

Together



Sunday 19 November 2023

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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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 19 November	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 26 November	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. Rev Greg will bring us the message this week, there will be sharing, and catering will be a shared effort this week.

Lectionary readings for the coming week

Ex 34:-11-16,20-24	Ps 100
Eph 1:15-23	Mt 25:31-46

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

Monday 20 November

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

Tuesday 21 November

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Thursday 23 November

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Just Kids - Term 4 Dates

November 19

December 10



1 **St Luke's Annual Elections**

Nominations for ten elected members of St Luke's Leadership team (Church Council), and one elected member as the representative to the meetings of the Hunter Presbytery close today! Nomination forms are available on the back table. Please place completed forms in the box provided.



2 **Offering Envelopes**

New Offering Envelopes are available on the table at the back for you to take today. Thank you to everyone who contributes to St Luke's, whether it be by Direct Debit or weekly offerings.

3 **St Luke's Mosaic Project**

As you are aware St Luke's supports a wider work project each year and the current project is for Mosaic, the organisation that works with and assists Refugees in the Hunter area. Our commitment is \$6,000 per year. If you would like to make a donation towards this project, you may do so by using one of the special envelopes on the table or in an envelope marked "Mosaic Appeal" and place in the offering bag. Your help would be greatly appreciated. .



4 **St Luke's Congregation - Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday 3rd December at 9.15am (in-between the two morning services). At this meeting, annual reports will be presented and the election of ten members for our Leadership Team (Church Council) will be held.

5 **A Grant for the Quirky Quilters**

The Quirky Quilters are delighted to have been awarded a grant of \$3,500 from the IMB Bank Community Foundation for our quilting group. It's a great opportunity to continue our work in providing some comfort and joy to people in the community.

We are grateful to the IMB Bank Community Foundation, who is supporting 54 other projects this year.

The money will be used to buy fleece and flannelette to back the quilts we make.

We are currently concentrating on making children's quilts, which will be transported to Coraki in late November to provide Christmas presents to children living in pods (temporary accommodation made from shipping containers), following the floods in 2022.

Proudly Supported by



Zonta Club of Hunter Newcastle Inc and Lake Macquarie City Council present:

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE YARN BOMBING AND REMEMBRANCE WALK

IT'S TIME TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Join us for a community gathering to:

- Launch 16 Days of Activism with Zonta's display of tree yarn bombing
- Walk to remember the women who have lost their lives to violence
- Connect with local services

Where: Warners Bay Rotunda, The Esplanade, Warners Bay

When: Thursday 23 November, 2023

Time: 10am

Supported by



6 **Project Blessing 2023: Christmas hampers for our local school families.**

Here is the timeline

- **TODAY until Sunday 10th December at 11am** - Donations of cash or suitable food hamper items are donated by members of St Luke's congregation.
Cash - please place in an envelope and give to Jean Thirkettle, Jenny Mathieson or Marj Hicks
Food - Lollies & chocolate (bags or boxes), shortbread, puddings etc. Boxes provided in gathering area to place your donations in.
- **Wednesday 13th December / 10am** - Delivery of hampers to schools and individuals. If you can help with this, please write your name on the sheet provided in the gathering area.



7 **Thursday Bible Study**

Please note that Bruce Kay will be away on 7th December, so no Bible Study that week. On the 14th December we will have a Christmas celebration with a shared afternoon tea. We will meet for a 'catch up' on 18th January 10am at the Sixteen Footers Club and resume our Bible Study for 2024 on 25th January at 1.30pm. Enquiries to Barbara Bell 4946 8549

8 Thank You

A big thank you to Jean Thirkettle and her helpers for organising a St Luke's lunch to support Cows for Cambodia. The total amount raised on the day was \$1153. Cathy and Michael are going to Cambodia at the end of November to assist Cows for Cambodia with various projects and including the St Luke's contribution have raised \$2525. These funds may be used for activities such as:

- \$1900 – build a Cambodian family a house.

- \$1000 – cow

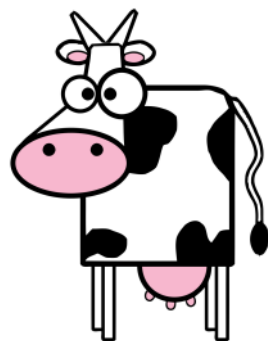
- \$390 – feed 260 school kids

- \$250 – build a duck farm

- \$200 – school excursion for 50 kids

- \$30 – bag of rice to feed a family for a month

- \$30 – feeding a cow for a month



Thank you to all who attended one of the Cows for Cambodia events and contributed towards this amazing total which was way above the \$1000 Cathy & Michael were requested to raise. It will make a real difference to many Cambodian families.



Rally 1pm Sunday 19th Nov Gregson Park

March to Beaumont Street, Hamilton

Return to Gregson Park for speeches

Organisers include: Christians for Peace, the Hunter Peace Group, Grandmothers for Refugees, Hunter Asylum Seeker Advocacy, Newcastle Quakers, Hunter Unions, Newcastle University Students Association, The Greens, various academics from UoN, etc. Many recent refugees to Newcastle from Afghanistan, Iran and Palestine are supporting the rally, and some of them are among the speakers.

Judges 4:1-7 NIV

Deborah

Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord, now that Ehud was dead. So the Lord sold them into the hands of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. Sisera, the commander of his army, was based in Harosheth Haggoyim. Because he had nine hundred chariots fitted with iron and had cruelly oppressed the Israelites for twenty years, they cried to the Lord for help.

Now Deborah, a prophet, the wife of Lappidoth, was leading Israel at that time. She held court under the Palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went up to her to have their disputes decided. She sent for Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you: 'Go, take with you ten thousand men of Naphtali and Zebulun and lead them up to Mount Tabor. I will lead Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his troops to the Kishon River and give him into your hands.'"

Matthew 25:14-30 NIV

The Parable of the Bags of Gold

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. But the man who had received one bag

went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.' "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.' "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. "'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'