

Together



Sunday 14 July 2024

Minister

Rev. Greg McConnell
0404 046 697

Administration Assistant

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

Website

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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 14 July	8.00am	Rev Tom Anderson
	9.45am	Rev Tom Anderson
	<i>No Dinner Church this week</i>	
Sunday 21 July	8.00am	Pastor Kim Langford
	9.45am	Pastor Kim Langford
	<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 will re-commence on Sunday 28 July for Term 3.

Lectionary readings for the coming week

2 Sm 7:1-14a	Ps 89:20-37
Eph 2:11-22	Mk 6:30-34,53-56

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

Tuesday 16 July

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Thursday 18 July

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Friday 19 July

Friday Plus Bible Study meet from 9.30am

Please note that there is no Playgroup during school holidays.

It will resume on Friday 26th July

Just Kids Term 3 dates

tba



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 - East Maitland Wesley Uniting Church East Maitland is a congregation of between 25 and 35 regular worshippers. Our services are a blend of Zoom and face-to-face services. During Covid, we commenced Zoom services, and this has continued to be a very important part of our worship as it enabled us to reconnect with people who were no longer able to get to worship services, for a variety of reasons, as well as maintaining contact with our regular members. During Covid we increased our church membership, welcoming several new families to our congregation. These people have become active members. The Fellowship Group continues to provide meals for Carrie's Place, a local Support Group for people involved in Domestic Violence and Homelessness. A fortnightly Newsletter is produced and distributed.

Prayer: The ongoing worship services, including the Zoom component, as this will be offered to people in the other centres. The 'Open Table' gathering, led by Rev Dr Rod Pattenden, targeting people under 60, and held monthly on a Saturday afternoon / evening, including a shared meal. The work of the Leaders' Group as they discuss, plan and implement the components of East Maitland's Mission Plan.

1 The Friendly Foodies

The next Friendly Foodies lunch will be at the Gunyah Hotel on Sunday, 14 July at 12 pm. Please let Alison Cleary know if you need a lift. See you there!



2 Soup and Slice Sundays



Our very popular Soup and Slice Sundays are back on Sunday 4th August and Sunday 18th August 2024 after each of our services when a great variety of soups and slices will be sold for \$5 each. For this to be successful we need cooks for both soup and slice. Any variety that you wish to make. Please write your name on the sheets on the back table with your name and variety of soup or slice. Any questions to Jean Thirkettle or Jenny Mathieson. Soup containers and slice boxes are available for you to take. Also available are labels. Please mark your soups or slices with the ingredients used. Also, if any of your cooking has been frozen, please clearly mark on them that it has been frozen. Thanks for your help!

3 Friday Plus Bible Study

Friday Plus Bible study group will meet in the gathering area on Friday 19th July at 9.30am. We are continuing to study the events following Pentecost in Chapter 8 of Acts and see the results of the persecution of believers and the ministry of Philip. Please join us for tea/coffee followed by sharing, prayer and Bible study.

Any enquiries to Julie Killeen on 0427 505 874 or Jan Kellahan 0424 139 100.



ST LUKE'S COMMUNITY GARDEN



An enthusiastic community group has established a community garden at the St Luke's Uniting Church Belmont North. The aim is to grow produce which can be shared with the community.

Winter Seasonal Meet Up Times:
Tuesdays & Thursdays
9.00am - 11.30am



**MORNING TEA IS PROVIDED. PLEASE
WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHES**

**Further information:-
Kylie 0417 273 778 or
Marilyn 0408 431 737**



MONTHLY WORKING BEES

1st Saturday of each month



4 **Community Centre Improvements**

Over the last week or so, Michael Turner and Peter Hudson have reorganised the furniture storage areas in the Community Centre to ensure that the tilt tables, large and small plastic tables and chairs can all be accommodated. The kitchenette in the Laxton Hall has been reorganised and tidied. Excess items have been removed and stored in the basement. This work will enable all furniture to be stored away as required to ensure a safe environment for the Playgroup and the Dance classes.

