



We pray for

The World for the de-escalation of war and conflict across the world, particularly in the Middle East and Ukraine; for the thousands of people who have had their lives and safety endangered and plans disrupted because of warfare; for those who have already lost their lives in current conflicts; for those facing natural disasters; for those who have experienced or witnessed violence for honest dedicated leaders who work for the welfare of all.

Our Community for those affected by violence, especially domestic violence; for the homeless, for those struggling with substance abuse, for those experiencing financial distress. We pray for Australians affected by heavy rains and flooding. We pray for those who are travelling and those whose plans are disrupted by fuel supplies and prices. We pray for communities affected by the recent deaths of children.

The Church for all who are preparing for ordination or have recently been ordained; for those involved in the governance of our church at congregational, District and Churchwide levels, for those who are preparing for our District Convention of Synod.

Our congregation for all who attend both the Korean and English language worship services. We pray for the speedy recovery of those of our congregation who are experiencing health issues; we pray for those who were elected to governance roles and for all our volunteers who keep St Andrew's wheels turning.

Those needing our prayers Ann, Liz, Rex, Odd-Steinar, Martin, Claire, Seamus, Sacha, Shiloh, Clancy, Harvey, Hazel, Jan, Sam, Carly, Denis, Bok Hee, Deirdre, Mark, Kate, Coral, Tracey, Peter, Kevin, Sylvia, Shiron, Ilaina, Tahery, Heri, Ilo Hasina and Tahina.

Departed: We give thanks for the faith and life of former members of St Andrew's - Pastor Graham Harms, who died in South Australia recently and Margaret Neldner, wife of Pastor Don Neldner.

We are thankful

for all our volunteers who keep the wheels turning at St Andrew's – those who are rostered on Sundays, those who step in as needed, those who work behind the scenes doing cleaning, gardening, and the work of committees and Church Council.

Our Congregation

- 1. Pentecost lunch (This Sunday: 24 May 2026)** - after the combined English and Korean language service. We have an array of international dishes including from the Philippines, France, Spain, Germany, Morocco, Korea and others, and 'Corrine's Kitchen! If you are able to contribute a dish, please let Karyn or Giselle know so we can make sure there is food for all. If you cannot contribute, please join us anyway - we all do what we can for various congregational activities, this might not be your turn!
This will support the 'Feast for Freedom' fundraising initiative of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC). More than just a meal, this event embodies the spirit of

Pentecost and, this year, the annual Feast for Freedom campaign - we choose to build 'longer tables' rather than walls.

You can read about how funds are used by ASRC to support refugees in their April newsletter [here](#).

The fundraising page is open here:

<https://www.feastforfreedom.org.au/fundraisers/karyncullen/feast-for-freedom>.

Note that there is some funding available to help with your contribution to catering for the Pentecost lunch as part of the Diversity by Design project. Talk to Karyn if you would like to access this. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

A blessing of congregational officers and volunteers will be included in the Pentecost service ahead of lunch.

- 2. Vestry doors now secure.** You may have noticed the neat and secure screening on the vestry glass doors and adjacent panels. This should prevent a repeat of broken glass from attempted break-ins.



- 3. Church Council** met on Tuesday night this week. The following topics were discussed:
- i. Roof and walls remediation - the tender period closed with 3 tender proposals which are being analysed by Ben List (our architect); he will report to the project team in a week or so and further reports will follow
 - ii. Columbarium niche plaque design - the bronze version has now been mounted on the Columbarium wall (Thankyou Pastor Yong Bong!); an alternative material is being used for the second sample made from aluminium. Council will consider your feedback about both and determine the base design and material to be used for the niches.



- iii. Diversity by Design project reported -

- a. Men's Gathering - sponsored by the Project so that the inaugural event could be offered without charge to attendees. See Item 6 for an overview.
- b. The 'Welcoming' presentation on Sunday 17 May 2026 was delivered by Rev David Schmidt, District Assistant Bishop for Mission. The attendees (14) who enjoyed a light lunch were challenged to think beyond friendliness toward a culture of genuine belonging. David asked us to remember things that make us feel comfortable or

awkward in unfamiliar situations and use that to inform how we welcome visitors. Personal stories were shared and we learned from each other. David will share the presentation and we will run the session a couple more times ourselves before the end of the year.

