

Glynde Lutheran Church



Glynde

September 2020



A Choice...

CHURCH DETAILS...

15-17 Glynburn Road,
Glynde, SA, 5070
Office Hours:
Wed—Fri 9 am—1 pm

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www.glyndechurch.org

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Glynde Lutheran Church

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@Glynde Editor...

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Choose this day whom you will serve (Joshua 24:15a). Read Joshua 24:1,2a,14-18

After Joshua had been the leader of the people of Israel in the Promised Land for a long time, he summoned all the leaders and gave them wisdom for the years to come: be very strong. Be careful to keep your focus on the Lord. Be faithful to him, for he is faithful to you. But if you turn away to other gods, you are asking for trouble (Joshua 23). Their mission was to be the people of God's kingdom in the world.

Next, in our reading for today, Joshua summoned all the people together, with all their leaders, and urged them to be careful to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully; to discard and not turn back to any other gods worshipped by their forefathers. But they got to choose; the Lord does not force people to worship him. As for Joshua and his household, they served the Lord. So the people recounted how the Lord protected them and provided for them; they would not forsake the Lord to serve other gods.

None of us can remain faithful to the Lord in our own strength! It's beyond our fallen nature. Our spiritual enemy schemes to distract and divert us in whichever way will work. Knowing our opposition, Jesus calls us to remain or abide in him, in close relationship with him, for apart from him, we can do nothing (John 15:4-8). And Jesus has sent another Counsellor, the Spirit of truth, to be with us forever, our Teacher from within (John 14:15-21). The Lord does not leave us to our own devices, yet, we need to choose to learn to rely on Jesus and the Helper he has given us.

Lord Jesus, draw me closer to you. Holy Spirit, help me grow in being faithful to the Lord. Amen.

- Ruth Olsen

<https://www.lca.org.au/category/daily-devotion/>

From the editor...

Many people talk about a work-life balance, I think it is a little more complicated than that! The 'life' part of the balancing act normally involves many areas– family, faith, health, rest, household chores etc. Work-life balance is never going to be the same from person to person, as the time invested in each area is different depending on your priorities in life.

I've been reading a lot recently about people who have re-evaluated these priorities during the lock-down of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many work-a-holics have realised the benefit of slowing down and spending time with family. Some are questioning their consumption and where the things they are buying come from, while others have started baking their own bread! I wonder if the balance of your life has changed in recent months and if you are now giving more priority to some areas that were neglected before.

In this edition, we hear from all of our regular contributors on the theme of 'balance'. We are introduced to the Adelaide Chinese Grace Christian Church and remember the excitement of the many recent baptisms! I hope you enjoy this edition.

God Bless

Fleur Kupke



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From Pastor Wayne...

Hi! Our theme for this edition of @Glynde is "balance", and I'm thinking here about the question, "How can I have a more balanced life?" Well, thank God, we in South Australia are able to live a more balanced life now that COVID-19 is largely under control here *for the time being...* Instead of being 'shut in' at home, with little outside activities, we can now venture outside and have activities with our family and our friends. Life is now much more balanced than what it was from the end of March to the end of June *or so*. *Thank God!*

During this third term on the school year, I'm preaching on Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome. In this letter, Paul points out that so far as the balance in our lives is concerned, we are *by nature* biased towards living life for ourselves. Listen to what Paul writes: **I am a mortal (lit. "fleshy") man, sold as a slave to sin. I don't understand what I do; for I don't do what I would like to do, but instead do what I hate...For though the desire to do**

good is in me, I am not able to do it. I don't do the good I want to do; instead I do the evil that I don't want to do... What a wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death!? (Rom. 7:14-15, 18-19, 24).

But we can be set free from an unbalanced life "through our Lord Jesus Christ". Paul goes on to write "Thanks be to God *who rescues us through our Lord Jesus Christ!*" (Rom. 7:25a). A more balanced life is ours through **God's ongoing forgiveness because of Jesus' death on the cross for us**, and because of **the gift of His Holy Spirit to us**. The Holy Spirit in us enables us to live as God wants us to live: following Jesus in a life of loving care for others.

