

Eastern Parish NEWSLETTER

September & October 2026



If roots hidden beneath the ground can keep a tree standing through every storm, image what a life rooted in Christ can with stand.

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

A Season of Thanksgiving

Dear Readers. The months of September and October are giving us many reasons to pause and give thanks. In September, we celebrate Confirmation at St Andrew's and St Paul's Macleantown.

Over the next two months, all four congregations will also gather for Harvest Thanksgiving. These are special moments in the life of our parish. We celebrate young people taking a step in faith. We celebrate the harvest and the work, the generosity and the provision of God. But I also know that thanksgiving does not mean that everything is fine. Many of us carry things that are heavy. There are worries about our families, our health, our churches and our future. Some of us are grieving. Others are tired or facing uncertainty. We cannot simply put those things aside and pretend that life is easy.

And yet, even in the middle of all that, there are reasons to say thank you. The psalmist writes: "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." Psalm 107:1. Thanksgiving is not about pretending that everything is good. It is about noticing that, even in difficult seasons, God continues to give us gifts. Sometimes they are big things like a confirmation, a harvest or a family celebration.

Often, they are much smaller: a cup of coffee in the morning, the warmth of the sun, rain after a dry spell, a good conversation, a child's laughter, a phone call from a friend, food on the table, a beautiful sunset, a quiet moment, and strength to get through another day. These little blessings can easily become invisible because they are so ordinary.

Perhaps thanksgiving begins by slowing down enough to notice them. As we celebrate Confirmation and Harvest Thanksgiving, may we make room for both realities: the things that weigh heavily on our hearts and the many gifts for which we can be grateful. God has not stopped being faithful. So let us pause, let us look around, let notice the gifts and simply say: Thank you, Lord. Pastor Hans-Peter von Fintel

St Pauls Stutterheim:

The Lutheran Church 2nd Hand Shop is open every Tuesday from 9am to 12noon. We desperately need second hand goods. Contact: Lynn Clarke for more information.



The ladies will meet on Wednesday the 15th September and on the 20th October 2026 at 10am the hall.

Confirmation and the Harvest

Confirmation



Thanksgiving celebrations will take

place during the
10.30am H/C service
4th October 2026

@ St Pauls Stutterheim.



Sunday the 1st November 2026 after the 10am Divine Service – we will be sharing a 'Bring and Share' lunch in the hall. All are invited.

Let us support our faith family – our congregation. For more information, contact the St Pauls Stutterheim Church Committee. Contact details on the back of the Newsletter.



Flower Duty: - St Andrews

06 September 2026 – Vera Johl

13 September 2026 – Confirmation & Harvest
Thanksgiving

20 September 2026 – Celeste Vosloo

27 September 2026 – Bettina du Buson

4th October 2026 – Doreen Hayter

11th October 2026 – Brigitte von Fintel

18th October 2026 – Pearl Coetzer

25th October 2026 – Vera Johl

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



Tea Duty @ St Andrews:

September – Confirmation & Harvest

Thanksgiving with a Bring & Share Lunch.

October 2026 – A Schlüter, A Fortmann, B du
Buson, S Hohls, B von Fintel & C Dörksen.

St Pauls Macleantown:

20th September 2026

10.30am Holy Communion Service
including the Confirmation of:
Aimee Mortimer and the Harvest
Thanksgiving celebration.

Maria Mortimer had the privilege
and honour of attending the
preaching training workshop in
George.



St Peters Komga

27th September 2026

10.30am Harvest Thanksgiving Service with Holy Communion.



25th October 2026 10.30am H/C Service

Family News:

Condolences:

- Stanley Klug (St Andrews) passed away on the 20th July 2026, our sincere condolences to his children Jacqui, Tracy, Peter and the extended family. "Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day."
- Our sincere condolences to Pastor HP, Brigitte and his extended family on the passing of his father. So nimm denn meine Hände...
- Ginny Schultz and extended family – condolences on the passing of her nephew Gary Wanckel.

Important Notice!

Dear members of the **Eastern Parish**, Pastor HP von Fintel has been called to St. Peters, Pretoria Lutheran Church and will leave us at the end of November 2026. The process has begun to advertise the pending vacancy for the parish. Once suitable candidates have been identified, the necessary interviews and possible visits to the congregations will be scheduled. Dr. Chris Johl, Chairman of the Parish Committee. (Eastern Parish consists of: St Andrews East London, St Pauls Macleantown, St Pauls Stutterheim and St Peters Komga.)

