

The Anglican Parish of Emerald

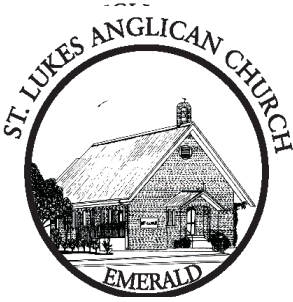
St Luke's Emerald

Sunday 9th August 2020

Sunday 16th August 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 & Around the Parish:

Bishop Elect Peter Grice will be consecrated in Brisbane on February 24th 2021 and Installed in Rockhampton on February 27th 2021. Please continue to pray for Ven Tom Henderson-Brooks as he leads the Diocese at this time, and for Peter, Virginia and their family as they prepare to move.

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.
- 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' will continue. If you are not in a connect group please let us know and we can join you up. It would be great to see these connect groups starting to build relationship and support each other and maybe even meeting occasionally for a cuppa and/or a Bible Study.
- **ANNIVERSARIES: August**

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

Birthdays: 18th Edie Coogan, 21st Jean Richards, Peter DeVreede,

Baptism: 11th Sloan Wilkins, Kate Sheales, Aaron Lewis, 16th Lachlan Lewis, 19th Sarah Lewis, 20th Andrew Sheales, 22nd Tracey Sypher, Alexander Vermaack,

Weddings: 10th John & Byrony Tramaachi, 11th Larry & Nancy Daniels, 14th Daniel & Sharon Wilkins.

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: July 2020

Income: \$ 9,468.61 Expenditure: \$ 6,419.08 Gain: \$ 3,049.53

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.
- Sunday 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 7th Fathers Day Picnic following the service (Details to follow)
- September 14 - 17 Christian Motorcycle Association visit (Details to follow)
- October 17th Trivia night fundraiser (Details to follow)
- October 23rd-25th Synod
- October 25th - 29th Clergy Conference & Retreat

Sunday 9th August	Daniel 4: 1-27 Psalm 105:1-6 Romans 10:4-15 Matthew 14:22-36	Sunday 23rd August	Daniel 5:1-30 Psalm 124 Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20
Sunday 16th August	Daniel 4: 28-37 Psalm 133 Romans 11:13-32 Mathew 15:21-28	Sunday 30th August	Daniel 6:1-28 Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26 Romans 12:9-21 Mathew 16:21-28

Treasury Project: (memory verses)

August 9th: Galatians 5:22-23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodnesses, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

August 16th: Psalm 118:24 "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it".

Prayer Points: Please pray for;

The Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn: For Bishop Mark Short and the Diocesan team as they provide leadership and assistance to parishes in still in recovery from Bushfires and now in increasing threat from COVID-19. Pray for strong and faithful leadership, for connection during isolation and for one on one and small group discipleship to grow during this time.

The Diocese of Newcastle: Bishop Peter Stuart and Assistant Bishops Sonia Roulston & Charlie Murry. Pray for this Diocese during they navigate renewed COVID restrictions; pray for those involved in the recent ordination, pray for strong and vital leadership and pray for parishes to be faithful ambassadors of Christ.

Diocese of Central Queensland.

Special Ministry District of Gracemere: Under care of the Administrator. Pray for faithful witness in word and deed, and for effective out reach through the playgroup meeting in the park.

Special Ministry District of Blackwater: Under care of the Administrator. Pray for endurance in difficult times, faithful witness in the community and a willingness to step out in faith to a lost and broken world.

Bishop Elect Peter Grice: For ending well at Holy Cross Cathedral. For planning to move across the country, for settling children in university and school. That God will fill him with wisdom, patience and endurance. That God will protect him and his family during this time.

The persecuted Church in Sri Lanka: Where Buddhist extremists continue to persecute religious minorities, where violence in escalation and where conversion to Christianity is seen as a betrayal of family and community. Pray for reconciliation between different religious groups; for Christians to be bold in the face of persecution; and for peace and comfort for those rejected by their family and community because of their faith.

The persecuted Church in Tajikistan: Where no religious activity is permitted outside of state-controlled institutions, all Christian activity is monitored, where children and teenagers are forbidden to attend worship or activities, and where authorities raid church meetings and confiscate materials. Pray that believers will continue to find ways to share their faith, that the church will be strengthened and continue to grow, and that God will continue to raise up faithful workers to nurture and lead the next generation.

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:

It's no secret that life is tough right now - around the world people are contracting COVID-19, many are becoming critically ill, others are dying. The statistics day after day are staggering; but we must never lose sight of the fact that the numbers on our screens and in our newspapers are more than just statistics, they represent people - Mum's & Dad's, Nan's & Pop's, Children, Grandchildren, Aunts, Uncles, Friends. Whilst this disaster may not be personal to us today, it is personal to someone, and perhaps even someone we know. Here in CQ we can feel removed from it all, and potentially become numb to the issues at hand or perhaps even complacent in the way we respond. But we must never lose sight of the fact that the way we respond has an impact we can't even see; following the basic hygiene principles keeps us and our loved ones safe; complying with the directions of health officials keeps our community safe and makes the lives of first responders, health care professionals and even politicians a little easier; keeping aware but not alarmed helps protect those in our community suffering from mental health disorders, and helps to alleviate the load on public health facilities; not buying into or spreading conspiracy theories and public revolt ideologies helps to keep effort and energy in the right place, helps people to choose to help others, and helps protect our front line law enforcement from violence and abuse. The Apostle Paul taught that we are to obey our worldly masters in so far as it does not violate God's law; As disciples of Jesus it is important that we follow His lead in this area (even when we don't like it).

We are ambassadors of Christ, how we choose to react or behave during the pandemic reflects on Christ: as such we are calm because we know that Christ is ultimately in control - we are not those who sneak across borders, break curfew, go to church or work with a sore throat, gather in sizes not permitted, or break other rules because it suits us to do so. As ambassadors of Christ our message needs to be "we care - even when it is not convenient!" Our role as disciples is: Repent humbly, witness openly, and love unreservedly - this applies even more so today!

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Grace & Peace,
Jen