Still, there is a battle going on in us between our self-centred nature, and the Holy Spirit in us (Gal. 5:16-24). How do we become overbalanced towards doing God's will in our life, *as God wants us to be as His children?* Well, Colin gives us the answer in his children's song, *Practise Being Godly*:

**Never give up, make it your aim
Practice being Godly, *practice living
as God's child following Jesus*
If you've been forgiven in Jesus' name
Practice being Godly
He paid the price for all our sin
His Holy Spirit dwells within
So centre all you do on him...
Practice being Godly.**

Life in our church is gradually returning to normal as South Australia is almost COVID free: we are returning to an 'even keel' situation, rather than one of listing to one side because of the storm of COVID...Since July 5th, we have been worshipping normally on Sundays, *albeit with COVID restrictions, and gloves and masks to distribute the Lord's Supper.* It has been great to get back to face-to-face worship! We have also kept our Church@Home resources, though, being available via email with the sermon on YouTube *to enable those who still don't yet feel comfortable coming to church to be able to worship at home.*

Highlights of our return to face-to-face worship are many...But I've particularly rejoiced in having so many baptisms in recent times. Plus seeing the children again in worship, and having so many keen to head up to Lighthouse Kids ministry. ☺ Oh, by the way, on September 6th, we are having our first LIGHTHOUSE SUNDAY when the children will remain in worship, and will be involved with their parents and grandparents in worship activities...

Mid-week ministries are back, and it's great to see so many people, and so many families from so many different ethnic backgrounds at Playgroup, Grace over Lunch, Mainly Music, Parenting course, Coffee and Chat, Bible study, English classes and so on. Plus having Craft back again on Tuesdays, and KYB, and Junior Youth and Markets planned for September. It's good to see our ministries getting back to normal, or starting to get back to normal ☺

One final focus...It has been great to see the Chinese Mandarin community begin worshipping here at 4 p.m. on Sundays, *beginning on August 23rd.* Please pray for them as a Christian community, and pray that we might have many opportunities to work with them in ministry to the people around us, and in outreach to those people.

May God bless you, and us as a community of faith here at Glynde, as we encourage one another and build one another up in our faith, and as we continue to reach out in any way that we can with the life-transforming good news (*No, great news!*) of God's love, and His forgiveness through Jesus.

God bless,
Pastor Wayne ☺





From our Chairperson...

Performing a balancing act...

We hear a lot in popular media and literature about how to find balance in our life. A simple search of the internet brings up titles such as '10 Simple Ways to Find Balance and Get Your Life Back'. They promise to provide a straightforward step by step way to get us back on track. Personally, having read a number of self-help books over the years, along with various attempts to find balance in my own life, my first reaction is to comment 'if only it were so simple'. Don't get me wrong, I do believe there are lots of useful and practical strategies suggested in much of the literature. However, times and events in life often pull us in certain directions that cause other aspects of our life to suffer or at least be neglected. As a result, we feel we have lost balance. Before we know it, the supposedly simple 10-point plan has also been lost and consequently we feel failure and guilt.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been something well beyond our control that maybe has pulled us off-balance in one way or another. Some have found that they had more time on their hands during

this time feeling unbalanced as the 'scales' have shifted in a certain direction for them. While others have had increased pressures on their work or family commitments and for different reasons also feel unbalanced.

I believe we tend to consider life balance as something to be obtained or achieved. An end goal in itself. What do I need to do to be happier, healthier? How can I achieve all I want to while still having time for family, friends, as well as my interests and pursuits? These are valid questions and feelings. However, there is a tendency to think that if we are not achieving these things something is wrong and therefore our life must be out of balance. I do wonder if this is the wrong way to perceive what life balance actually is.

Interestingly, tightrope walkers in order to keep their balance and maintain equilibrium are actually in a constant state of transition. They are never completely motionless. Rather, they shift their weight and body position constantly to stay upright and on the rope. Balance for them



From our Cross-Cultural Mentor...

Watching your family grow...

Sitting in church with my family is always special. Both Grant and I feel so blessed to have our children and grandchildren with us.

But, a couple of Sundays ago it was even more special. To have 3 children baptised into our church family was so exciting. To have been a part of Rika and Jun's family has been so special for us, and to be able to witness Rei, Koh and Ema being welcomed into God's family fills your heart with joy.

Then, to look around and see so many from our mid-week joining our worship on the day to witness this event, nearly made my heart burst!

It has been hard over the last 6 months for groups to continue, but, with God, they have...

It has been a joy to restart our courses together in person and to welcome new people who are seeking to know the joy and hope in knowing Jesus.

