



St Andrew's Lutheran Church Newsletter 28th November 2024

Our purpose is to be a city-based, Lutheran faith community sharing its gifts to the mutual benefit of the congregation and the broader community.

Readings

FIRST READING

[Jeremiah 33:14-16 A righteous descendant of David as king](#)

[Psalm 25:1-10](#)

SECOND READING

[1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 May God continue to bless you](#)

GOSPEL

[Luke 21:25-36 Signs of the end of the age](#)

Roster for December 2024

	1 December	8 December	15 December
Festival	Advent 1	Advent 2	Advent 3 (Gaudete) Thanksgiving for The Way Forward
Presiding Minister/ Assisting Minister	Yong Bong Cho Denis ML (homily)	Rev Russell Briese	Rev Tommi Vuorinen Rev Yong Bong Cho,
Communion assistant	Owen Dixon	Karyn Cullen	Helen Ost
Lector	Martin Kriewald Andrea Kriewald	Karyn Cullen Stephen Cullen	Cathy Brown Shiron Dixon
Organist	Mark Boughen	Mark Boughen	Mark Boughen
Psalm	Psalm 25:1-10(p42)	TBA	TBA
Cantor	Denis ML	Astrid Stroessinger	Owen Dixon
Usher	Stephen Cullen	Giselle Kim	Astrid Stroessinger
Sunday School	No Sunday School	Jeff Ost	Jeff Ost
Collection Counter	Denis ML	Denis ML	Shiron Dixon
Announcements	Shiron Dixon	Shiron Dixon	Shiron Dixon
Morning Tea	Astrid Stroessinger	Julie Seidel Shiron Dixon	Helen Ost Carmen Ost
Cleaning	Corrine Maron, Trevor Kloeden, Paul Busing	Corrine Maron, Trevor Kloeden, Paul Busing	Corrine Maron, Trevor Kloeden, Paul Busing

If you are unable to complete a rostered ministry, please email denis.lee@me.com advising of a swap that you have made with someone who is rostered at a different time.

Our congregation

1. Working bee 7am – 10am, this coming Saturday 30 November 2024. Can you help for a few hours before the heat of the day in and around the church to tidy up for the Advent and Christmas services? This is important for our congregation and to let visitors see that we care about their safety and the safety of our congregation and the maintenance of our church property and grounds. More substantial landscaping work is planned for next year, but in the meantime, let's 'put our best foot forward'! We can share morning tea when we finish. Let Astrid or Karyn know if you can help or just turn up on the day. Your help is needed, please!

2. Surplus items in the hall. The working bee on **Saturday 30 November 2024** will tidy up the hall by disposing of any surplus furniture or other items. If you are interested in any items in the hall for your own use, let a Church Council member know BEFORE the working bee. Most of the available items are in the old kitchen area or behind the new kitchen. We can tell you whether the item is available and when you can remove it.

Please note that the current tables and chairs will remain until new furniture is identified, purchased and delivered – If you are interested in removing any of these at that time, please let a member of the Church Council know.

You are responsible for removing any items you select in a timely way. All items for removal are free, but if you wish to make a donation it will be very welcome.

3. New sound system training 10am, Saturday 30 November 2024. If you are on the roster as an usher, please attend a short training session for the new sound system in the church. This is not technical training, but it will familiarise you with the basics of the system so that you are able to:

- Ensure the system is working for a service and
- Provide equipment to assist anyone who has hearing problems.

It would be great if you combined this session with a little time at the working bee! If you can't attend, please make sure you catch up with Denis or one of the other ushers when you are in church or on the roster next. Thankyou!

4. Special congregation meeting Sunday 8 December 2024 to consider a columbarium for the grounds of the church. This is the only item to consider, so the meeting will be short. Your attendance will ensure a quorum for the meeting.

The congregation meeting will be held on **Sunday 8 December 2024** immediately following the 10am service to consider the following proposal recommended by Church Council:

That the congregation approves the development of a columbarium at St Andrews, with the development to be managed by Church Council to ensure that:

- the design complements the design of the church building,
- the design is expandable and relocatable and
- suitable terms are developed for applications for niches by congregation members and the public.

Background to the proposal:

What is a columbarium? A structure with special spaces (niches) for holding urns containing the ashes of the deceased; a plaque providing details of the deceased is on each niche.

