

NEWSLETTER

March & April 2026



The Eastern Parish.

St Andrews East London

St. Peters Komga

Luther Brakfontein

St Pauls Stutterheim

St Pauls Macleantown

Watchword for 2026

I am making everything new!

From the Desk of Pastor Hans-Peter von Fintel
The Table that Tells the Story – 1 Corinthians 11:26

“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.” 1 Corinthians 11:26

As we move through the months of March and April, this verse quietly summarise our journey that we on: from Lent to the Holy Week, to Easter and the weeks that follow. At the table of God something happens. We do not only remember but we proclaim for what God does for us. During Lent we are sitting at the Passover table. We see the table set before us with bitter herbs, unleavened bread and salt water. Each symbol tells the story of how the people of Israel were saved. The Passover meal is a meal of remembering the slavery, the remembered tears and the night of urgency when God led them out. Lent invites us to do the same by naming the bitterness we carry, and by bringing our sin and our weariness into the light and placing them in the hands of God.

On Maundy Thursday Jesus invites us to His table as He takes bread and cup into His hands and gives them new meaning. This is no longer only the story of Egypt. Rather it is the story of the cross. On Good Friday we see what we proclaim: His body given and His blood poured out. Jesus saves us out of love and mercy. Every time we eat and drink, we confess that our freedom was costly and that it was given to us out of love.

Easter gives us this wonderful assurance: death does not have the final word, because Jesus is risen. The table of God is the place where we receive the living hope we need to live between Christ’s cross and His return. It is the hope that sustains us between promise and fulfilment, between bread that is broken now and the great feast that is still to come. God’s table shapes our lives beyond the church building. We become people who proclaim Christ not only with words, but with forgiveness, patience, and courage. We carry hope into ordinary days by sharing bread, and by speaking grace. We remember that our story is not defined by bitterness or fear, but by the Lord who gave Himself for us. Therefore, as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim a crucified Saviour, and we proclaim a risen Lord. And we wait in trust for the day when He comes and gathers us at His eternal table.

Telling the Story at the Table – Passover Meal – Our Lenten Journey for 2026:

Ash Wednesday: Naming the bitterness we carry - Maror (Bitter Herbs)



*Text: Exodus 1:8–14;

*Focus: Maror - reminds the people of Israel of the bitterness of slavery.

Ash Wednesday invites honest naming of sin, brokenness, and suffering. We do not rush past the bitterness. We

bring it before God. Lent begins by telling the truth about our condition and our need for mercy.

Week 1 – Leaving behind what weighs us down

Symbol: The Unleavened Bread Exodus 12:39; 1 Corinthians 5: 6-8 & John 6:35.

Focus: Matzah is bread made in haste. No time for yeast. No room for delay. God calls His people to move, to trust, and to let go. Lent becomes a season of stripping away what puffs us up and returning to simple dependence on Christ, the Bread of Life.



Week 2: - Sweetness in the middle of struggle.

Symbol: Charoset

Text: Exodus 1:13–14; Psalm 34:8; Romans 8:18

Focus: Charoset looks like mortar, yet tastes sweet. It holds together memory of suffering and promise of hope. Lent teaches us that God’s grace is often tasted even while burdens remain. Hope does not erase pain, but it changes how we carry it.

Week 3: - Signs of life on the journey.

Symbol: Karpas (Green vegetable)

Text: Exodus 12":37; Isaiah 43:18-19; John 15:1-5.



Focus: Karpas speaks of spring, growth, and life beginning again. Even while remembering slavery,

Israel remembers God's promise of renewal. Lent is not only about dying to self. It is also about trusting that God is already growing something new.

Week 4: Loss, sacrifice, and the promise of life.

Symbol: Beitzah (Roasted Egg)

Text: Deuteronomy 16:1–8; John 12:24; Romans 6:3–5



Focus: The roasted egg remembers sacrifice and mourning, yet the egg also points to life. Lent holds grief and hope together. We remember what is broken, what is lost, and what must die, trusting that God brings life where we least expect it.



Week 5: Tears seen and remembered by God

Symbol: Salt Water

Text: Exodus 12:35–36; Psalm 56:8; Revelation 21:4.

Focus: Salt water recalls tears shed in slavery. God does not dismiss suffering or forget grief. Lent invites us to bring our tears honestly before God, trusting that none of them are wasted and that deliverance is coming.



Maundy Thursday: - Remembering by telling and sharing.

Symbol: The Seder Plate (Table and Telling)

Text: Exodus 12:24–27; Luke 22:14–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

Focus: The Seder plate gathers the story at the table. Maundy Thursday gathers us around Christ's table. Jesus takes the familiar Passover meal and gives it new depth. At the table, God tells His story again and feeds His people with grace.