And as we watched this baptism two amazing women turned and asked if they could also be baptised, and three weeks later on a Friday we watched through joy and tears as they too joined God's family.

Welcome to God's family, welcome to our family at Glynde, and welcome to knowing more and more about Jesus.

These weeks have made me feel like a very proud mum and grandma as I watched children and adults give their lives to God...I see the joy in the faces of our bible study and parenting group as they journey and talk together and encourage each other in this faith journey.

When I started in Cross-Cultural ministry this was always my prayer. That people would come to know and love God, and every time you witness that, you just know God is working here at Glynde and in people's hearts.

The balance of my work life is changing, with Sharyn joining us and responsibilities changing, but, for me, it seems just right.

Thank you to mainly music for acknowledging the years we have spent working together, and I am so lucky I can still attend and invite people to our learning courses and bible study on Fridays, and I can be a grandma at mainly music... to have my family, and our growing Glynde family feels just right!

It is often said, that when you start something new within Christian groups it takes around 3 years to really see the fruits from what you have started... Since we have returned, we are definitely seeing that happen.

So many beautiful and special God moments happened during lockdown and now we are also seeing how God is living in people's hearts as they learn and trust in Him as we meet together.

A couple of years ago we celebrated our first Friday baptism, and it seems like a God moment that yesterday that mum contacted me to let me know what she and her daughter were doing, and how her life is now changing in ways she never imagined, and then, there we were the very next day celebrating the baptisms of our two women who are just beginning their journey with God.

It feels "just right!"

Barbara Matiske
Cross-Cultural mentor

What a special day for us all to witness Rei, Koh and Ema being baptised into Gods family



Friday was so special – to study God's word together and then be baptised... Welcome to our family!



What's on in September...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 9am Worship HC 10:30 Worship HC 12:30 Korean Worship 4pm Chinese Worship	7 7pm KYB	1 9:30 Craft 11am Pastor's Small Group 7pm Quilting	2 9:30 Playgroup 11am Grace Over Lunch 7:30 Board For Ministry Meeting	3 8am Prayer Group 9:45 mainly music	4 9:30 Parenting 9:30 KYB 9:30 English Class 10:30 Coffee n Chat 11:30 Bible study	5 10am English Class
13 9am Worship 10:30 Worship 12:30 Korean Worship 4pm Chinese Worship	14 7pm KYB	15 9:30 Craft 11am Pastor's Small Group 7:30 Exec Meeting	16 9:30 Playgroup 11am Grace Over Lunch	17 8am Prayer Group 9:45 mainly music	18 9:30 Parenting 9:30 KYB 9:30 English Class 10:30 Coffee n Chat 11:30 Bible study	19 10am English Class
20 9am Worship HC 10:30 Worship HC 12:30 Korean Worship 4pm Chinese Worship	21 7pm KYB	22 9:30 Craft 11am Pastor's Small Group 7pm Quilting	23 9:30 Playgroup 11am Grace Over Lunch	24 8am Prayer Group 9:45 mainly music	25 9:30 Parenting 9:30 KYB 9:30 English Class 10:30 Coffee n Chat 11:30 Bible study	26 10am Markets
27 9am Worship HC 10:30 Worship HC 12:30 Korean 2pm Sudanese 4pm Chinese	28	29 9:30 Craft 11am Pastor's Small Group 7pm Quilting	30			
			School Holidays			

What's on in October...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 9am Worship HC 10:30 Worship HC 12:30 Korean Worship 4pm Chinese Worship	5	6	7 7:30 Board For Ministry Meeting	8	9 10:30 Coffee n Chat	10 10am English Class
11 9am Worship 10:30 Worship 12:30 Korean Worship 4pm Chinese Worship	12 7pm KYB	13 9:30 Craft 11am Pastor's Small Group 7pm Quilting 7:30 Exec Meeting	14 9:30 Playgroup 11am Grace Over Lunch	15 8am Prayer Group 9:45 mainly music	16 9:30 Parenting 9:30 KYB 9:30 English Class 10:30 Coffee n Chat 11:30 Bible study	17 10am English Class
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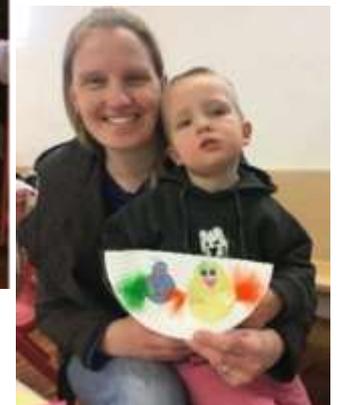


From our Cross-Cultural Coordinator...

