

The Anglican Parish of Emerald

St Luke's Emerald

Sunday 4th October 2020

Sunday 11th October 2020

St Luke's Parish Mission Statement:

'To know Christ and make Him known'



Website: www.stlukesemerald.org.au

www.anglicanchurchcq.org.au/emerald.html

Email: stlukes_emerald@bigpond.com Telephone: 4982 1802

Priest In Charge: Rev Jen Hercott (0435 824 414) (*Day Off - Tuesday*)

Wardens: Larry Daniels (0427 849 285) Ivy Elsdon (0448 821 778)

Welcome to St Luke's Emerald. To everyone who have come to St. Luke's for the first time, to those who call our parish home, and to those who wanted to "come and see".

Parish Contacts: *Pastoral Care:* Rev'd Jen *Prayer Chain:* Dianne McAtee

Safe Ministry: Elvanto: Hall Bookings: & Roster: Colin Hercott

Around the Diocese.

Preparations are underway for the normal session of Synod being held over zoom from the 23rd-25th October. Since the special session which was held July some commercial property has been able to be sold and some Diocesan debt paid down, which is a good result all around.

Sonforce Kids Holiday program ran from 28th - 2nd October with 26 kids participating and 4 from our Emerald/Blackwater congregations; Kids learnt the importance of finding and following the facts to establish the truth, lots of fun was had, and one young person even said to me when I dropped by "I'm going to be a real spy when I grow up!", Big congratulations to all involved! A Diocesan youth event is being planned for November 7th with details to follow. Some parishes are planning events such as markets; the new COVID restrictions do allow for this with significant work in risk assessment and mitigation planning.

Around the Parish.

Operation Christmas Child is once again underway. Collect a box, pack a box and bless a child with access to 'The Greatest Journey'.

Planning is underway for a "St Luke's family BBQ" as a way of celebrating reduced COVID regulations and welcoming the newer members of our St Luke's family.

Planning for Christmas and the community Christmas lunch are underway for 2020

COVID-19 Updates. We continue to operate in accordance with the Industry Endorsed COVIDSafe Plan for Places of Worship. This means:

Maximum person limit of 50 people for normal worship services; Person limit exemptions apply for Funerals and Weddings.

New regulations for events allow up to 1000 people at an event with requirements for COVIDSafe practices and space allowances.

Significant cleaning needs to be undertaken between services therefore one public service per week is being held at 11am. Wednesday and Sunday's@6 remain in recess at this time.

Services will continue to be streamed at 9am on <https://stlukesanglican.online.church> & Facebook @EmeraldAnglican.

Pewsheets and the new Diocesan newsletter are available on our website

<http://www.stlukesemerald.org.au/bulletin>.

Kids talks can be found

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmi_udObRDZ0N_S3USRcRsQ?view_as=subscriber

Bible study via zoom 7pm on Monday nights. Bible study notes are available

<http://www.stlukesemerald.org.au/bible-studies>

Little Luke's & Intrigue Youth remains in recess.

'Connect groups' are about to be revamped. Let Jen know if you would like to be included.

ANNIVERSARIES: October

Please give Rev Jen any corrections or additions for our Anniversaries Diary.

Birthdays: 7th Mackenzie Saunders, 12th Anne Mumford, 13th Tristan Sauer, 14th Phil Lewis, Val Williams,

Baptism: 15th Harry Peters, 16th Kendall Gnech,

Weddings: 17th Kerry & Dianne McAtee

Containers for change: To support the church through the containers for change program eligible containers can be dropped directly at the collection centre or left in the green collection bins in the kitchen or the church office. The church collection number is: C10121548. If you are unsure what containers are eligible please check the website

<https://www.containersforchange.com.au/how-it-works>.

Church Finance: September 2020

Income: \$8,242.86 Expenditure: \$3,917.57 Gain: \$4,325.29

Whilst our services are suspended our bills will continue. Please continue to support the mission and ministry of St Luke's through regular giving either on-line or by deposit at the bank.

