

# Together



Sunday 17 March 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 17 March	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 24 March	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

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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 Rev Greg McConnell will be giving the message. Eldrene March will be sharing and Julie and Jenny will be catering.

## Lectionary readings for the coming week

Is 50:4-9a	Ps 31:9-16
Phil 2:5-11	Mk 14:1-15:47

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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 18 March***

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

### ***Tuesday 19 March***

**Quirky Quilters** meet from 10am

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## Just Kids Term 4 dates

March 17



## Presbytery Prayer Diary

*The Hunter Presbytery has produced a Prayer Diary which includes prayer points for every congregation in the Hunter Presbytery over the next few months. Each Sunday every congregation will be praying for one of our other congregations. By praying together we can encourage one another in mission as we grow in faith and unity and develop understanding and relationships across our region.*

### **This week's Presbytery Prayer Point is Adamstown Uniting Church**

Adamstown Uniting Church is a growing congregation with a number of children and young people. We are blessed to have an accepting and open-minded congregation, with livestreamed services and involvement of a range of leaders in worship and in the Church Council and elders. While we have had supply ministers for two years, we look forward to our new minister, Rev Greer Hudson who will join us on Easter Sunday. The congregation recently appointed a youth worker, who will work with teens and tweens on Sundays.

**Prayer:** For Rev Greer Hudson as she prepares to lead Adamstown Uniting Church. For Pearl who will be commissioned as our Youth worker. Adamstown leaders and elders as they prepare for our new minister. Give thanks for the growth of the congregation and all that has happened to bring us to this point in our life. Amen.

## 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.



## 2 Bunnings BBQ'

As part of our 2024 fundraising, essential to St Luke's budget and finance, it's been decided to host 3 Sausage Sizzle BBQ's at Bunnings in Bennetts Green.

It is a new venture for us as a church and a wonderful opportunity to be out serving in the community.

We have been offered 3 dates:

- 1) Anzac Day / Thursday 25th April (afternoon only)
- 2) Saturday 3rd August
- 3) Saturday 7th December

We are inviting everyone along to a meeting to go through the supplied information pack on Friday 5th April at 3pm in the gathering area.

After that we will be providing sign up sheets for tasks that will need to be done before the day, and on the day.

"Many hands make light work"



### 3 Combined Service at 9am on Sunday 7th April

St Luke's will be updating their mission plan and we want to have as many members of our congregation as possible participating in this so that we have all of your ideas. Following on from the service we will have a discussion over morning tea. Please plan to be there if you can. More information coming soon!

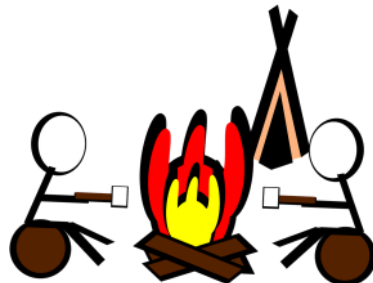


### 4 Local and Global Mission Team

If you are interested in being involved in the wider mission work of our congregation, please write your name on the sheet on the back table. This is an important part of our congregational life where we look at different areas of mission – both local and global, and how we can be a part of this.

### 5 Men and Boys Camp

This weekend the Unite/Men and Boys camp is on and 14 of them are enjoying a weekend camping at Myall Lakes. In attendance is a mixture of males from St Luke's, along with friends and family members of theirs and ... some that are reconnecting with our church. We praise God for this opportunity of outreach, connecting and time together. A huge thankyou to Paul Smart for organising the event, to Alison Gill for prepping all the meals (to send up) and to the men taking their boats so that everyone has a blast on the beautiful fresh water!



### 6 Hunter Community Alliance Founding Assembly

St Luke's has been asked to have six people present on this night. If you are able to attend to contact Eldrene March or write your name on the list on the table and she will register St Luke's people attending as a group.

**HUNTER COMMUNITY ALLIANCE  
FOUNDING ASSEMBLY**

HUNTER COMMUNITY ALLIANCE  
FOUNDING ASSEMBLY

Hunter needs slice of fund

APRIL 10TH  
6:30pm-8:30pm  
UoN GREAT HALL  
REGISTER

**YOU'RE INVITED**

APRIL 10TH 6.30PM - 8.30PM  
GREAT HALL, UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

register: [events.humanitix.com/hca-founding-assembly](https://events.humanitix.com/hca-founding-assembly)  
more information updates: [www.thehca.org.au](http://www.thehca.org.au)

**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**

*Onsite dinner plans are underway, come at 5.30/6 for 6pm start  
Get everyone you can to register and ‘turn out’ for change!*

## 7 Special Birthday

Olive McCredie will be celebrating her 90th birthday on 14th April in a village at Hope Island, Gold Coast, where she now resides with her husband Dr John McCredie.



