

# Together



## **Sunday 8 December 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 8 December	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 15 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

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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. Rev Greg McConnell will be giving the message, Jenny will be sharing and Marilyn & Ron will be catering.

### Lectionary readings for the coming week

Zep 3:14-20	Is 12:2-6
Phil 4:4-7	Lk 3:7-18

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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 9 December***

**Activity Centre** meet from 9.30am with their Christmas Celebration this week

### ***Tuesday 10 December***

**Quirky Quilters** meet from 10am

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## **Just Kids Term 4 dates**

December 15



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### **1 Christmas Cards**

We have Christmas Cards for sale – both Frontier Service and Uniting World. Please take them and place your money in the box provided.

## 2 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.



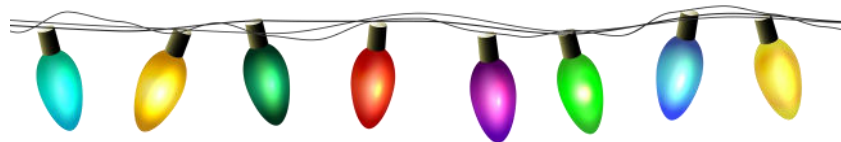
## 3 Offering Envelopes



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 .

## 4 Together

Please note that next week will be the final Together for the year. Together will resume on Sunday 26th January 2025. If you have any notices you want made at the services during the break please give them to the Worship Leader of that service.



## 5 Thursday Bible Study Group

Our group is now in recess until the 13th February - our first meeting for 2025. However, on 16th January, we will meet for morning tea at 11am at the 16 Footers Club, with a choice to stay on for lunch. Our gathering is open to all who would like to join us! Enquiries to Barbara Bell on 4946 8549.



## 6 St Luke's Fundraising Fortnight at Bunnings, Bennetts Green

Last Saturday - we held a 'Home Cooking & Homecrafts Stall' and \$1048 was raised! Home cooking: \$619 & Homecrafts: \$429.

A HUGE thankyou to all the cooks who baked, packaged, priced and delivered items to the church to be sold.

A HUGE thankyou to the clever sewers, knitters, crocheters, packagers, and all that contributed to the homecraft items over the years.

A HUGE thankyou to those who priced the items for both stalls.

A HUGE thankyou to Wendy W, Alison C, Rhonda S, Lenora F, Jean T, Marilyn D and Alison G for serving at the stall on Saturday.

This was the 1st time St Lukes has held this type of stall at Bunnings. It was wonderful to hear customers feeling excited at the stall during the day and when they saw an item they liked and made comments such as ...

\* "I have been looking for these handtowels for years, thankyou sooo much, can I give you a hug?"

\* My mum is going to be so happy with the present I am giving her this Christmas, she loves these!" (male tradie, purchasing a handtowel)

\* "This food reminds me so much of growing up"

\* "This is like going to Grandma's"

We traded from 9am – 1pm. The home cooking was all sold by 12:50pm (except some coconut ice which sold at church the following morning) and the stall was packed up at 1:30pm.

It was the 1st time that Bunnings has had a combined stall (homecrafts included) and the feedback was very positive. What is also positive is, that people recognise St Lukes when we have conversations with them on the day, so the outreach is great. Again, huge appreciation for everyone who contributed, we have an amazing church community!

**Bunnings BBQ (7/12)** - We host another BBQ on Saturday.

Details on how it went, what was raised etc will be in next week's Together.

**Bunnings BBQ (26/12)** - thankyou to everyone who has indicated they can help on this day. We have enough for 2 separate shifts in each of the roles and Alison will be in touch with all the details closer to the date.

**Did you know?** ... in a recent edition of the Australian Readers Digest, Bunnings was announced as the winner of the "Australian Iconic Brand/Trusted Brand" and this is an award they have won 4 years in a row. This year they will celebrate its 30th anniversary and they currently employ 53,000 staff who they say "Our team members are the heart and soul of the business".

And 2 quotes from Bunnings customers ...

(from a man in his 40's) - "If I ask my kids to go shopping at Bunnings and that they will get a sausage sizzle, they will go. They won't go to any other shops though!

(from a 24 year old girl) – "I love the sausage sizzle at Bunnings. My Dad and I have been going to them together regularly every since I was a kid and they are great memories."



## 7 Project Blessing 2024

Next week, St Luke's will lovingly make life a little easier for individuals and families in our local area, through the donation of Christmas Hampers.

The following schools have nominated families to receive hampers: Floraville PS, Belmont North PS, Belmont PS, Belmont High PS, St Luke's Preschool.

Along with these, we have received 4 other nominations for families in need and we will pack and deliver hampers for a women's refuge that Meredith is in touch with.

**TODAY (at 11am)** is the deadline for donations of food or cash (to be used to purchase food). Food is to be placed in the box provided.



Cash can be given to Robyn L, placed in the offering bag or given via direct credit into the church account with the reference "Hampers".

**\*On Tuesday**, items will be purchased and toys will be sorted. Then... the packing of hampers will take place at 7pm in the community centre

If you would like to help with the packing, please add your name to the sign-up sheet or tell Alison G or Jenny M. Thanks

**\*On Wednesday**, the hampers will be delivered to the various schools etc. We have 3 names on the sign up sheet for this, another 1 would be great.

Two of the families that have been nominated from Belmont High this year lost their mother during 2024 so we are hoping that our small gesture will make a difference.

Please pray for all the recipients and thanks to everyone who is supporting this worthwhile outreach during the festive season

*St Lukes Community and Outreach Team*



# St Luke's Recycling Station

Please continue to use the 6 bins on the table for your:

- \* **Household Batteries**
- \* **Medicinal Blister Packs (foil or plastic)**
- \* **Soft Plastics (e.g. plastic bags, bread bags, lolly bags, cling wraps ...)**
- \* **Aluminium and steel bottle tops**
- \* **Mobile Phones**
- \* **Printer Cartridges.**



ALSO - Return and Earn Recycling:

There are 2 bins on the ground beside the table for

- \* **Eligible glass bottles, eligible plastic bottles and all aluminium cans.**

So far over \$50 has been raised!

Please rinse the containers out before you put them in the bin and dispose of the lids thoughtfully.

Thanks for your help in reducing waste and benefitting our environment.



### **Malachi 3:1-4 NIV**

“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty.

But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.

### **Luke 3:1-6 NIV**

#### **John the Baptist Prepares the Way**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene— during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

‘Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.

Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,  
the rough ways smooth.

And all people will see God’s salvation.’”