

NEWSLETTER

January & February 2026



The Eastern Parish.
St Andrews East London
St. Peters Komga
Luther Brakfontein
St Pauls Stutterheim
St Pauls Macleantown

From the Pastor's Desk!

God makes Everything new!

And so a new year begins. The year 2026 is before us. For many of us, a new year comes with hopes, plans, and new resolutions.

Into this “new year”, God speaks and says: “I am making everything new.” Revelation 21:5 - Notice what God says. God does not say that we will make things new. God says that He will make everything new. This promise takes us back to Christmas. Paul writes in Titus that when the kindness and love of God appeared, God saved us. Not because of anything we had done. But because of his mercy alone. It is through this mercy that God renews and reshapes our lives.

Christmas does not end at the manger. It is only the beginning. Through the child in the manger, God reveals his love to us. And God's love changes our whole life. Through his love, God gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit. God makes our lives new through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit works quietly, patiently, and faithfully. The Holy Spirit assures us that we belong to God and are loved by him, through our baptism. Over time, the Holy Spirit shapes our trust, patience, and love.

God's renewal often feels small. Like a word that stays with us. Like a thought that carries us through a hard day. Like a quiet confidence that slowly deepens. And yet, it is real. The Holy Spirit softens our words when we want to shout. The Holy Spirit gives us patience when we would rather give up. The Holy Spirit gives us courage to try again.

At the start of this year, God does not expect us to reinvent ourselves. Instead, God invites us to trust the One who is already at work in our lives. The child of Christmas is the Lord of the future, and he says to us again today: “I am making everything new.” Step by step. Day by day. By love alone.

By grace alone. May you know that God is present and at work in your life, making everything new. Wishing you a blessed New Year.

Hans-Peter von Fintel

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Outreach of 2025:

The gifts that were donated during our Harvest Thanksgiving services at St Andrews and St Peters Komga, combined with many other food and toiletry donations – were packed into parcels. These 90 parcels were gifted to the residents of the **Manor Home in East London and Tecoma Home in Komga.**

The appreciation and joy was overwhelming for many recipients.

Thank you!!! – for the donations that made this outreach of food and toiletries possible.

The Emmaus Convent and Retirement Centre in Cambridge– also received a Christmas Hamper – containing Christmas biscuits and Stollen – which is always appreciated by the staff, helpers, patients and the residents.



Children's Ministry @ St Andrews - will commence on Sunday the 18th January 2026.



Please join us @ St Andrews for a cup of Tea/ coffee after the 8.30am service - 15th February.

“The Church Wardens are on duty.”

January 2026			February 2026		
3	Markus Schlüter	St Andrews	1	Brandon Penny	St Andrews
3	Dane' Rita Lentz	St Pauls Stutterheim	3	Candice Maritz	St Paul's Stutterheim
6	Heather Schoof	St Andrews	5	Laurent Howe	St Paul's Stutterheim
6	Justin Eberhardt	St Pauls Stutterheim	6	Joel Lutge	Luther Brakfontein
6	Luke Eberhardt	St Pauls Stutterheim	6	Erleen Paschke	St Andrews
6	Tye Ristow	St Pauls Stutterheim	6	Dayton Hiles	St Andrews
7	Tim Hayter	St Andrews	6	Marion Krause	St Paul's Stutterheim
10	Bettina du Buson	St Andrews	7	John Eberhardt	St Paul's Stutterheim
11	Anna Jones	Luther Brakfontein	7	Hazel Luck	Luther Brakfontein
11	Celeste Vosloo	St Andrews	7	Leroy Crossman	St Andrews
11	Johann Vosloo	St Andrews	7	Linley Jones	Luther Brakfontein
16	Gavin Sporke	St Andrews	8	Nico Steyn	St Andrews
16	Colleen Jordaan	St Peter's Komga	9	Mark Purves	St Peters Komga
17	Beverley Kumm	St Pauls Macleantown	9	Sascha Mortimer	St Pauls Macleantown
18	Melanie Hayter	St Andrews	10	Lizelle Human	Luther Brakfontein
19	Chantele Piater	St Andrews	12	Erika Weyer	St Andrews
19	Iris Burger	St Andrews	13	Warren Luck	Luther Brakfontein
19	Megan van der Bergh	St Andrews	13	Siphosethu Khalishwayo	St Andrews
21	Ginny Schultz	Luther Brakfontein	13	Shaun Wittstock	St Paul's Stutterheim
23	Chloe Römer	St Andrews	15	Rosemary Schoof	St Andrews
24	Gerald Ritcher	St Pauls Macleantown	15	Janice Krause	St Pauls Macleantown
24	Adrian Pitcher	St Andrews	16	Reinhold Krause	St Paul's Stutterheim
26	Klara Köpke	St Andrews	16	Zac Ristow	St Paul's Stutterheim
26	Leon Bottcher	St Pauls Stutterheim	17	Val Engelbrecht	St Andrews
26	Llewellyn Braun	St Pauls Stutterheim	18	Hector Paper	St Paul's Stutterheim
27	Kayla Louw	St Andrews	18	Callyn Moss	St Paul's Stutterheim
28	Debbie Mundell	St Pauls Stutterheim	19	Daniel Crossman	St Andrews
29	Stanley Klug	St Andrews	20	Jenny Holland	Luther Brakfontein
			24	Jason Kieck	St Andrews
			25	Liselle Sternberg	St Paul's Stutterheim
			26	Alan Heger	Luther Brakfontein
			27	Sharon Penny	St Andrews
			27	Craig Sternberg	St Paul's Stutterheim
			27	Dustin Ritcher	St Pauls Macleantown
			28	Andrea Kloppe	St Andrews

