

 **St Luke’s Uniting Church Highton**

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**JULY 16, 2017**

***This news sheet is available on the website each Saturday evening***

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**LECTIONARY READINGS**: **JULY 16, 2017**

 **Genesis 28 : 10 - 19a .. Psalm 139 : 1 - 24**

 **Romans 8 : 12 - 25 .. Matthew 13 : 24-30, 36-43**

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**LAST WEEK’S STATISTICS**

**OFFERING: ACTUAL:** $ **Y.T.D.** $ **BUDGET:** $1,711 **Y.T.D.** $47,905

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**THIS WEEK’S DIARY**:

Mon Jul 17 7.00 pm Geelong Chorale

 Mission Outreach

Tue 18 9.30 am Men’s Shed

 5.00 pm Weight Watchers

 7.30 pm Theatre of the Damned

Wed 19 6.30 pm Welsh Ladies Choir

Thurs 20 9.30 am Men’s Shed

Fri 21 9.30 am Trekkies

Sun 23 9.30 am Worship – Rev. M. Russell

**Church**  **Office Hours**: Wed - 10am to 12noon, Thurs – 10am to 12noon,

Fri – 10am to 12noon

**NAME TAG ORDERS: DO YOU NEED TO PURCHASE A UNITING CHURCH NAME TAG BECAUSE YOU ARE NEW TO ST. LUKE’S OR BECAUSE YOU HAVE LOST YOURS?** During the month of **JULY** orders are being accepted. The cost is **$9** and **pre-payment is required.** Orders are available from JENNY POOLEY, at church or calling 5243-4832.

**SHARING THE JOURNEY:** During **July** Linda Salamywill conduct this section of worship. She can be contacted on 5241 2369 or 0407 806 312 or personally before the service.

***To help keep this segment of Sunday Worship compact, it would be appreciated if announcements could be given to the monthly leader before the commencement of the service.***

 **PRAYER COMFORT SHAWLS:** Thank-you to all those who so willingly responded to the call for knitters, crocheters and wool to make warm, comforting, snuggly wraps, symbolizing the unconditional love of God and the prayers of the people.  We are also very grateful for the monetary donations received to purchase wool.  If you would like to make a shawl and need wool, please contact Beth on 52436874 or Valerie Grills on 52615342.  Suggested patterns are also available.  We do need a supply of these shawls. The prayer shawls are to be given to those experiencing ongoing difficult times, or who are shut-in.  They are not only for those within the church community, so if you know of someone who would find comfort and encouragement in their time of need, please speak to Pam, Beth or Valerie.

**DUTY ROSTERS**

**PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU FOLLOW THE ROSTER WHICH HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO ALL THOSE LISTED FOR DUTY.**

**JULY 23, 2017**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CLEANING** | Salam & Farah Alkhawri. | **USHERS** | P & I PetersenL & M Robertson |
| **FLOWERS** | O Tonkin | **KID’S CHURCH** |  |
| **COMMUNION****BREAD** |  | **COMMUNION****SET UP** |  |
| **COMMUNION** |  |  |  |
| **MORNING TEA** | P & M Seller | **CAR DRIVING** | G BoehmI Petersen |
| **SOUND** | P Phelan | **POWERPOINT**  | M. Walker |
| **CONNECTIONS** | A Lyons | **READER** | K McAvaney |
| **WELCOMER** | B Murphy | **ORGAN** |  |

**REMINDER** - Coffee and Chat - Wednesday 26th July, 2pm at Cafe Thyme.

All welcome.



St Luke’s Environment Action Group

News

9 July 2017

Many thanks to all those who joined in the “Plastic Free” month for the World’s Environment. It was very successful with many people taking their own bags to go shopping, including at the Trade Table, reducing waste to a minimum and taking their own water bottles and coffee containers.

The Environment Group’s next 2 projects are “the Repair Café” and “National Tree Day”.

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**Join the Geelong Repair Café!**

Repair Café Geelong promotes repair as an alternative to tossing things out. It is planned to operate the first Saturday of every month at St Luke’s Uniting Church Highton – starting 5th August. Anyone can bring their broken items and learn how to fix them with the help of voluntary repairers.

