

Together



Sunday 15 October 2023

Minister

Rev. Greg McConnell
0404 046 697

Administration Assistant

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

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*Go to the streets and invite
everyone. Matthew 22:9*

*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 15 October	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 22 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 is a casual service for all ages with a message, a catered meal, prayer, discussion and friendship. This week Rev Greg McConnell will bring us a message and Paul Smart will be sharing. Alison Gill will be catering.

Lectionary readings for the coming week

Ex 33:12-23	Ps 99
1 Thes 1:1-10	Mt 22:15-22

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 16 October

Activity Centre meet from 9.30am with Book Club at 10am

Tuesday 17 October

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Community Outreach Team meeting at 4pm

Thursday 19 October

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Friday 20 October

Working Bee from 8.00am

Friday Plus Bible Study from 9.30am

Just Kids - Term 4 Dates

tba



1 **Working Bee**

A working bee to tidy up our grounds will be held on Friday 20th October from 8am weather permitting. If you could spare some time to come along that would be greatly appreciated.



2 **St Luke's Pastoral Care Team**

St Luke's Pastoral Care Team will meet on Tuesday 24th October at 1.30pm in the gathering area.

3 **Friday Plus Bible Study**

Friday Plus Bible study group will meet again on the 20th October at 9.30 in the gathering area. Greg will be leading the study. Please consider joining us for this time of fellowship and study. Any enquiries to Julie Killeen -- 0427 505 874 or Jan Kellahan -- 0424 139 100, or just turn up on the day.

4 **St Luke's Community Outreach Team**

St Luke's Community Outreach Team will meet on Tuesday 17th October at 4pm in the gathering area. Agenda items will include

this year's Project Blessing (Christmas Hampers) and fundraising activities for 2024. Anyone interested in the work of this team are warmly invited to come along. You will be very welcome.



5 **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.



6 **Our Sympathy and our Prayers**

Our sympathy and our prayers are with the family of Barbara Atkins. Barbara passed away on Thursday afternoon. She was a much loved member of the 9.45am Service and has been involved in the life of the congregation in a variety of ways for many years. She has served as an Elder, a Bible Study group member and leader as well as a member of the Food For Thought Study group. Barbara was also on the morning tea roster and more recently, a member of the Adult Fellowship. Funeral arrangements will be advised when available.

7 **Interested in Something New?**

Our Thursday Bible Study Group is wondering if a new group for people interested in 'listening to' (rather than 'contributing to',) the Bible being unpacked with an easily explained simple format, is an area to be explored further?

This group would be more a Bible Listening/Teaching one, rather than a Bible Study Group with an aim to help people discover new truths which can be applied to our lives today. To find out more, speak to one of the following people; Jeanne McClusky, Betty Wares, Barabara Bell.



Exodus 32:1-14 NIV

The Golden Calf

When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him."

Aaron answered them, "Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me." So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron. He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, "These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt."

When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf and announced, "Tomorrow there will be a festival to the Lord." So the next day the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterward they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt. They have been quick to turn away from what I commanded them and have made themselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. They have bowed down to it and sacrificed to it and have said, 'These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.'

"I have seen these people," the Lord said to Moses, "and they are a stiff-necked people. Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will make you into a great nation."

But Moses sought the favour of the Lord his God. "Lord," he said, "why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out, to kill them in the mountains and to wipe them off the

face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance forever.'" Then the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

Matthew 22:1-14 NIV

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

"Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'

"But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

"Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless.

"Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "For many are invited, but few are chosen."