

Weekly Pew Sheet

The Uniting Church in Australia

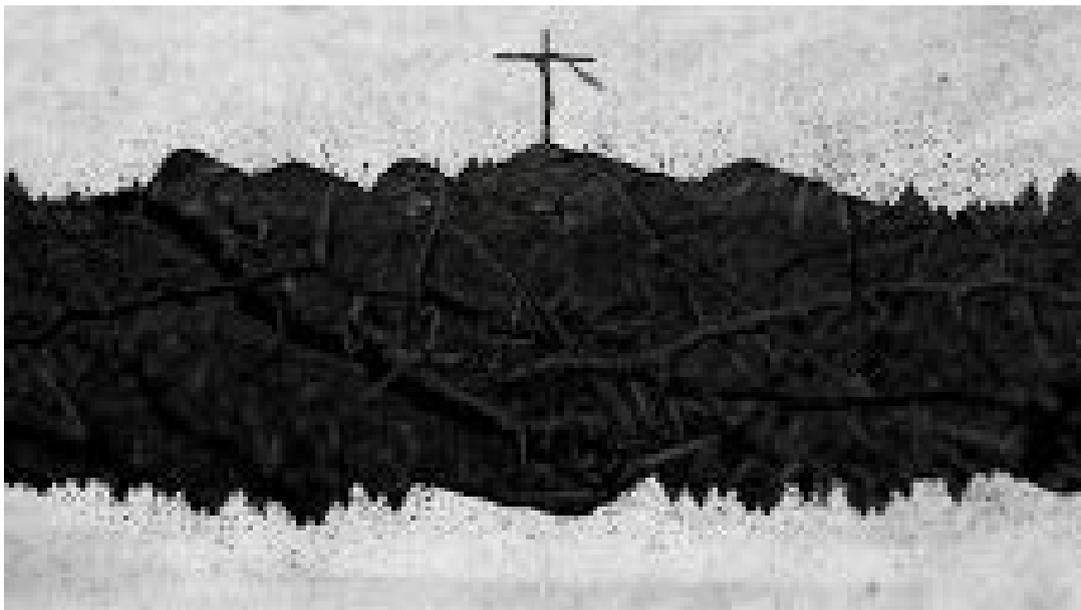
St Luke's Congregation, Highton

Sunday 10th March, 2019



Worship Leader: Rev. Paul Stephens

'The Human Condition'



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 (they're the ones wearing a flower on their lapel) so that you can be included in our contact list and invited to join in.

The monthly newsletter, St Luke's Link, is published on the first Sunday of the month. The deadline for submissions is the last Wednesday of the month. Brief, interim notices are published in a single page weekly bulletin, deadline Thursday 9:00 am, and announced prior to services.

e-mail items to news@stlukesuca.org.au

Congregation News

Mid-Week Worship March 14th 2019

You are invited to join us in the Fellowship Room on **Thursday 14th March** for our midweek service, led by Rev. Paul Stephens. Mid-week is a traditional form of worship that takes place at 2 pm on the **second Thursday of each month** (except in January). Following the March service, pancakes will be served for afternoon tea. You are invited to make a donation towards the Lenten Appeal which supports Uniting Church projects, a basket for donations will be available.

For details contact Lyn on 5241 6269 or Pam on 5243 9575.

Pancake Day Thanks

A big thank you to the children of Kids Church for making and selling pancakes last Sunday. Thank you also to the people who supported them by setting up (Joan, Doug & Geoff), buying pancakes and helping on the day. We raised \$211-80 for Uniting.

From Kathryn Stoel

Dear friends at St. Luke's,

Today, I received and accepted a call to Leopold UC. My ordination is planned for the 24th of March at St. Luke's and my induction will be on the 7th of April at Leopold. My first Sunday leading worship there will be on Palm Sunday.

I feel great joy and excitement when thinking about what the future may hold as I prepare to step into a new role in Leopold, but also a twinge of sadness at leaving the St. Luke's community. Our family will be concluding our time with you and the congregation of St. Luke's at our morning worship on the 24th of March.

It is with a feeling of deep gratitude to each one of you that I write this now. Each one of you has played an important role in my formation journey toward ordained ministry. Each one of you has been important to me and to my family. We are overjoyed to be staying in Geelong and hope that though we are leaving St. Luke's as congregants, we will continue in friendship with you all.

Kind regards,
Kathryn

Key Points from Council Meeting 22 February

- St Luke's Preschool - negotiations continue with Uniting to develop a formal agreement between the congregation and the preschool. Robyn is now representing St Luke's on the Parent Advisory Group
- St Luke's financial statements were endorsed by Council ready to be presented at the Congregation AGM set for the 7th of April
- Council is investigating options for backlighting the cross in the Worship space
- Council endorses relocating the "Welcome Refugees" banner to a more visible location on the outside of the church
- Council notes that the car park needs upgrading within the next 2 years at a potential cost of around \$55,000
- A working group of council is currently completing an audit of our property in light of our future mission and ministry at St Luke's. Results will inform future planning for the congregation
- Transfer of accounts from the Commonwealth Bank to the Bendigo Bank are almost complete
- Council is addressing the problem of decreasing safe spaces on our property for children and young people to participate and play while their parents attend activities at the church.
- Council is seeking recommendations for people to form a working group to prepare for this year's Stewardship (giving) campaign in May and June
- Council is seeking further information about the Gideons new local evangelism campaign before committing to be involved
- Robyn will be co-ordinating with regular users of St Luke's facilities a regular stocktake and cleaning program for storage areas and other places needing attention.
- Don Smith was appointed as auditor for 2019

Reminders and Appeals

Lenten Studies: Dreaming Big - where is God calling us now?

