

Together



Sunday 14 April 2024

Minister

Rev. Greg McConnell
0404 046 697

Website

www.stlukesbelmont.com.au

Email

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 14 April | 8.00am | Rev Greg McConnell |
| | 9.45am | Rev Greg McConnell |
| Sunday 21 April | 8.00am | Rev Greg McConnell |
| | 9.45am | Rev Greg McConnell |

Narla Hostel services are held each Friday at 3.45pm

Dinner Church—every Sunday at 5.30pm
(during school term)

In recess for 14th and 21st April
It will recommence on Sunday 28th April

Lectionary readings for the coming week

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Acts 4:5-12 | Ps 23 |
| 1 Jn 3:16-24 | Jn 10:11-18 |

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

Tuesday 16 April

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Thursday 18 April

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Just Kids Term 2 dates

tba



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 Brunkerville Uniting Church

Brunkerville Uniting Church recently celebrated 135 years of continuous worship. The congregation of 15 -20 maintain the building and the adjoining cemetery, as they have done since the church first opened. Several of our congregation have been attending for over 70 years. We are a caring community, and several congregation members are part of the Brunky Bunch ukulele group. We meet weekly at the church and participate from time to time in services and visit a Care Home in Cessnock once a month.

Prayer: We pray for all members of Brunkerville Uniting Church as they care for each other and maintain the church building and the cemetery and continue to be welcoming to our community. Amen.



In 2022 it was Black & White ... In 2023 it was Bold & Bright

This year you are invited to a:

'Tropical' Trivia Night

When:
**Saturday, 4th
May 2024**

Where:
**St Lukes Community Centre
Narla Rd, Belmont North**

Doors Open: **6:30pm** Trivia Begins! **7:00pm**

Tickets: **\$15pp** Book a table of 8 at:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CQFCO>
Deadline for bookings: 27/4

! Bring !
Snacks & Drinks
For your table

Gold Coins
For activities

Amazing Auction!

Optional:
**Come dressed tropical
style and/or colours!**

**Lots of prizes to
be won!**

**Fresh & Fruity
Bake Sale!**
Enjoy on the night or take home

Eftpos Available

1 **St Lukes Trivia Night: Saturday 4th May 2024**

(just 3 weeks away)

Tables: 9 tables (of 8) booked in so far with a few more, still finalising their table to add to the list.

No table – No problem ... Jenny

Mathieson is compiling a list of people who would like to attend and join one of 2 “St Lukes Tables”.

If you would like to come along, add your name to the list in the gathering area and give your \$15 entry payment to Jenny by next Sunday.

Prizes: As you would have seen over the past 2 weeks we have been adding the names of businesses that are supporting our night with vouchers and items to use for prizes. This week, another 14 businesses have donated and they are as follows ... **Belmont:** URTH Fitness, Belmont Smash Repairs, Hair Art, Rainbow Nails, Belmont Motor Repairs, Citi centre Newsagency, Murray’s Meats. **Jewells:** NewsXPRESS, Mrs Beetson’s, Nargiss Indian & Kebabs, Jewells Tavern. **Other:** Imagine Cruises (Port Stephens) Australian Reptile Park, Canon (Warners Bay).

Please support these businesses whenever you can!

On the night: We will be fundraising in various ways...

* Selling tickets to “In It To Win It” where you choose the prizes you would like to win

* Activities that cost a gold coin to play

* A “Fresh & Fruity Bake Sale” + fresh fruit salad

* A Verbal Auction & a Blind Auction

How can you help?

* Keep all our community events in your prayers



- Bake some fruit inspired items to be sold at the bake sale – a sheet to add your name and items details in in the gathering area, along with containers for your cooking and...some recipes in case you need some ideas!

* Help cut up and package fruit salad on Sat, 4th May at 10am (let Jean T know if you can help).

* There are still a few coloured flyers and posters to help advertise the night – feel free to take some and hand them out.

2 **Our Prayers and our Sympathy**

Our prayers and our sympathy are with the family of Beryl Schofield. Beryl passed away on 2 April 2024 and her funeral was held on Thursday afternoon. Beryl was a member of the Belmont Methodist and then Uniting Church most of her life. She was actively involved in many aspects of the life of the congregation and particularly in catering and the Fellowship of which she was President for many years.

3 **St Luke’s Community and Outreach Team Update**

Our team had a meeting this week. We evaluated past events including Project Blessing and read out a thankyou letter that came from one of the school families we delivered a hamper to in December.

We discussed 2024 fundraising and made some decisions. Due to costs involved, we decided to not go ahead with the pie drive. We will be going ahead with the popular Soup and Slice Sundays in August and we started to plan a community day for Sept 7th. More details on this later on.



4 **9.45am Communion Preparation Roster**

It is time for another 9.45am Communion preparation roster. This one will go up to November. If you can assist, please write your name on the sheet on the back table on the dates that suit you.

