



# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ASHMORE

## Weekly Bible Readings

**Sixteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost**  
**Sunday 13 September**  
[Exodus 14:19–31](#) or  
[Genesis 50:15–21](#)  
[Romans 14:1–12](#)  
[Matthew 18:21–35](#)

**Monday 14 September**  
Genesis 18:20–32

**Tuesday 15 September**  
Genesis 33:1–16

**Wednesday 16 September**  
1 Samuel 26:5–25

**Thursday 17 September**  
Matthew 7:1–5

**Friday 18 September**  
1 John 3:16–24

**Saturday 19 September**  
Psalm 145:1–8

**Seventeenth Sunday  
after Pentecost**  
**Sunday 20 September**  
Exodus 16:2–15  
or Jonah 3:10 – 4:11  
Philippians 1:21–30  
Matthew 20:1–16



## Devotion

### Forgive. Forget. Forever?

*‘Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’*  
(Matthew 18:33).

So, this forgiveness thing?

Thinking about verses like today's reading, I straight away see how much work I need to do to forgive others. Over and over. And, even harder, to forget and move forward.

Well-meaning friends tell us that forgiving helps free us from the burden of whatever was done against us. Indeed, John Hopkins Medicine states:

*Studies have found that the act of forgiveness can reap huge rewards for your health, lowering the risk of heart attack; improving cholesterol levels and sleep; and reducing pain, blood pressure, and levels of anxiety, depression and stress.*

I expect all that's right. But you know what I find even harder than forgiving, and even forgetting? *Accepting* forgiveness.

Yes, I know that through the sacrifice of Jesus, my sins are forgiven and washed away (Isaiah 1:18) ... but surely they can't be forgotten?

For me, I can't shake the fear that our Father in Heaven is keeping track of all the times I have let him down, turned away, done wrong. Yes, you and I may be forgiven, but isn't there always the threat that our 'forgiven' sin is still lurking there – ready to be dragged out again and used against us the next time we fail and fall?

That's where Hebrews 10:17 clubs me over the head and demands I re-read today's Bible verses in this certainty: 'I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.' That's forever. That's me set free.

God is not holding the stain of my sin against me. Instead, I'm set free to give that same gift of forgiveness and grace to those who wrong me. Whether it's seven times, or seventy-seven times, or seventy times seven times.

What a blessing to have so many chances to model the amazing blessing of God's love, expressed in forgiveness, to those around me.

Forgive. Forget. Forever.

**Lord, thank you for forgiving me, even when I fall over and over again. Thank you for your amazing grace that 'forgets' my failings. Forever. Now, help me do the same for those who may fail me, so they can see the light of your love in my life. Amen**

Jonathan Krause

<https://www.lca.org.au/devotions/>



# Announcements



## Treasurer's Report – September 2026

Our financial position is currently showing an operating loss. However, this needs to be considered in light of several one-off and significant expenses incurred during the period, including the purchase of white goods, electrical work and painting of the manse.

We are very thankful for the one-off recent generous donation which has provided valuable support to our finances. We also appreciate the contributions received through Gumtree sales and donations towards white goods and manse painting, which have helped to offset some of our expenses.

While we need to continue to monitor our cash flow carefully, the current result is largely influenced by these unusual and non-recurring expenses. We remain grateful for the generosity and support of our congregation and for the many ways people continue to contribute to the work of our church.

Blessings

Desley  
Treasurer TLCA

## Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed until about **17 September** while we have it refurbished and then move back in.

Helen Teece, our **Church Office Administrator**, will still be available and working from home; however, **Sunday School, Craft** and other **meetings** will be either cancelled or held elsewhere.

Sorry for the inconvenience, but we are very excited about the new look! Thank you again, Trinity Lutheran College.

## September Man Space

- Will be held on Saturday, 19 September at 8.00 am
- Our host for this gathering will be Greg Specht.
- Join us for breakfast and a chat
- Please RSVP to Greg (0419 449 436) for catering purposes and for directions.



## Invitations

Pastor David Lazarus has asked invitations to be sent to current and past Lutheran clergy and Bishops, Gold Coast clergy from other denominations, Gold Coast politicians, our College families and to local Lutheran congregations. These have been sent, and RSVPs are coming in slowly. Together with our congregation's numbers, I estimate we will have 80-100.

