



# St Paul Lutheran Church, Blair Athol

*Living Jesus' Love*

*Welcome!*

*We are blessed to worship together at St Paul today and hope you know of God's nourishment as you receive His good gifts.*

**St Paul Lutheran Church, as part of the Lutheran Church of Australia, is committed to providing a safe church environment for children and young people.**

## Prayer of the Day

O God of Elizabeth and Mary, you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption in the coming of the Saviour. Make our hearts leap with joy, and fill our mouths with songs of praise, that we may announce glad tidings of peace, and welcome the Christ in our midst. Amen.



**And Mary said: 'My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.'**

**- Luke 1:46-47**

## Prayer Points

*Please contact the church office to have your prayer point included below.*

- That we like Mary may hear God's word, trust it and bear the fruit of the Spirit (Luke 1:38; 46b-48)
- That God will lead the church to keep the teaching of the gospel pure throughout the world, and give it faithful pastors to preach His word with boldness and power (Micah 5:4)
- God's mercy for all the nations of the world (Luke 1:52)
- With the Christ-child in view, God's protection for expecting mothers, care for all who have lost babies and blessing for those caring for children without parents (Matthew 1:24/Exodus 1:20-21)
- For the Spirit to do the work of the Gospel this Christmas at St Paul, that all who hear it may encounter Christ's salvation for them and be transformed for faithful living (Hebrews 10:10)

## Prayer Points Continued....

- For congregational families: Tullio, Timms, Sutherland, Stewart (Acts 16:31)
- For the sick or unwell and their carers, including Mel Bishop, Robert Coombe, Graeme Elphick, Ron Koelman, Roma Linke, Pam Mibus, Gina Mielke, Bobby Ray Miller Milne, Roy Minge, Karina Musimbi, Nick Urbon, Dale Voigt, Robert Walden and Cheryl Zucker (Isaiah 41:10)

## Christmas Helpers Wanted

After the service today we will be setting up the hall ready for the Christmas Eve service. If you can move chairs, decorate, hang lights, run power cords, fetch, carry or assemble we would love your assistance.

There are still a few gaps in the roster for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services, in the areas of projection, and the Lord's Supper on Christmas Day. If you could help in any capacity, please let Kylie know.

## Pre-Call Survey

As you are most likely aware Pastor Matt has accepted a call to Australian Lutheran College as a lecturer at a 0.5 full-time equivalent, which brings to a close his full-time call to St Paul Lutheran Blair Athol. Pastor Matt will be taking leave from after Christmas to late January prior to his commencement at ALC. This transition brings both a sadness in the loss and change for our congregation, but also great comfort and joy in how God has blessed Pastor Matt with this opportunity to serve within our broader church.

Working with the LCA SA/NT District office, a pre-call survey has been prepared to assist in guiding our congregation heading into 2025. The survey can be completed online at [www.tinuyurl.com/3s2a7j55](http://www.tinuyurl.com/3s2a7j55) or printed copies are available on the table in the narthex and can be returned to the labelled box. The survey will be open to complete until **Sunday 5th January**. Please note that the survey responses are confidential and will be collated by the Assistant Bishop for Mission, Pastor Stephen Schultz.

The results of the survey will be shared at a pre-call meeting organised for **Sunday 19th January** following our 9.30am worship and everyone is invited to attend. Pastor Stephen Schultz will facilitate this meeting.

We encourage your prayerful reflection and response to the survey as we share in this journey together in Christ.

Yours in Christ on behalf of Leadership Council

Brian Quick, Chairperson - St Paul Lutheran, Blair Athol

## Nominations Requested

Following the Annual Election and Finance Meeting held on 24/11/2024, congregation members are requested to prayerfully consider nominations for themselves or another member (with their consent) for the following very important positions:

### 1. District Convention of Synod

Two persons are required for a two year term, with District Synod set for 17-18 May 2025 at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Elections are required by 1st March. There is also a one day event in 2026. Delegates should hold, or obtain, a Working With Children Check and complete Safe Church Level 1 training. The online option takes about 2 hours.

### 2. Leadership Council

Two vacancies exist for casual membership. Commitment is a monthly meeting held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm.

### 3. Lay Readers

As we prepare for a period of Pastoral Vacancy, more members who are prepared to learn and run a Sunday service, perhaps on a bi-monthly basis is crucial. More information can be obtained from Brian, Tania or Dennis about this.

Please present your nominations to Anthea Uebergang or Brian Quick.

As advised, we have a congregation meeting scheduled on 19th January and it would be wonderful to present and vote on nominations at this time.

## Christmas Eve Offering: St Paul Emergency Welfare Fund

St Paul Blair Athol is blessed to be able to operate an Emergency Welfare Fund. So far in 2024 our congregation has gifted emergency assistance of \$1,362. This has been predominately for items such as trailer hire, petrol and car repairs. We have also made Coles 'groceries only' gift cards available for those in need. Following on from last year, Leadership Council agreed at our December meeting to direct our Christmas Eve offering once again to this important initiative. **Please consider how you can support.** In addition to the usual cash means, we will also have the square reader operative on Christmas Eve. Beyond that, donations can be made at anytime simply by marking your envelope or direct debit transaction 'Emergency Welfare Fund'. *'What do you have that you did not receive?' 1 Cor 4:7b*



## Electronic Giving

BSB: 704 942 Account Number: 100083145  
Account name: Enfield St Paul Lutheran Church REG Account

## Rosters and What's On

<b>This Week: 22nd December</b>	<b>9.30am</b>		<b>Readings</b>
Ushers	Voigt/Urbon		Micah 5:2-5a Psalm 80:1-7 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:46b-55
Greeters	Khosravani		
Projection	Jenke Family		
Readings/Prayers	D Voigt		
Communion	Nelson		
Coffee	J&M Williams		
<b>Next Week: 29th December</b>	<b>9.30am</b>		<b>Readings</b>
Ushers	Voigt/Urbon		1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Psalm 148 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52
Greeters	Timms, Stewart		
Projection	C Freeman		
Readings/Prayers	K Koelman		
Communion	NA		
Coffee	M Ziersch		

## Calendar

<b>Sunday 22nd December</b>	<b>Tuesday 24th December</b>	<b>Wednesday 25th December</b>	<b>Sunday 29th December</b>
9.30 am Service (HC)	7pm Christmas Eve Service	9.30am Christmas Day Service (HC)	9.30am Service

## Contact Us

Here at St Paul we welcome feedback, especially from children, young people and members of the Lutheran Church.

If you would like to share feedback or contact us for more information on our safe church activities, please visit the contact page on our website

<http://www.stpaul-church.org.au/contact.html>

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St Paul Lutheran School: <http://www.stpaulba.sa.edu.au/>

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