

Together



Sunday 25 August 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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I Am
The Bread of Life



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 25 August	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 1 September	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	5.30pm	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. Rev Greg McConnell will be giving the message and Meredith will be sharing. Greg Anderson and Eldrene March will be catering.

Lectionary readings for the coming week

Song 2:8-13	Ps 45:1-2,6-9
Jas 1:17-27	Mk 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

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 26 August

Activity Centre meet from 9.30am with games this week

Tuesday 27 August

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Thursday 29 August

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Friday 30 August

Friday Plus Bible Study meet from 9.30am

Playgroup meet from 10am

Just Kids Term 3 dates

Aug 25

Sept 8 & 22



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 Muswellbrook Trinity Uniting Church

Muswellbrook Trinity Uniting Church meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, with a regular attendance of anywhere between around 8 to 15 people. We don't have our own Minister, or even Lay Preacher, and have to borrow whoever is available from near and far in the valley for each service. We are mostly in our 70s, long term members of the church and we all feel like family. We are visible in our community through a couple groups who rent our hall on a regular basis, we donate the use of our hall to the local U3A throughout school terms and also donate the use of the kitchen and the hall every week to the local Community Kitchen, in which we have an active representation as volunteers.

Prayer: We pray for our congregation, our leaders in our faith and our efforts to grow our congregation, to extend our love and guidance in the community, maintain our buildings and remain a place of welcome and hospitality in the community. Amen.

1 Unite / Families - Dinner with the Two Greg's (& Wendy!) Reaching out to everyone in their 30's—60's

Enjoy a catch up over a catered two course meal at Rev Greg's house - 6 Narla Road, Belmont North at 6.30pm, Saturday August 31st. Cost \$20 per person. RSVP to Greg A via text: 0412 010 170. 19 people are booked in so far! Please rsvp today if you are keen to join them.

2 Hunter Presbytery Gathering

An invitation is extended to all to attend the next Presbytery Gathering to be held at Salamander Bay Uniting Church on Thursday 29 August 2024, commencing with morning tea at 10am. The speaker will be Rev Graham Perry - The Hunter Presbytery Minister. BYO lunch.

3 Friday Plus Bible Study

On Friday 30th August Friday Plus Bible study group will be looking at what took place when the Apostle Peter visited the home of Cornelius, a non-Jew, and how he explained his actions when he returned to Jerusalem. This story is found in Acts 10: 23--11:18. You are welcome if you wish to join us for this time of sharing, prayer and study.

We meet in the Gathering Area at 9.30 for tea/coffee and aim to finish by 11.30am.

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



Family Fun Day & Markets in The Trees

Saturday 7th September 9-2pm

The Family Fun Day & Markets in the Trees is

- a brand-new event for St Luke's – Let's give it a try!
- an event for all ages to enjoy...

For the adults: church stalls, market stalls & entertainment including The Marching Koalas at 11am.

For the kids: Games, a toy stall and lots of activities

Counting down to the day...just 2 weeks to go.

Today:

The Home Cooking Stall is always a favourite at fetes, carnivals and fairs and we know our congregation has some wonderful cooks!

Feel free to take some of the packaging items home today, so that it is ready for transporting and selling baked items at the Family Fun Day. Cooking can be dropped to the community centre between 1pm - 5pm on Friday 6/9 or before 8:30am on the day-7/9.

Stalls: Thank you to everyone who has offered to be either on a stall or for other necessary jobs on the day.

- If you haven't put your name down then please do, this will allow some of our helpers to have a break. Thanks!
- Due to the expected large crowd that will be attending on the day, the Community and Outreach team decided that another food/drinks stall will be needed. Therefore, a simple café type stall will be run from the community centre kitchen selling coffee, tea, milkshakes, takeaway pies and some treats for kids.

- We would like someone to take some photos on the day. Let us know if interested

Market stalls: now 15 stalls confirmed.

Please continue to ...

