

Weekly News Sheet

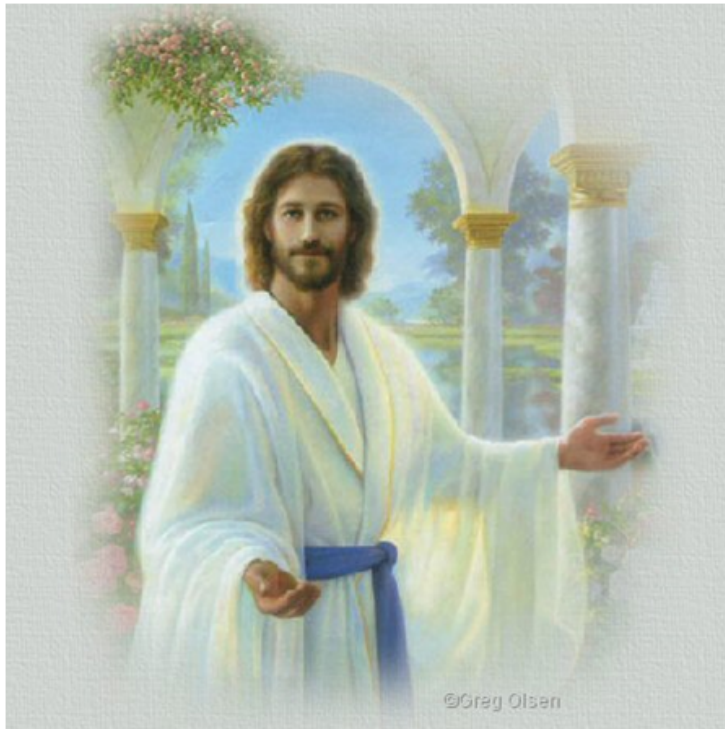
The Uniting Church in Australia

ST. LUKE'S CONGREGATION, HIGHTON

Sunday December 3, 2017



Worship Leader: Lloyd Walker and Noel Patchett



Jesus may meet you in the most unexpected places



Are you new to St. Luke's?

If you would like to connect with us, complete a pew card or please let one of the pastoral connections team know so that you can be included in our contact list and invited to join in.

Congregation Reports and News

Christmas Services at St Lukes Postcards

Pick up your Christmas services postcards from the foyer and stick it on your fridge or give one to a friend.

Blue Christmas Service 2017

You're invited to share in a service of remembrance and hope for those who are hurting. The service will be held on **Tuesday 12th December** at 7pm in the Fellowship Room. Supper will be provided. This service provides space for family and friends of those who have lost someone close to them or missed sharing a special anniversary or birthday, had a separation or divorce in the family or know someone who is struggling with health issues. All are welcome. Call Pam 5243 9575 to RSVP

Christmas Mid-Week Worship

The final mid week service for 2017 will be held in the Fellowship Room on **Thursday 14th December**. Commences at 2pm, followed by a High Tea. All are welcome especially those who enjoy a traditional service. Call Pam on 5243 9575 for details

Rev Paul Stephens Induction Service

The induction service for St. Luke's new Minister Reverend Paul Stephens will be held on **Sunday 11th February 2018** at 2pm at St Lukes.

Requests and Appeals

From Pam Seller, Pastoral Connections Team

TRANSPORT NEED

St Luke's has had a request for transport for a lady to be able to attend church. She lives on the Highton side of Belmont.

It would be lovely to be able to help her get to church.

Please call Pam on 5243 9575 for specific details



HAMPER DONATIONS NEEDED

Uniting Barwon (Formally UnitingCare) provide approximately 300 food hampers for those in need of extra assistance over the Christmas Break. Donations can be placed in the box in the foyer. **Today** is the last day for donations.

Uniting Barwon are looking for donations such as; tinned fruit and vegetables, cooking oil, coffee & tea, long life milk, pasta sauce, cereal, rice and tinned meat.

From Pam Seller, Pastoral Connections Team

PRAYER LINK

How to submit a prayer request:

- Complete a Prayer Request form (found on the back of each pew) and handed to Pam Seller or Beth Allen
- Email to pamseller@bigpond.com
- Call 0407 557 933

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS AT THE TRADING TABLE TODAY

The Trading Table is stocked with Christmas themed gifts today. Why not think about some early shopping for a gift for a special friend?

BRING TWICE THE JOY THIS CHRISTMAS

Every person matters. Buy UnitingWorld's ethical 'Everything in Common' gift card that helps to build lives that are whole and helpful. On sale **TODAY** in the hall.

