an ethnic Jewish person. You don't have to marry into a Jewish family. You don't have to convert and be ritually circumcised and circumcise all the males in your household. You don't have to adhere to the ethnic Jewish practices or have a Jewish name or heritage.

This change truly was a paradigm shift in teaching and practice. Paradigm shifts are hard. When we read Acts 10 and 15, we realise it was difficult for the early church to navigate, especially the Jewish church communities (even Peter seemed to wrestle with his position in Galatians 2:11-13).

Ultimately, this radical inclusivity unlocked the rest of the world to having access to the gospel and being 'grafted into the vine' of God's promises of old (Romans 11:16-24).

Almighty Father, thank you for sending your Son into our world to save us and sit down at the table with sinners. Thank you for these epiphanies. Holy Spirit, help us share your welcome and acceptance with those we meet this day. Amen.

CHILDSAFE REMINDER: If children leave church during the service, they need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Just a reminder" the LCA Child Safety Standards books are available on the LCA

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Newsletter: Tracey Wright (Items for newsletter before 15th of the month prior please. (Email: tntwright@outlook.com.au)
Hall Bookings: 0402050465 (Dawn Humphrey)

Live Stream: Sunday Services are Live streamed on YouTube @RedeemerLutheranChurchTmba
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOhIiSSVetvBpjJSzG7g4FA>