

The Anglican Parish of Emerald

St Luke's Emerald

Sunday 14th June 2020

Sunday 21st June 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:

The Anglican Church of the Diocese of Rockhampton has been closely monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic in Central Queensland. We have been following advice from Central Queensland Hospital and Health Services and have been communicating best practice protocols to our churches based on all government recommendations.

In our local context this means:

*. Arrangements are now being made through our Parish Council to resume COVIDSafe service aiming for July 2020. This will mean some changes in the way we do things at St Luke's and more information will be available soon.

*. Services are being streamed on <https://stlukesanglican.online.church> & Facebook @EmeraldAnglican.

*. Past services can be found on our website

<http://www.stlukesemerald.org.au/church-on-demand> & YouTube @EmeraldAnglicanChurch

*. Pewsheets and the new Diocesan newsletter are now available on our website

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

*. Kids talks can be found on our YouTube channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmi_udObRDZ0N_S3USRCRsQ?view_as=subscriber

*. Bible study is now conducted on zoom 7pm Monday nights. Bible study notes are available

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

*. Intrigue Youth is now meeting on zoom Friday nights at 6pm

*. Regular members of our church have been allocated to 'connect groups' and everybody should have had at least one contact by now. If you think you may have been inadvertently missed, please contact Jen.

Other arrangements:

If you do not have internet access or cannot 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 in numbers for attendance. We will work with families around providing outdoor services and/or streaming of services as appropriate for those who cannot 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: June

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

Birthdays: 14th Kerry Hayes, 16th Shovarn Gnech, John Baker, 17th Vai Tuali, 19th Tracey Geddes, Hannah Ritson, Norma Tasker, 20th Sarah Lewis, Sloan Wilkins, Mitchell Birch 27th Andrew Sheales,

Baptism: 29th Laura Lewis

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: May 2020

Income: \$ 9,223.69 Expenditure: \$ 8,716.14 Gain: \$ 507.55

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

Prayer for a new Bishop:

Eternal God, shepherd and guide,

In your mercy give your Church in this diocese a shepherd after your own heart

who will walk in your ways, and with loving care lead and watch over your people.

Give us we pray a leader of vision and a teacher of your truth, so that your Church may be built up, your kingdom extended, and your name glorified.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Activities @ St Luke's

- **Monday night Bible Study Zoom**

(please contact Jen if you would like the log in code for Bible Study)

- **Friday night 6pm Intrigue Youth online**

(please contact Jen if your teenagers would like to be part of this activity)

- **Sunday 9am Church Online** (please log on and join us for Sunday Service)

- **Christianity explored online group** starting soon

Sunday 14th June 9 am Service online	Genesis 18:1-15 Psalm 116:1-2, 11-18 Romans 5:1-11 Matthew 9:35-10:8	Sunday 28th June 9 am Service online	Jeremiah 29:1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42
Sunday 21st June 9 am Service online	Genesis 21:8-21 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 Romans 6:1-11 Matthew 10:24-39	Sunday 5th July 9 am Service online	Daniel 1:1-21 Psalm 45:10-17 Romans 7:14-25 Matthew 11:15-19

Treasury Project: (memory verses)

June 14th: 1 Peter 5:7 "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you."

June 21st: Romans 12:1 "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship".

Prayer Points: Please pray for;

Our Companion Dioceses of Llandaff (Wales) & Popondota (PNG): Give thanks for all who serve faithfully in these places. Please pray for continued connection during times of social isolation. Pray for those who are isolated and without support. Pray that the word of God will be heard, that His compassion will be known, and that His Kingdom will be extended during this time.

The Diocese of Central Queensland: Ven Tom Henderson-Brooks in the role of Administrator. Give thanks for all who are continuing to provide access to church during the COVID lockdown. Please pray for wisdom as churches look to reopen for public worship. Pray for effective witness across our region.

Diocese of Central Queensland.

Special Ministry District of Moura: Please pray for Ven Tom Henderson-Brooks in his role as administrator currently caring for this region. Pray for local members of the body of Christ as they seek to make disciples in His name in this region. .

The Parish of Springsure: Please give thanks for the Leadership team of this parish under the guidance of Rev'd Judy Edgar. Please pray for their congregation as they begin public worship again. Please pray that they continue to take the message of the gospel with them in all that they do each day.

The persecuted Church in Turkmenistan: Where believers are constantly monitored and subject to police raids. Please pray that God will continue to grow His church in this region in both faith and numbers.

The persecuted Church in China: Where surveillance and persecution of Christians is on the rise once more. Pray for those who lead local congregations for wisdom and courage. Pray the faith of believers will be strengthened. Pray that believers will be a faithful witness to 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: Our theme for 2020: Making Disciples.

It seems at the moment that the entire world is bubbling with social unrest and protest after the horrendous killing of an American man at the hands of Police. Although this crime happened half a world away, our nation is grieving too; we are lamenting the violent actions of some in authority, as well as the cultural racism and systemic oppression which has been vividly unmasked.

I don't think I need to prove the utter absurdity of the racist position. Racism (and its ugly "ism" cousins) in simple terms claim that some arbitrary biological or other attribute, (skin colour, ethnicity, gender or physical ability) rates some people as either inferior or superior. This thinking is the "Open Sesame" of social acceptance and privilege, rendering some in and some out. As a nation we would like to believe that we have grown beyond this, but racism is a problem entrenched in our society which we can no longer ignore or run away from. It has been an issue throughout history and it continues to be an issue today.

- In the first century Foreigners (and even women and children) were regarded as property. That was racism.
- It was racism that produced the horrors of the Holocaust.
- It was racism which produced the ugliness of the Ku Klux Klan
- It was racism that gave the world apartheid
- It was racism which saw the wholesale and often systematic slaughter of Australian Aborigines during early white settlement, and the removal of their children until much more recent times.
- It is racism which sees athletes booed, children taunted, young adults mistrusted, communities unable to find work or access education and healthcare and whole families deported.

The Bible teaches a categorically different mindset than that proffered by the racist worldview. What decides a person's worth is not some random attribute, but the truth that every single person is created in the image of God: To treat anyone as if they were less than this is not just shameful and evil as a culture, or simply painful for the victims; but it is sinful, immoral, unbiblical and unchristian. Desmond Tutu once wrote "Racism opposes God"

When Jesus commanded us to "go and make disciples" he didn't finish with just so long as they look like you or speak like you: He said all nations! If you were not born Jewish, then like myself you are a beneficiary of this command, and of the Bible's teaching that is no longer any segregation in Christ Jesus. In Christ we are all in the place of acceptance and privilege.

As His representatives (the Church), we have the opportunity to share how the life-changing message of the Gospel creates a healthy relationship with God and healthy relationships between people, no matter who they are. So, as we strive to be increasingly Christ like in thought word and deed, as we strive to live out the Great Commission, as we seek to make disciples of Jesus, we must address and shift the entrenched racism, classism and sexism inherent in our society; not to do so is simply disobedience to God.

The message of Jesus is clear; We all belong with God - no separation, no difference.

So let's go out and make disciples of all nations!

Grace and Peace, Jen

Cast all your
worry
on him
for he
cares
for you.



© Adron '17

1 Peter 5:7