Good Friday: Marked for salvation

Symbol: Blood on the Doorposts

Text: Exodus 12:7, 12–13; Isaiah 53:4–6; John 19:16–37.

Focus: The blood on the doorposts was a sign of protection and deliverance. On Good Friday, Christ's blood marks us as His own. Salvation does not come through our strength, but through God's act of mercy on our behalf.



Easter Sunday: Freedom fulfilled and joy restored

Symbol: The Four Cups of Wine – The Cup of Praise

Text: Exodus 6:6–7; Psalm 118:14–24; Luke 24:30–35

Focus: The final cup celebrates praise and completion. *Easter proclaims that God's saving work is finished. Slavery is broken. Death is defeated. The risen Christ invites His people to live in joy, gratitude, and hope, praising the God who brings life out of death.*



Holy Week Services: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Easter.

02.04.2026: **Maundy Thursday:** 6pm St Crucis H/C PS Armin & HP von Fintel

03.04.2026: **Good Friday:** 8.30am **St Peters Komga** H/C; Ps HP von Fintel
Good Friday: 8.30am **St Pauls Stutterheim** H/C; Bishop Filter
Good Friday: 10.30am **St Pauls Macleantown** H/C; Bishop Filter
Good Friday: 10.30am **St Andrews** H/C; Ps HP von Fintel
Karfreitag: 15Uhr/3pm **St Andrews** H/C; Ps HP von Fintel

05.04.2025: **Easter:** 8am **St Andrews** Divine Service; Ps HP von Fintel
Easter: 8.30am **St Pauls Stutterheim** H/C; Bishop Filter.

Upcoming AGM's & Events within the Eastern Parish:

- **St Peters Komga AGM:** 22.03.2026 after 10.30am service.
- **St Andrews AGM:** 12.04.2026 after the 8.30am service.
- **St Pauls Macleantown AGM:** 19.04.2026 after the 10.30am service.
- **St Pauls Stutterheim AGM:** 3.05.2026 after 10.30am service.
- **CCE AGM** 9th May 2026 – venue to be advised.
- St Peters Komga: Food Market Saturday 30th May 2026
- St Andrews Food Market 27.06.2026

Flower Duty: - St Andrews

01.03.2026 – Lucille Jooste
08.03.2026 – Brigitte von Fintel
15.03.2026 – Doreen Hayter
22.03.2026 – Pearl Coetzer
29.03.2026 – Sheila Liss
05.04.2026 – Easter
12.04.2026 – Brigitte von Fintel
29.04.2026 – Sheila Liss
26.04.2026 – Celeste Vosloo



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

Family News: Within our congregations and families.

Engagement: Congratulations to Carmen Storm and Quinell Kretzmann who got engaged on 7th January 2026.

Baptism: Nadya Mae Ferreira – daughter of Brandon van Rooyen & Lilly-Ann Ferreira was baptised on the 1st February 2026 at St Pauls Stutterheim.



21st Birthday: - Amy Hawyes – 6th February - Congratulations and many special moments as you celebrate this special birthday.

80th Birthday – Wendy Fiebiger – Wendy will be celebrating her 80th Birthday on the 30th March. Happy Birthday and may you be spoilt and treasured.

90th Birthday – Sylvia Kretzmann – 13th April 2026. Many special prayers and blessings.

Wedding: The wedding of Hannah Krause (St Pauls Macleantown) and Jarred Lemmer will take place on the 11th April 2026.

60th Wedding Anniversary – Mervin & Erika Weyer.

Congratulations to Mervin and Erika Weyer on their 60th Wedding Anniversary. They were married on the 18th April 1966 - at St Andrews Lutheran Church.

These special celebrations are significant days within the life's of our family's and loved ones. Let us pause from our daily routines and allow us to treasure these special events. To God be the Glory!



Tea Duty @ St Andrews: March 2026: Puchert Family.

April 2026: Easter Breakfast.

May 2026: Lucille Jooste & Penny Family.

June 2026: Schlüter, du Buson, Hohls, Fortmann.