From Mission Outreach Team

EVACUATE MANUS ISLAND PETITION

Please take time to sign the Evacuate Manus Island petition that is in the foyer **TODAY**. The petition calls on the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection to arrange for the evacuation of all people seeking asylum on Manus Island and relocate them to Australia while permanent resettlement arrangements are being made.

This petition was received from the Justice and Missions Unit of the Uniting Church

Prayer points for this week

Prayers of Thanksgiving

- Give thanks for Jesus who took on human form and came into our world to share our humanity, and who continues to come to lead, inspire and enable us to be bearers of God's love.
- Give thanks for the ways in which St. Luke's has continued to offer ministry during the ministerial vacancy this year, and for all who have given leadership and support.
- Give thanks for the faithful working of the Church Council and the good initiatives being taken. Give thanks for the work of retiring members and pray for newly elected members.
- Other praise points – Kathryn's Stoel's success in her theology studies, and Ian Pooley's faithful service as Presbytery treasurer. Ian has now retired from Presbytery.

Personal Prayers

- As we enter the Advent season, may we find time in all the busyness of preparations for Christmas to prepare ourselves to welcome once again the Christ Child.
- May we continue to be a welcoming church to all who come, and may we seek opportunities to help and encourage them.

Prayers for Others

- Pray for opportunities to share the real meaning of Christmas.
- Pray for Paul and Jenny Stephens as they prepare to begin ministry at St. Luke's. Pray for all arrangements and preparations in the lead-up to Paul's Induction Service on Feb. 11th.
- Pray for the sick, those facing surgery, the frail aged and those grieving the loss of a loved one. May they find comfort and peace in the assurance of God's presence.
- Pray for the unemployed, and those suffering financial hardship. Pray for Barwon Uniting, & organisations who offer support for people in need.
- Pray for those who have had to flee or be driven from their homelands. May they find safety, compassion and friendship as they resettle.
- Pray for safety on the roads. Pray also for the families of those killed or injured in road accidents.

Prayers for the World

- Pray for all who are victims of war, terrorism, unjust governments and natural disasters. Pray that the threat of nuclear warfare can be averted
- Pray for world leaders that they will find a way forward that leads to peaceful reconciliation, where the needs of people come before power and greed.

Church bookings week beginning 4 Dec 2017

Mon 4 Dec 2017	9:00am – 6:00pm 7:00pm – 9:30pm	⊕ AMEB Exams - Fellowship Room, Hall, Sanctuary ⊕ Geelong Chorale ☐
Tue 5 Dec 2017	9:00am – 4:00pm 9:30am – 12:30pm 5:00pm – 7:00pm	⊕ AMEB exams - Fellowship Room, Hall, Sanctuary ⊕ Men's Shed - Lane Memorial, Workshops ☐ ⊕ Weight Watchers - Hall ☐
Wed 6 Dec 2017	9:00am – 1:00pm 1:00pm – 3:00pm 6:30pm – 9:00pm	⊕ AMEB exams - Fellowship Room, Sanctuary ⊕ Pastoral Connections Ministry Team - Fellowship Room ☐ ⊕ Welsh Ladies Choir - Hall ☐
Thu 7 Dec 2017	9:00am – 3:00pm 9:30am – 12:30pm 10:30am – 12:20pm 4:00pm – 5:00pm 4:30pm – 6:00pm	⊕ AMEB Exams - Fellowship Room, Sanctuary ⊕ Men's Shed - Lane Memorial, Workshops ☐ ⊕ Let's Make Music ☐ ⊕ Choir Practice - Worship Centre ☐ ⊕ Geelong Youth Choir - Hall, Fellowship Room, Chapel ☐
Fri 8 Dec 2017	9:30am – 11:00am 10:30am – 12:30pm 2:00pm – 3:30pm 5:30pm – 8:00pm	⊕ Trekkies - Fellowship Room ☐ ⊕ Let's Make Music - Hall ☐ ⊕ Cottage by the Sea - Fellowship Room ☐ ⊕ Marie Goldsworthy's Musical Recital - Fellowship Room, Kitchen, Sanctuary
Sat 9 Dec 2017	10:00am – 5:00pm	⊕ AMEB Exams - Hall, Sanctuary, Fellowship Room
Sun 10 Dec 2017	9:30am – 10:45am	⊕ Worship - Fellowship Room, Hall, Kitchen, Sanctuary ☐

From: Robyn Hodge, Communications Team

Please note that the Weekly News Sheet submissions deadline is 9:00am Thursday mornings. Late submissions cannot be accepted.

