

Together



Sunday 1 October 2023

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



DID THE BAPTISM OF JOHN COME
FROM HEAVEN,
OR WAS IT OF HUMAN ORIGIN?

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 1 October	8.00am	Mr John Nowland
	9.45am	Mr John Nowland
Sunday 8 October	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

There is no Dinner Church this week due to school holidays, however, it will re-commence again next Sunday night 8th October at 5.30pm . All ages welcome!

Lectionary readings for the coming week

Ex 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20	Ps 19
Phil 3:4b-14	Mt 21:33-46

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 3 October

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Wednesday 4 October

Fellowship meet from 9.30am

Thursday 5 October

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Just Kids - Term 4 Dates

tba



1 **Unite/All Families—Gourmet Sausage Sizzle**

Reaching out to everyone in their 30's—60's

October 15th, 11.30am at Community Centre (stay on after the 9.45am service if you attend that day).

A casual and relaxed opportunity to catch up with others while trying out a variety of tasty sausages (including vegetarian), rolls, salads and drinks.

Cost \$10 pp. RSVP to Alison Gill via text 0435 653 531 by 11/10.



2 **The Voice**

The Hunter Presbytery has provided all congregations with a Uniting Church perspective on The Voice in preparation for the referendum on 14th October. Copies are available for you to take on the table in the foyer.

3 **Fellowship**

A reminder that Fellowship will meet Wednesday 4th October at 9.30am commencing with a cuppa, and as usual we welcome

visitors!



4 **Listening to First Nations and Celtic Voices Pilgrimage**

Rev Ruth Harvey, Leader of the Iona Community is about to commence an extensive tour of Australia to listen, learn and share - starting in Perth, from Friday 29 September. Throughout her pilgrimage she will be accompanied by Brooke Prentis, Aboriginal Christian Leader and Lisa Wriley, Co-Leader of Wellspring Community Australia.

Here are some of her interactions - **with Ruth coming to Newcastle on Sunday 29th October to preach at Jesmond Park Uniting Church at 9.30am.**

Reflections on Wadjenup (Rottnest Island) W.A

Nyungar Elder Neville Collard will Welcome to Country and share stories about the history of Wadjemup. Ruth will share conversations, reflections and prayer.

At the Ngoolaark Pavilion, Mooro Katta—Kings Park

On Saturday September 30, there will be an indigenous morning tea with the Madjitil Moorna Choir, to listen to and share stories and contribute to a community artwork about how and why we care for creation.

Care for Creation in South Australia on Tarntanya, Kaurana Country

On Sunday, October 1, Ruth Harvey will preach at Blackwood Uniting Church, Coromandel Parade, Blackwood.

The Iona Community is an international, ecumenical Christian movement working for justice and peace, the rebuilding of community and the renewal of worship.

5 St Luke's Community and Outreach Team

The next meeting for this team will be held on Tuesday 17th October at 4pm in the gathering area.

**This date replaces Wednesday 4th October that was originally planned for the meeting*

Items for the agenda include Project Blessing (hampers) and fundraising plans for 2024.

If you are someone that would like to help, use your gifts etc in this area, please come along to the meeting.

Have a question or want to find out more? Call Alison Gill 0435 653 531.



6 Older Persons Sunday

Today has been designated by the Uniting Church in Australia as Older Persons Sunday. Today we think of all the older people in our congregation and give thanks for them and for the contribution they make to St Luke's. Pray for each of them today. Particularly remember and pray for those who are no longer able to attend worship and activities.

7 St Luke's Pastoral Care Team

There will be a meeting of the Pastoral Care Team leaders held in the gathering area on Tuesday 24th October 2023 at 1.30pm. This will be an opportunity to meet together for an update .

8 Subanen Project

Do you remember the Subanen Project St Lukes supported 11 years ago? This week I got great news from Joy Balazo in Josephina, Philippines. All of the original families who came to the project have now become self sufficient and able to buy land and houses and have progressed out of the Project and into their own properties, fully self sufficient. The children have all received an education and have now moved into study or work.

St Lukes raised \$4,800 to build 2 of the houses in that project. The families, who had been forced off their land by developers were living as swatters and living very rough before being provided with these homes (which had proper toilets) and they became part of the Project. These families were mostly indigenous people of the country - Subanen.

This is a really good news story but the story will still go on as the Centre will continue to provide for new people.

Currently they have large sheds of poultry and are one of the biggest suppliers of eggs, as well as still growing maize, other vegetables, coffee and cacao and many tropical fruits.

This was not 'a hand out' but 'a hand up' project that we can be proud that we were a part of it.

Thank You St Lukes!

Eldrene March



9 Thursday Bible Study Update

Currently, we are looking at Bible characters and discussing the following questions:

Why are they in the Bible?

What lessons can we learn from that person's life?

Following on, we will discuss the topic of judgement and how we are to understand its meaning in our lives today.

We meet each Thursday at 1.30pm in the gathering area with an open invitation to new people to join us.

Enquiries: Barbara Bell



10 St Luke's Prayer Chain

If you would like to be a member of St Luke's Prayer Chain, then please contact Jenny Mathieson: 4946 8143 or email:

jennyandray@bigpond.com

Being a member of the prayer chain means receiving any prayer requests that come in from anyone and adding that prayer request to your prayers. If at any time any member of the congregation has a prayer need and would like it put around the prayer chain, please contact Jenny. No prayer request is ever put around the prayer chain

without the permission of the person wanting prayer.





You are invited to a

Fashion Show

Warm Blankets for Everyone

Venue: St Luke's Uniting Church Hall,
6 Narla Road, Belmont

Date: Saturday, 7th October

Time: 2-4pm

Bookings and payments: contact Rebecca Wett - 0477 292 794
rebeccawett@tpg.com.au

\$30 includes
afternoon tea,
lucky door prize

Raffle prizes

- Affordable Women's Clothing
- Available in sizes 8-26
- Purchase clothing on the day
- EFTPOS available

Donna-Lou

The mobile clothes that come to you

To book a parade for your group:

Ph: 0407 433 326

Email: cheryl@donna-lou.com.au

www.donna-lou.com.au

Exodus 17:1-7 NIV

Water From the Rock

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarrelled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.”

Moses replied, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?”

But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?”

Then Moses cried out to the Lord, “What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.”

The Lord answered Moses, “Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.” So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the Lord saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

Matthew 21:23-32 NIV

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.”

So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’

“‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

“Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.

“Which of the two did what his father wanted?”

“The first,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.