

Together



Sunday 3 December 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



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 3 December	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 10 December	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

Dinner Church is a casual service for all ages with a message, a catered meal, prayer, discussion and friendship. Alison will be sharing and bringing a message based on one of her Dad's (Graham Thirkettle) written sermons. Meredith will be catering.

Lectionary readings for the coming week

Is 40:-1-11	Ps 85:1-2,8-13
2 Pt 3:8-15a	Mk 1:1-8

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 4 December

Activity Centre meet from 9.30am
with a Discussion Group at 10am

Tuesday 5 December

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Wednesday 6 December

Fellowship meet from 9.30am

Just Kids - Term 4 Dates

December 10



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

The Annual General Meeting of the Congregation is being held **today**, 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. Nominations received for St Luke's Leadership Team (Church Council) are: Greg Anderson, Stewart Ellway, Alison Gill, Margaret Guerke, Julie Killeen, Jenny Mathieson and Michael Turner.

Stay on after 8.00am or come early before 9.45am.

2 **Invitation**

Invitation to all to attend the Induction Service for Rev Mitchell Forbes into his new Placement at New Lambton Uniting Church to be held **today**, Sunday 3rd December at 4pm.

3 **Uniting World Christmas**

Please note: The Uniting World "Everything in Common" Christmas gift cards have not yet arrived.

4 **Fellowship**

Our Fellowship on Wednesday 6th December will be our Christmas get together, at the usual time of 9.30 beginning with a longer morning tea. As we won't be meeting again till February, it would be great to have a good roll up!



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

Who are the hampers for? Schools in our local area are asked to provide names of families that are in need. This year we have added Marks Point Public School to the list for the first time after hearing of some need there. We also provide hampers for a women's refuge in Swansea and for others (singles, couples, families) that are nominated. You can nominate/suggest someone by filling out a nomination slip in the gathering area and placing it in the box.

What is needed? Donations of cash and food items. The cash is used to buy everyday grocery items and some items for the festive season to be put into the hampers. Donated toys are also added.

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. Donated toys are also added, this is coordinated by Meredith Hudson.

Just 1 week to go for donations - Sunday 10th December at 11am is the deadline.

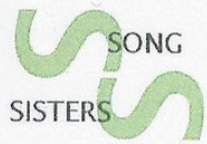
Wednesday 13th December / 10am - Delivery of hampers to schools and individuals. If you can help with this, please write your name on the sheet provided in the gathering area.

A huge thankyou to those people who have already donated cash or food items.

Thanks,

Alison Gill - Community and Outreach team Leader





Song Sisters in Concert

Conducted by Kim Sutherland OAM
And featuring Terence Koo on piano

A final concert for 2023 with some reflections on Christmas and highlights from our repertoire. Our vibrant group of women bring joy to all our performances, and this concert is not to be missed!

FRI.15 DECEMBER | 6-7PM | ADAMSTOWN UNITING CHURCH

\$15 or \$10 (concession)

Book online at www.trybooking.com/CHECV or at the venue.



**Christmas
Bowl**

Through the Christmas Bowl,
you are helping Syrian refugees
receive the support they desperately
need and showing them that they
are not forgotten.

christmasbowl.actforpeace.org.au

6 Activity Centre

On Monday 11th December the Activity Centre will hold their Christmas celebration starting at 10 am (please be on time) for a morning of Christmas fun activities followed by lunch at noon, catered by the Unite team. We are very grateful for this kind gesture. Everyone welcome to join us. For catering needs you must book in with Win Clifton by Monday 4th December. Cost \$25. If you are attending you will need to bring a Secret Santa gift to the value of up to \$10.

Thankyou to everyone for your participation and attendance during the year, to anyone else who has helped in any way, particularly committee members, to make the Activity centre such a meaningful and successful outreach for many years.

Reminder to all members on Monday 4th December Activity Centre will finish at 11.30am to enable Bridge Club to set up for their Christmas lunch.



7 For Sale

Frontier Services Christmas Cards. These are left over from previous years. They are on the table in the entrance area. Please leave money in basket provided.

8 Christmas Gift Stall

There are a variety of gift items left from our last Carnival Homecraft stall. These will be on sale after each service next Sunday 10th December. A great opportunity to purchase a last minute Christmas gift.



9 Prepare to be amazed!

On Sunday 10th December, the Just Kids group will be presenting the story of Moses...(well most of it...) at the beginning of the 9.45am service. Are you just going to see colouring in (though that's great too)? Are you just going to hear us tell you the story? No!! We will be presenting at the beginning of the service...Moses in 3D! Yes, there's a pyramid. Yes there are slaves, a palace, sheep, a burning bush, Pharaoh and the Queen...and even the plagues (wait till you see what we have in store for THAT part!) We have amazing kids at Just Kids and we can't wait to show you what we've been up to for quite a while. You may have been wondering why we haven't been coming in to show you at the end of the services what we've been doing....this is why! Hope you can join us on the 10th!



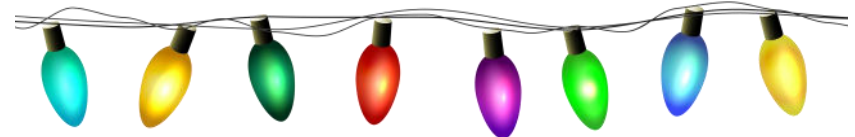
10 Unite/All Families—Christmas Party at The Gills

Saturday 16th December, 6pm

BBQ on the big deck. BYO meat, drinks & a salad or dessert to share.

Secret Santa: Bring along one pressie per person (\$5 value, the more interesting the better). Clearly label pressie before coming. e.g. adult/male, child/female etc. 34 Helen St, Mount Hutton.

*RSVP via text to Alison by 9/12 on 0435 653 531.



1 Corinthians 1:3-9 NIV

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving

I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mark 13:24-37 NIV

“But in those days, following that distress,

“the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light;
the stars will fall from the sky,
and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’

“At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.

“Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

The Day and Hour Unknown

“But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. It’s like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.

“Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to everyone: ‘Watch!’”