

# Together



Sunday 28 January 2024

## 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 28 January	9.00am	Rev Tom Anderson
Sunday 4 February	8.00am	Rev Tom Anderson HC
	9.45am	Rev Tom Anderson HC
	5.30pm	TBA

Narla Hostel services are held each Friday at 3.45pm

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## Dinner Church—every Sunday at 5.30pm

Dinner Church will commence for the year on Sunday 4th February at 5.30pm . Details next week.

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## Lectionary readings for the coming week

Is 40:21-31	Ps 147:1-11,20c
1 Cor 9:16-23	Mk 1:29-39

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**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

### ***Tuesday 30 January***

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

### ***Thursday 1 February***

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm  
in the Gathering Area

### ***Friday 2 February***

Friday Plus Bible Study meet from 9.30am

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## Just Kids Term 4 dates

Feb 4      Feb 18,  
March 3    March 17





**Cows for Cambodia**  
 Thanks to all who came to the Cows for Cambodia talk and photos on 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. \$550 was kindly donated on the day resulting in 11 bags of rice that went to very grateful families.



## 1 Happenings since last issue of Together:

- Congratulations to Clare & Eric Brock who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on 21st December 2023
- Happy birthday to Stewart Ellway who celebrated a special birthday on 5th January
- Happy birthday to Jim Cleary who celebrated birthday on 11th January



## 2 Fellowship

A reminder that the first Fellowship meeting of the year is Wednesday 7th February, beginning with the usual cuppa at 9.30am, followed by the meeting at 10am. It would be lovely to have a good attendance as our adventuresome member Julie will be entertaining us about their recent trip to Maralinga which is not on the usual tourist route and should be most interesting. As usual we would be delighted to welcome visitors to hear Julie.

## 3 Friday Plus Bible Study

Friday Plus Bible study group will meet on Friday 2nd February at 9.30am in the gathering area. We will begin with tea/coffee and will commence our time of sharing and study at 10am.

As the first study of the year we will remind ourselves of the commitment we have made as followers of Jesus by looking at James chapter 1:1-4,12.

Please feel welcome to join us this year, or come as you are able. Any enquiries to Julie Killeen 0427 505 874 or Jan Kellahan 0424 139 100.

#### 4 **Dinner Church**

Dinner Church will commence for the year on Sunday 4th February at 5.30pm. Details next week.

#### 5 **9.45am Communion Preparation**

Needed are people to be part of the roster for the preparing and packing away of communion for the 9.45am service. Please write your name on the roster on the back table if you are able to help.

#### 6 **Service Times**

Next Sunday 4th February our worship services will resume at the normal times: 8am; 9.45am; 5.30pm.

#### 7 **Cancellation of the Mosaic (Northern Settlement Services) Support Programme.**

In response to concerns about the lack of communication from Mosaic, the low uptake in support from our congregation and the Church's financial pressures, the Leadership Team agreed to cancel the ongoing donations to Mosaic (Northern Settlement Services). The last donation of \$500 will be made in January. All money boxes should now be returned. Thank you to all who have supported this program since July 2023.

*Alison Cleary*



### **Would you like to**

Challenge your brain?

Make friends?

Have fun?

Learn Bridge?

Improve your Bridge?

Play Bridge?

If you like playing cards, you'll love playing Bridge!

So why not learn to play Bridge, Improve your game or Join a Session?

#### **BELMONT BRIDGE CLUB DUPLICATE SESSIONS**

##### **Monday AFTERNOON**

St. Luke's Community Hall, Narla Road, Belmont  
Sign In and Seated by 12.45pm for 1.00pm Start

#### **LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS and IMPROVERS**

##### **Monday MORNING**

St. Luke's Community Hall, Narla Road, Belmont  
Contact Jack (Improvers) on 0423 409 625  
Contact Charmain (Beginners) on 0408 338 040

## 8 Property Update January 2024

Over the December/January period a number of property related actions were undertaken, some planned and not planned!

### Leaking taps

Just after Christmas, the Singles group reported a water leak on the kitchen floor of the Community Centre. They mopped the water up and reported the matter. On closer inspection, Peter Hudson replaced a washer on one of the taps under the sink. A few days later, another leak occurred with another tap and its washer was replaced also. We are very thankful that the Singles Group were using the Centre and reported the problem during a very quiet time!



### Removal of the TV aerial at the Manse

In December, a lightning strike at the Manse brought down our wi-fi network and damaged the TV aerial. Matt Hudson restored the network and developed a plan to remove the high aerial mast in January. The project involved the hire of a boom lift to remove the aerial and the development of a safety plan due to the risks involved including heavy lorry movements in the carpark. Gary Webb assisted Matt with the preparation of the work site. Peter Hudson and Michael Turner were on hand to assist with the removal of the aerial and installation of a new TV antenna while Greg McConnell is away on holiday. The boom lift also enabled the cleaning of leaf litter from the roof of the Manse. Many thanks for everyone who was involved! There are lots of photos of this project at the end the online Together.

## Possum in the Church

Evidence of an unwelcome intruder was discovered when church services resumed in January. A possum and its tell tale mess had crashed through one of the lighting fixtures in the Gathering Area. A few days later, Katy reported a mess in the kitchen area. Greg Anderson and Peter Hudson trapped the possum and released it in accordance with the regulations. Matt Hudson replaced the light and we are pleased to report that the possum has not returned – yet!

### Gardening

Peter Hudson and Michael Turner have trimmed some bushes and top dressed the lawn outside the Manse. Peter also trimmed some of the tree branches along the side of the church to discourage possums.

I would like to thank all those involved for responding as required undertaking a range of jobs over the January period.

*Greg Anderson*

*Property and Finance Team*



# Whisper of God Retreat Day



Discerning your gifts for passionate living



An opportunity to explore spiritual practice and reflection, to give space to hear the gentle whisper of God and the creative and curious work of the Holy Spirit in and through us. Listen to what God is calling you to in the year ahead and explore how you might experience fullness of life, purpose and joy.

Led by Rev Greer Hudson, Period of Discernment Co-ordinator for the Synod of NSW and ACT, supporting people to explore, articulate and celebrate their gifts in mission and ministry. Greer is a trained InterPlay leader, a labyrinth and retreat facilitator, a dancer, a storyteller, and a mother. Greer is passionate about embodied spirituality –

about how we might experience God through more than words.

**Saturday 17th February 2024 10am  
- 4pm \$20/15 conc.**

**Adamstown Uniting Church - Bruncker Rd Adamstown**  
Bring lunch or purchase nearby

Bookings : <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/whisper-of-god-retreat-daytickets-741824776877?aff=oddtcreator>

The Hunter Presbytery Uniting Church in Australia

## 9 Just Kids resuming for 2024 on Feb 4!

Looking forward to another action packed term of Just Kids at the 9.45am service! Kids from Preschool to around Yr 7 are welcome to come and join in with games, creating, learning and sharing time together! It's sometimes a little crazy, sometimes a bit quieter but a special time for kids to hang together as part of God's family. Feel free to contact Meredith on 0425 259 020 with any questions!

**Dates for Term 1: Feb 4, Feb 18, March 3, March 17**

Photos of the work done to replace the antenna on the manse:





## **Mark 1:21-28 NIV**

### **Jesus Drives Out an Impure Spirit**

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

“Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.” News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.