

*Weekly Pew Sheet*

*The Uniting Church in Australia*

**St Luke's Congregation, Highton**

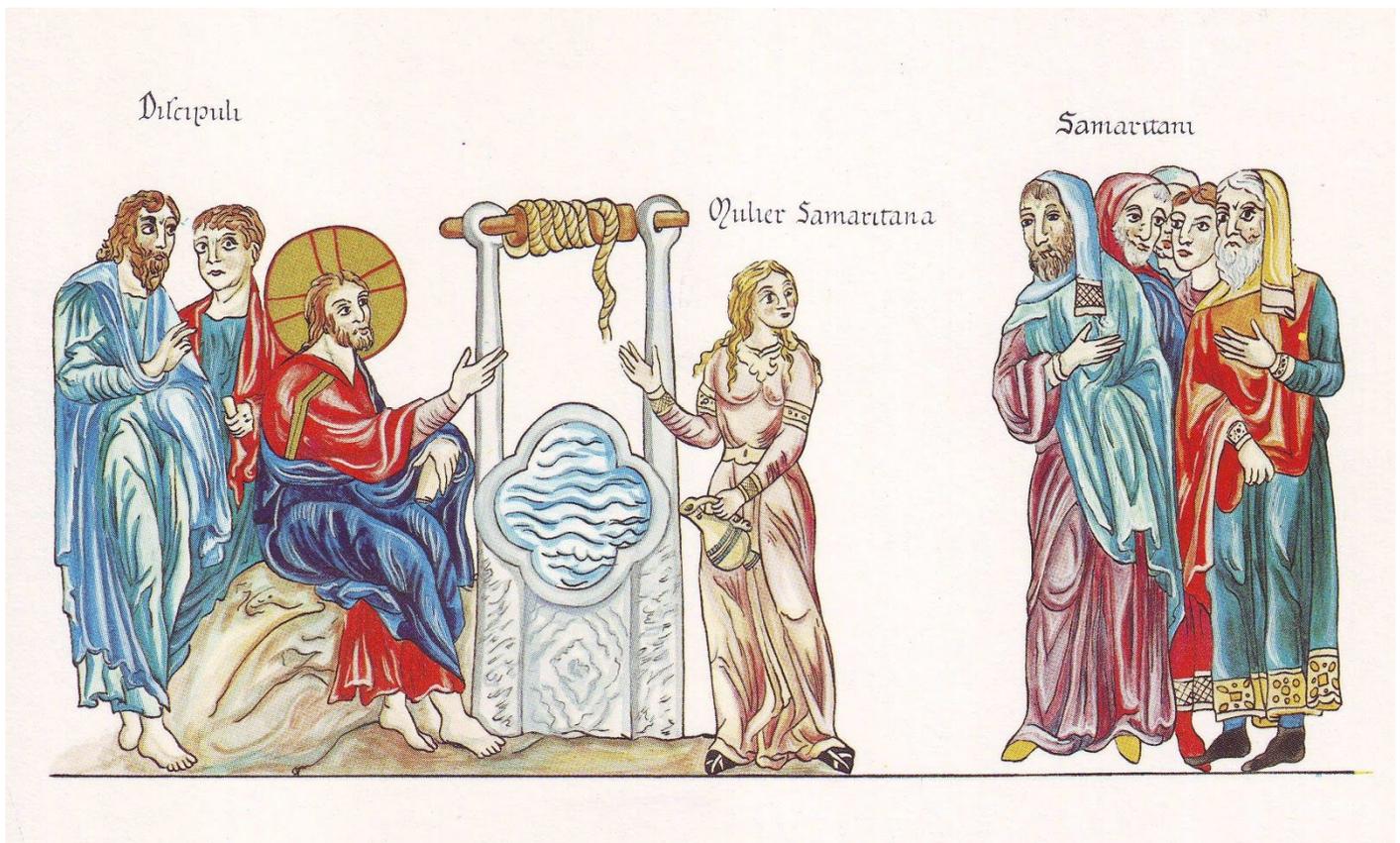
Sunday 15th March 2020



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***Worship Leader: Rev. Paul Stephens***

Lenten Series - Encounters with Jesus  
"A Samaritan woman."



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**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.

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Office administrator: Robyn Hodge.  
Office open hours: Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:30am–12:30pm

# *Congregation News*

## **COVID19 Advice**

Dear friends, an email and hand delivered letters were circulated on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th of March to advise all people connecting with St Luke's of the precautions we are taking to minimise the risk of infection amongst our community. The situation is rapidly changing and it is most important that we all do what we can to avoid everyone getting sick at once and putting our health care system under strain. **This includes staying at home (even if you are rostered on) if you are in a high risk category or if you are feeling unwell.**

## **Please update your details**

If you have not received any communication, please contact Robyn to update your details: [info@stlukesuca.org.au](mailto:info@stlukesuca.org.au) ph 5244 2997. You can also update your information by completing this online form: <https://stlukeschurchgeelong.churchcenter.com/people/forms/104770>

## **House Church tonight CANCELLED**

In light of an anticipated small number of people attending House Church on Sunday night, and being proactive and responsible in the light of the constantly unfolding facts and situation surrounding the coronavirus / COVID-19 pandemic, a decision has been made to CANCEL the House Church gathering this coming Sunday, 15th March 2020.

