

Together



Sunday 24 November 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

Email

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 24 November	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 1 December	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

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, Marjorie Hicks will be sharing and Jenny will be catering.

Lectionary readings for the coming week

Jer 33:14-16	Ps 25:1-10
1 Thes 3:-9-13	Lk 21:25-36

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

Monday 25 November

Activity Centre meet from 9.30am with games this week

Tuesday 26 November

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Thursday 28 November

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Friday 29 November

Playgroup meet from 10am

Just Kids Term 4 dates

December 1 & 15



1 **St Luke's Leadership Team 2024**

TODAY IS THE DAY – to suggest names of people you think would be great to have on St Luke's church leadership team for 2025!

The Church Leadership Team is made up of the Minister and 10 people who meet via zoom or in person each month.

After the members are elected, the Leadership Team then meets in February and elects a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Team leaders.

Nominations can remain anonymous and if you would like to express your interest in membership, we would be very happy to hear from you.

Please contact the current Secretary, Jenny Mathieson today.

What happens next?

Those who have been nominated will then be contacted by the current secretary to see if they agree to be nominated for the church leadership team and then nominations will be announced in Together on Sunday 1st December in preparation for the Annual meeting on Sunday 8th December. Following on from the annual meeting, the results of the voting will be announced in Together the following Sunday.

Nominations close today. Please fill out a form and place into the box provided.

Thank you!



2 **Offering Envelopes**

New Offering Envelopes are available on the table in the gathering area for you to take. Alternatively, if you wish to make your offering via Direct Debit and do not already do so, then please contact Robyn Lockwood for the details .



3 **Annual Meeting of the Congregation:**

Sunday 8th December



The Annual meeting of the Congregation will be on Sunday 8th December at 9.15am, in between the two services. Please stay on after 8.00am service, or come early before the 9.45am service.

4 **Hunter Presbytery Invitation**

At the next meeting of the Hunter Presbytery on Tuesday 26th November at 5.30pm at Toronto Uniting Church, there is an open invitation to members of congregations to attend and hear about the Proposal that will be presented to the Synod meeting next year regarding proposed changes to Presbytery boundaries across the Synod and how that will work. If you would like some more information about this please talk to Greg McConnell, Eldrene or Jenny. If you would like to attend the Presbytery meeting, please let Jenny know.

5

Home Cooking & Homecrafts Stall

Bunnings, Bennetts Green

Saturday 30th November

Home Cooking

A big thank you to the people who have offered to cook items for the stall and have added their initials to the whiteboard.

You can make as few or as many as you would like to/are able to - every item is appreciated.

Here is some required info:

- All home cooking is to be covered or wrapped
- Boxes, trays and cello bags are provided in the gathering area to take if you need them for packaging. Clean, leftover meat trays are also ideal to use.
- Each item will need a sticker or printout with the ingredients listed and say if it has been frozen.
- No items requiring refrigeration or with fresh cream are permitted by Bunnings (mock cream is ok).

Please drop your home cooking off to the church gathering area on **Friday, 29th November** between 9am and 12noon **or** between 2pm and 5.30pm. Please knock on the office door to see Katy for this.



Homecrafts

Some of the leftover homecrafts from previous carnivals and the Family Fun Day will be put onto this stall with a focus on useful items and items suitable for Christmas presents. Thank you to Alison Cleary for coordinating this part of the stall.

Please check the roster on the table to see if any more people are required for this stall on the day.

Bunning BBQ: Saturday 7th December

The sign-up sheet for those who can help in one of roles on the day is filling up which is great.

Closer to the day, Greg A or Alison G will be in touch with everyone with final details. Just 2 weeks to go!

Thanks for your support in the whole church fundraiser.

Bunnings Boxing Day - Update

With a few extra people offering to help at the Bunnings BBQ on Boxing Day we will be going ahead with it and have informed Bunnings.

They were very grateful, so much so, they offered to pay for all the bread and sausages we will purchase for the day!