Dear Friends in Christ

Does it feel that our lives are in balance? Is life really about balance? We speak about highs and lows in our lives. In our finances we try to balance our credits against our debt. It seems we are constantly seeking to counterbalance notions of good with notions of bad. This idea extends into our daily diets where food can be classified as good or bad. This duality of our lives is sometimes described as seeing things in black and white. Such a view of life distorts the reality of life which in my belief is full of colour. I want to describe some of the colour I see in my discipleship at Glynde.

In playgroup there is always so much colour because it is alive with smiling children, eager to try new things and curious about the world. Our presenter Rika radiates care and dedication. The love of children's parents and carers is on show. Time goes quickly as they engage in craft and share stories of their lives. This term we have looked at insects in the garden noting what a diverse world we have to be curious about.



In mainly music with a theme, *In the Jungle*, parents and carers get involved with the songs and bring encouragement to their children to learn and develop their interests.

The volunteers who provide morning tea treat those attending like royalty in the beautiful presented plates of food. In this moment participants have commented they feel cared for and supported. The presenters give of themselves in ways that they are not aware of but we feel their love. It was with much affection Alyssa thanked Barbara Mattiske for her seven years of "sunshine" to the mainly music group and looked forward to her continuing capacity as a grandma.



Grace Over Lunch has brought with it some challenges in terms of food preparation. It has been a wonderful time of sharing faith and relevance of the Bible with each other. We have seen ourselves as God's brood in that He cares for us like a mother hen cares for her chicks; that life can be like a jelly slice in its layers of colour and density; and that our lives matter to God seen in His providence of the wheat and rice kernel, where the DNA code inside that living seed can remind us directly of our creator God who cares for sparrows and cares even more for us (Matthew 10 v29-31).

Our English class has experienced further inclusion from not only the Korean community but also the Mandarin Christian Chinese community which has been wonderful. Dot Turner and her helpers have enjoyed the interaction and look forward to finding ways of being together which enriches each other's lives. Val Matters and Clarice Seeliger have been great, encouraging conversation and providing much needed morning tea sustenance each Saturday.

I really liked Pastor Wayne's sermon on, 'Shalom, my friends, shalom', given on the 10th Sunday after Pentecost. I think this Shalom, the peace of the Lord, is a feeling of being right with God and the world (Romans 5 v 2) and it is alive in this place at Glynde, not only on Sunday but mid-week. Placing our trust in Jesus promotes a habit of behaviour that says, no matter what situation I find myself in, God is here. Trusting in Jesus means for me that we know that He has our life in His balance. This balance is beautifully found in Matthew 6 v 34 "Do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." It is the peace of God that guards our hearts and minds in Christ (Philippians 4 v 7).

And may the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Sharyn Schubert

Cross-Cultural Coordinator

Baptism Bonanza!

As Pastor Wayne and Barbara have mentioned in their articles, we have been able to share in so many baptisms in recent weeks (and we still have more to come...). What a blessing for our church!



Rei, Koh, and Ema were baptised together on Sunday 9th August

Below—Matthew was baptised Sunday 16th August by his Grandfather Ross





Bernie, Shanice, Jayden and Jaynie were baptised as a family on Sunday 30th August.

We also remember our Friday baptism that Barbara mentions in her article (see page 9)

YAGM Update

Dear colleagues and friends of YAGM Australia,

Greetings from the US! We hope this email finds you doing well amidst the uncertainty of this pandemic era. We find ourselves in uncharted waters, both in ministry and as a family, but continue to trust God daily for hope, encouragement, and guidance. We have found that this season has caused us to think creatively about ministry, both despite and because of challenges. Certainly for those of us in the US this season is a time to reflect deeply on the question 'what does it mean to be the body of Christ in this era of pandemic and antiracist movements.' You all have been in our prayers as we know that you too are facing both the challenges and opportunities of ministry in this time.

Here is an update about the YAGM Australia program and our family too.