Christmas Market 2026

September 2026	
<u>06 September 2026</u> <u>14. Sunday after Trinity</u> Praise the Lord. O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Psalm 103:2	<i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Luke 19:1-10 Old Testament: Gen 28:10-19a(19b- 22) Epistle: Romans 8: 14 - 17 Gospel: Luke 17: 11 – 19
<u>13 September 2026</u> <u>15. Sunday after Trinity</u> Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7	<i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Genesis:4b-9 (10-14) 15 (18-25) Old Testament: Genesis same as above Epistle: 1 Peter 5:5b -11 Gospel: Matthew 6: 25 – 34
<u>20 September 2026</u> <u>16. Sunday after Trinity</u> Our Saviour Christ Jesus has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to Light, 2 Timothy 1:10	<i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: 2 Timothy 1: 7 - 10 Old Testament: Lamentations 3: 22 – 26, 22 - 25 Epistle: 2 Timothy 1:7 - 10 Gospel: John 11: 1&3; 17-27 & 38b - 45
<u>27 September 2026</u> <u>17. Sunday after Trinity</u> This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. John 5:4	<i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Matthew 15:21 - 28 Old Testament: Isaiah 49: 1 - 6 Epistle: Romans 10: 9-17 (18) Gospel: Matthew 15,21 - 28

October 2026	
<u>04 October 2026</u> <u>The Festival of the Harvest</u> The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. Psalm 145:15	<i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Mark 8: 1-9 Old Testament: Deuteronomy 8:7 - 18 Epistle: 2. Corinthians 9: 6 - 15 Gospel: Mark 8: 1 – 9
<u>04 October 2026</u> <u>18. Sunday after Trinity</u> He has given us this command: whoever loves God must also love his brother. 1 John 4:21	<i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Deuteronomy 30: 11 - 14 Old Testament: Exodus 20:1 - 17 Epistle: Ephesians 5: 15 - 20 Gospel: Mark 10: 17 – 27
<u>11 October 2026</u> <u>19. Sunday after Trinity</u> Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved. Jeremiah 17:14	<i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Ephesians 4: 22 – 32 Old Testament: Exodus 34: 4 - 10 Epistle: James 5: 13-16 Gospel: Mark 2: 1-12
<u>18 October 2026</u> <u>20. Sunday after Trinity</u> He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6: 8	<i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Mark 2: 23 - 28 Old Testament: Genesis 8:18 – 22 & 9,12-17 Epistle: 2 Corinthians 3:3 – 6 (7-9) Gospel: Mark 10:2 – 9 (10 -12) &13-16
<u>25 October 2026</u> <u>21. Sunday after Trinity</u> Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:21	<i>Liturgical Colour: Green</i> Sermon Text: Jeremiah 29: 1,4-7 (8-9) 10-14 Old Testament: same as sermon text. Epistle: Ephesians 6: 10 – 17 Gospel: Matthew 5: 38-48

31 October 2026

Reformation

For no-one can lay any foundation other than
the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1
Corinthians 3:11

Liturgical Colour: Red

Sermon Text: Matthew 10:26 – 33

Old Testament: Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

Epistle : Romans: 3:21 – 28

Gospel: Matthew: 5: 1 – 10 (11-12)

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 - Church Committee	0833832646
Dr. Christian Johl - Chairperson, Preacher	0834077937
Mrs Vera Johl - Minute Keeper, Convenor of Fundraising	0825763765
Mr Leslie Klug - House Visiting	0833578924
Mr Martin Köpke – Vice Chair & Maintenance	0722257048
Mrs Doreen Hayter – House Visiting	0836735589
Mr Markus Schlüter – Church Committee	0730296623
Mrs Lucille Jooste – Fundraising & House Visiting	0728308507
Mr Therrol Schwartz - Maintenance, Fundraising	0827055415
Mr Erald Hohls – Maintenance	0824438379
Mr Brian Sporke – Reader	0724334393
Sunday School: Renee Johl	0835543954
Lucille Jooste, & Catherine Collocott	
Organist:	
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

Church Committee

Mr Gavin Tessendorf, Chairperson	078 0426290	
Mr Jacques Weyer		083 555 3089
Ms Pearl Tessendorf – Treasurer		083 444 9099
Mrs Debbie van Huyssteen		082 712 8188
Dr L Trollope		

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
Sharon Eberhardt	086 415 1014
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