

From the Rectory Desk...

This year I have found a collection of 'Tiny Advent Poems' by Amy Scott Robinson (Engage Worship). One that I found very thought provoking was this:

Advent:

Catch your breath.

*We're aiming at that
mountain in the distance,
but isn't the view lovely from this
hill?*

This captures the essence of the Advent message, that we are waiting not just for the celebration of the first coming of Jesus, but also for the assured second coming. Whilst we wait for the time when God's Kingdom will be fulfilled in all its glory, our experience of the Kingdom in the present is still something to be celebrated. Both aspects are important. We need to enjoy God's presence with us in the present and participate in God's mission in the world (which is in essence what the incarnation that we celebrate at Christmas is all about), as well as holding fast to the eternal hope that is the promise of God.

More mundanely, in our parish, we need to continue faithfully coming together to worship week-by-week, to sing, to pray, to study, whilst still planning for the future. After many years of planning and waiting to redevelop our site, we are now anticipating the news as to whether our builder is able to meet the desired price that will enable the work to proceed in 2024 (by the time you read this we should have had a response). But at the same time, we look to the whole meaning of being the people of God in this place, at this time.





PARISH DIRECTORY – DECEMBER 2023

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<p style="text-align: center;">CHURCH WARDENS</p> <p>Brian Wood - 0466 656 149 Alison Lampe - 0408 183 701 Lynn Mitchell - 0409 150 861</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES</p> <p>Chris Bromwich David Frarricciardi</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PARISH NOMINATORS</p> <p>Alistair Crawford Judy Jones Alison Lampe</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CHILDREN'S MINISTRY</p> <p>David Frarricciardi & Sharon Moy 0419 725 695 families@stlukesekibin.org.au</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PRAYER CIRCLE</p> <p>Judy Jones - 0405 683 768</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KOFI KLUB</p> <p>Alison Lampe - 0408 183 701</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WORSHIP SERVICES</p> <p>Join us to worship at St Luke's at 7am and 9am each Sunday. You can also link to the 9am service by Zoom.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Evening Prayer by Zoom 6 pm Tuesday to Friday (https://zoom.us/j/7210725462) or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462). Contact the Parish Office for the password.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PARISH TREASURER</p> <p>Janette Hagerty - 3277 8848</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SECRETARY OF PARISH COUNCIL</p> <p>Vacant</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SAFETY PERSON</p> <p>Trevor Lunn - 0458 291 147</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HELPING HANDS ORGANISER</p> <p>David Newsome - 3892 2876</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PARISH SUPPLIES</p> <p>David & Jenny Newsome 3892 2876</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHURCH NEWS EDITOR</p> <p>Honor Lawler 0410 423 446 E-mail: phlawler@optusnet.com.au</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BOOKINGS FOR ST LUKE'S PARISH HALL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">St Luke's Parish Office: 3848 2123 admin@stlukesekibin.org.au</p>

Our Mission Statement:

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to be a faithful, worshipping, caring community, committed to serving God by sharing His love and peace with others, in the name of His Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST LUKE'S EKIBIN

O come let us adore Him

Sunday 10th December

6pm Carol Service

Preceded by a community sausage sizzle at 5pm

Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December

5pm Family Service

With nativity story and communion

11pm Holy Communion by candlelight

Join us to sing carols from 10.30pm

Christmas Day, Monday 25th December

9am Family Service with communion

Also streamed on Zoom, contact office for details

Sacraments And Rights Of Passage

September – November 2023

Baptisms

Ryan John Friend 22/10/2023

Funerals

Evelyn Patricia Kratzke 22/09/2023

Beryl May Collingwood 27/11/2023



Deaths

Caroline Williams (St Luke's Theatre Society) 13/09/2023

Memorial Service

Nil

Interment Of Ashes

Graham Frederick Daniels 04/11/2023

Marriage

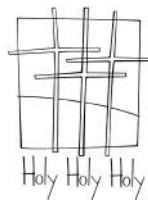
Nil

Continued from Page 1

An example here are the initiatives of the parish Sustainability and Environmental Group, who have, through a film night and work towards the 'Five Leaf Eco Award' raised our awareness of these issues.

So, as we travel together through Advent, here is another short poem, this one by Carolyn Morris (Iona Community):

*Advent,
Once a year
the chance to wait
with a purpose.
Makes a change.*



**Rev'd Dr Timothy Nicholson
Rector**

Sustainability and Environmental Governance (SEG)



Sustainability and Environmental governance remain a standing agenda item at our monthly parish council meetings and our group has continued to meet once a quarter to brainstorm sustainability and environmental issues.

On Friday 16th November we held our second environmental film night in the church. The film 2040, suggested by Jen Basham, was directed by Damon Gameau and released in 2019, when his daughter was 4 years old. He wrote it as ‘an exercise in fact-based dreaming’, how could the world look in 2040 for his daughter if climate mitigation strategies, currently available or postulated, had come to fruition. The film was a refreshingly optimistic look at how climate change could be realistically tackled.



On Sunday 26th November, during our 9am service, we were presented with the ecumenical 5 Leaf Eco-Award basic certificate, achieved with SEG initiatives we have taken to date as a parish. Look out for an article in Anglican Focus!

Alison Lampe

Fellowship and Fund-raising

Car Boot Sale:

The parish held a car boot sale on Saturday 23rd September. Ten participants brought a large variety of goods for sale. Cake and craft stalls, and a sausage sizzle were held as well as a white elephant stall. Many thanks to all who participated on the day. \$1,700 was raised for parish funds.