## The Service

Firstly, Pastor David requested the Service to be live streamed for family in Indonesia and friends in South Australia. We too have members of our congregation travelling, so they will be able to tune in. The link will stay live virtually forever. Here is the link: <https://youtube.com/live/pg4kGfVluQU?feature=share>

He has received confirmation the Indonesian dancer will attend, performing a traditional welcome dance. Father Lazarus has asked for participation by the College and Encounter Lutheran Church in the Installation Service in recognition of our relationships. As such, Encounter children, and College students will play a role in the service (eg acolytes, college banner bearer) and we have arranged two items in the Service by them as well.

Pastor Michael Alfson will lead the first half of the Service, Assistant Bishop Ben Hentschke will give the sermon and then perform the installation rites. Regarding the music, Pastor David has chosen some special songs and we (the band) have taken time to learn these and introduce them to you. Thank you for your willingness to learn them. During the Service, there will be one song in English and Bahasa that Father Lazarus will sing with the band. Following the Service, Father Lazarus has asked for a whole group photo.

## Afternoon Tea

Lorraine and her team have been planning for weeks and the spread will be up at the Senior Learning Precinct, where the other functions have been. Follow the crowd. Thanks Lorraine.

Sue Specht



# Queensland Lutheran Giving (QLG)

Dear Saints,

Queensland Lutheran Giving (QLG) needs your prayer support please. I bring to your attention a need in our church, and I seek your commitment to pray into this need please.

Queensland Lutheran Giving (QLG) needs up to 5 more board members. QLG provides support to vulnerable people in times of need, but it also has other opportunities that need to be developed.

QLG is a Public Ancillary Fund and is a registered Charity (Not-For-Profit (NFP)), Deductable Gift Recipient (DGR), registered with the ACNC, with the LCAQD as the sole member (making it wholly owned by the LCAQD). We have several trusts set up under QLG with the option of adding more as the need arises.

The current directors have a plan to assist every congregation of the LCAQD to be able to help people in need in their own community, speaking directly into the LCAQD new Strategic Charter. The current QLG board needs support to develop QLG's capacity to achieve this goal.

To this end we are asking you, the members of the LCAQD, to:

1. Pray for the Directors of QLG and
2. Consider joining the QLG Board and/or tapping someone on the shoulder who you think fits the profile of person we are looking for to become a Director.

Following are the skills and experience mix we seek. Most people will not have all these skills and experience, but we seek a collective balance of these characteristics across the membership of the Board, as a balanced committee requires diverse technical and soft skills to respond to their responsibilities. So, if you have some of these skills and experience, please nominate. (you can download a nominations form by copying the following address into your web browser:

[https://static.ucareapp.com/static/lca/uploads/email/1339/attachments/1/2026\\_QLG\\_Director\\_Nomination\\_Form\\_v1.doc](https://static.ucareapp.com/static/lca/uploads/email/1339/attachments/1/2026_QLG_Director_Nomination_Form_v1.doc)

The ideal skills mix include:

- Legal qualifications: to help ensure our plans comply with our legal obligations.
- Project Management; we will need to define, develop, and implement several projects to enable the vision of the current board. Having someone with project management skills would be helpful
- Marketing and communications including:
  1. Social media engagement and management
  2. Web site/page development
  3. Marketing experience
  4. PR
  5. Advertisements
- Knowledge of current challenges that our congregations face in relation to community need
- Attention to Detail: Precision in considering and drafting documents that avoid ambiguity.
- Humble demeanour: Ability to engage in robust conversations while remaining humble and respectful.
- Previous Board or Committee Service: Familiarity with how boards/councils' function and the practical impact of governing documents "rules" on daily operations.

The ideal candidate should be able to dedicate several hours a week to different projects needing to be developed and implemented.

If you want to talk to someone, please call 07 3511 4000, take the prompts to the office of the Bishop and District and ask for the D.E.O (Trev).

If you know someone who could help this ministry of our Lord, please encourage them to consider nominating for the QLG Board. If you've never been on a Board or Committee, please don't be concerned, we have good mentors who can gently guide and lead you.

Blessings

Trevor Ruthenberg

District Executive Officer at Lutheran Church of Australia, Queensland District  
Secretary at LCAQD Nominations and Appointments Committee  
Secretary at Queensland Lutheran Giving

# Encounter Church Plant Update, Praise and Prayer Points



## **Praise and thanksgiving:**

1. Thank God 6 September's attendance of 20 people with an offering of \$382.
2. Praise God for the welcoming approach Encounter adopts to welcome "strangers".
3. Praise God for going before us to prepare the hearts and minds of those we meet each day so that we can share our encounters of God with them.
4. Praise God for his faithful guidance and rich blessings to Encounter.
5. Praise God for the first time visitors these past weeks.
6. Praise God for the Father's who attended Father's Day at Encounter.

