

# The Anglican Parish of Emerald

St Luke's Emerald

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2020

*St Luke's Parish Mission Statement:*

**'To know Christ and make Him known'**



Website: [www.stlukesemerald.org.au](http://www.stlukesemerald.org.au)

[www.anglicanchurchcq.org.au/emerald.html](http://www.anglicanchurchcq.org.au/emerald.html)

Email: [stlukes\\_emerald@bigpond.com](mailto: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:**

We are slowly being able to recommence services and other activities in our churches. The Diocese is continuing to closely monitor all advice from Queensland Health Services, WorkSafe and all applicable Industry Endorsed COVIDSafe Plans.

Where we stand as a Parish at the moment:

- The physical size of our building will allow us to have 50 people in a normal worship service (including singing from 12th July). We still need to provide for 1.5 meters between each person so some modification of the way church looks and flows will need to be made in the short term.
- Significant cleaning needs to be undertaken between services therefore we will offer one in person service a week 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.
- If you want to attend church in person service please let us know so that we can ensure that we have plenty of space for everyone planning to attend.
- Pewsheets and the new Diocesan newsletter are now 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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmi_udObRDZ0N_S3USRcRsQ?view_as=subscriber)
- Bible study will continue via zoom at this point at 7pm on Monday nights. Bible study notes are available <http://www.stlukesemerald.org.au/bible-studies>
- Little Luke's remains in recess, and Intrigue Youth will meet be held via zoom.
- '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.

## **Other arrangements**

- If you do not have internet access or can not access the internet, arrangements can be made to deliver Pew Sheets and service DVD's.
- Special services such as Weddings and Funerals will still be able to be conducted under strict hygiene protocols but will be limited to 100 people for attendance. We will work with families around providing outdoor services and/or streaming of services as appropriate for those who can not attend.
- If you find yourself isolated or in need during this time, please contact the church and we will find ways to love and support you.

## **ANNIVERSARIES: July**

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

**Birthdays:** 18<sup>th</sup> Via Tuali, 21<sup>st</sup> James Purcell, 22<sup>nd</sup> Boyd Sauer, Beau Cahill, 25<sup>th</sup> Colin Smith.

**Baptism:** 18<sup>th</sup> Graeme Sypher, McArthur Swain, 22<sup>nd</sup> Gabby Sypher.

**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: June 2020**

Income: \$ 8719.41 Expenditure: \$ 6,109.15 Gain: \$ 2,610.26

Whilst some of our activities 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 also remember to continue to give beyond the **BSB 034 181 Acct number 103281**.

### **Activities @ St Luke's**

- Sunday online church 9am.
- Sunday Public Worship 11am Please register with Ivy Elsdon (people's warden) or Jen if you would like to be included in the roster to attend.
- Monday Bible Study 7pm by Zoom (please contact Jen if you would like the log in code for Bible Study)
- Christianity explored online & discussion group on zoom.

**\*\*Please note Sunday 19th of July 9am streamed service only.\*\***

<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July</b> 9am Online 11am Public Worship	<b>Daniel 2:1-23 Psalm 119:105-112 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9</b>	<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July</b> 9am Online 11am Public Worship	<b>Daniel 3:1-30 Psalm 105:1-11 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:44-58</b>
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July</b> Streamed Service Only at 9am	<b>Daniel 2:24-49 Psalm 139:1-11 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30</b>	<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August</b> 9am Online 11am Public Worship	<b>Daniel 4: 1-27 Psalm 17:1-7 Romans 9:1-8 Matthew 14:13-21</b>

### **Treasury Project: (memory verses)**

**July 12th: Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."**

**July 19th: Romans 12:12 "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord".**

**Prayer Points:** Please pray for;

**The Diocese of Grafton:** For Bishop Murray Harvey and the Diocesan team as they provide leadership and assistance to parishes in the region as they return to worship.

Pray for Christians across the Diocese that they will witness faithfully across the region in area area of their lives.