March 2026 Birthdays

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April 2026 Birthdays

1	Renay Lutge	St Andrews
1	Jordan Paper	St Pauls Stutterheim
2	Elizabeth Schultz	Luther Brakfontein
3	Elaine Jacobi	St Andrews
3	Susan Howe	St Pauls Stutterheim
4	Alan Ahlschlager	St Pauls Stutterheim
4	Erin Lentz	St Pauls Stutterheim
5	Charne Human	Luther Brakfontein
5	Lorraine Sonnenberger	St Andrews
6	Brian Braun	St Pauls Stutterheim
6	Amy Haywes	St Andrews
6	Willem Kirsten	St Andrews
6	Richard Tessendorf	St Pauls Stutterheim
8	Justin Meister	St Andrews
8	Ashley Heuer	St Andrews
9	Robert Krantz	St Andrews
9	Aimee Mortimer	St Pauls Macleantown
10	Francis Hill	Luther Brakfontein
10	Cynthia Kieck	Luther Brakfontein
10	Calvin Korte	St Andrews
10	Bay-leigh Braun	St Andrews
12	Marleen Weyer	St Peters Komga
12	Justin Sternberg	St Pauls Stutterheim
14	Yolanda Hein	Luther Brakfontein
15	Michael Kieck	St Andrews
16	Connor Paper	St Pauls Stutterheim
16	Wayne Iveson	St Pauls Stutterheim
17	Sherrol Hohls	St Andrews
17	Mavis Ferreira	St Pauls Stutterheim
17	Siegfried Wittstock	St Pauls Stutterheim
20	Cathy Braun	St Pauls Stutterheim
21	Christina Human	Luther Brakfontein
22	Wendy Sykes	St Andrews
22	Sonia Ahlschlager	St Pauls Stutterheim
22	Nicole Vosloo	St Andrews
24	Charmaine Human	Luther Brakfontein
25	Dillan Human	Luther Brakfontein
27	Marinda du Preez	St Pauls Stutterheim
28	Jordan Kleynhans	St Andrews
29	Olwethu Khalishwayo	St Andrews
30	Michael Horrmann	Luther Brakfontein
30	Nigel Maritz	St Pauls Stutterheim
31	Christopher Sonnenberger	St Andrews

3	Terrence Braun	St Andrews
6	Liesl Mortimer	St Pauls Macleantown
6	Lauren Mundell	St Pauls Stutterheim
6	Molly Trollope	St Peters Komga
8	Michel Romer	St Pauls Stutterheim
8	Amity Hiles	St Andrews
8	Ashleigh Mundell	St Pauls Stutterheim
9	Bernard Burger	St Pauls Stutterheim
10	Clint Boardman	St Pauls Stutterheim
13	Sylvia Kretzmann	St Andrews
13	Daniel Boardman	St Pauls Stutterheim
13	Irene Olivier	St Andrews
15	Siegfried Braun	St Pauls Stutterheim
16	Stacey Moore	Luther Brakfontein
17	Jacques Weyer	St Peters Komga
17	Jacelyn Howe	St Pauls Stutterheim
20	Mark Holland	Luther Brakfontein
20	Bethany Krause	St Pauls Macleantown
20	Patsy Schwartz	St Andrews
20	Luke Boardman	St Pauls Stutterheim
21	Roland Boucher	St Peters Komga
21	Elizabeth Kieck	St Pauls Stutterheim
21	Aidan Penny	St Andrews
22	Brian Knickelbein	St Pauls Stutterheim
23	Neil Haschick	St Andrews
24	Shaun Bosch	St Andrews
24	Renee' Johl	St Andrews
24	Eberhard Schuch	St Andrews
24	Elani Lentz	St Pauls Stutterheim
24	Errol Schultz	St Andrews
27	Brian Sporke	St Andrews
27	Denise Kirchhoff	St Andrews
29	Cuan Human	Luther Brakfontein
29	Melanie Crossman	St Andrews
29	Andre Human	Luther Brakfontein

Contributing/ Paying Stewardship is a calling:

To be church together costs money, and we cannot shy away from this reality. 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.

It is 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.

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 050421; Account No: 280 736 606

Luther Church Brakfontein

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

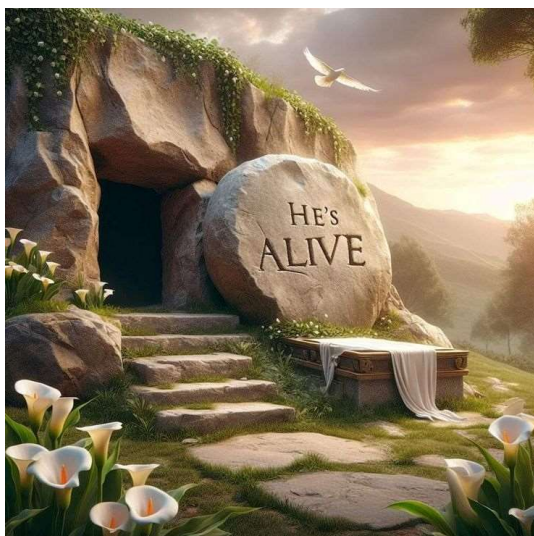
St Pauls Lutheran Church Macleantown

Nedbank: East London Account No: 120 600 3103

St Pauls Sutterheim

FNB: Stutterheim; 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).