Pastoral Connections Opportunity

From the Trekkies Friday morning study group

ST LUKE'S KINDERGARTEN SINGERS – FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER

A wonderful opportunity to interact with the children of the families who attend our Kindergarten. The children from the Friday group will be sharing their Christmas songs with the congregation. We've been invited to experience a delightful presentation by the children and their leaders. Call Pam on 5243 9575 for meeting place and time.

Coming Events

Activity

Date

Ecumenical Christmas in Market Square

Colouring, dress ups and storytelling!

**Various
dates**

3-4 people, who hold a Working with Children Check are needed each day prior to Christmas. Would you consider helping? Call Rev. Elizabeth Breakey (vicar@bellarinegateway.org.au) if you can help.

ADVENT MORNING TEA (following worship) TODAY Sun 3rd Dec

Pastoral Connections invite you to share morning tea to celebrate the commencement of the Advent Season.

You may already have received your invitation to attend but please contact Pam on 5243 9575 by Sunday 26th November if you have not received it. **Please confirm your attendance to Pam by phone as above or via email pamseller@bigpond.com**

A CHRISTMAS NOEL

JS Bach - Wacht Auf Bwv 140

St Mary's Basilica, 136 Yarra Street Geelong

**Friday 15th
December
8pm**

Tickets at the door or at www.trybooking.com/QOSS

\$35 Adult/Senior, \$30 Concession, school children free

Complimentary Supper and Program

Details at www.musicatthebasilica.org.au

www.facebook.com/MusicattheBasilica Enquiries to Jan 0407 095408

FREE LUNCHTIME ADVENT ORGAN RECITALS

St Marys of the Angels Basilica

**Mondays in
December**

From 12.30pm to 1.30pm on the following Mondays:

- Monday 4th December - Leigh Askew
- Monday 11th December - Ria Angelika Polo
- Monday 18th December - Frank de Rosso

What's On

What's on @stlukeschurchgeelong 4th - 10th Dec 2017

Men's Shed Tue/Thu 9:30-12:30	Choir Practise Thu 4:00-5:00pm	Trekkies Fri 9:30-11:00am
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Sunday Worship 9:30am 10th Dec

Worship Leader:	Raymond Surujpal
Welcomer:	B Murphy
Ushers:	I & P Petersen
Sound:	K McAvaney
Powerpoint:	J Daw
Reader:	I Speare
Flowers:	D Bath (Advent Wreath)
Morning tea:	J Pooley & P Caddy
Connections:	L Robertson
Drivers:	J Hicks
Sharing the Journey:	N Patchett 5241 9782

Lectionary Readings

Isa 10:1-11
Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15a
Mark 1:1-8

Weekly Offering

Budget:	\$1,711
Actual:	\$1,580
Difference:	-\$131
YTD Budget:	\$82125
YTD Actual:	\$84204
Difference:	+\$2,079

Upcoming meetings

Pastoral Connections	Wed 6th Dec 1-3pm	Fellowship Room
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Church Contacts

Position		Name	
Minister		Commencing February 11 2018	
Office Administrator		Corrine Goldberg	
Phone	5244 2997	Email	stlukes_highton@iinet.net.au
Church Council Executive			
Chairperson		Lloyd Walker *	
Phone	0414 666577	Email	lloyd@tech4life.com.au
Deputy Chairperson		Sue Anderson	
Phone	5241 9717	Email	suzanne.anderson54@yahoo.com.au
Secretary		Robyn Hodge *	
Phone	0427 571453	Email	robyn.hodge@stlukesuca.org.au
Treasurer		Ian Pooley *	
Phone	5243 4832	Email	igp@people.net.au
Congregation			
Chairperson		Kevin McAvaney	
Phone	5243 1448	Email	kjmca@ozemail.com.au
Secretary		Dorothy Ayrton	
Phone	5243 3467	Email	terdor01@gmail.com
Ministry Team Convenors			
Mission & Outreach			
Phone		Email	
Worship & Education		Lloyd Walker *	
Pastoral Connections		Pam Seller	
Phone	0407 557933	Email	pamseller@bigpond.com
Resourcing		Ian Pooley *	
Communications		Robyn Hodge *	
Planned Giving			
Stewardship Co-ordinator		Judy Boehm	
Phone	52438559	Email	jcboehm@gmail.com