

Together



Sunday 8 September 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 8 September 8.00am Rev Greg McConnell
9.45am Rev Greg McConnell

There is no Dinner Church this week

Sunday 15 September 8.00am Rev Greg McConnell
9.45am Rev Greg McConnell
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.

There is no Dinner Church this week

Lectionary readings for the coming week

Prv 1:20-33 Ps 19
Jas 3:1-12 Mk 8:27-38

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 9 September

Activity Centre meet from 9.30am with Talking Point this week

Tuesday 10 September

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Thursday 12 September

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Friday 13 September

Friday Plus Bible Study meet from 9.30am

Playgroup meet from 10am

Just Kids Term 3 dates

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.

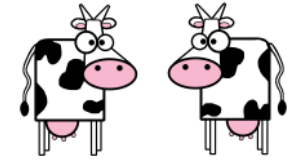
This week's Presbytery Prayer Point is Singleton – Branxton

Singleton - Branxton Church meets each Sunday in Singleton at 9.00 a.m. and at Branxton at 5.30 p.m. We have recently adopted a Mission Plan with some achievable goals identified for 2024 that provide opportunities for our congregation to come together to better connect with each other and to better connect with those in our community who may be searching for a 'spiritual home'.

Prayer: We pray for our congregation to continue to walk in love and grace, fulfilling the two great commandments "Love the Lord our God with all our heart, all our mind and all our strength, and to love our neighbour as ourselves". Amen.

1 Cows For Cambodia Lunch

You're invited to come to a simple lunch to hear the latest news and support the charity Cows for Cambodia.



Cathy & Michael T volunteered with the charity last year and will be returning again later this year.

During the lunch you will hear about some of the great work that this Australian charity performs in Cambodia.

When: Friday 20th September at 12:30pm

Where: Gathering Area of the church.

Cost: \$20 per person (any extra donations for the charity will also be gratefully received).

If you wish to attend, please add your name to the sign up sheet at the back of the church or contact Jean T on 0418 214 199 or Cathy T on 0402 432 522.

The final day for booking into the lunch will be Sunday 15th September.

2 Friendly Foodies

The next Friendly Foodies lunch will be at Windale Bowling Club at 12pm on Sunday, 15 September.

Come along and enjoy lunch with a great group of people from our Church.

Please contact Alison Cleary (ph 0421 185 080) if you need transport.



3 **Friday Plus Bible Study**

Friday Plus Bible Study group will meet again this Friday September 13th. We continue in Acts chapter 11:1–24. You are welcome to join us in our study of the spread of the gospel in post Pentecost days. We see how God is using those who respond to the prompting of the Holy Spirit and the results that follow.

We meet at 9.30 for tea/coffee before a 10am start and aim to finish by 11.30am. Enquires to Julie Killeen 0427 505 874 or Jan Kellahan 0424 139 100.

4 **News**

Joan McGoldrick has moved into the Hostel at Whiddon Village, 10 Gibson Street, Belmont and has settled in well. Our love and our prayers surround her.

5 **Thank You**

Thank you to Alison Gill for her work and leadership in the organisation of the Family Fun Day and Markets in the Trees.



James 2:1-17 NIV

Favouritism Forbidden

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favouritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbour as yourself," you are doing right. But if you show favouritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Faith and Deeds

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

Mark 7:24-37 NIV

Jesus Honors a Syrophenician Woman's Faith

Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret. In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet. The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter.

"First let the children eat all they want," he told her, "for it is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

"Lord," she replied, "even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."

Then he told her, "For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter."

She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Jesus Heals a Deaf and Mute Man

Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis.

There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him.

After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!"). At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."