

# Together



Sunday 8 October 2023

## Minister

Rev. Greg McConnell  
0404 046 697

## Website

[www.stlukesbelmont.com.au](http://www.stlukesbelmont.com.au)

## Email

[belmontuca@gmail.com](mailto:belmontuca@gmail.com)

## 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 8 October	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 15 October	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 commences again for this term tonight, 8th October at 5.30pm. Rev Greg McConnell will bring the message, Mackenzie will be sharing and Jenny will be catering. All ages welcome.

## Lectionary readings for the coming week

Ex 32:1-14	Ps 106 1-6,19-23
Phil 4:1-9	Mt 22:1-14

**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

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**Pray for those known to you who are in hospital,  
not well or recuperating**

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### 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 October***

**Activity Centre** meet from 9.30am with Talking Point at 10am

### ***Tuesday 10 October***

**Quirky Quilters** meet from 10am

### ***Thursday 12 October***

**Thursday Bible Study** meet from 1.30pm

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### **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 **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 .



## 4 **Rev Ruth Harvey**

The Hunter Presbytery is to receive a visit from Rev Ruth Harvey, leader of the Iona Community – a minister of the Church of Scotland and a Quaker. Ruth is touring Australia in October for a Wellspring/Iona 'Care for Creation' Listening pilgrimage to First Nations and Celtic voices. She will be walking on country, taking part in dialogue with First Nations Christian leaders in several states.

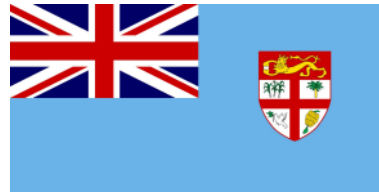
Details of Ruth's pilgrimage are available on the Wellspring Community website under 'Events'. Events in Sydney and the Blue Mountains are accessible to Hunter people.

In Newcastle Ruth will be preaching at **Jesmond Park Uniting Church, 4 Robert Street, Jesmond at 9.30 am on Sunday 29 October**. The service will include a 'Hallowing' service for Helen Weavers who has completed the two- year new members program to become a full member of the Iona Community. All are welcome to the service.



## 5 Volunteering in Fiji

Cathy and Michael had an enjoyable and worthwhile time volunteering in Fiji in August. They spent two weeks



in a team of seven setting up and running temporary health clinics in villages all around Fiji. Diabetes is very common in Fiji.

Currently around 30% of the population have diabetes and there are also many people in Fiji living with diabetes who may not even know it because they don't have the symptoms. Fijians usually only go to the doctor if they have an issue and very few go to have any health screening checks. So during the visit to each village we checked any adults who wished to take advantage of our services for Body Mass Index (height, weight and waist measurements), blood sugar and blood pressure. The team also provided advice for healthy living and a referral to their local doctor, hospital or village nurse if necessary. While in Fiji we were fortunate to be able to experience village life by staying for four days with a Fijian family. We also stayed in a resort for a few days while we conducted health checks for more than 200 of the resort staff. Michael spent their third week in Fiji assisting the maintenance team at a local low-cost housing facility in Lautoka. At the end of the week they had installed louvre windows in the community hall where previously there had just been chicken wire. Unfortunately, Cathy picked up a virus while in Fiji so only volunteered on the Monday of the last week doing some data entry and spent the rest of the week sleeping! We found the Fijians to be very welcoming with a great sense of humour. If you have any questions or wish to hear more, Cathy & Michael are happy to talk about their experience.

May the Father's hand keep you from stumbling,  
the footprints of Jesus give you confidence to follow,  
and the fire of the Spirit keep you warm and safe  
in your walk with God this day.

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## **Exodus 20:1-4,7-9,12-20 NIV**

And God spoke all these words:

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

"You shall have no other gods before me.

"You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

"You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work,

"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

"You shall not murder.

"You shall not commit adultery.

"You shall not steal.

"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour.

"You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour."

When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die."

Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning."

## **Matthew 21:33-46 NIV**

### **The Parable of the Tenants**

"Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

"The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said.

"But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

"Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?"

"He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

"'The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
the Lord has done this,  
and it is marvellous in our eyes'?"

"Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they knew he was talking about them. They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.