Direct Debit/Electronic Transfer: To do so simply use the bank details below:

Acct: St Luke's Anglican Church BSB: 034-181 Acct Number: 810 226

Please continue to support **St Luke's Mission Fund BSB 034 181 Acct number 103281.**

Activities @ St Luke's

- Sunday **online church** 9am & **in person church** 11am.
- Monday Bible Study 7pm by Zoom (please contact Jen if you would like the log in code for Bible Study)
- Saturday 8am Prayer group (in the hall)
- Christianity explored online & discussion group on zoom.
- September 27th Online Service only
- October 17th Trivia night fundraiser (Contact Wendee 0458235003)
- October 23rd-25th Synod
- October 25th - 29th Clergy Conference & Retreat

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| Sunday 4th Oct | Exodus 20:1-4,7-9,12-20 Psalms 19 Philippians 3:4 -14 Matthew 21:33-46 | Sunday 18th Oct St Luke's Day | Jeremiah 8:22-9 Psalms 145:10-18 2 Timothy 4:9-17 Luke 10:1-9 |
| Sunday 11th Oct | Exodus 32:1-14 Psalms 106:1-6, 2-24 Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14 | Sunday 25th Oct | Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2:1-13 Matthew 22:34-46 |

Treasury Project: (memory verses)

October 4th: Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

October 18th: Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to Me."

Prayer Points: Please pray for;

The Diocese of Ballarat: For Bishop Garry Weatherill, and for the faith communities of this region as they work through COVID restrictions and find ways to enjoy worship together and provide encouragement and support to fellow believers and to their broader communities.

The Diocese of Gippsland: For Bishop Richard Treloar, and for all faith communities in this region as they continue to rebuild after the devastating fires of last summer, and find ways to support, encourage and meet with each other and their communities through the COVID shut downs in Victoria.

Diocese of Central Queensland.

Parish of Keppel: Pray for Rev'd Rob, Rev'd Philip V, Rev'd Phillip W, Rev'd William, the lay ministry team and the congregations at both Yeppoon and Emu Park as they steadily grow together and invite their communities to come and join the family of God. Give thanks for the success of the Sonforce holiday program that Keppel parish shared with the Diocese; and pray for the youth event planned for November.

Parish of Gladstone: Pray Rev'd Jake and the lay ministry team in Gladstone. Give thanks for their pantry and soup kitchen programs which have been a blessing to so many during this time; pray for continued refreshment and growth of the parish and meaningful connections with those who don't yet know Christ.

The persecuted Church in Bangladesh: Where Christians are monitored and treated with hostility, and where Christians live in fear of violence everyday. Pray for Churches who face increasing levels of monitoring, as well as for opportunities for Christians to share the gospel.

The persecuted Church in Ethiopia: Where the rise of Islamic extremism is challenging the Christian foundations of the country, where Churches are at increasing rates of attack, and Christians are increasingly isolated and live with the threat of violence. Pray for physical and spiritual healing for those who suffer violent attacks; pray for unity across the church, and pray that unity of the church will be a powerful testimony of God's love and healing to many.

The world during the pandemic (COVID-19):

Please pray for leaders, officials and advisors for wisdom, discernment and compassion.

Please pray for healthcare and other front line workers for protection, strength and courage.

Please pray for teachers, students and families as they seek to navigate distance learning.

Please pray for our community, for wisdom, compliance and calm.

Please pray that in God's love, compassion and sovereignty that He will stop this virus. That in His compassion he will heal, comfort and reassure. That in His wisdom, grace and mercy He will lead the way to effective treatment and prevention. That in His strength He will encourage, carry and nurture all who minister in His name at this time; and that He will ultimately use this virus to His Glory and to draw His people closer to Himself.

Notepad thoughts: Table People

Last fortnight we spoke of the importance of belonging and being active in our church; but how do we, as the people of God help each other, and especially help newcomers to belong?

