**The Anglican Parish of Emerald**

St Luke’s Emerald

**Sunday 28th June 2020**

**Sunday 5th 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 Telephone: 4982 1802

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

Wardens: Larry Daniels (0427 849 285) Ivy Elsden (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  Queensland Health Services & WorkSafe 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 COVID Safe operations 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 will continue to be 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

 <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-sudies>

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 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.

If you would like to be part of “in person” services when these recommence please contact Jen or Ivy.

**ANNIVERSARIES: June**

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

**Birthdays:** 6th JulyJulie Murchie 8th Erika Neville,

**Baptism:**29th June Laura Lewis 2nd July Lorna Hicks, 5th Paul Sauer, Thomas Purcell, 8th Natia Dingwall, 10th Byrony Daniels, 11th Clayton 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

Whist 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** (contact Jen if you would like the log in code for this)
* **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 & discussion group** on zoom
* **5th of July “In Person” services are planned to recommence.  Please register with Ivy Elsden (people’s warden) or Jen if you would like to be included in the roster to attend.**

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| Sunday 28th June9 am Service on line | Jeremiah 29:1-14Psalm 13Romans 6:12-23Matthew 10:40-42 |
| Sunday 5th July9 am Service on line | Daniel 1:1-21Psalm 45:10-17Romans 7:14-25Matthew 11:15-19 |
| Sunday 12th July 9 am Service on line | Daniel 2:1-23Psalm 119:105-112Romans 8:1-11Matthew 13:1-9 |
| Sunday 19th July9 am Service on line | Daniel 2:24-49Psalm 139:1-11Romans 8:12-25Matthew 13:24-30 |

**Treasury Project: (memory verses)**

**June 28th: Romans 12:2  “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.  The you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will."**

**July 5th: Romans 12:12 “Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer".**

**Prayer Points:** Please pray for;

**Anglicare Australia:** For Bishop Chris Jones as he provides leadership in the vital national landscape.  Pray for all who work for Anglicare around Australia, and for all who they serve each day.  Pray that through their service and example they will be living examples of Christs love for those most vulnerable.

**The Diocese of Bathurst:**Bishop Gary Weatherill.  Give thanks for all who serve and lead in this Diocese.  Pray for the church in this region as they seek to proclaim Christ faithfully in their communities, serve the vulnerable and shine the light of Christ in difficult times.

**Diocese of Central Queensland.**

**The Parish of Winton:** For theLocal 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 North Rockhampton:** Rev’d Matt Taylor (Locum) and Rev’d Narelle Kidson (assistant).  Give thanks 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 Mauritania:** Where converts to Christianity face social rejection, job loss and harassment.  Laws in Mauritania restrict preaching to Muslims and criticism of Islam can lead to losing citizenship or the death penalty.  Please pray that Christians will find comfort in God and His provisions, that those persecuting Christians will encounter Jesus and be saved, and that reconciliation and forgiveness can triumph in places of conflict.

**The persecuted Church in the Central African Republic:**Where fear of attack and oppression are a constant reality for Christians.  Please pray for peace in the region and physical and spiritual healing for those affected by extremist and criminal activity, and that the church and its leaders will be encouraged and strengthened in the face of fear.

**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.

Each week during the pandemic lockdown we have been using the phrase “plug in - stay connected”.  But what does it mean to be connected?

In our world today Connection can look like so many things; from scripture however, we can see that the premise for connection is *following Jesus*. We become connected to Christ and his body as we follow and obey.  In Matthew 4:19 Jesus says “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men”.  Jesus calls his disciples to to follow him, and builds relationship with them *before* he asked them to feed a crowd, much less go out in his name preaching the gospel.

This pattern of connection to Jesus was followed by the early church, and they enjoyed exponential growth.  Throughout the New Testament we see new believers called into relationship with Jesus, time invested by more mature believers into the discipleship of others, and then new disciples learning to serve others in the same way.  This model of thinking and discipleship means that our church gatherings become a beautiful expression of our collective connection to Jesus - but not the sole connection itself.  What Jesus expressly calls us to a deliberate, whole life and all of life journey of learning and growing; an essential part of that is then the investment into the lives of others. Discipleship then is not about a program, but rather much more about our own deep and personal relationship with Jesus, followed by a deep investment into the lives of those around us as we make disciples of all nations, *“baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything He has commanded (us)*”.  True Disciple-making is not superficial, but a transformative connection to God and others which will change the way we live and “do church”.

The invitation becomes the definition! “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men”.

I have been fortunate enough to have discipled on my Christian walk by some wonderful believers who embodied this call; they pulled me into community, encouraged me, guided me, challenged me and followed up with me - it has been, and continues to be a transformative experience.  It is the reason I am so passionate about discipleship becoming the very heart of our church community.  Every believer, by virtue of our baptism, has the potential to be discipled and become a disciple maker!

Jesus call us into a relationship unlike anything we have ever known - are you ready to take the journey?

Grace & Peace

Jen

KIDS CORNER:

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