## **Prayer requests:**

1. Pray for Sunday school, Kids For Christ (KFC) that it will:
  - Grow to 20 consistent attendances at Sunday School over the year.
  - Grow and dedicate 7 Sunday school leaders. We currently have 5.
2. Pray for Encounter Youth to continue to thrive and for the alumnus volunteers to continue to contribute.
3. Pray for a total of 20 members to join Encounter LC as members by the end of 2026. Ask for wisdom for Tala to approach regular attendees who are ready to commit to become Encounter members.
4. Pray for an average of 50 people attending Encounter service each week regularly.
5. Pray for the moving of the Holy Spirit in our college, and local community to prepare people for the gospel.
6. Pray for wisdom and spirit led sensitivity to follow up and contact the parents who visited Encounter services in the past.
7. Pray for Tala and Samuel as they plan to launch Junior Worship during Sunday School and Adult Worship time in Term Four.
8. Pray for good health, resilience and patience for the Ministry Support team members.

With thanks from  
Team Encounter

### **Church plant prayer meetings**

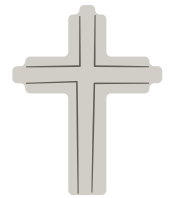
We meet online every Tuesday at 5 pm. Should you wish to join us in prayers to support this important outreach work, please email this prayer meeting administrator at [tseawong@hotmail.com](mailto:tseawong@hotmail.com) and you will be sent the zoom link to join us.





# Prayer Focus

Sunday 13 September, 2026  
Sixteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost



**WORSHIP & THANKSGIVING:** Thank you, God!

- Praise: God, you are good. Reflect on [Psalm 103:1-7, 8-13](#) the Psalm of the day.
- for the wonderful news that Graduate **Pastor David Lazarus** has been assigned to our congregation. We pray for **Pastor David, his wife Annie and children CJ and JC**, as they prepare for their move to Ashmore.
- for the Sundays after Pentecost: the Season of Growth, learning to step out in faith
- our Volunteers: those who carry out the various roles within our church services to make it happen
- for our Featured Ministry This Week: Coffee, Chat and Craft
- for Encounter Lutheran Church, our church plant. Bless **Chaplain Tala** and his team, and all the new ventures happening, including Sunday School, Adult Bible study group and Youth Fellowship. May God encourage all who are new to the Gospel.

## TRUST & CONFESSION

- Repentance: God, we need your help. Forgive us, Lord, for the times we have allowed the noise of the world to drown out your voice, and for when we have failed to love our neighbours as ourselves. Cleanse our hearts today and restore to us the joy of your salvation.

**COMPASSION:** God, we need Your help. We place our worries in your hands and pray for:

- For our Church Council and the TLC Going Forward group as they plan our future direction.
- Our Church Family: for members who have recently been in hospital.
- Health & Healing: For those experiencing pain or illness, those facing cancer, and those managing mental health challenges. Give them relief and the assurance that they are deeply loved. We pray especially for **Jan and Darryl; Fay; Jo-ann; and Josephine**.
- Our World: for an end to violence and a path to peace in the Middle East, especially in Israel, Palestine, Lebanon and Iran; also in Myanmar, Ukraine, Africa and other areas of conflict. We also pray for those involved in the flooding in Nepal. Be with those families who mourn loved ones who have died, comfort them. Strengthen all the emergency workers involved in the difficult work of recovery and restoration of the communities affected.

This week we pray for our members by name: **Darryl and Jan; Warren and Fay; Paul and Jo-ann.**

**Amen**

## OUR COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Any individual prayer requests may be sent to **Sue Fysh**, Prayer Chain coordinator.  
Ph 0413996204 email: [suefysh@bigpond.com](mailto:suefysh@bigpond.com)



# Coffee & Chat

with the Chaplain

Cotlew Campus

Tuesdays  
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

📍 Outside the café (next to the library)

*All are welcome! -*



**✝ DID YOU KNOW?** 🧑🏫

Every time you tap "Like" or write a quick comment on our Facebook page, you tell Facebook's system: "This is good news worth sharing!" That little click helps push our messages out to local people who might be looking for a spiritual home. We are at 45 followers and growing! Help us spread the word by finding Trinity Lutheran Church Ashmore public page on Facebook today. Like, comment, and share!