The proposal comes to the congregation as a result of a generous donation offered to St Andrews by Odd- Steinar Dybvad-Raneng to cover the planning and design costs, and the build and landscaping costs (including seating for reflection) for a columbarium.

Any security (eg lighting or fencing) considered necessary will be incorporated into an overall landscaping plan for the church site to be developed by Council and completed at the cost of the congregation. Ongoing maintenance costs will be factored into the cost of niches in the columbarium. The cost of a plaque recognising the donation will be covered by the congregation.

5. Update from Church Council.

Note the following:

- Council commends the proposal to develop a columbarium at St Andrew's to the congregational meeting on 8 December 2024
- New sound system for the church and large TV screen - installation this week.
- Renovation of the manse kitchen and 2 bathrooms – meeting remaining potential providers at the manse on Tuesday 3 December
- Wifi for the church hall – installation of infrastructure on 4 December
- Korean Ministry Project Team will meet at 2pm on Thursday 5 December

- Furniture for church hall (to enable commercial hire of the hall) – thank you to Cathy Brown for her input about the attributes of suitable, comfortable furniture for day long use; Council will consider the final quotes at its December meeting

Would you like to be more involved in governance at St Andrews? At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the congregation in early 2025, there will be opportunities to serve the congregation on governance groups – please consider how you might use your gifts in these endeavors.

Is Church Council (and its subcommittees) communicating enough to the congregation about its activities and plans? Do you know a Church Council member? What are the sub-committees of Church Council? Do you want to know more?

Talk to Shiron (Chair) or Karyn (Secretary) or another Church Council member if you would like to serve in a governance role or have any feedback.

6. Baptism of Madeleine. Charlotte brought Madeleine to be baptized at the service on Sunday 24 November. A joyful occasion at St Andrews! Welcome to your church family, Madeleine!



7. On the evening of Tuesday 26 November, St Andrew's hosted a service of Holy Communion for Aged Care Chaplaincy staff who gathered in Brisbane this week. Rev Dr Russell Briese lead worship, and the sermon was delivered by Pastor Noel Burton who retires from his position as Pastor at Tabeel in coming weeks.



8. Risks on our church property – ‘Everyone is entitled to feel safe at St Andrews.’

As you know, all properties have risks associated with their use. St Andrews is no different. We have to be vigilant to minimise these risks for the safety of our congregation and visitors. Between now and the end of January, the newsletter will contain some reminders about safety at St Andrews.

Risk review - the Property Committee reviews and updates the congregation's risk register and recommends any necessary actions to Church Council in January each year. Throughout the year, at each Church Council meeting, safety at St Andrews is considered. You can help by letting us know if you have any concerns about safety at St Andrews – in the church, in the hall, in the grounds, in the carpark, for congregation members, for visitors? We are listening! Please talk to Karyn Cullen, Jeff Ost, Mark Boughen or Keith Stiller.



RISK Risk Reminder 2 – Working bees. If you are doing any work in or around the church at a working bee, you may not have participated previously or not for a while. Please follow the directions of those organising the session; if you use equipment, make sure you know how to do so safely (ask someone if you are not sure), don't extend yourself beyond your comfort zone and wear a hat and sunscreen. Any incidents or accidents MUST be recorded and reported to those organising the session. Have fun and thank you for your volunteer efforts for St Andrews!

9. Dates to remember and Hall use

28 November Installation of new sound system in the church

30 November 7am – 10 am - Working bee in church and grounds

30 November 10 am – 10.15am Usher training on the new sound system

2 December 9am-12.30pm Hospital Chaplains Education

4 December – Installation of wi-fi infrastructure to the church hall

5 December - Korean Ministry Project Team meeting 2pm

5 December Lutheran Services Carols Service at St Andrew's 4-6pm

8 December After 10 am service – special congregation meeting

8 December Join the Queensland Choir for just three weeks of rehearsals ahead of *Brisbane Sings Messiah*, conducted by Kevin Power OAM, on Sunday, December 8, at 3pm in Brisbane City Hall.

15 December During the 10 am service, thanksgiving for the General Synod decision to ordain women in the LCANZ is planned. Further information will be available as planning progresses.

More on *Brisbane Sings Messiah*:

This opportunity to join more than 150 other performers (including members of the Queensland Choir), professional soloists and orchestra for a strictly limited rehearsal period to prepare this magnificent work for the concert on December 8 only happens once every two years, and places are limited, on a first-in, first-served basis.