## **Refugee Sewing Group Postponed until further notice**

Ken Anderson has advised that the refugee sewing group will be postponed for the time being as to avoid unnecessary risk to participants and volunteers.

## **Notice of Meeting:**

St Luke's Congregational Annual General Meeting will be held at the conclusion of the Service on Sunday 29 March 2020.

Business will include reports from the Church Council and presentation of St Luke's budget for 2020.

*Kevin McAvaney, Congregational Chairperson*

## Video Calling available through St Luke's

With opportunities to meet face to face about to become limited, church activity leaders may like to explore the possibilities of connecting online for their groups. To connect online, people will need a smartphone, tablet or computer with an internet or mobile connection, and an email address. St Luke's uses Gsuite for online activities, which includes Hangouts Meet, a video chat application. If you would like to become connected, please email or call Robyn to set up a time to get video chatting working for you.

And if that all sounds a bit too technical, there's still the good old telephone for calling and staying in touch!

## Shorty the Piano needs a better cover - can you help?

Throughout the week, our little hall piano gets quite a workout and is often moved, uncovered and played many times. Unfortunately Shorty's current cover is not the right size and as a result is becoming caught in the castors and ruined. Is there a handy sewer who could refit the current cover or even sew a new fitted one that would be just right for Shorty? Please let Robyn in the office know if you can help.

## *Wider Church News*

### Lent Event Week 3:

As a soccer-mad young boy, Nyoman went out to play with friends and thinking he had found a ball, picked up a hand grenade. He lost his left wrist and hand. Left over from the conflict between Muslims and Christians that killed 5,000 in his home province, Ambon Island, the grenade could easily have taken his life. Today we'll meet



Nyoman and his friend Petrus – an inspiring story that shows the healing power of God's grace at work building peace and ending poverty. Visit [www.lentevent.com](http://www.lentevent.com) to support this work. Next week: how to build new relationships close to home

## **Tell us the Story - UC Historical Society**

Tell us the story about someone in the history of the church you knew and valued personally. The UC Historical Society is planning a meeting on Sunday 16 August at which four presenters will tell these stories. Interested to be one of the presenters? Send your submission to Robert Renton at PO Box 5064 Hoppers Crossing Vic 3029 or by email to [robert.renton@bigpond.com](mailto:robert.renton@bigpond.com) by 20 July.

## **ST ANDREWS 2020 JUSTICE DAY “Think Plastic Wise”**

SUNDAY April 19th 2020 at 2pm Charge \$10

Ever wondered what you can and can't put into the recycling bin? Or how you can become a more sustainable consumer? Then this event is for you! Naomi Wells from Plastic Wise Bellarine will bring her bag of show and tell items for a hands-on presentation.

You are invited to bring along the things that have been puzzling you for a Q & A session and Naomi will answer your recycling questions. Charge \$10 with all proceeds to support UCA Lentara Asylum Seeker Project. Afternoon tea will follow.

## *Appeals and Reminders*

### **EASTER BISCUIT BAKE**

You are again invited to participate in the Easter Biscuit Bake, to support Prison Fellowship's aim to present every prisoner in Victoria with a pack of 10 home-made biscuits. We will be joining with other churches and Christian groups, sharing in this wonderful opportunity to bring a message of hope and compassion. The biscuits will be packed at St. John's, Highton, and distributed in the week leading up to Easter.

Details:

- All biscuits to be home-made.
- Please pack in sealed disposable containers such as ice-cream containers, with ingredients clearly marked.
- No nuts or peanut butter.
- Please place containers in the box marked Easter Biscuit Bake in the foyer.
- LAST SUNDAY TO BRING BISCUITS; 29th March.

For any enquiries, please ring Beth Allen on 52436874.

## **Feast of Faiths - Harmony Day**

This event has been postponed until further notice due to precautions around COVID19.

## **NAMETAG ORDERS**

Order your Uniting Church nametag from Jenny Pooley this month. The cost is \$13 and pre-payment is required. See Jenny Pooley for details of how to order ph: 5243 4832.

## **St Luke's Environment Action Group Bushfire Appeal**

Seedlings of herbs, veggies and flowers for the bushfire victims need to be at St Luke's 11am Sat 21st March to be loaded into Jean Daw's car. Details in previous newsheets or on the website.

## ***Community News***

### **Singing the Classics Program cancelled**

Anne Pilgrim from the Chorale's "Singing the Classics" program has advised us that they are cancelling the program for the year until the COVID19 crisis is over. The first concert was planned for the 5th of April at St Luke's.

## ***Prayer***

### **Lent event week 3**

God, we are angry at the injustices of this world – a place where people lose everything through no fault of their own and are left with nothing, simply because they were in the wrong place at the wrong time.  
God, we give you our anger.