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61591743934216>

EST. 1974 FOLLOWERS



## Gold Coast Lutheran Churches

Have a look at what is happening around the Lutheran churches on the Gold Coast. This website is for all Gold Coast Lutherans. If you would like to have an event or something else added to the site, please contact Rob Fysh 0481207709.

Click on the following link to check it out:

<https://www.goldcoastlutheranchurches.org/>

Please consider a **Regular Electronic Transfer (RET)**.

LLL: Ashmore Trinity Lutheran Church:

BSB: 704942

Account No: 100217974 or

For your Cash offering - place in a sealed envelope and place in the "Offering Basket"

**Donations to Trinity Welfare Fund** may be made by direct transfer.

Account Name: Trinity Ashmore

BSB: 704942

Account No: 100217974

Reference: Trinity Welfare Fund

### Trinity Church Plant Donations

Whilst the Church Council has been awarded a grant to help meet costs of this mission, donations from individuals are also welcome. This can be done either through REG - earmarked to the Church Plant, or in an envelope with your Sunday offering, again marked as Church Plant.



**REG**  
REGULAR ELECTRONIC GIVING

WHEN YOU CAN'T  
**REG**  
CAN

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA  
Finance with a mission

[www.lca.org.au/REG](http://www.lca.org.au/REG)

# What's Happening this Month?

## September

| Mon        | Tue                                                                                                                                                     | Wed                                   | Thu                                                                                                                                                  | Fri                                                                                                                                                                   | Sat                                                                                                                                                         | Sun                                                                                                                     |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|            | <b>1.</b><br><b>Church Plant Prayer Meeting</b><br><br>see p.5 for details<br><br><b>Coffee &amp; Chat with the Chaplain</b><br><br>see p.8 for details | <b>2.</b>                             | <b>3.</b><br><b>Coffee, Chat and Craft Group</b><br>10.00am<br><br> | <b>4.</b>                                                                                                                                                             | <b>5.</b><br><b>Sister Space</b><br>9.00am<br><br>Host: Sue Fysh<br><br> | <b>6.</b><br>Trinity Worship<br>9.00am<br><br>Encounter worship 4.00pm                                                  |
| <b>7.</b>  | <b>8.</b><br><b>Church Plant Prayer Meeting</b><br><br><b>Coffee &amp; Chat with the Chaplain</b>                                                       | <b>9.</b><br><b>Manse Working Bee</b> | <b>10.</b><br><b>Manse Working Bee</b>                                                                                                               | <b>11.</b><br><b>Games and Chat</b><br>Trinity Southport Hall<br>10.00 am<br><br>   | <b>12.</b>                                                                                                                                                  | <b>13.</b><br>Trinity Worship<br>9.00am<br><br>Encounter worship 4.00pm                                                 |
| <b>14.</b> | <b>15.</b><br><b>Church Plant Prayer Meeting</b><br><br><b>Coffee &amp; Chat with the Chaplain</b>                                                      | <b>16.</b>                            | <b>17.</b>                                                                                                                                           | <b>18.</b>                                                                                                                                                            | <b>19.</b><br><b>Man Space</b><br>8.00am<br><br>Host: Greg Specht<br>see p. 2 for details                                                                   | <b>20.</b><br>Trinity Worship<br>9.00am<br><br>Encounter worship 4.00pm                                                 |
| <b>21.</b> | <b>22.</b><br><b>Church Plant Prayer Meeting</b><br><br><b>Coffee &amp; Chat with the Chaplain</b>                                                      | <b>23.</b>                            | <b>24.</b>                                                                                                                                           | <b>25.</b><br><b>Games and Chat</b><br>Trinity Southport Hall<br>10.00 am<br><br> | <b>26.</b>                                                                                                                                                  | <b>27.</b><br>Installation Service for Pastor David Lazarus<br><br>Trinity Centre<br>2.00pm<br>Afternoon Tea to follow. |
| <b>28.</b> | <b>29.</b><br><b>Church Plant Prayer Meeting</b><br><br><b>Coffee &amp; Chat with the Chaplain</b>                                                      | <b>30.</b>                            |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                         |