

## **Prayer Service Aims to Keep Hills Safe**

Church-goers from the Adelaide Hills joined emergency service members at Saint Mark's Lutheran Church in Mount Barker recently for a special combined prayer service dedicated to those keeping the Hills community safe.

Representatives of the SA Police, CFS and the SES provided prayer points for the Mount Barker Minister's Fellowship which holds bi-monthly ecumenical prayer services. Due to limited resources the SA Ambulance Service was unable to attend.

Common concerns were for the families of service workers and the safety of workers and volunteers faced with dangerous situations in the line of duty.

Mount Barker Minister's Fellowship secretary Tracey-Lee Cane said everyone had the chance to check out the emergency vehicles after the service and have a chat with their local emergency service personnel.

*"The response from emergency services was wonderful, with SA Police, the CFS and SES all providing emergency service vehicles at the event," she said. "Many of the services workers were moved by the concern and support they received from the local churches."*

*"We as a Minister's Fellowship are grateful to all emergency services and workers in the Mount Barker District and look forward to being able to better support them through more targeted prayer in the future."*

The Mount Barker Minister's Fellowship would like to invite all church communities across the State to join in similar events for our emergency services in recognition and support for them in the difficult and dangerous work they do to protect the wider community and we suggest an annual day of prayer for all emergency services and their workers.

## **The Mount Barker Minister's Fellowship**

The Mount Barker Minister's Fellowship meets monthly to help local Christian Churches to provide a united approach to serving the Mt Barker Community and surrounding towns. *"As a Fellowship, we are here to serve this Community. We meet quarterly to discuss business matters and monthly in between for prayer for our community and mission"* said Tracey-Lee Cane, Secretary of the Fellowship.

*"Twenty local congregations are represented from Mount Barker to Macclesfield, Meadows, Nairne, Echunga and Littlehampton. We respect our community leaders and are endeavouring to build and create operating partnerships within all sectors of this community."*

The Minister's Fellowship sponsors community events such as the annual Community Christmas Carols event in partnership with local businesses and the Mount Barker District Council for the whole community, the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast to encourage partnerships between local government, business and the Christian community and raise funds for schools ministry, and gift wrapping in the Central Mall before Christmas.

The Mount Barker Minister's Fellowship also works with a hospital chaplain, six Pastoral Care Workers at seven primary and high schools and has been recognised by the Schools Ministry Group (SMG) with *'The Leadership in Community Partnerships Award'*.

The Minister's Fellowship also has a very positive relationship with the Local Federal Member of Parliament, receiving monthly prayer requests from her office for circulation to churches in the region.

But none of this would be possible without the basic purpose of the Minister's Fellowship which is to serve the Mission of God through a spirit of unity, fellowship and common purpose between all Christian communities and denominations in the region.

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For further information contact the Chairperson of the Mount Barker Minister's Fellowship, Pastor Mike Stoodley at [mike@hfc.org.au](mailto:mike@hfc.org.au) or Pastor Matthew Carratt at [mcarratt@adam.com.au](mailto:mcarratt@adam.com.au)