Participation is open to all singers aged 18 years and older. There is no audition! However, this is not a 'scratch' performance of *Messiah* and to be eligible you must be able to attend all the scheduled rehearsals. Prior familiarity with the music and knowledge of music notation will also be an advantage.

Registrations close once soprano, alto, tenor and bass lists are full, so interested singers should contact the choir now. REGISTER NOW: See www.qldchoir.com, Facebook www.facebook.com/qldchoir or email enquiries@qldchoir.com

The Queensland Choir
presents
Brisbane Sings
MESSIAH
3pm Sunday 8 December 2024
Brisbane City Hall

In the lead up to the Christmas season join the Queensland Choir for Brisbane's grandest performance of Handel's great choral masterpiece. A spectacular presentation with a choir of more than 150 voices, professional soloists and orchestra in Brisbane's magnificent City Hall.

BOOK NOW to enjoy this beautiful traditional Christmas entertainment

SOLOISTS
Leanne Kenneally (soprano)
Sebastian MacLaine (tenor)
Shikara Ringdahl (mezzo-soprano)
Leon Warnock (baritone)

Sinfonia of St Andrews
Conducted by **Kevin Power**

Adult: \$60
Seniors and concession: \$55
Full time student: \$15
BALCONY Adult: \$70
Concession: \$60
Student: \$20

Tickets available now by scanning the QR code or from 4MBS.com.au or call 3847 1717

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10. We pray

For our World

For the de-escalation of war and conflict across the world: in Ukraine, the Middle East, Myanmar (Burma), Somalia, Sudan, Nigeria, Iraq, Pakistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Brazil, the Boko Haram insurgency in North Africa, the Syrian civil war, the Yemeni civil war, the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon and Nigeria, the Ethiopian civil conflict, the gang wars in Haiti and among the drug cartels in Central and South America. We pray also for the people of Spain who have had severe flooding, for the people of the Philippines who have faced multiple typhoons in a month; for those impacted by the

eruption of the Indonesian volcano, for the Icelandic people dealing with another volcanic flow, for the thousands of people around the world who face natural disasters; for the people of the USA as it transitions from the Biden Administration to the Trump Administration in January 2025.

For our Community

For those undergoing medical treatment, for those who are fearful or anxious about the future, for those who suffer mental health issues, for the homeless and those living on the streets, for those experiencing financial hardship, for the victims of crime, especially victims of domestic violence

For our Church

For those who have, for the last 40 years, worked tirelessly to bring about the momentous change to affirm women's full participation in the ministry of the LCA, and for those who are finding the concept of women being ordained within the Lutheran Church of Australia difficult. Be with us as we navigate the next steps of inclusion of all people in your church.

For individuals

For those who have asked our prayers, including Ann, Liz, Rex, Odd-Steinar, Claire, Martin, Seamus, Sacha, Shiloh, Clancy, Harvey, Hazel, Sam, Carly, Denis, Tracey and Peter, and all who are currently receiving medical care.

We are thankful

For the visitors to our regular and celebration services who share our worship and fellowship; we pray for their safe return travels to their homes.

For those who serve on our congregational, District and LCANZ governance committees.

For the landmark resolution to allow women's ordination in the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand.

For the opportunity to celebrate milestones in our lives such as birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions. These events, happy or sad, are reminders of our life's journey and the moments that have shaped us.

That our loving Creator God first gave the land on which we are placed to the peoples of the First Nations who have walked and cared for this land since before recorded time. And for the land's Traditional Custodians and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging

11. Financials

Thank you to all who continue to make financial offerings to St Andrews. The bank details for St Andrews Regular offerings account is BSB 704942, A/c 100298818. If transferring from LLL, use A/c 4776981. If you prefer to use Regular Electronic Giving but do not have it set up, please talk to Denis.

Containers for change ID C10201744

Every 10c contribution helps!



Thank you to all who have helped raise these funds. Keep collecting those eligible containers.

The money raised is used to buy food vouchers for those in need. If you need help, please speak to Pastor Tommi, Pastor Yong Bong or one of the Pastoral Assistants, who will assist if possible.

Our church

1. LCA News - 26 November 2024 is [here](#)

2. Lutheran Services – have a vacant position on their Finance, Audit and Risk Management Sub-committee; if you are able to serve the District in this way, contact Karyn or Shiron for details - the closing date for registration of your interest is TODAY **28 November 2024**.