Our first whole church Lenten studies for a long time will commence in the week beginning 10th of March. If you or your group would like to explore this 5 week series, email info@stlukesuca.org.au or phone the office on 5244 5227 to register your interest and availability.

The Chapel Room open Sunday 17th - After Worship

The Chapel Room will be open **next Sunday** for those interested in viewing the work of the Mission Outreach Ministry Team. Visitors will find that the room is set up as a free-room (access for Refugees, Asylum Seekers and others in need).

Material items such as bedding, linen, towels, crockery and cutlery are received from generous donations. Do you have any spare saucepans in your cupboard, or your neighbours cupboard, or your families cupboard? Please see Rae if you can help.

Prayer Station

During Lent and in the lead up to easter, remember that our Prayer Station in the worship space is open for reflective and silent prayer. It's open every Tuesday and Thursday morning between 9:30 & 11.00am. Arrive when you can and leave when you must. Many people find that the power of prayer is awesome. See Rae for details

Prayer Requests

Pastoral Connections team would love you to know that if you would like a dedicated group of "prayers" to uphold your needs to God in prayer, you can fill out a pew sheet and pass this to Beth Allen or anyone on Connections duty in the foyer (they're the ones wearing a flower). Confidentiality is respected by the team.

Lenten Devotions for families

Families with children are invited to express their interest in printed copies of the "Illustrated Lent for Families: Reflections on Prayer (2019)" resource. This resource is designed for families to reflect on their lives as a household with children, and includes many activities that children can participate in. If you would like a copy of this resource for your household, please contact Robyn at the church office.



Prayer for the week

With thanks to members of the Trekkies small group for these prayer points

Thanksgiving and Praise

- For the Kids Church volunteers cooking and serving pancakes last Sunday at Church.
- For the privilege of offering the Hospitality of God to the St Luke's Preschool Children through the friendly faces of "Team Pancake" - Rev. Paul Stephens, Mark and Pam Seller, and Barbara Murphy.
- For Kathryn Stoel's call to her first ordained ministry placement at Leopold Uniting Church
- For Tony Johnson's engagement to Heidi and for his successful heart surgery
- For the Ash Wednesday Service
- For the brave "Clean Up Australia" volunteers working through the heat last Sunday
- For all the wonderful women reflecting the love of God in their lives - Happy International Women's Day!

Prayers for others

- For Farhad, Azadeh and Amin in their grief for those taken before their time and that Mansour and his son may be reunited as soon as possible
- For families who are separated through war, persecution and broken relationships
- For people recovering from surgery and illness, and for those who are weary
- For all the activities of the Easter season - Lenten studies, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and for Paul as he leads the congregation through this time of reflection and repentance.
- For the Palm Sunday Rally for Refugees
- For the many ministry activities happening this week - Midweek, Messy Church, Repair Cafe - may God's loving compassion be experienced by all who minister and attend
- For whose work situation is insecure - may everyone find meaningful and reliable work that forms part of a whole human identity

What's On this coming week

What's on @stlukeschurchgeelong 11th - 17th March 2019					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekend
	9-12 Men's Shed 9:30-11:30 Prayer Space Open (Sanctuary)		9-12 Men's Shed 9:30-11:30 Prayer Space Open (Sanctuary)	9-10 Walking Group (Barwon Edge) 9:15-10:45 Trekkies (Fellowship Room)	Saturday Repair Cafe 12-4:30pm (Hall/Kitchen)
	English Classes (Fellowship Room) 5:30-7:30pm		Midweek Service 2pm (Fellowship Room)	Sewing Group & Playgroup 12:30-3pm	Sunday 9:30am Worship 4:30pm-6:30pm Family-friendly Dreaming Big Study Group (Hall) 5:30pm Dreaming Big Study Group 1 (Fellowship Room)
		Seekers 7:30-9:30pm	4-5pm Choir Practise (Jenny's House)	Messy Church 4:15-7pm	Sunday House Church 7-9:30pm

Sunday Worship 17th March		Lectionary Readings
Worship Leader: Welcomer: Ushers: Sound: Powerpoint: Reader: Morning tea: Connections: Driver/s: Sharing the Journey: Vestry Prayer: Flowers:	Rev. Paul Stephens B Murphy H Swan & I Allen D & T Ayrton C McAvaney N McMillan E Nicholls C & J Findlay J Pooley C & D Manks R Anderson Ph: 0413 888 884 B McLelland J White	<p style="text-align: center;">Lent 2</p> Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35 Liturgical Colour: Purple <p style="text-align: center;">Communion</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Servers -</p> J George & G Connoley E Nicholls & S Anderson P & I Petersen D & T Ayrton <p style="text-align: center;">Set Up - J George & G Connoley Bread - L Salamy</p>