He is not here, he has
risen, just as he said.
Matthew 28:6

March 2026

01 March 2026

Reminiscere

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

Liturgical Colour: Violet

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

08 March 2026

Oculi

No-one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God. Luke 9:62

Liturgical Colour: Violet

Sermon Text: Luke 9:57-62; Old Testament: 1Kings 19: 1-8 (9-13a).
Epistle: Ephesians 5:1-2(3-7) 8-9.
Gospel: Luke 9: 57 – 62

15 March 2026

Laetare

Unless an ear of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. John 12:24

Liturgical Colour: Violet

Sermon Text: Isaiah 66: 10 -14
Old Testament: Isaiah 54:7 - 10
Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1: 3 - 7
Gospel: John 12: 20 – 24

22 March 2026

Judica

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Matthew 20:28

Liturgical Colour: Violet

Sermon Text: Hebrews 13:12-14
Old Testament: Genesis:22,1-14 (15-19)
Epistle:Hebrews 5,(1-6) 7-9 (10)
Gospel Mark 10, 35 – 45

29 March 2026

Palm Sunday

The law was given through Moses: grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. John 1, 17

Liturgical Colour: Violet

Sermon Text: Mark 14, (1-2) 3-9
Old Testament: Isaiah 50: 4 - 9
Epistle Reading: Philippians 2: 5-11; Gospel: John 12:12 -19

02 April 2026

He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and compassionate. Psalm 111:4

Liturgical Colour: White

Sermon Text: Exodus 12: 1-4(5)6-8(9)10-14
Old Testament: Exodus 12,1-4(5) 6-8(9) 10-14
Epistle Reading:1 Corinthians 11,(17-22) 23 -26 (27-29, 33-34a)
Gospel: John 13:1-15; 34-35.

April 2026

03 April 2026

Good Friday

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Liturgical Colour: None/ Black

Sermon Text: 2. Corinthians 5(14b-18) 19-21.

Old Testament: Isaiah 52:13 – 15; 53:1-12

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5(14b-18) 19-21

Gospel: John 19:16 – 30

05 April 2026

Easter

I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. Rev. 1:18

Liturgical Colour: White

Sermon Text: Corinthians 15 (12-18) 19 - 28

Old Testament: 1 Samuel 2:1-8a

Epistle: 1. Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: Mark 16: 1 – 8

12 April 2026

1. Sunday After Easter

Quasimodgeniti

Praise be to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3

Liturgical Colour: White

Sermon Text: Isaiah 40:26-31

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:26-31

Epistle: 1 Peter 1: 3-9

Gospel: John 20:19 -20 (21-23) 24 – 29.

19 April 2026

2. Sunday After Easter

Misericordia Domini

Christ says: I am the Good Shepherd. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me, and I give them eternal life. John 10: 11a. 27-28a.

Liturgical Colour: White

Sermon Text: 1 Peter 2: 21b - 25

Old Testament: Ezekiel 34: 1 – 2 (3-9) 10-16&31.

Epistle: 1 Peter 2: 21b - 25

Gospel: John 10:11-16 (27-30)

26 April 2026

3. Sunday After Easter - Jubilate

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, look the new has come. 2 Corinthians :17

Liturgical Colour: White

Sermon Text: John 15:1-8

Old Testament: Genesis 1:1-4a(4b-25) 26-28 (29-30)31a (31b), 2:1-4a

Epistle: Acts 17:22-34

Gospel: John 15:1-8

03 May 2026

4. Sunday After Easter – Cantate

Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvellous things. Psalm 98:1

Liturgical Colour: White

Sermon Text: 2 Chronicles 5:2-5 (6-11) 12-14

Old Testament: 1 Sam 16:14-23

Epistle: Colossians 3: 12-17

Gospel: Luke 19:37 - 40

Pastor H-P von Fintel
46 Sherwood Ave, Beacon Bay 5241

084 064 6228

St Andrews Church 50 Park Ave, East London

Church Committee

Mrs. Bettina du Buson - Treasurer, Preacher, Secretary	0832950506
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
Lifts: Mr Therrol Schwartz	0827055415

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church Komga Church Committee

<u>Church Committee</u>	078 042 6290
Mr Gavin Tessendorf, Chairperson	
Mr Jacques Weyer	083 555 3089
Ms Pearl Tessendorf - Treasurer	083 444 9099
Mrs Debbie van Huyssteen	082 712 8188

Luther Brakfontein

Church Committee

Lizelle Human–(Treasurer)	083 4176150
Morne Human	073 1410353

Luther Church ABSA Main Branch Acc Number 700480232

St Pauls Macleantown

Stuart Krause – Chairperson	083 615 7244
Terri-Ann Schultz Treasurer	082 467 1389

St Pauls Stutterheim

Lynette Burger	083 225 3532
Susan Howe	084 510 4531
Marion Krause	082 977 3092

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