3. The December edition of Mission Meanderings.

- [The Heart of Sharing Jesus at Christmas](#)
- [A letter from the District Mission Directors](#)
- [Difference Course](#)
- [Building a Mission Culture](#)
- [Suggested Administrative/Governance Tasks for December through January](#)
- [Fire Wind Silence 2025 Date Claimer](#)
- [ALWS Walk My Way 2025 Date Claimer](#)
- [Stories of Faith request](#)

Ongoing congregational ministry and activity at St Andrews (updated as new information arises)

Korean Ministry

Pastor Yong Bong Cho has presided at many services during Pastor Tommi's absence on leave. We are blessed to have an Associate Pastor to assist our congregation. Yong Bong's ordination will provide further support to the St Andrew's Korean Ministry. Please keep this ministry of our congregation in your prayers. A Local Mission Grant application for the Korean Ministry was successful. This funding will be very helpful to the Korean ministry as it continues to grow and develop. Thank you to those involved in putting together the application and to Pastor Yong Bong and Giselle for their dedication and hard work.

Joint lunches between attendees at the 10am service and the 1pm services have begun – watch this space for the next date. We now have regularly combined bilingual services.

Korean prayer group meetings - food. If you would like to contribute something special for the group meeting on Sunday afternoons, please let those organising morning tea know so that your contribution can be provided to Yong Bong and Giselle.

Contact Pastors Yong Bong and Tommi for more information.

Infrastructure works

The Property Committee's current focus is on the maintenance of the manse and upkeep of the church and grounds. The top 4 priorities were endorsed by Church Council. Look for the updated monthly activity report on posters in the church and hall and on the website. How do we best leverage the investment we have already made in improving the hall? How do we make this investment work for the growth of the congregation? Are our current activities in line with our purpose? What should we be doing? Your ideas are welcome.

Please talk to Jeff Ost, Pastor Keith Stiller, Mark Boughen or Karyn Cullen (the Property Committee) if you are interested in supporting the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the church property from time to time. There is much to do!

All of the congregation's efforts and decision-making are tested against our purpose 'to be a city-based Lutheran faith community sharing its gifts to the mutual benefit of the congregation and the broader community.'

If you have questions or comments about the activities of the congregation or want to be more involved, contact one of the people listed below.

Future Group

This group is dedicated to considering long term actions the congregation should take to ensure its sustainability.

Church Council accepted the group's recommendation to plan facilitated congregational meetings in the first half of 2025 to identify how our purpose translates into the future use of the church site. Long term planning is necessary alongside current activities, to ensure the congregation's mission in the city of Brisbane can continue confidently and generously. As details are worked out and it is clear how you can become involved in long term planning, this newsletter will invite your participation. Contact any member of the group if you have questions or comments.

Karyn Cullen Karyn_cullen@bigpond.com

Giselle Kim secretary.standrewsbne@gmail.com

Carmen Ost Carmen.Ost2@gmail.com

Sam Vainikka Samuel.vainikka@gmail.com

Jonathan Koch jon.koch82@gmail.com

Denis Mercier-Lee denis.lee@me.com

Safety at St Andrews - *'Everyone is entitled to feel safe at St Andrews'*.

Our congregation works to ensure that St Andrews is maintained as a physically and psychologically safe place for the congregation and visitors.

The LCAQD reminds congregations (including St Andrews) about using Safety Management Online (SMO) to manage compliance with requirements for our leadership positions. The Working with Children Check (Blue Card) and Safe Church Training are both required for Church Council members. We record details and monitor the currency of the Blue Card and Safe Church training through SMO. We need to remain compliant to keep our people safe and use the tools the church provides to help us do so. St Andrews requires written applications for leadership positions using the forms provided by the Church. These efforts are part of our actions to ensure that St Andrews is a safe place for all.

LCAQD Policy - Historic (Sexual) Abuse Claims update is [here](#)

Safety Officers

Please contact them if your experience at St Andrews has made you feel unsafe. They will follow the relevant Lutheran Church of Australia (LCA) or congregational process for dealing with any issues, respecting your confidentiality in doing so (unless required by law to make a report):

Shiron Dixon ph 0400 890 270 or email malchi299@gmail.com

Karyn Cullen ph 0411 276 235 or email karyn_cullen@bigpond.com