

Together



Sunday 26 May 2024

Minister

Rev. Greg McConnell
0404 046 697

Administration Assistant

Katy Burfield
4945 4655 - office
Tues 9am - 5.30pm
Fri 9am - 5.30pm

Website

www.stlukesbelmont.com.au

Email

belmontuca@gmail.com



We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon this land

Worship services

Sunday 26 May	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell
	5.30 pm	Mrs Alison Gill
Sunday 2 June	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	5.30 pm	Rev Greg McConnell

Narla Hostel services are held each Friday at 3.45pm

Dinner Church—every Sunday at 5.30pm

Dinner Church is a casual service for all ages with a message, a catered meal, prayer, discussion and more. Alison Gill will be giving the message. Renee Keast will be sharing and the Keast Family will be catering.

Lectionary readings for the coming week

1 Sm 3:1-10,11-20
2 Cor 4:5-12

Ps 139 1-6,13-18
Mk 2:23-3:6

Onsite internet: St Luke's Guest - no password required



Welcome to St Luke's Uniting Church, Belmont



A place for everyone

A church where you are welcome regardless of who you are, where you are from, and whom you love

Pray for those known to you who are in hospital,
not well or recuperating

Bank transfer option for your weekly offerings

If you would like to transfer your offerings into the St Luke's Uniting Church giving account the details follow.

All transfers are anonymous.

BSB: 634 634

Account No. 100028307

Account name: St Luke's Uniting-Giving Acc

Thank you for supporting the St Luke's Uniting Church!



Calendar

Monday 27 May

Activity Centre meet from 9.30am with Games this week

Tuesday 28 May

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Community & Outreach Team meeting at 7pm

Thursday 30 May

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Friday 31 May

Playgroup meet from 10am

Just Kids Term 2 dates

May 26

June 9, 23

July 7



Presbytery Prayer Diary

The Hunter Presbytery has produced a Prayer Diary which includes prayer points for every congregation in the Hunter Presbytery over the next few months. Each Sunday every congregation will be praying for one of our other congregations. By praying together we can encourage one another in mission as we grow in faith and unity and develop understanding and relationships across our region.

This week's Presbytery Prayer Point is Jesmond Park Uniting Church

Jesmond Park Uniting Church is an active community of 40-50 regular worshipers with an age range from young children to elderly adults. Our 9.30am Sunday services take a variety of formats from traditional to a more modern and informal café church. Regular activities include Happy Feet (walking group), Faith@5 (young people's church on Saturday evenings run in conjunction with New Lambton Uniting Church), Stitch and Chat, Meditation Group and high school youth group (also run in conjunction with New Lambton). We have just committed to combine with Shortland/ Wallsend Uniting Church to create a single Church Council while retaining two separate congregations. At present we are without a minister but are ready to embark on the process of finding a suitable person who will work with both congregations.

Prayer: We pray for the continuing development of a working relationship with Shortland/ Wallsend Uniting Church as both congregations learn to operate in a new era of joint governance and cooperation. We also pray for our growing relationship with New Lambton Uniting Church as we journey together along the path of young people's ministry through Faith@5 and youth group ministry. We seek wisdom and discernment as we further develop our mission plan and begin developing a Church Profile with the aim of finding a Minister who will help develop our ministry here. Amen

1 Information session requiring your attendance - Tuesday, 28th May at 7pm

In September, we have another opportunity for outreach, connecting with our community and raise funds in the form of a Family Fun Day.

An information session is planned for **Tuesday, 28th May at 7pm** in the gathering area.

So far, 9 people have indicated they will be attending and 4 have said they are unable to attend but are in support of the event. We need more people to attend and be involved - the event will take group of people at St Lukes willing to put up their hand and help in whatever capacity they can. (please be assured this event will require a lot less man-power than the Carnival).

At the info session we will be ...

- Finding out more about the initial planning that has taken place for the day that includes indoor and outdoor activities plus inside stalls (x 4) run by St Lukes, outside market stalls run by community members, a BBQ, characters and more.
- Discussing the ways in which the event will connect with our new playgroup and St Luke's pre-school
- Hear about how we plan to use leftover carnival items
- Provide feedback and suggestions for the day

- Think about ways in which you can be involved
- Help decide if the day will go ahead on in September/October.

*Please RSVP your attendance to me via text (or call) on 0435 653 531 by Sun, 26/5.

*If you cannot attend the info session, it is important you let me know that you are in support of this event so that we can contact you when needed.

Thankyou in advance,

Alison Gill - Leader/St Luke's Community and Outreach Team

2 **Uniting Church National Assembly Prayer Chain**

The Uniting Church National Assembly Prayer Chain commenced on Pentecost Sunday and goes to 22nd June. Congregations all over Australia will be Uniting in Prayer and praying for two other congregations. St Luke's has been asked to pray for the congregations of Warradale in South Australia - a suburb of Adelaide and in the City of Marion, and for St Luke's Uniting Church in Bothwell – Tasmania. Bothwell is a small historic town about one hour north of Hobart. We have not been able to make contact with Bothwell for their prayer needs. Warradale has told us that they not have any particular prayer needs, but over the few weeks have had a lot of funerals and so their prayer request is "To keep our community and congregation in your thoughts and prayers while they are dealing with the loss of loved ones and community members".

3 **Friendly Foodies**

The Friendly Foodies will be meeting for lunch at Belmont 16s at 12 pm on Sunday, 2 June. Everyone is welcome to come, and bring your friends, family, relatives and next door neighbours! Please let Alison Cleary know if you need a lift (ph 0421 185 080).



4 **Unite / All Families—'Soup on Sunday'**

Reaching Out to Everyone in their 30's—60's

Join Cathy & Michael Turner on Sunday 16th June at their home for lunch and a catchup after church. Optional backyard activities to do as well. We may be sitting outside so please bring appropriate clothing. Arrive between 11:30am and noon at the Turner's - 18 Carawa St, Blacksmiths *RSVP to Cathy via text: 0402 432 522 or email:ccjam@bigpond.com by 9/6.



5 **Thank you**

This past week has been National Volunteers Week and so we want to recognise and thank all those who volunteer in a wide variety of voluntary roles at St Luke's. Too many roles and too many people to name thank you to all! We do appreciate you.

thank you!

6 **Tropical Trivia Night—Update**

On Monday, our 2nd Blind Auction concluded with a total of 11 bids placed for the 4 items that were on display. A HUGE thankyou to those who supported the auction by placing bids.

The following people won the bidding ...

The Retreat Accommodation voucher: Katy Burfield

Total Tennis Voucher (Belmont & Mt Hutton): Robyn Lockwood

Blooms the Chemist (Belmont Citi Centre) Pamper

Basket: Bronwyn Dunn

Juanita's Pizza, Belmont + Drinking Glasses: Marj Hicks

A total of \$478 was raised. This means, when added to the trivia night funds - our grand total raised is **\$6979.89!**

Appreciation Certificates: It is important that we continue to show our gratitude to the many businesses that support our fundraising efforts each year. We can do that by purchasing and using products and services they provide (and thanking them while there) and... by dropping off an "Appreciation Certificate" to them, in the weeks following our event.

As there are over 50 of them to deliver over the coming weeks, we are asking for members of the congregation to help distribute them by taking some today from the fundraising table in the gathering area.

They are sorted into suburbs/areas so you can do a few at the one time.

Thanking you in advance!

St Luke's Community and Outreach Team

Rom 8:12-17 NIV

Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

John 3:1-17 NIV

Jesus Teaches Nicodemus

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.