

We acknowledge those who were here before us, the first inhabitants of this place. We honour them for their custodianship of the land on which we gather today.

### St Paul's Stafford Uniting Church

(Webster Road)  
PO Box 5540  
Rode Shopping Centre  
Stafford Heights 4053

#### Supply Minister

Pastor Samantha McDonell  
(Sam will be in the office on  
Tuesdays and Thursdays)  
email address:  
minister@stpaulsstafford.org.au

#### Office

phone 3356 9465  
Tuesday and Thursday  
10.00 am – 3.00 pm  
e-mail address:  
admin@stpaulsstafford.org.au

### Welcome!

A very warm welcome is extended to all, including visitors to our website, and those following our worship services on Zoom  
Here is the Zoom link:

Join Zoom Meeting:

[Click Here](#)

### Pastoral Care Aims

We really want to show our Christian love and care for all our church family.  
You can help!

If you know of anyone who is sick or in need, please contact their Elder or Pastoral Carer

**A/c Name: UCA St Paul's Stafford.**  
**BSB 014-010**  
**Account No. 191608544**

**Containers for Change**  
**Scheme ID C10084307**

Check out our  
"St Paul's at Stafford" website at  
<https://stpaulsstafford.org.au/>



# St Paul's Newsletter



## Sunday 18 September 2022

9:00 am – Rev. Dr Peter Armstrong, Pastor Samantha McDonell,  
"Called for a Purpose"

**Scripture readings:** Luke 4:14-21; Matthew 28:16-20; John 15:9-17

### What's on this week:

**Today** 11.45 - 12 noon - Merry Maids meet at Stafford City Tavern for lunch

**Tuesday 20** Working bee (property committee)  
7:30 pm – Interim Leadership Group  
7:30 pm – Cuppa & Supper by Zoom

**Wednesday 21** Working bee (property committee)  
7:30 pm – Home Group at Lynne P's

## Sunday 25 September 2022

9:00 am – Pastor Samantha McDonell, Jillian Ross. "Responding to God's call"

**Scripture readings:** Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16;  
1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

### What's on next week:

**Wednesday 28** 7:30 pm – BibS by Zoom

### Called to others

As we continue to explore the Call of God for our lives and our church during this month, we find encouragement in the Gospel of Luke, in the life of Jesus. After spending a lengthy time in the wilderness without food or water, enduring both challenging physical elements and targeted spiritual attacks (Luke 3), Jesus returned to Galilee leaving the desert behind, in the power of the Spirit (Luke 4:14). Even Jesus endured challenging times – isolated and alone, hard-pressed on every side from natural circumstances and also spiritual pressures. In the wilderness his identity was challenged, his authority was challenged and his purpose was challenged. Yet it was the Spirit who led him into the wilderness and the Spirit who led him out of it!

It is God's Spirit who will lead us into the next season, out of the wilderness and into purpose. It is God's Spirit who will empower and anoint us for ministry, just as Jesus declared in Luke 4:18. When we are confident in our identity, when we know who we are as sons and daughters of God, when we know who called us and respond to that call with obedience, the Holy Spirit can work with us in our humanity, empowering us for ministry and mission.



Jesus knew, just as Isaiah had declared, that his mission was to proclaim good news and set the captives free. His mission was always for others! For the lost, for the poor, for the prisoners, for the oppressed - for others. This kingdom mission, this call to others, was given by Jesus to his disciples in Matthew 28:16-20, the 'Great Commission'. This call is also given to us, just as it was to the disciples of the early church, to go and make disciples, baptising them and teaching them to obey the commandments of Christ. As disciples of Christ, our call is part of God's kingdom mission, and his call has always been a call to others. May we know who we are in Christ, called according to his purpose, and may we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us as we go into the world, loving and serving others.

Ps Sam

## Vale, Queen Elizabeth II

*On behalf of the Uniting Church in Australia Queensland Synod, I join in the sadness of people across the globe as we honour the life and mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II. She has lived an extraordinary life through extraordinary times – a life of service, grace, courage, hope, and a deeply held Christian Faith.*

*She was baptised into Christ in the chapel at Buckingham Palace in 1926, and in her first Christmas broadcast in 1952, she prayed “that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life”.*

*She was deeply committed to her country and people and showed deep affection for the people of Australia throughout her reign. Our prayers are with her children and family that they may be comforted through these sad times and for King Charles III as he begins his reign in the midst of grieving for his mother.*

Andrew Gunton, Moderator

## Nominations needed

Nominations are invited to elect new Elders and Church Councillors to serve at St Paul's. Please prayerfully consider who might suit these roles. Nomination forms are available in the foyer or can be emailed to you again if you contact the Office. Forms require the signatures of two members and the nominee. Please return completed forms to Pastor Sam, Robyn R or the Church Office. Nominations close on **Sunday 25 September**.



