

Together



Sunday 30 June 2024

Minister

Rev. Greg McConnell
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Website

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Email

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Administration Assistant

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



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 30 June	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell
	5.30 pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 7 July	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	<i>No Dinner Church this week</i>	

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. This week Greg is giving the message, with Eldrene sharing and Alison catering.

This will be the last Dinner Church for this term.
It will re-commence on Sunday 28 July for Term 3.

Lectionary readings for the coming week

2 Sm 5:1-5,9-10	Ps 48
2 Cor 12:2-10	Mk 6:1-13

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 1 July

Activity Centre meet from 9.30am with a Motor Rules talk today

Tuesday 2 July

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Church Leadership Team meeting at 7.30pm

Wednesday 3 July

Fellowship meet from 9.30am

Thursday 4 July

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Friday 5 July

Friday Plus Bible Study meet from 9.30am

Playgroup meet from 10am

Just Kids Term 2 dates

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 Maitland - Rutherford Uniting Church

Rutherford UC is a small congregation with a big heart. We meet for worship every Sunday and during the week we have a variety of groups which meet for fellowship, exercise, painting, sewing, and Kids' Bible Study. We are part of the newly developing Maitland Area Uniting Churches Mission and 3 of our members are lay worship leaders who serve congregations from Tarro to Dungog. We have been gradually growing over the last ten years, but most of our members are retirees and our current leaders are tiring. Our church is ideally placed adjacent to the Rutherford shopping precinct and our vision is to eventually become a 'shop front for God' to the community.

Prayer: We ask you to pray that God will bless our congregation and enliven our faith and witness by the power of his Holy Spirit to draw more people into the faith and love of our fellowship. Pray that God will strengthen and sustain our current leaders and raise up new leaders to take over their responsibilities. And ask God to bring ordained ministry agents with passion and vision to lead the Maitland Area Uniting Churches into our new future. Amen.

1 **Frontier Services Bush Chaplains Appeal**

Rev John Flynn established the Australian Inland Mission and 112 years later Frontier Services continues supporting people living in rural and remote Australia which is why the work of the Bush Chaplains is so important.

Frontier Services Bush Chaplains Appeal envelopes are available and can be placed with the offering to assist Frontier Services keep the Bush Chaplains on the road.



2 **Road Rules**

On Monday 1st July at 10am at the Activity Centre, Warren James (ex policeman, driving instructor and examiner) will be speaking on road rules and driver testing. There will be a time for questions. Everyone welcome to come.



3 **Fellowship**

The next meeting of Fellowship will be Wednesday morning the 3rd July, 9.30 with a cuppa followed by the meeting. As usual we would welcome visitors to join with us.

4 **Friday Plus Bible Study**

Friday Plus Bible Study group will meet on 5th July at 9.30am in

the Gathering Area. We enjoy tea/coffee before a 10am start. Please join with us for a time of sharing, prayer and for this week a study based on Acts chapter 7. Any enquiries to Jan Kellahan 0424 139 100.



5 **Community and Outreach Team**

The next meeting for St Luke's Community and Outreach Team will meet at 12 noon on Thursday, 11th July in the church. Everyone is invited to join us at these meetings. *If it is your lunch time - BYO lunch. *Alison Gill - Convenor*

6 **MEDIA RELEASE: Uniting Church Synod of NSW/ACT Statement on Federal Opposition Nuclear Proposal**

The Moderator of the Uniting Church Synod of NSW/ACT, Rev. Mata Havea Hiliau, is calling for urgent, real and meaningful action on climate change in the wake of the Federal Opposition's reckless nuclear energy proposal.

"This is a disappointing distraction from the urgent need to transition our country to clean and affordable renewable energy," Rev. Mata Havea Hiliau said.

"The proposal, which appears very light on detail, will only further delay the transition to renewables and lock us in too many more years of reliance on harmful fossil fuels, that are already proving devastating to our planet. "If this proposal actually eventuates – in a decade or two, and longer – our communities will be suffering from ever more dangerous extreme weather events and islands in

the Pacific will be inundated by rising sea levels.

"As a faith leader, and a daughter of the Pacific, I know what's at stake if we don't address this climate crisis urgently.