**Repair Café Geelong could use more handy volunteers. Join us!**

We are looking for residents with different skills who can be present as repair supervisors during the Repair Café meetings. We are especially looking for people who are handy with:

**\* clothing / textile \* bicycles**

**\* electrical appliances \* furniture / wooden objects**

And who enjoy sharing their knowledge with the community.

In addition, we are also looking for people who wish to fulfil the role of **host / hostess** at the meetings. You provide coffee and tea, welcome visitors and serve as a contact point for both visitors and repairers in the Repair Café.

Want to know more about the Repair Café? Look at the international website Repaircafe.org.

Want to sign up as a volunteer? Sign up at St Luke’s face book page <https://www.facebook.com/stlukeschurchgeelong/> or email Michelle

(michelle@tech4life.com.au) or Claire (claire.ziegler@iinet.net.au)

Thank You

July 30th

We are continuing planting at Grovedale Uniting on Sunday July 30th after our church service and our lunches. Last year we planted many indigenous trees all along the east fence behind Uniting Care and this year we will continue along the south fence. We are aiming to plant trees and shrubs that are specifically indigenous to the Grovedale area. All those interested in helping – see Claire or ring her on 0412904180, or register on the National Tree Day website, search for event, Grovedale Uniting and register as a volunteer.

Thanks

St. Luke’s Environment Action Group

Next meeting 24thJuly 2017

At 7.30 pm in the Fellowship Room

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**What is Prayer?**

Prayer is spending time in God’s presence, praying for the people you know and love, and situations that concern you.

When we pray, we can kneel, stand, walk around, have our eyes open or closed. We can pray silently or verbally. No matter how we pray God is waiting and listening.

**However, prayer is much more than just ‘talking to God, prayer is trusting in God, communicating with God and seeking after God’s will.**

At St. Luke’s we consider prayer to be an important part of our worship and ministry and we offer several opportunities to spend time in God’s presence.

We have an active **Prayer Link** where prayers are shared with those who have committed to pray for the needs and concerns of the congregation and their family and friends. These prayers are always confidential and are only shared with the wider congregation if permission is received.

 Urgent prayers can be emailed to Jean on bijl.williams@gmail.com at any time during the week.

There are **Prayer Request Forms** in the back of each pew. These can be filled in and handed to Jean Williams or Pam Seller following worship.

**Prayer Candles** are available at the front of the church. Candles represent prayers for people or situations that we care about and maybe lit at any time before or during the service.

**Prayer Partner/Prayer Corner**  a time of shared private prayer is also offered following worship. Please contact Pam Seller or Beth Allen.

All the above provide us with opportunities to communicate with God.

**PRAYER POINTS FOR THIS WEEK COMMINCING JULY 16TH.**

* Remember to give thanks to God for all the blessings of the past week.
* Pray for peace in the world, and give thanks for all those who are peace-makers.
* Pray for world leaders. – for wisdom in decision-making, and for co-operation in finding solutions that will benefit the whole human race, and for those solutions to override power-play and political gain.
* Pray that there may be an end to terrorism, and pray for all those families whose lives have been impacted by senseless acts designed to breed fear and carnage.
* Pray for refugees, asylum-seekers and new arrivals as they seek a safe place to live, work and bring up their families.
* Pray for the homeless during this cold wintery weather. There are 100,000 in Australia. Give thanks for the agencies that offer support.
* Pray for Uniting, the new combined community services agency of the Uniting Church and for its outreach in areas where there is need.
* Pray for those in leadership positions at St. Luke’s – the Church Council, Ministry Team leaders, worship leaders, and all who serve in so many ways. Pray also for the many small groups.
* Pray for the mid-week service next Thursday.
* Pray for the next meeting of the JNC, as they seek God’s leading in the search for a new minister.
* Pray for those who have serious health issues or are facing surgery. May they know God’s peace, comfort and strength.
* Pray for the aged and frail, those who are lonely or separated from loved ones, that they might have adequate care, companionship and safety.
* Pray for those who are travelling – for safety.