

SOUL FOOD

June 2015



"In the middle of its street and the river, and on either side, was the Tree of Life, which bore twelve fruits, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." Revelation 22:2

The Tree of Life

Did you know that a growing person is like a tree?

In our minds, we are like a tree!

*When we're young, we learn a lot about the world around us. This is like the **branches in our mind**.*

*Then we learn how to **figure things out**. This is like the **leaves** in our minds.*

*We can then **learn about spiritual things** -- things about the Lord and heaven. This is **like the flowers on a tree**.*

*And finally, we can take all that we've learned, and we can **do good and kind things for the world and for other people**. This is like the **fruit on a tree**.*

The Lord is the one who creates our minds so we can do these things.

There is a very special tree mentioned in two places in the Word: once in the very beginning, in the book of Genesis, and once at the very end, in the book of Revelation.

The most beautiful tree in the whole Garden of Eden. This tree was in the middle of the Garden of Eden.

*Because the **Tree of Life** represents something very, very important.*

*It represents **knowing that everything comes from the Lord**, even our own lives and bodies.*

*It's actually the most important thing there is to know. It's something that **needs to be in the middle of our minds**, just like the Tree of Life was in the middle of the Garden of Eden.*

*If only people could believe and remember that **everything comes from God!** Then the whole world would be a beautiful, peaceful place again, with no wars and no dangers.*

*At the end of the Word, in the book of Revelation, the Lord promises that that can happen again. When the disciple John was on the island of Patmos, the Lord showed him many amazing visions, and the last vision was the vision of the Holy City. Listen to this part, describing something inside the city: **"In the middle of its street and the river, and on either side,***

was the Tree of Life, which bore twelve fruits, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.” Revelation 22:2

*The Lord was promising that a happy, peaceful, beautiful life can come to anyone who turns to God, and who knows **all good things** that they do **come from God**, and who tries hard not to do or wish evil things.*

If all people on the earth ever decide to do that, then the whole world will become a peaceful and safe place to live. But the Lord promises that, even if the world still has troubles and evil, each one of us can choose to live a peaceful, happy life in heaven. How do we choose to live in heaven?

By turning to the Lord to learn how to live, and by trying hard not to do or wish bad things.

Then the Lord Himself will be inside of us, in the centre, and we can live in the heavenly peace of the Holy City, with the Tree of Life in the centre.

The good and helpful, healing thoughts that people have from the Lord can be of all different kinds.

The 12 fruits show all the good things people can do, because the Lord gives them the power.

Baptism

Leon Michael, son of Lisa and Shaun was baptised at the family home on 16th May, the Rev Trevor Moffet officiating. We are very happy that Shaun's parents were present and shared in the happy event😊

Retreat with Rev Todd Beiswenger at South Yunderup from 29 May to 1st June was enjoyed by about 20 people including 6 children (see photos)

We enjoyed a spiritual diet of the story of Moses vividly illustrated by video and correspondences from the Word. We all were taught to build boxes in Egypt...a place of learning..and to be enslaved to continue building until we created a wall of boxes....illustrating the slavery of the Israelites! (see pic page 5)

Our natural appetites were joyfully satisfied by much delicious food and good company, including all of us sitting around one table at Ravenswood Hotel for Sunday lunch (see Page 4)

Many thanks to the organisers, caterers and Rev Beiswenger and his family for a very well worth while retreat😊





'What Would Love Do?' Summary Table

| | |
|------------------|---|
| <i>Hunger</i> | <i>Desire for love/goodness</i> |
| <i>Thirst</i> | <i>Desire for truth/wisdom</i> |
| <i>Stranger</i> | <i>Willing to be instructed</i> |
| <i>Naked</i> | <i>Without protection of the Truth</i> |
| <i>Sick</i> | <i>Recognition of evil in oneself</i> |
| <i>In prison</i> | <i>Recognition that one is in falsity</i> |

"We will serve the Lord"

*In conclusion of the series of Sunday School lessons on "**Hands of Love**" from the series "What would love do?" we are seeking service opportunities for the children. Lighting and snuffing candles, reading the Word during the service, laying out plates and cutlery for the meal etc*

Usefulness brings happiness☺

Grateful Thanks

Many thanks to all the helpers who design service booklets, prepare music, teach Sunday School and help with the setting out and clearing up of meals; and especially to **Bernice** who reliable as a rock, sets up, leads and locks up most Sundays 😊😊

June Calendar

| | | |
|------------|---|--|
| Wed 3 | 11.00am Divine Providence Class. Shared lunch | Val's |
| Sunday 7 | 10.30 Worship Sunday School Shared lunch. | McDougall House Clydesdale St, Como |
| Sunday 14 | 10.30 Worship, New Church Day Service Sunday School Special LUNCH | McDougall House Clydesdale St, Como |
| Wed 17 | 11.00am DP class. Shared lunch. | Val's |
| Sunday 21 | 10.30 Worship Sunday School Shared lunch | McDougall House Clydesdale St, Como |
| Sunday 28 | 10.30 Worship Sunday School Shared lunch | McDougall House Clydesdale St, Como |
| Wed 1 July | 11.00am DP class Shared lunch | Val's |



We are all created to become angels of Heaven which is a kingdom of communities.

*Based on the Holy Bible, **The New Church** gains further inspiration and understanding through the Heavenly Doctrines revealed by the Lord and published by 18th century scientist and theologian **Emanuel Swedenborg**. In the 35 volumes of this new Revelation we see the Lord's plan for a rebirth of Christianity, a clear vision of God in His own Word, and what that means in our lives.*

*Worship Services are held weekly at 10.30am
McDougall House, 20 Clydesdale St, Como.*

Sunday school concurrently

<http://www.newchurch.org/societies/perth/newsletters>
<http://newchurch.net.au/locations/perth-aurora-circle>
www.newchurch.org

Aurora Face book page was created in 2007 by the young people at a Saturday afternoon gathering. Here is the address.

www.facebook.com/aurora.circle

Book orders: www.swedenborg.com.au

*We sponsor **"The Loving Arms Mission"** in Nepal,
Home for orphaned children.*

ONLINE donations

Church: Westpac: BSB 036302: account number 189720

Loving Arms:Westpac: BSB 036019: account number 230169

Name:The General Church of the New Jerusalem-Perth Circle