"We are seeing in real time, the unfolding impacts of the climate crisis, not only for our communities here in Australia but for the people of the Pacific, whose livelihoods, homes and culture are under immediate threat.

"Realistically, this proposal would mean another 20 years of climate inaction which will prove absolutely devastating for our climate and those on the frontlines of this climate crisis – First Nations and Pasifika communities.

"These are the communities that contribute the least to this issue, but will be harmed first, hardest and longest by climate change and today's proposal will lock them into this fate.

"Climate change remains one of the most important social and moral challenges in human history and we have lost too much time on pointless political debate," Rev. Mata Havea Hiliau said.

Uniting NSW.ACT's Head of Media and Advocacy Alice Salomon said: "We strongly support moves for COP 31 in 2026 to take place in Australia and the Pacific. And the world will be watching us.

"I urge our communities not to get distracted – we need climate action now and the solutions to a safe climate future are within our grasp.

"We have readily available, reliable and cost-saving renewable energy solutions.

"We have the blueprint and the tools to help safeguard a positive and hopeful future for all - right now, today "We must transition without delay to clean, cheap renewable energy in Australia - we don't have a day to wait," Alice said.

7 **Community Garden: updated meeting times**

Winter Season: Tuesdays 9.00 – 11.30 & Thursdays 9.00 – 11.30

We would also like you to save your coffee grounds, washed egg shells, garlic skins, fruit and vegetable scraps, tea bags without tags and string and grass clippings. There are labelled containers near our scarecrow Pumpkin Pie that was made by the Pre School children.

We have our next Monthly Working Bee on **Saturday 6th July, 2024**. We hope to remake some of our older garden beds, as well as oil and finalise the setting up the wicking beds. There are tasks for all levels of fitness. All our welcome.



The Song Sisters Winter Concert

Conducted by Kim Sutherland OAM
Featuring Terence Koo on piano

Bringing the joy of music in a not to be missed concert!
New songs and some old favourites.

SUNDAY, 30 JUNE | 2PM
ADAMSTOWN UNITING CHURCH

Tickets - \$15 or \$10 (concession)

Book online at trybooking.com/CNECV or at the venue





Lake Macquarie, It's time to prepare for extreme weather

EmergencyRedi™ FREE Workshop

Working together to prepare for disasters

Date: 2nd July 2024

Time: 6pm-8pm

Venue: Belmont 16s Sailing Club

This workshop will help you to prepare for emergencies. It provides you with an introduction to emergency preparedness, helps you to start your own emergency RediPlan, and gives you the information and tools to continue preparing yourself, and those you care about, for emergencies. As part of Help Nation, this workshop will also help you learn about your local risks.

Registration is FREE but essential.

Contact: Karen Maloney 0428 634 272

2 Samuel 1:1,17-27 NIV

David Hears of Saul's Death

After the death of Saul, David returned from striking down the Amalekites and stayed in Ziklag two days.

David's Lament for Saul and Jonathan

David took up this lament concerning Saul and his son Jonathan, and he ordered that the people of Judah be taught this lament of the bow (it is written in the Book of Jashar):

"A gazelle lies slain on your heights, Israel. How the mighty have fallen!

"Tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon, lest the daughters of the Philistines be glad, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised rejoice.

"Mountains of Gilboa, may you have neither dew nor rain, may no showers fall on your terraced fields. For there the shield of the mighty was despised, the shield of Saul—no longer rubbed with oil.

"From the blood of the slain, from the flesh of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back, the sword of Saul did not return unsatisfied.

Saul and Jonathan— in life they were loved and admired, and in death they were not parted. They were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

"Daughters of Israel, weep for Saul, who clothed you in scarlet and finery, who adorned your garments with ornaments of gold.

"How the mighty have fallen in battle! Jonathan lies slain on your heights. I grieve for you, Jonathan my brother; you were very dear to me. Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of women.

"How the mighty have fallen! The weapons of war have perished!"

Mark 5:21-43 NIV

Jesus Raises a Dead Girl and Heals a Sick Woman

When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him. And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'"

But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house

of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"

Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him.

After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha koum!" (which means "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.