- c. Storytelling - this is the next major activity of the project. See item 5 below for details
- iv. Security camera protocols - meeting of those interested after the lunch on 24 May 2026
- v. Garden - Astrid will focus on the maintenance of the Columbarium garden over the coming month with garden edging, mulching and fertilising to be done. See item 4 below for details of when you can help.
- vi. Korean language ministry - the application for Mission Outreach Grant was unsuccessful; the next round of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund will be the next opportunity to apply for external funds.
- vii. Resourcing pastors' absences during the second half of 2026 - both Pastor Tommi and Pastor Yong Bong will take annual leave; Pastor Tommi has long service leave and there is a chance of a study tour for both pastors yet to be confirmed. St Andrews has a great depth of alternate pastoral and lay reader resources available to it to allow adequate time for rest and recuperation of our pastors to enable them to serve us better. Time to reflect and refresh is important for us all. From the Provision of Leave for Pastors Policy: **The LCA is committed to ensuring that adequate leave provisions are made for pastors serving the church by its calling bodies. The various leave contributes to the maintenance of wellbeing of the pastor and allows for management of personal, family health and wellbeing and community responsibilities.**

From her hospital bed (where she is in good spirits and well progressed on rehab work), Shiron has used her great rostering skills to prepare a draft plan for worship services which will be finalised in coming weeks. Pastoral care for the congregation will also be the subject of planning.

- viii. Diakonal Fund use - Church Council resolved to redirect the funds already sent to Madagascar to be used for food which is the urgent need for the community badly affected by flooding and will send a further \$1,000.



More of the funds transferred to Madagascar have been used for more rice (5kg/person), cooking oil (2 bottles/household) and buckets (1 per household) for domestic use. Clearly the money is being used sensibly for essential materials for the Madagascan congregation members. We are fortunate that Ilaina and his congregational connection

are willing and able to put in so much work to fairly distribute these funds. Thank you Ilaina!

ix. Treasurer tasks - there is planning around how to make this role less onerous for volunteers

4. **Garden working bees** - the Columbarium Garden will be the focus; if you can assist from 1 pm this Saturday, from 7 am on Wednesday 3 June or from 1pm Thursday 4 June. Contact Astrid Stroessinger on 0414986729 for more information and to confirm you will attend.

5. **Our stories:**

Celebrating our foundations and charting a multi-cultural future at St Andrew's. In 2026, we give thanks for 50 years of our present church building on Wickham Terrace - the third home of the St Andrew's congregation since it first gathered in 1858. For generations, this place has held baptisms and funerals, weddings and worship, music and prayer, laughter and tears. It carries the faith and faithfulness of many people. As we mark this anniversary, we want to pause, remember and listen. If St Andrew's has been a part of your life - recently or many years ago - we would love to hear from you. In this way, the history of St Andrew's is not only recorded, but remembered through the voices of those who lived it. The outcome will be a multi-media record of St Andrew's.

Old photographs, service bulletins, documents or other memorabilia are also welcome. We would be honored if you can contribute. It will be of special interest to hear the ways in which those from varied cultural backgrounds have worshipped together at St Andrew's.

Mark your diary for Sunday 14 June 2026 between the English and Korean services. This newsletter will advertise more about how we will hear from you, collectively and individually, on that day or afterwards. Start preparing your story!

6. **Inaugural Men's Gathering.** Mark Tonkin: Take a bow! Mark's vision of some of the men of our congregation coming together on a social level came together last Saturday evening as a raging success. 12 of us gathered, fed marvellously by Mark's friend Steve, assisted by Astrid. People shared their stories of working in the Korean Tax Office, to being the great nephew of the first Lutheran Bishop in Malaysia, to how the Reformation happened in Scandinavia, to who was great with their hands, who met in a suburban sauna, and insight into the Lutheran community in the Batak Islands of Indonesia. We are looking forward to the next one!



7. **Dates to remember and Hall use**
Please note the dates in your diaries.

When?	What's happening?
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Every Sunday	Sunday School 10.15am (every Sunday during school term2 until 21 June)
Every Tuesday	10am Korean Art Class
Every Thursday	10am Korean Bible Study
Sunday 24 May	10am Pentecost combined Service, blessing of congregational officers and volunteers and LUNCH
Sunday 24 May	(After lunch) meeting of those interested in discussing protocols around the security camera system
Tuesday 26 May	6.30pm Wine and Word
Sunday 14 June	Our stories. Between the 10am an 1pm services

8. Regular giving and other financial matters

Thank you to all who continue to make financial offerings to St Andrew's and contribute to the Containers for Change program for St Andrew's. If you wish to contribute, see [here](#) for information. Scan the bar code below at the collection centre to transfer the money to St Andrew's Diakonal fund.

The bank details for St Andrew's Regular offerings account is BSB 704942, A/c 100298818. If transferring from LLL, use A/c 4776981.

Containers for change ID C10201744
 Every 10c contribution helps!
 Keep those containers coming, please!



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 congregational ministry and activity at St Andrews: see the hyperlink [here](#) for the full list.

Our Church

1. LCAQD - eNews **20 May** is [here](#).
2. LCA - eNews **12 May** is [here](#)
3. **Calling for Nominations** – 2026 LCAQD convention of the Synod
 Are you searching for a way to serve our Lord's church? Could God be calling someone with your skill set to one of the LCAQD Boards or Councils? Click [here](#)