5 **Friendly Foodies**

The first gathering of the Friendly Foodies will be at 12pm on Sunday, 21 April, for lunch at Valentine Bowling Club. Everyone is welcome to attend. Bring your friends, family and neighbours to enjoy a meal, the view and great conversation. Please contact Alison Cleary if you need transport.



6 **Bunnings BBQ's Fundraising Days**

13 people attended the planning meeting for the Bunnings BBQ's fundraising days, what a great response! Information from supplied pack was discussed, decisions were made and people offered to do things before and on the day to ensure that we provide a great service to the local community. On the sign up sheet in the gathering area you will see the names of people committed to roles at our BBQ on Anzac Day afternoon (1st of 3 dates) and we are looking for a few more to help, so please add your name if you can help. The other 2 dates are also listed there with options of 2 and 4 hr shifts.



St Luke's Playgroup

Fridays
10am - 12 noon
(During school terms)

St Luke's Community Centre
(Narla Rd, Belmont North)

Starts May 3rd 2024

\$3 cash per child per week please

Playgroups allow children to try out new toys and activities

Playgroups help children learn how to play with other children and interact with adults other than caretakers

Playgroups provide a safe and friendly learning environment

Playgroups help parents, caregivers and their children to connect with their local community and other families

7 Hunter Community Alliance

The Great Hall at the University of Newcastle was filled to capacity on Wednesday evening for the launch of the Hunter Community Alliance. St. Luke's was well represented and joined with the Moderator of the Synod, Rev Mata Havea Hilieu and 180 Uniting Church people from across the Hunter Presbytery.

36 Alliance partners, a diverse group but all advocating for social and community justice, gathered to form an ongoing partnership to bring about government policy change in many important social and community areas and who recognise that a people power alliance can be much more effective and influential when we speak with one voice rather than as separate entities. The goal of the Alliance is to be recognised as an authentic, powerful, diverse and legitimate voice for the Hunter.

Representatives from the three pillars of government attended and addressed the gathering including Nuatali Nelmes (Newcastle City Lord Mayor), Rose Jackson (NSW Housing Minister) and Chris Bowen (Federal Climate Change & Energy Minister). Minister Jackson was asked to commit to some important policies in safe affordable housing for everyone and Minister Bowen committed to an expansion of access to affordable renewable energy and/or household energy efficiency programs for low-income households. All agreed to meet with the HCA every year in an assembly.

If you would like to know more please speak to one of our representatives.

Tom Anderson



8 Mission Planning Session

On behalf of the Leadership Team I would like to thank everyone for their contributions and enthusiasm for last Sunday's Mission Planning session. There was a wonderful Spirit of love and community within the room! As I visited each of the tables I was impressed by the level of engagement and discussions which were underway. The responses to the questions have been consolidated (thank you Jenny!) and are available in the Gathering Area. Please read through the responses and if you would like to add anything, please do. The Leadership Team will consider the responses at the next Leadership meeting and plan the next step which is to form a small group to start crafting the Mission Plan into a Vision, Mission, Goals and Actions for the next five years. Once a draft Plan is completed, there will be ample opportunity for members of the congregations to provide feedback and suggestions. Once again, thank you for your time and willingness to be involved in planning the future directions of our Church community.

Greg Anderson

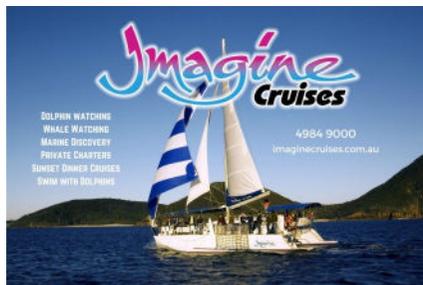


A huge thankyou to the following businesses that are supporting St Lukes by donating vouchers and items for our upcoming trivia night.

- Lu Lu Beauty, Belmont
- Cassowary Cafe, Belmont
- Subway (Citi Centre), Belmont
- KFC, Belmont
- Unique Barber Co, Belmont
- 16 footers, Belmont
- Reading Cinemas, Charlestown
- Imagine Cruises, (Port Stephens)
- URTH Fitness, Belmont
- Belmont Smash Repairs
- Hair Art, Belmont
- Rainbow Nails, Belmont
- Belmont Motor Repairs
- Citi centre Newsagency, Belmont
- Murray's Meats, Belmont
- Royal Copenhagen Icecreamery, Warners Bay
- Nargiss Indian & Kebabs, Jewells
- NewsXPress, Jewells
- Mrs Beetson's, Jewells
- Jewells Tavern. Jewells
- Australian Reptile Park
- Canon, Warners Bay

Thank you

Please show your appreciation by supporting these businesses whenever you can!



1 John 3:1-7 NIV

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Luke 24:36b-48 NIV

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.