

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

Korean Ministry

Pastor Yong Bong Cho presides over services during times when Pastor Tommi is absent. We are blessed to have an Associate Pastor to assist our congregation. Yong Bong's ordination provides further support to the St Andrew's Korean Ministry. Please keep this ministry of our congregation in your prayers.

A Local Mission Grant funding for the Korean Ministry will be very helpful as the Korean ministry it continues to grow and develop. Thank you to Pastor Yong Bong and Giselle for their dedication and hard work. The Project Team is meeting regularly to oversee the expenditure of the grant funds during 2025.

11 members of the Korean group were confirmed and accepted into membership of our congregation at a special service on 16 February – a truly joyous occasion and the fruits of the Korean ministry for growth and diversity in our congregation! A celebration lunch followed and was enjoyed by all – a chance to talk and get to know each other.

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, upkeep of the church and grounds and the construction of a columbarium. 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. This work is planned and prioritised in conjunction with Church Council and the Stewardship Committee. 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 above.

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. The AGM will see a detailed financial report presented and discussed. The meetings will use this and other information to deliberate. 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 listed below 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 and those teaching Sunday School. 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. Please contact Jeff Ost, Sunday School coordinator, if you have any questions about arrangements for Sunday School during the 10am church service.

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