## Dementia Action Week 19-25 September

Dementia Australia provides information and tips to encourage us to increase our understanding of dementia, and learn how to make a difference in the lives of people who are impacted – and to help eliminate discrimination.

Visit the website for details: <https://discrimination.dementia.org.au>

## Ba De Ya (for High Schoolers).

We will have an awesome three days starting 26 September at Cherside Kedron Community Church at 10am. There will be a sleepover on 27-28 September at Dunethin Rock Scouts Camp on the Maroochy River. More information at [moretonriverspresbytery.org.au/youth/ba-de-ya/](http://moretonriverspresbytery.org.au/youth/ba-de-ya/)

## Prayers for:

Our Church Family	Prayer Requests	Prayers for Local Community	Prayers for the Wider Church
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Daphne J</li><li>◦ Corrine R</li><li>◦ Thelma L</li><li>◦ Sam T</li><li>◦ Len W</li><li>◦ Jean &amp; Ron</li><li>◦ Bev R</li><li>◦ Enid H</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Kids Hope Children</li><li>◦ Sophie and her family</li><li>◦ Our Interim Leadership Group</li><li>◦ Those recovering from operations</li><li>◦ William H (Laura, John, Xavier)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ School chaplains</li><li>◦ School teachers and staff</li><li>◦ All in the medical profession</li><li>◦ The unemployed</li><li>◦ Those experiencing crisis</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ UCA Qld Synod</li><li>◦ Ministers and Ministry Staff</li><li>◦ Mark C</li><li>◦ Andrew G</li><li>◦ Heather den H</li><li>◦ Sandra Pe</li></ul>



**Happy Birthday** to Thelma L for 24 September.

## Ministry Update

This week we welcome Rev. Dr Peter Armstrong as we continue our month exploring the Call of God. Please continue to prayerfully consider nominations for Church Council and Elders, and to complete these nomination forms, bringing them back to the box in the foyer on Sunday, or sending them via email to the office. There is not much time left to get these nominations in - we need them in by 25 September.

From October 9 – 16 October, the Interim Leadership team is asking the congregation to participate in a week of prayer and fasting, as we lead to the elections of Church Council members and elders the following week. Let us set time aside, as one body, to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit during this important time.

On 16 October we will be having a congregational meeting to elect our new Church Council and Elders. This meeting will also be an AGM Meeting - for the calendar year 2021. The AGM report for 2021 will be available by the end of this month and will be sent out by the office. Thank you to those who have submitted reports and for those involved in ministry and mission in the life of St Paul's last year. We look forward in hope to the new season God is calling us to, and trust that the Holy Spirit will lead us into new and fruitful ministry and mission.

## Stall at Stafford City

Arrangements have been made for a Stall to be held at Stafford City Shopping Centre on THURSDAY, 13 OCTOBER. Please keep this date free. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated in whatever way you can help. Please see Beth for more details.



**The Roster is available in the foyer today**, and is also attached to this email.

Please take a moment to fill in the dates where you can help, or contact Mavis by office phone or email with that information.

**New helpers are welcome!**

## Thanksgiving Service for Nancy Hayes

Bruce & Libby H have advised that his mother Nancy's Thanksgiving Service has been rescheduled due to the coming Public Holiday. It will now be held next Friday, 23 September at 12 noon in the Garden Chapel at Albany Creek Crematorium. This will be followed by a light lunch at the crematorium.

## Annual Meeting

Please keep Sunday 16 October free for the Annual Congregational Meeting (for 2021), which will be held after the worship service. An election of Elders and Church Councillors will also take place at that meeting.

*I have no special revelation of God's will. My firm belief is that He reveals Himself daily to every human being, but we shut our ears to the "still small voice." We shut our eyes to the "pillar of fire" in front of us.*

Mohandas K. Gandhi