Should some of the information
be incorrect or missing -
- please contact Bettina.

**May God's Love and Joy surround
you today and always.
Happy
Birthday!**

Stewardship / Tithing / Contribution is a calling:

- a way of living out our faith with gratitude and commitment: Knowing that speaking about finances can make some people feel uncomfortable, yet it remains part of our shared responsibility as a congregation and a congregational member.

To be church together costs money, and we cannot shy away from this reality. At the beginning of a new year, it is good for all of us to reflect not only on God's blessings, but also on how we will support God's work among us.

St Andrews Lutheran Church

Nedbank: Vincent Park; Br Code 120621; Account No: 120 603 9922

St Peters Evangelical Lutheran Church Komga

Standard Bank: Br Code 120621; Account No: 280 736 606

Luther Church Brakfontein

ABSA: Main Branch East London; Account No: 700 480 232

St Pauls Lutheran Church Macleantown

Nedbank: East London Account No: 120 600 3103

St Pauls Sutterheim

FNB: Sutterheim; Account No: 620 467 64 256

For the ease of identifying your stewardship/ contribution/ payments, please use your surname and initials as a reference when depositing or making electronic fund transfers (EFT).

Family Page!

Death: Cynthia Klug passed away on 20th December 2025 – It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Cynthia Klug: Our sincere condolences to her husband Stanley, her children Peter, Jackie and Tracy, her grandchildren, her sister Nola Rautenbach and the extended family and friends.

Marriage: Christian Schlüter and Ulrike Klingenberg - will be celebrating their union in marriage on the 24th January 2026 in KZN – Congratulations to the Schlüter and Klingenberg Families on this joyous occasion! Their chosen Marriage Verse is: Verlass dich auf den Herrn von ganzem Herzen und verlass dich nicht auf deinen Verstand, sondern gedenke an Ihn in allen deinen Wegen, so wird er dich recht führen. Sprüche: 3 v 5-6.

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths" Proverbs:3 v 5-6

Flower Duty: - St Andrews

04.01.2026 – Renee Johl
11.01.2026 – Belinda Haywes
18.01.2026 – Annette Fortmann
25.01.2026 -- Vera Johl
01.02.2026 – Doreen Hayter
08.02.2026 – Renee Johl
15.02.2026 – Annette Fortmann
22.02.2026 – Bettina du Buson

Should you ever want to bring flowers for the Altar, please let Vera Johl know and your name will be added to the roster.