There are two ways in which we (Christians) operate within the church and also welcome newcomers; we either become table people or tower people:

Towers are tall, dominant, imposing, impressive and often quite exclusive. Often when you reach a tower in the city you can't get in unless you have a code, or unless you already know someone inside. If you do get in they are often difficult to navigate and there are some floors which are totally off limits without a key or a membership card. From a tower we look down on the world, we look down passersby, and we look down on those who want to access our tower. Towers are made out of uniform materials, they are hard and clean and manmade, they are almost religious in their conformity (and they are very often boring). When God's people built a tower in Genesis 11 God had to come down to see what His people were doing; and He said "*this will never do ... My people are not tower people*".

On the other hand, tables are flat, low and accessible. Tables are usually made out of more natural materials, they are soft and often beautiful. Tables are inviting, they are places of welcome, and feasting, and conversation and learning! The Bible tells us that God has set a great banquet table for His people (imagery of the Kingdom of God), when God is told that there is still room at the table (Luke 14) He sends ambassadors to bring more people in; in fact he tells His ambassadors to "compel" people to come, to offer repeatedly, to encourage, to remind, even to beg! God is not satisfied until His table is full. In Luke 14 God's banquet table is not uniform, but it certainly is interesting! God is a table person ... and He calls us to be table people! To go out and compel all people to come to fill His table and His house, and therefore to fill our table with the poor, the cripple, the lame, foreigners, widows, children - those who are the same as us, and more who are different. We help each other, we help new people, we even help ourselves to belong when we become table people.

Being a table person is often inconvenient, it can take us outside our comfort zone, it requires us to give of ourselves and it can confront us with our own prejudice: But God simply says GO out and COMPEL them to come in; it's not an option, it's a command!

So a question to ponder this week: Are you a tower person or a table person? Is your church a tower or a table? Are you compelling people to come and belong?

Grace & peace
Jen

RUN FOR JESUS!

Have a Goal _____

Train Hard _____

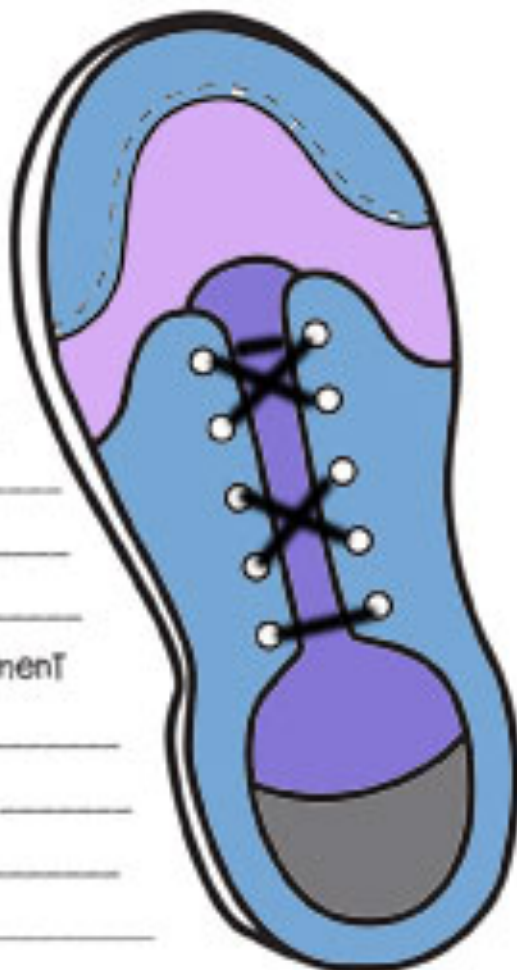
Find a Coach _____

Use The Right Equipment _____

Remove Obstacles _____

Don't Look Back _____

Keep The Faith! _____



Run for JESUS ACTIVITY Sheet