Jesus, we are reassured by the stories of your sorrow and compassion for those who suffered, especially men and women thrown aside because they were poor, sick, blind or disabled.

Jesus, grow our love.

Holy Spirit, we are awed by the way you have worked through your people in the Church in Maluku, bringing together Muslims and Christians to create peace and provide a vision of our world where poverty no longer leaves children hungry and families hopeless.

Holy Spirit, work in us to join hands with your church in Indonesia and around the world, building peace and beating poverty.

Father, give us the strength, determination and hope that we see in brothers and sisters in parts of the world where resources are few, but faith and resilience is strong.

Turn our anger to action, our hearts to compassion and our hands to the work you place before us.

Amen.

## Prayers in the Pandemic

God of Mercy, be with the tens of thousands of people who have contracted the coronavirus around the world.

Comfort those whose loved ones have died.

Bring peace to those living with uncertainty after perhaps being exposed to the virus.

Give patience to those who are quarantined and unable to move freely in their communities.

Wise and Faithful Guide,

watch over and protect other people from catching this deadly virus.

Strengthen those who are risking their own lives to care for sick patients.

May we all be filled with compassion for those who are suffering.

From:

<https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/blogs/posts/praying-the-news/681/a-prayer-for-those-affected-by-the-coronavirus-2#jump>

# What's On This Coming Week

## What's on @stlukeschurchgeelong 16th-22nd March 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekend
<p><b>4pm-6pm</b> GYC Vivaces &amp; Preludes (Hall, Fellowship Room, Sanctuary)</p> <p><b>7pm-10pm</b> Geelong Chorale (Kitchen, Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>9:30am-12:00pm</b> Men's Shed (Chapel, Lane Memorial Room)</p> <p><b>9:30am-11:30am</b> Prayer Space Open (Sanctuary)</p> <p><b>5:30pm-7:30pm</b> Weight Watchers (Hall)</p>	<p><b>10am-3pm</b> Days For Girls Sewing Group (Hall)</p> <p><b>6:30pm-9:20pm</b> Welsh Ladies Choir (Hall)</p>	<p><b>9am-12pm</b> Let's Make Music (Hall)</p> <p><b>9:30am-12:00pm</b> Men's Shed (Chapel, Lane Memorial Room)</p> <p><b>9:30am-11:30am</b> Prayer Space Open (Sanctuary)</p> <p><b>4pm-5pm</b> Choir Practice (Patchett's Home)</p> <p><b>4pm-9pm</b> Geelong Youth Choir (Kitchen, Hall, Sanctuary, Fellowship Room)</p>	<p><b>9am-12pm</b> Let's Make Music (Hall)</p> <p><b>9am-10am</b> Walking Group (Barwon Edge Boat House, 40 Windsor Rd, Newtown VIC 3220, Australia)</p> <p><b>9:15am-10:45am</b> Trekkies Study Group (Fellowship Room)</p> <p><b>12:30pm-2:30pm</b> Sewing Group &amp; Playgroup (Chapel, Hall)</p> <p><b>4:45pm-7:30pm</b> Messy Church (Fellowship Room, Foyer (40), Hall, Kitchen, Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>Sunday</b> <b>9:30am-10:20am</b> Worship - Prison Bake Guest Speaker (Fellowship Room, Hall, Kitchen, Sanctuary)</p>

Sunday Worship 22nd March		Lectionary Readings
<p>Worship Leader:</p> <p>Welcomer:</p> <p>Ushers:</p> <p>Sound:</p> <p>Powerpoint:</p> <p>Reader:</p> <p>Morning tea:</p> <p>Connections:</p> <p>Driver/s:</p> <p><b>Sharing the Journey:</b></p> <p>Vestry Prayer:</p> <p>Flowers:</p> <p>Musicians:</p>	<p>L Walker</p> <p>P Mills</p> <p>S Anderson &amp; I Allan</p> <p>I Speare</p> <p>P Phelan</p> <p>N McMillian</p> <p>E Nicholls</p> <p>J Hicks &amp; M Baum</p> <p>A Lyons</p> <p>J &amp; G Boehm</p> <p>I Petersen</p> <p>Claire Ziegler</p> <p>claire.ziegler@iinet.net.au</p> <p>ph: 0412904180</p> <p>B McLelland</p> <p>V Nicholls</p> <p>Hodge McAvaney Family</p>	<p><b>Lent 4</b></p> <p>1 Samuel 16:1-13</p> <p>Psalm 23</p> <p>Ephesians 5:8-14</p> <p>John 9:1-41</p> <p>Colour: P</p>

The weekly pew sheet is printed on Fridays. E-mail your weekly notices to [news@stlukesuca.org.au](mailto:news@stlukesuca.org.au) by **Friday 9am**. Longer articles are published in the occasional Newsletter, St Luke's Link - next edition will be in June 2020. Submit your Link contributions to [news@stlukeuca.org.au](mailto:news@stlukeuca.org.au) by the **18th May at 9am**.