**The Diocese of Perth:** For Archbishop Kaye Goldsworthy, Assistant Bishops and the Episcopal team. Pray for faithful Christians to witness to the truth of the gospel, for God's word to be proclaimed, for hearts to be transformed, and for God's kingdom to be expanded in this region. Please pray for churches as they return to worship, and for clergy and ministry leaderships teams as they undertake the work of operating in a COVIDSafe way.

**Diocese of Central Queensland.**

**The Parish of Boyne River:** For the Local Lay Ministers as they lead their church and reach their community Rev'd Graeme as he supports this parish from Longreach. Pray that God will raise up new workers for the harvest in this region.

**The Parish of Moranbah:** Rev'd Luke Collings . Give thanks that their rectory is almost ready to move back into after the fire. Give thanks for their creativity in continuing to share the gospel during this time of lock down. supportive leadership through the COVID lockdown, for effective use of technology. Pray for the parish as they go through the discernment process in looking to fill the role of Senior Minister for their Parish.

**The persecuted Church in Morocco:** Where Christian faith is met with hostility by authorities and communities, and Christians can not meet together publicly. Pray that isolated Christians will have opportunity for fellowship and encouragement with other Christians. Pray that believers will have the courage to share their faith, and that God will move the hearts of authorities that they will be a vessel for His glory.

**The persecuted Church in Qatar:** Where religious freedom is framed within the strict rules of Sharia Law, meaning that sharing the gospel iOS forbidden, followers of Jesus are persecuted and risk violence, ostracisation and honour killing. Please pray that believers will be encouraged and find opportunities to meet with each other, that churches will thrive as a place of refuge and peace, and that believers will boldly share their faith despite the risks.

**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:** Our theme for 2020: Making Disciples.

Research and reports are regularly being released at the moment confirming what we already anecdotally know; with the turmoil that COVID-19 is creating, young people are lacking direction, Adults and feeling lost and disconnected. Words which are being used to describe the mental health of our nation include lost, alone, isolated, desolate, fearful, anxious, and angry ... and often they don't know why.

There is a wonderful exchange in Alice in wonderland which I think captures the problem perfectly:

"Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?" Asked Alice

"That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.

"I don't much care where—" said Alice.

"Then it doesn't matter which way you go," said the Cat.

"—so long as I get SOMEWHERE," Alice added as an explanation.

"Oh, you're sure to do that," said the Cat, "if you only walk long enough."

This exchange is often summarised down to "If you don't know where you're going, any road will get you there". And I think this children's story captures the issue at the core of many of the presenting issues of our culture today: We don't know our (eternal) destination.

As Christians we know that we live for a purpose greater than ourselves and this purpose is set by our (eternal) destination. Jesus says in Matthew 7:13-14 that there are only two options with our eternal destination **13** "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy[a] that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. **14** For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

Once we know our eternal destination It's not so hard to find the way; Jesus said I am the way the truth and the life (John 14:6). So how do we find ourselves walking with Jesus? Without descending into cliché, it is important to remind ourselves of the absolute essential nature of the Bible as a compass for life. The Bible is the only legitimate source of direction for life 2 Tim. 3:16 teaches that the Bible is profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness. In other words, God's word gives us guidelines for living, instructions on building healthy relationships, direction for how to make the tough decisions in life, assurance in times of difficulty or doubt; the Bible brings comfort when we are hurting, certainty to our uncertainty and light into our darkness. The Bible reveals the nature and character of God, and through it's pages, God himself invites us into intimate relationship with him.

But even for the Christian spiritual drifting can be a real issue; without the direction of the Bible constantly correcting our course having a rudder or a steering wheel is useless, as we will go wherever the current of life directs. So as disciples to be intentional in our direction we must read, reflect on and digest our Bible every day and use it's content as our compass. As disciple-makers we must help others to develop a daily habit of Bible reading and devotion to build relationship with God, gain knowledge of his purpose and direction for their lives and intentionally guide them to set their direction to their eternal destination.

Grace & Peace  
Jen

# DANIEL NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM

Help Daniel get to his friends before Arioch does.

