

## Pastoral

Here at St. Paul's the current Pastoral Team is very small. These folk wear the St. Paul's Pastoral Team badge and quietly go about serving us all. They do some of what you have seen in the film played on Sunday 18th but as a church we could do so much more if people were willing to commit and join the team.

My role as 'Pastoral Worker' is to coordinate and facilitate people to use their God given gifts within this ministry.

I also strongly believe in and value the Pastoral care taking place within our growth groups where folk are already in trusting relationships. If there are bigger issues that arise that a growth group feels unable to help with then of course myself and the leadership team can be called upon.

However, there are many folk who don't currently attend a growth group and so the Pastoral team needs to be bigger to reach out and care for these folk.

Current areas which the Pastoral Team are involved with are:

Lifts to and from church services

Visiting the sick and elderly who can no longer attend church

Organise flowers for the sick and new mums

Provide home cooked meals for new mums

Take home communions

Funeral visits and follow-ups

Support Paul with baptism visits or when a female is required

Numerous phone calls, e-mails and texts to offer support and encouragement

Listening to and sometimes referring folk on to professionals who need more specialised care

Being part of the welcome for people and helping them to stay connected to St. Paul's.

I acknowledge that much caring IS going on quietly behind the scenes by so many of you which I thank God for.

We are ALL called to love and care for one another, so I encourage you to take every opportunity to show love and care where God has placed you.

If you want to know more or have any questions, please do come and speak to me.

Dianne.

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