As many of you know, all of the YAGM volunteers were called back to the US in March due to Covid-19. A few days after that the ELCA asked all deployed Global Mission missionaries (including our family) to return to the US. At that time, we decided that returning to the US was a prudent decision. We travelled on 22 March and are staying in Texas with Kim's mum.

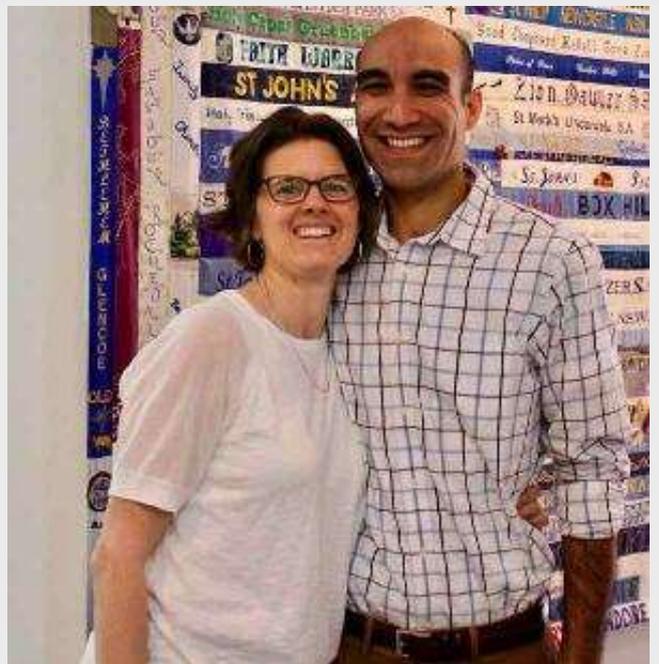
In early April we learned that the entire 2020-21 YAGM year was cancelled. It was a painful decision but clearly the right one given all that has unfolded in the past months. In the meantime the country coordinator cohort, all of us leading YAGM programs around the world, find ourselves in an unexpected sabbatical year. Here are some of the things we are working on, individually and collectively, in our time of sabbatical

- prayer
- discernment about next steps, especially as the effect of this pandemic will be deeper and last longer than any of us could have imagined
- continued learning and program development around topics such as - antiracism, migration justice, joining God's mission in cross-cultural settings
- story telling - connecting with YAGM alumni to hear how God continues to use their year of service for their learning, understanding about the world, and service in the church.

Our family: First of all, we have all remained healthy during this time with no signs of COVID at all. For this we are deeply grateful. We are currently staying at Kim's mum's house in Texas which also serves as our home base for work and school for the boys. Our hope is to return to our life and ministry in Australia but there are many uncertainties as to when this might actually happen.

We have felt a deep sadness about not having YAGM volunteers this year largely because we have so enjoyed working with each of you. We appreciate your prayers for us as we continue to wait, listen to God, and pray about what the future of ministry looks like for the YAGM program in Australia and for us as a family. Please let us know how we can be praying for you!

with peace,
Kim and Henry



Adelaide Chinese Grace Christian Church

2020 is a year full of challenges. In addition to the abnormal weather brought about by global climate change, we also have the challenge of COVID-19. The impact of globalisation means the virus has made almost every country return to the history of lock-in again. The church also faces great difficulties. There was a time when the church could not have a physical gathering. Even so, under the protection of God's mercy, the children of God in various places were not dismayed by the suspension of physical gatherings. Many churches began their first online worship services. Everyone is still joined in the air to praise the Lord. Although the virus has widened our distance from each other, our love for the Lord has not decreased.

Adelaide Chinese Grace Christian Church (ACGCC) began its first worship services on 23rd August 2020 under the direction of God's grace. We had 50 people together to witness the day of God's grace. Without the grace of the Lord, we could not begin our Chinese worship in this challenging period. In addition to the grace of God, we would like to thank Glynde Lutheran Church which is willing to open their door and open their arms to welcome the Chinese as a family member of the church. At the same time, we would also like to thank Queensland Asian Congregation (St. Peter) in Brisbane and St. Stephen's Lutheran Church for their support in our preparation and ministries. The mission of ACGCC is a continuation of Christ's earthly ministry. Through the Holy Spirit, we will obey Jesus' Great Commission to reach out to the Chinese community to proclaim the Gospel and make disciples. Our goal is to help Chinese people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ and also become a house of prayer for all nations. We believe the church can make an impact on the community and help people find their way back to God in the cross-cultural community by loving God and loving people for God's glory. May God bless ACGCC.