Many of you may remember them worshipping at St Lukes, as members of World Vision and John's surgery in Belmont.

Six people from St Lukes will be travelling to this special birthday celebration. On the back table there is a birthday card and anyone who knows Olive is invited to write a message to her or just sign their name. Olive is always reminiscing about their years living here and I know she will be thrilled to receive this card from us all.

Thankyou,

Jean

## 8 Community Garden

You may have noticed some activity and tidy up work in the Community Garden recently? A group of volunteers who had established a community garden at the Belmont North Anglican Church have offered to transform our overgrown garden with renewed vigour and enthusiasm. Planning is underway with some clearing undertaken over the last week or so. All are welcome to participate with work being undertaken on a weekly basis. If you would like to be notified when people are meeting to do some work, please see Greg Anderson and he will ensure that you receive text messages. We are blessed to have such an

enthusiastic group undertake such a worthy community project!



## WARM BLANKETS FOR EVERYONE

### 2024 - MOVIE MATINEE

Inviting all to join us at the movies to see a movie classic, Singin In The Rain.

WHERE: Lake Cinema Boolaroo

COST: \$25

DATE: Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024

TIME: 12:00 noon

Cost includes a tasty treats box and a luck door prize. There will be raffle tickets for sale on the day. Tea & coffee are provided free at the cinema.

Please email your request for tickets to [rebeccawett@tpg.com.au](mailto:rebeccawett@tpg.com.au).

Or phone 0477 292 794. **Payment is required by 26<sup>th</sup> March.**

## 9 Budget Update

Our financial situation for the first six months of the 2023/2024 Financial Year has not improved with a reduction of \$17,563 in our bank balance over the first 6 months. While offerings are just under target the main contributor has been a down turn in our fund raising activities for several reasons. With increased rental income from the Community Centre and Preschool from January as well as a number of fund raising activities planned from April, hopefully our financial situation will improve.

*Greg Anderson*



## 10 Our Sympathy and our Prayers

Our sympathy and our prayers are with the family of Olive Webb. Olive passed away on Sunday 10 March 2024. Olive was a much loved member of the 9.45am Service and a long time member of the Belmont High Street Methodist Church and then St Luke's. Olive played the organ/piano for worship and was actively involved in the groups and activities of the congregation as well as teaching scripture in schools for many years. They then moved to Eleebana and attended the Warners Bay Uniting Church for some years. When Olive returned to live in the independent living units at Narla Village, she once again became involved in the life of St Luke's, playing the organ when it was needed as well as playing for the weekly Service at Narla Village Hostel. Olive was also very actively involved in the life of Narla Village Independent Living for 20 years. Olive will be greatly missed. "Well done good and faithful servant" A private cremation will be held on 23rd March and then a Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St Luke's on Saturday 27 April at 10.30am followed by refreshments in St Luke's Community Centre.

## 11 Community and Outreach Team

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th April at 2pm in the gathering area. We will be discussing and planning all of our 2024 fundraising events. Everyone is welcome to join us!

## 12 St Lukes Trivia Night: Saturday 4th May 2024

**(just 6 weeks away)**

Our community centre has been packed with people in past years and now is the time to start getting your team of 8 ready to enjoy a night of fun!



Not just trivia, but activities, fellowship and lots of prizes to win! On the fundraising table in the gathering area you will find the following ...

**Coloured flyers:** these have all the info about the night and are to give to your family and friends who don't attend St Luke's.

**Letters to Businesses:** Can you help with asking and collecting prizes this year? If so, take some letters, fill in the name of the business on the letter and drop it in.

It might be a business you support - hairdresser, butcher, lawnmowing man, mechanic, beautician, massage therapist etc. All help in this is appreciated!

\*Write the name of the business on the sheet provided so we don't double up!

## **Jeremiah 31:31-34 NIV**

“The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the Lord.

“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbour, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the Lord. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

## **John 12:20-33 NIV**

### **Jesus Predicts His Death**

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me. “Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!”

Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.