



This resource is recommended by
GrowMinistries

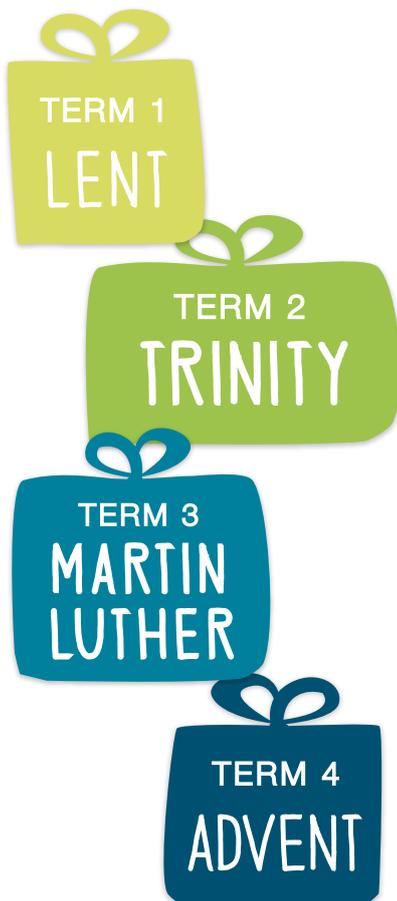
Passing on the Christian faith involves a partnership of generations, individuals and families within the Christian congregation.

GIFT

is the acronym for

GENERATIONS **I**N **F**AITH **T**OGETHER

GIFT events provide an opportunity for people of all ages to explore God's love for them through activities and fellowship by sharing the gift of each other and the gift of faith. We encourage congregations to host a GIFT event once a term. We have developed a kit of suggested activities and templates that you can use with your congregation. For 2016 the themes include Lent, Trinity, Martin Luther and Advent. You can also purchase Baptism, Prayer and Pentecost kits created in previous years.



TERM 1 – LENT

The Lent GIFT event encourages generations to share their Lenten rituals and traditions, as well as spend time together making resources that can be used at home during the weeks of Lent.

TERM 2 – TRINITY

Our one true God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit - three distinct Persons in one God. The Trinity GIFT event will help people of all ages explore the mystery of the Trinity and how each Person serves us in different ways.

TERM 3 – MARTIN LUTHER

Who is Martin Luther and why is he so important to Lutherans? This GIFT event will help all generations to learn about Martin Luther and the Lutheran Reformation in an interactive way.

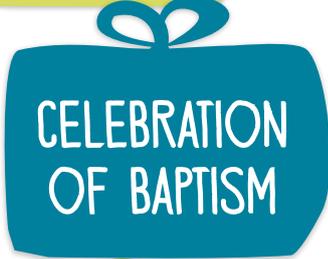
TERM 4 – ADVENT

Advent is the time when we reflect on and count down to the coming of Christ. This GIFT event provides a time to share the Advent rituals and traditions that have been passed down through many generations, and to make new ones.



PRAYER

The Prayer GIFT event offers an opportunity for people of all ages to come together and learn about the importance of prayer in our Christian lives. This resource will provide an opportunity for participants to discover the origins of prayer and practise some fun, simple ways to pray through drama and activities. Together you will discover that talking to God is easy!



BAPTISM

We live as baptised people of God every day. A Baptism GIFT event provides an occasion to remember the promises of baptism and to share and celebrate the new life we have in Christ through baptism.



PENTECOST

Pentecost is an exciting time of the church year when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. A Pentecost GIFT event is an opportunity to have a party to celebrate the birthday of the church and offers activities based around how the Holy Spirit lives in us and guides our lives.



Grow Ministries specifically likes GIFT because it ticks many of our guiding principles for effective child, youth and family ministry.

1. Children, young people and their families are nurtured for life in Jesus Christ through vital engagement with God's Word and the rituals, traditions and practices of Christian faith.
2. Faith is integrated into family identity and practice.
3. Children and young people have multiple adult mentors of vital faith.
4. Children and young people are engaged in meaningful intergenerational church experiences in which they are valued.
5. Children and young people are given opportunities to express their gifts and talents including being involved in leadership.
6. Children and young people are encouraged to participate in acts of service in the name of Jesus Christ.

Langmeil Lutheran Church, Tanunda, SA has been using the GIFT resource to encourage their congregations. Here is what members had to say...

"In a church where we encourage all ages to feel part of the ministry, the GIFT resource has been instrumental in helping us with tools, activities and service layout support that is meaningful, interactive and an encouragement for all generations to participate in." - JOANNE

"The GIFT resource is engaging, simple to use and helpful in worship planning. It encourages interaction between generations and helps children to feel included in the worship." - TASH



The GIFT ministry resource has been developed by *Grow Ministries*
For more information, please contact us: email growministries@lca.org.au
or visit our website www.growministries.org.au

