

CHAPLAINCY WEEK



TAS Chaplaincy

20 - 27 MAY 2018

STRONGER



TOGETHER



2018
**INFORMATION
PACK**

CHAPLAINCY WEEK

20–27 MAY 2018

This is your week! It's your chance to tell your school community, chaplaincy supporters and the wider community what makes chaplaincy great, and why it is such a vital service.

The theme for the week in 2018 is STRONGER TOGETHER. Chaplaincy is most effective when there is a team approach: committee, chaplain, churches, school and community working together for a successful chaplaincy service. We can't have successful ministry in schools without chaplains and we can't have successful chaplains without community support. Make Chaplaincy Week 2018 about raising awareness and raising funds. Both are essential for the ongoing success of chaplaincy in Tasmanian schools.

The key to a great Chaplaincy Week is creativity. This pack provides a number of suggestions, as well as some practical advice, but at the end of the day your Chaplaincy Week may look nothing like what we imagined – and that's fantastic.

You know your school, and you know your community, so take advantage of those connections, church contacts, business partners, supporters and opportunities in your area to make the most of this great week. Think outside the box and engage others to help you ... contact your local chaplain or one of SU's regional staff for advice or direction. Chaplains can often feel that they are alone in the school, but this week is a reminder that they couldn't do what they do without a huge support network.

Thank you so much for your efforts, your commitment and your heart to see young lives nurtured.


Ruth Pinkerton

SU Tas CEO

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AIM OF CHAPLAINCY WEEK

To raise awareness of and promote the possibilities for chaplaincy and to provide a fundraising opportunity for chaplaincy in schools in Tasmania.

Chaplaincy Week is an excellent opportunity to promote your chaplaincy service and to raise awareness of the ongoing need for resourcing including financial support, volunteers and prayer support. Speak to your local chaplain or one of SU's regional staff if you have ideas for Chaplaincy Week. They may be able to point you in the right direction for making your idea work.

IN A LOCAL CHURCH

Chaplaincy Week needs local advocates or champions to make things happen in their local church and/or school.

- **Start talking to ministers/pastors of local churches**, asking them if their Sunday service (on either 20th or 27th May) could incorporate a chaplaincy theme.
- **Invite your school chaplain to visit local churches**. Have them share chaplaincy stories with church congregations and to seek prayer, volunteers and financial support.
- **Partnership Support Cards** – school chaplains could make their Partnership Support cards (cards which invite a response of giving, praying or general engagement for chaplains and the work of SU) available to the congregation.
- **Church newsletters** – ask churches to promote Chaplaincy Week and your particular school chaplaincy program. In the weeks leading up to Chaplaincy Week, provide them with:
 - ✓ Chaplaincy Week dates – Sunday 20th to Sunday 27th May
 - ✓ A list of your own particular Chaplaincy Week activities that may need prayer or participation from local churches
 - ✓ The need for financial support
 - ✓ Other prayer points



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IN YOUR SCHOOL

BREAKFAST CLUB

- If your chaplaincy supports or facilitates a breakfast program at your school, then this is an opportunity to showcase what you do. Use it as an opportunity to publicise Chaplaincy Week to the local media and to community leaders.
- Invite community leaders (mayor, councillors, state and federal politicians), business leaders, local celebrities and parent supporters to help serve breakfast to students. Encourage a crowd to attend. You can find the address of your MPs office at www.aec.gov.au. Click on Electorates, then Electorate Search. Email community leaders with the following information:
 - Chaplaincy Week dates – 20th to 27th May
 - The time, day and location of the school breakfast
 - How long you would like them to attend
 - What you would like them to do during the breakfast (eg cook and serve sausages)
 - What you would like them to do after the breakfast (eg say a few words to students and any media present about the value of school chaplaincy)
 - Other Chaplaincy Week activities you may be doing.

Invite them to speak to the local media about the value of school chaplaincy (remember to follow your school's guidelines regarding visitors).



CHAPLAINCY CHALLENGE

Choose a challenge that suits your chaplain, then challenge your school to reach a certain funding target. Each challenge could be as varied as the students' imaginations... and the chaplain's courage. Chaplaincy Challenges may be conducted in front of the school assembly, on the sports oval, or with a local radio station. You could hold one Chaplaincy Challenge each day, or just one for the week.

Here are just a few examples ...

- **MIRACLE MARATHON** – Chaplain to run laps of the school oval - competing with students or staff members.
- **SWIM STAR** – Chaplain to swim laps of a pool –sponsoring the chaplain an amount per lap - competing with students or staff members.
- **BRAIN DRAIN** – Hold a trivia competition.

Make sure you follow all of the required safety protocols and permissions for these events. Be clear on who is providing insurance cover if it is not a 'school' event.

ART COMPETITION

Talk with classroom teachers and have students enter the Chaplaincy Week Art Competition. It is open to all primary students. Create an A4 piece of artwork on the topic STRONG AND COURAGEOUS. Prizes include a \$50 book voucher and \$100 towards chaplaincy in your school.



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IN YOUR SCHOOL (CONTINUED ...)

DAY OF HONOUR

Choose one or all of the following activities to thank and honour school staff (and/or parents who are heavily involved in the school community) for their service to young people and families in the community. Involve students, showing them how and why they should honour school staff.

- Host a morning or afternoon tea for staff. Involve local churches to help provide food.
- Present the principal and staff with a certificate of appreciation signed by the School Chaplaincy Committee and the chaplain.

SCHOOL EVENTS

- Organise a talent quest or music celebration for students.
- Hold a special school assembly to acknowledge the work of chaplaincy in the school.

REGIONAL SCC NETWORKING EVENTS

School Chaplaincy Committees are invited to attend the Regional Networking Events to connect with people from other schools in a similar role. These events will be held in Chaplaincy Week so note the dates below.

- **North:** Tuesday 22 May in Launceston
- **NW:** Wednesday 23 May in Penguin
- **South:** Thursday 24 May in Hobart

PRAYER BREAKFAST OR FUNDRAISING DINNER WITH YOUR SCC

- These types of events will require plenty of planning so you will need to work with others.
- You might also like to try hosting a trivia night - with funds going to the local chaplaincy.

RADIO STATIONS

- Your local community or Christian radio station may be willing to help raise the profile of School Chaplaincy during Chaplaincy Week through daily interviews and 'Chaplaincy Challenges'. Make contact with them early to see if they are interested.

SCHOOL NOTICEBOARDS

- Book the school noticeboard (at the front of the school) to promote Chaplaincy Week. Wording could be:

CHAPLAINCY WEEK 20th to 27th May.

Ask for this to start a week prior to Chaplaincy Week.



**CHAPLAINCY
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START NOW!

- Lock Chaplaincy Week into the school and church calendar this week – if you haven't already done so.
- Choose your Chaplaincy Week events and activities.
- Discuss your plans with those who need to know.
- Start promoting your Chaplaincy Week events and activities.



APPROVALS

- Chaplains should ensure that all school-based activities are approved by the school principal.
- Plan to take photos with the appropriate approvals in place.
- Chaplains should ensure that activities are planned in consultation with your SCC.



TALKING TO THE MEDIA

- Our relationship with the media is important. By speaking to them we can
- Clear up any confusion about chaplaincy.
 - Champion the cause of caring for children and young people.
 - Celebrate the great work happening in communities.

Chaplaincy has wide community support but can be controversial for some people, so it's important to remember to only comment on your local situation. Never feel pressured to comment on wider chaplaincy issues and feel confident to direct them to contact the CEO for anything off-topic.



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