- Advertise the day to anyone you are in contact with.
- Donate any unwanted toys, puzzles, books etc for the Kids Biz stall – tub provided in gathering area
- Collect flat cardboard or plastic containers for kids to transport/take home, their finished plaster of paris items in. Approx 10cm x 10cm or bigger. Place them in the box provided. In the gathering area
- If you sew, you might like to make some items for the Homecrafts Stall – bags, plate holders, placemats, baby items etc

Thankyou to everyone that is working behind the scenes in the lead up to the day – wrapping items, prepping floats, sewing & handcrafts, purchasing items, prepping the grounds, baking etc – we are a great church!

Setting up on Friday 6th : From 1pm onwards there will be a few jobs that need to be done. Putting items onto stalls, setting up tables & chairs, 1 gazebo, buttering bread etc. Please add your name to the sign up sheet if available to help.



In summary...

Please keep the Family Fun Day in your prayers – that it will be a wonderful outreach and that the funds raised will benefit our church and community.

The fundraising table in the gathering area has information about the day.

If you have any questions regarding this day, please email Alison Gill: a.gill@optusnet.com.au or

Jenny Mathieson: jennyandray@bigpond.com

5 Invitation

Invitation to attend a 'New Ventures Gathering' with Rev Dr Karina Kreminski on Thursday 5th September from 9.30am to 12 midday at Adamstown Uniting Church for those from all congregations in The Hunter Presbytery who are interested in exploring Fresh Expressions of the Church in the Synod and in developing new forms of mission and worship. Karina has been an innovator and pathfinder in doing things differently. Register with Rev Dr Rod Pattenden: Pattenden@bigpond.com

6 Thank you!

Thank you to all those who cooked and bought soups and slices over the past two Soup and Slice Sundays. \$705.90 was raised. A wonderful result!



FAMILY FUN DAY

ALL AGE
EVENT!

& MARKETS IN THE TREES

SATURDAY 7th SEPTEMBER

9AM-2PM



ST LUKE'S UNITING CHURCH COMPLEX - NARLA RD BELMONT NORTH



HOME COOKING

Cakes, Biscuits, Slices,
Sweets, Jams, Pickles
& more

DON'T MISS

11am - Marching Koalas

KIDS: **bring your teddy** &
march with the band

(followed by Teddy Time with Meri)

12pm - Guide Dog Puppies

1pm - Kids Gardening Workshop
& meet our giant walking
veggies!



KIDS ZONE

\$2 Games
Plaster Painting
Lucky Dips
Face Painting



FOOD & DRINKS

including "Bluey" inspired treats!



HOMECRAFTS

including bargain priced
original paintings



TOYS

Pre-loved & lots to
choose from!



MARKET STALLS

"Only markets in
the Belmont area!"

Lots of stalls selling both new
& second-hand items



Grab a bargain wandering through our large,
grassy reserve area!

STALL BOOKINGS AT: www.trybooking.com/CTXGC



1 Kings 8:1,6,10-11,22-30,41-43 NIV

The Ark Brought to the Temple

Then King Solomon summoned into his presence at Jerusalem the elders of Israel, all the heads of the tribes and the chiefs of the Israelite families, to bring up the ark of the Lord's covenant from Zion, the City of David.

The priests then brought the ark of the Lord's covenant to its place in the inner sanctuary of the temple, the Most Holy Place, and put it beneath the wings of the cherubim.

When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the temple of the Lord. And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled his temple.

Solomon's Prayer of Dedication

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in front of the whole assembly of Israel, spread out his hands toward heaven and said:

"Lord, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way. You have kept your promise to your servant David my father; with your mouth you have promised and with your hand you have fulfilled it—as it is today.

"Now Lord, the God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father the promises you made to him when you said, 'You shall never fail to have a successor to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your descendants are careful in all they do to walk before me faithfully as you have done.' And now, God of Israel, let your word that you promised your servant David my father come true.

"But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! Yet give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy, Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, 'My Name shall be there,' so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.

"As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name— for they will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm—when they come and pray toward this temple, then hear from heaven, your dwelling place. Do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.

John 6:56-69 NIV

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Many Disciples Desert Jesus

On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?”

Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you? Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life. Yet there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them.”

From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

“You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”