The other project which Michael and Peter have been working on is to improve the drainage between the soft fall play area and the storage shed at the end of the Community Centre. The grassed area has been waterlogged due to constant rainfall and a damaged downpipe. While the downpipe has been repaired by a plumber the cost for remediating the drainage problems would run to thousands of dollars. In order to avoid this cost, Michael and Peter have dug through the turf, laid drainage pipes and covered the area with sandy loam to improve drainage in this area.

We thank Michael and Peter for reorganising the physically moving all the furniture in the Centre and for digging through layers of mud in the rain this week. We are very grateful!





5 Air Conditioning Units for the Gathering Area

The air conditioning units will be installed in the Gathering Area on Tuesday. The equipment and installation is funded by a NSW Government Community Building Partnership Grant. The air conditioning will be greatly appreciated as we experience a long and cold winter.

Greg Anderson

6 Safe Church Workshops

Information has been received about two workshops to be held in The Hunter Presbytery this year. One at Garden Suburb Uniting Church on Saturday 24th August and then at Morpeth Uniting Church on Saturday 12th October 2024. It is a Uniting Church requirement that all leaders attend one of these workshops every three years. If you are in any leadership position or involved in any work with children and either have not ever attended a workshop or have not done so for three years, then we ask that you attend one of these. Information is available on the back table for you to take and register. Note: The Garden Suburb workshop has now reached its capacity of 50 people and all you can do is contact the Safe Church Unit and ask to be put on a waiting list, but that does not guarantee you a spot. Any questions to Jenny Mathieson.



7 Margaret Jurd College Food Pantry Appeal

Margaret Jurd College is a Uniting Church School at Shortland for students with special needs who cannot attend main stream schools. They have a food pantry that can be accessed by students and their families. Last year St Luke's had a food appeal and our donations were much appreciated by the College. Over the next two Sundays – 14th and 21st July donations of non perishable food items may be placed in the box provided. If you would prefer, a cash donation may be made by placing it in an envelope clearly marking it and placing it in the offering bag. We will then buy food to go into our food basket. There can be no glass containers or tins with ring pulls or sharps and no aerosols. Suggested suitable items are: **Food** - soup, pasta, noodles, biscuits, rice, sauces, cereals, UHT milk, ready pantry/microwave meals. **Personal hygiene items** – roll on deodorants, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste and toothbrushes, female sanitary items, washing-up liquid, toilet rolls. Thank you for your support.



2 Samuel 6:1-5,12b-19 NIV

The Ark Brought to Jerusalem

David again brought together all the able young men of Israel—thirty thousand. He and all his men went to Baalah in Judah to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the Name, the name of the Lord Almighty, who is enthroned between the cherubim on the ark. They set the ark of God on a new cart and brought it from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab, were guiding the new cart with the ark of God on it, and Ahio was walking in front of it. David and all Israel were celebrating with all their might before the Lord, with castanets, harps, lyres, timbrels, sistrums and cymbals.

Now King David was told, “The Lord has blessed the household of Obed-Edom and everything he has, because of the ark of God.” So David went to bring up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with rejoicing. When those who were carrying the ark of the Lord had taken six steps, he sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf. Wearing a linen ephod, David was dancing before the Lord with all his might, while he and all Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sound of trumpets.

As the ark of the Lord was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord, she despised him in her heart.

They brought the ark of the Lord and set it in its place inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before the Lord. After he had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord Almighty. Then he gave a loaf of bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins to each person in the whole crowd of Israelites, both men and women. And all the people went to their homes.

Mark 6:14-29 NIV

John the Baptist Beheaded

King Herod heard about this, for Jesus’ name had become well known. Some were saying, “John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him.” Others said, “He is Elijah.”

And still others claimed, “He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago.”

But when Herod heard this, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!”

For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, whom he had married. For John had been saying to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she was not able to, because Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled; yet he liked to listen to him.

Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests.

The king said to the girl, “Ask me for anything you want, and I’ll give it to you.” And he promised her with an oath, “Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom.”

She went out and said to her mother, “What shall I ask for?” “The head of John the Baptist,” she answered.

At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request: “I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter.”

The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John’s head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, and brought back his head on a platter. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. On hearing of this, John’s disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.