- Pastor Tim Chen



Meeting for Prayer



Being together with others for prayer and worship is a way of encouraging each other. On your *Sunday Paper* you've probably noticed the weekly prayer group listed for Thursday morning. In recent times that group has dwindled to just 2 people. (Read Matthew 18:20 to see why we're not daunted by that fact.) We first of all look at the Bible readings that will be used the following Sunday and then spend some time in prayer, both thanking God, and interceding with him on behalf of people locally and people far away.

Do you have a heart for prayer? Thursday morning may not be a good time for you, so please speak to Pastor Wayne, or Lois K or Ivan if you are keen to join the prayer ministry, but at some other part of the week. (Or fortnightly or monthly.)

Of course, we can pray anywhere, not just in a church building, or in a group. One of the privileges we *all* have is the open invitation to talk personally with our heavenly Father whenever we wish. We can freely share all our hopes and our worries. We don't need to follow a formula or sit in a particular pose to do that.

But we do learn from each other, when we meet as a group for prayer. The chances are, most of what you know about prayer, you learnt from hearing someone else pray.

And being together causes us to look outside ourselves and our little circle.

Let's pray with thankful hearts to God for all He has done for us. Let's thank Him that we are privileged to be part of His 'team' in our community. Let us thank Him for the new people He has brought into our community of faith. Let us seek His guidance, so that we are up to the task of answering enquirers' questions. Let's pray for those we know who are in any kind of need. Let us come to God on behalf of our broken world – so many do not know Him at all.

'Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble, but since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference.' Max Lucado

***"...pray for one another, so that you will be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has a powerful effect."* James 5:16**

***"In all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking Him with a thankful heart."* Philippians 4:6**

***"God is able to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think."* Ephesians 3:20**

Lois Kupke



Worship@Home Calendar

SEPTEMBER

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--|--------------------|
| 6. | 9.00 a.m.
10.30 a.m. | H.C.
H.C. | Pentecost 14 | Lighthouse Sunday
Romans 8:1
"No condemnation now for
those in Christ Jesus"
Leader:
<i>*Thanks for dads</i>
Baptism of Parker Leach | <i>Romans (7)</i> |
| 13. | 9.00 a.m.
10.30 a.m. | | Pentecost 15 | Romans 8:18-25
"Coping with suffering"
<i>Plus Testimonies</i>
Baptism of Louella Romeo
<i>Baptismal Anniversaries (July-Sept)</i> | <i>Romans (8)</i> |
| 20. | 9.00 a.m.
10.30 a.m. | H.C.
H.C. | Pentecost 16 | Romans 8:26-27
"The God who listens" | <i>Romans (9)</i> |
| 27. | 9.00 a.m.
10.30 a.m. | H.C.
H.C. | Pentecost 17 | Romans 8:31-38
"Love changes everything!"

<i>*School holidays begin</i> | <i>Romans (10)</i> |

OCTOBER

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 4. | 9.00 a.m.
10.30 a.m. | H.C.
H.C. | Pentecost 18 | <i>Annual Leave for Pastor Wayne</i>
<i>Guest Preacher: Steen Olsen</i>
Matt. 20:1-16
"The workers in the vineyard"
Leader: John Kupke | |
| 11. | 9.00 a.m.
10.30 a.m. | | Pentecost 19 | Matthew 21:33-43 <i>instead of</i> Matt. 21:28-32
"Pricking the calluses"

<i>School resumes</i> | |
| 18. | 9.00 a.m.
10.30 a.m. | H.C.
H.C. | Pentecost 20 | Ephesians 1:1-8
"Count your <i>Spiritual</i>
blessings" | <i>Series on Ephesians 1)</i> |
| 25. | 9.00 a.m.
10.30 a.m. | H.C.
H.C. | Reformation
Pentecost 21 | Ephesians 2:8-10
"We have been saved <i>not</i>
<i>by good works</i> , but for good
works" | <i>Series on Ephesians 2)</i> |

Congratulations to John, Vivien, Johanna and Lawrence on the birth of Titus Louis, born at the end of July!

We thank God for his healthy arrival and welcome him into the Glynde Church community!



Ilesha and Jaylen reading from the Bible in the 9am service. Part of our initiative to 'grow young'!

The next generation meeting for the first time at mainly music