Errors/Mistakes – while every care is taken to have correct information in this newsletter – mistakes do happen. Please contact - Bettina du Buson, 083 295 0506 or email: bdubuson@gmail.com

January 2026

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>01 January 2026</u> <u>New Years Day</u></p> <p>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13,18</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: White</i> Sermon Text: John 14, 1-6 Old Testament: Joshua 1,1-9 Epistle: James 4,13-15 Gospel: Luke 4,16-21</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>04 January 2026</u> <u>2 Sunday After Christmas</u></p> <p>We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14b)</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: White</i> Sermon Text: Isaiah 61,1-3(4, 9)10-11 Old Testament: Isaiah 61,1-3 (4, 9) 10-11 Epistle: 1 John 5,11-13 Gospel: Luke 2,41-52</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>06 January 2026</u> <u>Epiphany</u></p> <p>The darkness is passing and the true light is already shining. 1. John 2,8</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: White</i> Sermon Text: Ephesians 3 1-7 Old Testament: Isaiah 60,1-6 Epistle: Ephesians 3,1-7 Gospel: Matthew 2, 1-12</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>11 January 2026</u> <u>1. Sunday after Epiphany</u></p> <p>Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. Romans 8,14</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Matthew 3, 13-17 Old Testament: Isaiah 42,1-9 Epistle: Romans 12,1-8 Gospel Matthew 3,13-17</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>18 January 2026</u> <u>2. Sunday after Epiphany</u></p> <p>The law was given through Moses: grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. John 1, 17</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Jeremiah 14, 1 (2) 3-4 (5-6) 7-9 Old Testament: Exodus 33,18-23 Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 2,1-10 Gospel: John 2:1-11</p>

February 2026	
<p><u>01 February 2026</u> <u>Last Sunday after Epiphany</u> The Lord rises upon you and His glory appears over you. (Isaiah 60,2b)</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Revelations 1,9-18 Old Testament: Exodus 3,1-8a(8b 9)10(11-12)13-14 (15) Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4,6-10 Gospel: Matthew 17,1-9</p>
<p><u>08 February 2026</u> <u>Sexagesimae</u> Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts. Hebrews 3,15</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Ezekiel 2, 1-5 (6-7) 8-10; 3, 1-3 Old Testament: Isaiah 55, (6-7)8a-12 Epistle: Hebrews 4,12-13 Gospel: Luke. 8,4-8 (9-15)</p>
<p><u>15 February 2026</u> <u>Estomihi</u> We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. Luke 18,31</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Luke 18, 31-43 Old Testament: Amos 5,21-24 Epistle: 1 Corinthians 13,1-13 Gospel: Mark 8:31-38</p>
<p><u>18 February 2026</u> <u>Ash Wednesday</u> We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. Luke 18,31</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: Violet</i> Sermon Text: Matthew 9, 14-17 Old Testament: Joel 2, 12-19 Epistle: 2.Peter. 1,2-11 Gospel: Matthew 6,16-21</p>
<p><u>25 February 2026</u> <u>Invocavit</u> The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. 1. John 3,8b</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: Violet</i> Sermon Text: Genesis 3, 1-19 (20-24) Old Testament: Genesis 3,1-19, (20-24) Epistle: Hebrews 4,14-16 Gospel: Matthew 4,1-11</p>

March 2026	
<p><u>01 March 2026</u> <u>Reminiscere</u> God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5,8</p>	<p><i>Liturgical Colour: Violet</i> Sermon Text: Romans 5,1-5 (6-11) Old Testament: Isaiah 5,1-7 Epistle: Romans 5,1-5 (6-11) Gospel: John 3,14-21</p>

Pastor H-P von Fintel
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St Andrews Church 50 Park Ave, East London

Church Committee

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Mrs Celeste Vosloo -	0833832646
Dr. Christian Johl - Chairperson, Preacher	043 7481500 / 0834077937
Mrs Vera Johl - Minute Keeper, Convenor of Fundraising	043-7261181
Mr Leslie Klug - House Visiting	043-7411371
Mr Martin Köpke – Vice Chair & Maintenance	0722257048
Mrs Doreen Hayter – House Visiting	0836735589
Mr Markus Schlüter -	0730296623
Mrs Lucille Jooste – Fundraising & House Visiting	0728308507
Mr Therrol Schwartz - Maintenance, Fundraising	0827055415
Mr Erald Hohls - Maintenance	0824438379
Mr Brian Sporke – House Visiting	0724334393
Sunday School: Renee Johl	0835543954
Lucille Jooste, & Catherine Collocott	
Organist: Enid Tessendorf	0736608117
Elaine Johl	0832369221
Ginny Schultz	0784713835
Frauenverein: Erika Puchert	0839228556
Prayer Chain: Lucille Jooste	0728308507
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Luther Brakfontein

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