

# Together



Sunday 4 February 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 4 February	8.00am	Rev Tom Anderson HC
	9.45am	Rev Tom Anderson HC
	5.30pm	Mr Paul Smart
Sunday 11 February	8.00am	Pastor Kim Langford
	9.45am	Pastor Kim Langford
	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 is a casual service for all ages with a message, a catered meal, prayer, discussion and more. This week Paul Smart will be giving the message with Alison Gill sharing.

Jenny Mathieson will be catering.

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### Lectionary readings for the coming week

2 Kings 2:1-12

Ps 50:1-6

2 Cor 4:3-6

Mk 9:2-9

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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

### ***Monday 5 February***

Activity Centre meet from 9.30am  
with a Welcome & Discussion from 10am

### ***Tuesday 6 February***

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

### ***Wednesday 7 February***

Fellowship meet from 9.30am

### ***Thursday 8 February***

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm  
in the Gathering Area

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## Just Kids Term 4 dates

Feb 4            Feb 18,  
March 3        March 17



## 1 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.



## 2 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.

## 3 A New Beginning

As we begin to consider being part of groups and gatherings at St Luke's this year, why not decide to give a Bible study group a go? Being part of a group who enjoy delving into the Bible helps us to fully understand what being a disciple of Jesus really means.

Our Thursday group meet at 1.30pm in the gathering area, in a relaxed setting with the opportunity to discuss or simply listen—finishing our time together with afternoon tea. More details from Barbara Bell, Jeanne McClusky or Betty Wares.



## 4 Hunter Community Alliance Founding Assembly

St Luke's has been asked to have six people present on this night. Please consider if you can attend. Registration details available soon

**HUNTER COMMUNITY ALLIANCE**

**FOUNDING  
ASSEMBLY**

**6pm Wednesday**

**10th April 2024**

**The Great Hall,**

**University of Newcastle**

**YOU ARE INVITED**

**Everyone in the Uniting Church across the Hunter is invited to participate in engaging National and State leaders to take action on these issues:**

**"Just" Energy Transition in communities  
Housing and Homelessness**

**Registration/Event details soon!!!**

*"This is the world as it is.*

*This is where you start" Saul Alinsky*

## 5 Activity Centre

The Activity Centre will resume for 2024 on Feb 5th at 9.30 am. We look forward to another year with a varied program of activities. Discussions and Book Club (where books are selected from Lake Mac library), are monthly events. We also have a free collection of donated books available for people to take and read.

Guest speakers will feature throughout the year. Three dates for your diary are 8th April - multi cultural sharing, 6th May - Cows for Cambodia photos and sharing and 13th May will be another Road Rules Information session. More dates later in the year.

Members will also be part of inter-generation sharing with the pre-school on 2 occasions. Regular board and card games will also take place each Monday morning.

Programs available on table at back of church.

New members are most welcome to join in with any activities, meet new people and enjoy the warm and caring atmosphere of the Activity Centre.

*Jean Thirkettle*

*co-ordinator*

*Ph:0418 214 199*

## 6 Ash Wednesday Service

An Ash Wednesday Service will be held at St Luke's on Wednesday 14th February at 7pm.



## 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

# 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 - Brunner 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

## 7 Temporary Accommodation required

Due to renovation works taking place on our house, we are looking for alternative local

accommodation during the period of March-July

this year. If you or anyone you know is going away

or looking for a house-sitter or for a short-term tenant please let us

know. We would be happy to help you in return if we can. Even if it

is for just a week or two during this period it might help us out. We

can easily stay in 1-2 rooms and do not need a large space.

*With thanks Nic, Annette and family*

*nicgould@gmail.com, 0460 971 377*



## 8 Pharmacy

Pharmacy is Australia's first and only end to end recycling

program for household and commercial medicinal blister pack

waste. Pharmacy is a complete end-to-end solution for the

recycling of medicinal blister packs. Pharmacy manages all of

the collection, logistics and processing of blister packs, providing

full transparency and traceability.

It is the quick and easy way to recycle empty medicinal blister

packs. Best of all, it's completely FREE to drop off at a participating

pharmacy. Both Belmont Blooms Pharmacies are participants of

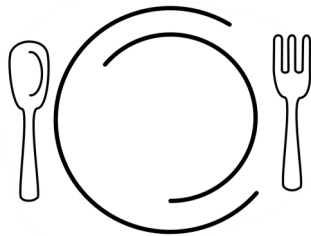
this scheme.

Lots more info at [pharmacycycle.com.au](http://pharmacycycle.com.au)



## 9 **Dinner Church**

Dinner Church will commence for this new year tonight at 5.30pm. All ages are warmly invited to attend. You do not have to commit to attend every week, you are welcome to come whenever you are able. It is an informal, all age time of sharing, fellowship and friendship over a meal. Each week we have some table discussion and a message. Also, each week a different person shares something of interest. This week Paul Smart will be giving the message and Alison Gill will be sharing. Please join us if you are able. For catering numbers please let Jenny Mathieson: 4946 8143 know if you are coming (with any dietary requirements). We would love to have you join us!



## **Isaiah 40:21-31 NIV**

Do you not know? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded?

He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff. “To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord; my cause is disregarded by my God”? Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

## **Mark 1:29-39 NIV**

### **Jesus Heals Many**

As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

### **Jesus Prays in a Solitary Place**

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!”

Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.” So he travelled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.