Alison will be in touch with those who have offered to help closer to the time.



6 9.45am Advent Holy Communion Preparation Roster

If you are able to be part of the roster for preparation of Communion during the Sundays of Advent: 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd December, please write your name on the roster on the date that suits you.



7 Presbytery Representative Needed for 2025

The Hunter Presbytery is made up of all the congregations within its boundary which goes up to Port Stephens, then up to Bulahdelah, all of the Maitland and Upper Hunter (up as far as Scone), the whole Newcastle area, East Lake Macquarie (down as far as Nords Wharf) and West Lake Macquarie (down as far as Morisset).

Each congregation is asked to elect one lay, presbytery representative to attend each meeting, (four times a year) and St Luke's is looking for one for 2025. Eldrene March has served in this position for a number of years and will be moving away.

Nomination forms are available on the fundraising table in the gathering area and **close today, Sunday 24th November**. You can nominate yourself if interested in the position or someone else that you think would be. Any questions: please talk to the current secretary, Jenny Mathieson, about it today.

Thanks.



8 Unite / All Families

Reaching Out To Everyone in Their 30's—60's

Saturday 14th December - 6pm - Christmas Party at the Gills

BBQ on the deck. BYO meat, drinks & a salad or dessert to share.

Secret Santa: Bring along one present per person (\$5 value, the more interesting the better!). Clearly label present before coming e.g. adult/male, child/female etc. 34 Helen St, Mount Hutton. *RSVP via text to Alison by 9/12 on 0435 653 531.



9 Needed: Update!

Are you someone who shops in Belmont?

We now have someone willing to take the blister packs to a chemist to be recycled, a big thankyou to Bronwyn.

Pharmacycle has advised us that most Chemist Warehouse outlets and MyChemist outlets are now also accepting them to be sent for recycling so feel free to drop them in if passing one.

10 Missing

A large, flat cardboard box full of flat boxes/trays (that have not yet been folded) has gone missing.

If anyone knows where it has been placed, please let Jenny, Jean or Alison know. Thanks.

11 Project Blessing 2024

It is that time again, when St Luke's will lovingly make life a little easier for individuals and families in our local area, through the donation of Christmas Hampers.

On the flyer in today's Together is ... "How you can help".

Here is the timeline for the project...

***Sunday, 10th November – Sunday, 8th December at 11am -**

Donations of money + suitable hamper items are collected.

***Tuesday, 10th December at 7pm** (time to be confirmed) - Packing of hampers by Community team, Mission team and congregational members

***Wednesday, 11th December at 10am** - Delivery of hampers to schools and individuals from the Community Centre (Laxton end).

We will once again be approaching our local schools to receive names of families needing a hamper.

If you know of an individual, couple or family that is doing it tough (financial, emotional etc) and would appreciate a hamper, please fill out a nomination slip (provided in the gathering area) and place into the box.

Thanks, from St Luke's Community and Outreach team

12 Christmas Eve Service

It was great to see 10 people attend the Christmas Eve Service planning meeting last week. Ideas were shared, discussion was had and Rev Greg will be in touch with everyone with an update, draft program etc in the coming weeks.

St Luke's Recycling Station

Our recycling station is set up ready for you to collect and bring in your:



- * **Household Batteries**
- * **Medicinal Blister Packs (foil or plastic)**
- * **Soft Plastics (please see laminated sheet near container for details)**
- * **Aluminium and steel bottle tops**
- * **Mobile Phones**
- * **Printer Cartridges.**



PLUS - Return and Earn Recycling - **Eligible glass bottles, plastic bottles and aluminium cans.**

To see if the bottles you have are eligible: have a look on the back of the bottle – in small print, it should tell you if it is eligible for a 10c refund.

Thanks for your support in reducing landfill!



Revelations 1:4b-8 NIV

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

“Look, he is coming with the clouds,”

and “every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him”;

and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”
So shall it be! Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

John 18:33-37 NIV

Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

“Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?”

“Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?”

Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

“You are a king, then!” said Pilate.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”