

# Together



Sunday 25 February 2024

## 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](http://www.stlukesbelmont.com.au)

## Email

[belmontuca@gmail.com](mailto: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 25 February	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 3 March	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

## 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. Dinner church this week will be a pizza night. Marge Brooks will be sharing and Greg McConnell will be giving the message.

## Lectionary readings for the coming week

Ex 20:1-17	Ps 19
1 Cor 1:18-25	Jn 2:13-22

**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

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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 26 February***

**Activity Centre** meet from 9.30am with games from 10am

### ***Tuesday 27 February***

**Quirky Quilters** meet from 10am

### ***Thursday 29 February***

**Thursday Bible Study** meet from 1.30pm

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## **Just Kids Term 4 dates**

March 3    March 17



## 1 Lent Event

Uniting World Annual Lent Event is being held again this year: 14th February – 28th



March 2024. The theme this year is “40 Days of Faithful Action for God’s Creation”. Climate change is threatening our world. Uniting World want to see a world where people are working together to fight climate change. Our world needs hope and courage and each of us can make a change. Brochures are available on the table in the foyer.

- **Personal:** During this season of Lent we can make a significant change in our lives that benefits God’s creation.
- **Political:** We can use our voice to influence our community to demand urgent climate action.
- **Practical:** We can make a gift to support critical climate action in vulnerable communities. If you would like to make a donation, please place it in an envelope marked “Lent Event” and place in the offering bag.

## 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 Friendly Foodies

A new social group is starting at St Lukes called Friendly Foodies.



It's an eating out group and everyone is welcome - all ages, members of the congregation, members of our other church groups and also friends, relatives and people you'd like to get to know better from outside the church. It will provide a great opportunity for people to get to know each other while enjoying a meal together. It will meet for meals in many and varied eateries around Lake Macquarie, Newcastle and the Hunter. If this is something you would like to be a part of in 2024 (you can attend however often you like) then please put your name on the sheet provided in the gathering area and I'll be in touch with you so we can work out some details and organise the first meal.

*Alison Cleary*

## 4 Unite / All Families - Pizza & Movie Under The Stars



We are kicking off this year’s social program with one of our popular annual events. Saturday 2nd March at 6pm at the Hudson’s -10 Gilgal Place, Belmont North.

Bring: picnic chair, blankets + snacks & drinks to share. Adults \$8, Kids (under12) \$5 \*RSVP to Meredith by **today** on 0425 259 020 or email [pmhudson@optusnet.com.au](mailto:pmhudson@optusnet.com.au). Movie title decided closer to the date.



# Men and Boys Weekend Away



**Friday, 15th March - Sunday, 17th March**

Korsmans Landing Campground  
(Myall Lakes National Park)



**Waterskiing**

**Eating**



**Canoeing**



**Swimming**

**Footy**



**For all men and boys so... invite your mates and relatives!**

**What to bring:** tent, camping gear, eating utensils & own drinks  
Spare tents available - if you need one, let Paul know

**Cost:** \$50 (Age 13 & above) \$35 (Age 12 & under).

This includes all meals, national park entry, boat petrol & camping fees.

**RSVP:** with attendance (and if bringing a boat) by March 8th via email to Paul Smart - smart-family@bigpond.com or text 0419267074. \*We want everyone to be able to attend so if you need financial assistance, please contact Paul on mobile number above ☺

**Set-up from 2pm onwards**



**How to get there?** From Bulahdelah, travel to Bombah Point Road, follow for approx. 10kms and turn left into Korsmans Trail to the campground.  
<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/camping-and-accommodation/campgrounds/korsmans-landing-campground>

## 5 Bunnings BBQ's



In 2024 we will be hosting sausage sizzle style, bbq stalls at Bunnings, Bennetts Green to raise funds for our church. It will be a great way to be out in the local community, serving, mixing and fundraising. As mentioned in previous editions of Together, we have (whole day) Saturday dates locked in for August and December. This week we were offered Anzac Day (afternoon only) as an extra one and will be going ahead with that. On Friday, 5th April at 3pm in the gathering area - we will be having a Bunnings BBQ's meeting to go through the supplied information pack and discuss how we will operate them this year. We would love anyone and everyone to come along and be a part of this new venture so please pop the meeting date in your diary and keep an eye on Together for more info on it, closer to the date.

## 6 Peace Vigil

New Lambton Uniting Church invites you on behalf of the Ukrainian Community of Newcastle & the Hunter, to attend a simple peace vigil to be held on 24 February 2024 at 2:30pm, to mark the 2 year anniversary of war in Ukraine. There will be prayers for peace, an opportunity to light candles for lives lost, and the invitation to give thanks for those working towards peace in Ukraine. All are welcome to this ecumenical event. The address is: Corner Portland Place and Regent Street, New Lambton NSW 2305 For more information, please contact Olenka Motyka on 0421 201 911.



7 **World Day of Prayer Services**

10 am

Friday 1 March 2024

Charlestown Uniting Church - 24 – 26 Milson Street, Charlestown



10 am

Friday 1 March 2024

All Saints Anglican Church - Church Street, Belmont

This year's focus is on Palestine. The Order of Service was written by a group of Ecumenical Christian Palestinian women in response to the passage from Ephesians 4:1-7

**Genesis 17:1-7,15-16 NIV**

**The Covenant of Circumcision**

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers."

Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

## **Mark 8:31-38 NIV**

### **Jesus Predicts His Death**

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

### **The Way of the Cross**

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."