Referendum Day:

Our next opportunity to mix with the community came on the referendum day, Saturday 14th October. The cake and craft stalls were very popular, and the democracy sausage sizzle fed those people lined up waiting to vote. We were also entertained by Brian Wood on the church piano. The day was very successful both socially and financially. Thanks to all those who helped in any way. \$1,859 was raised for parish funds.

St Cecilia Day Concert:

This year's concert for St Cecilia's Day, a feast of singing and music, was held on Sunday 19th November in St Luke's Church followed by afternoon tea in the hall.

Our Christmas carols this year will be held on Sunday 10th December.

Janette Hagerty





St Lukes Theatre Society

The theatre society has enjoyed another year with the four plays that were well received by our very good audiences. The plays were well chosen with a variety of play genre. We are very appreciative of the support we are given from St Luke's and Christ Church's rectors and members of the two parishes. We thank Ann Baker, from St Luke's and Christopher from Christ Church, for arranging groups, and all the people who help in making the plays the success they are.

Special thanks must be given to the directors, actors and Brett and his helpers.

The 2024 plays have been selected:

- *Towards Zero* by Agatha Christie Gerald Verner. Directed by Sharon White
- *Bell Book and Candle* by Van Druten. Directed by Nigel Munro-Wallis
- *Pride and Prejudice* Adapted from Jane Austin's novel by Jane Kendall. Directed by Matthew Hobbs
- *Christmas Belles* by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten. Directed by Jason Nash

We all wish you a very happy and holy Christmas.

Barry Kratzke





Children's Church

I have just completed my yearly maintenance on my Christmas Bear – six new batteries and a light dust. And with that he is good to go on the first of December to tell me every morning how many days until Christmas. Remember the batteries; I may have a smooth linking idea later in this article to round it all up.



This year has been a brilliant year for Children's Church. We took the challenge of offering a weekly program and ran with it. By offering a weekly Children's Church program, we managed a milestone that a lot of other parishes have not been able to. You will remember that not that long ago we were running every second Sunday.

It was through the dedication of our leaders that we managed to offer EVERY WEEK. But as with any end of year office Christmas parties, there are always some sad farewells and the Children's Church office party is no exception. We are saying see you later (not good bye as they are always welcome) to Dianne and Chris.

Chris as some of you may know, moved to Dalby, but this year has been juggling visits to Brisbane to see family and friends and to run a Children's Church group. This has been a huge commitment and rightly so, Chris has made the hard decision to step back from this role. We thank Chris for all her hard work over the years.



And if Dalby is not far enough away, we are also losing Dianne and her family who are making the move to Perth. We wish them joy and blessings in their new life and look forward to hearing stories of the move and new life.



So with the end of 2023 fast approaching, it is time to do some maintenance on our Children’s Church bear and when I check, it appears that we will be short a few batteries in 2024 – see I told you I would link it all up. In case you missed my subtle hint, the batteries are leaders. Without some extra leaders, we will struggle to offer Children’s Church on a weekly basis in 2024 – in other words, the bear won’t work.



If you would like to become involved in this, we can offer support and advice – we will not

throw you in the deep end. Please chat to Sharon or me at church or email us – families@stlukesebibin.org.au

David Farricciardi



Children's Communion

In a special 9.00am service on 29th October, the children were invited to participate in the celebration of Holy Communion to give them some sense of what the Eucharist is all about. This included them making flat-breads in church, that were then used for the celebration. These early "baby steps" will help in their journey of faith and provide some grounding in the development of their understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



And it's fun too. Every week, Rev'd Timothy and June make up insightful and engaging stories and puzzles for the children. One such recent story was the case of the missing frog, which had even the congregation guessing.

Again, we acknowledge the wonderful work of David, Sharon, Dianne, Pru, Honor, Chris and Denis in guiding the children every week.

Trevor Lunn





A blessing will be offered to dogs, (those on Zoom will also be invited to participate).

The Beating Heart of St Luke's

While the core of our Christian life will always be the celebration of Holy Communion each week, St Luke's is this and much more. The beating heart of St Luke's spreads beyond the walls of the church. The pages of this newsletter are testament to how alive we are in the community and how many lives we touch. Perhaps we don't often think of all the things that we do or in which we participate. A short list would include baptisms and funerals, mission outreach, Inala Pantry, Children's Church, St Luke's Connect, social evenings in the hall, ecumenical worship, pizza in the park, sausage sizzles, garage sales, art shows, theatre, music presentations and an election day venue. Pray that through all these we might spread the good news of Jesus Christ and bring more people to faith in Him.

Trevor Lunn



CHOIR REPORT – September 2023 to November 2023



The choir's participation in the church services in this period began with a reflection piece, 'Here I am Lord (I the lord of sea and sky)' by Daniel Schutte. This was sung in the 9am service on 10th September and the 7am service on 24th September. The music score notes that the lyrics are based on a biblical verse in Isaiah 6. It is also a well-known and often-sung congregational hymn. The choir presented it in 2-part harmony in the chorus.

For October, the choir elected to fall back on an old favourite, 'Cover Me' by Andrew Culverwell. While it is a reasonably modern song - by Anglican Church standards (1982), it has been in the choir's repertoire for many years. It was presented, again in 2-part harmony in the chorus, at the 9am service on 15th October and the 7am service on 22nd October. The services on 15th October gave thanks for the life and works of our patron saint, Luke. The choir was very pleased to be able to contribute to this celebration.

For the choir, November always starts with the Remembrance Day observation. This year, the choir again presented the melancholic and moving song, 'In Flander Fields', by John McCrae, John Jacobsen and Roger Emerson, as a reflection in the 9am service on 12th November. The choir worked hard to present this song in 4-part harmony. We were all fairly satisfied with the effort and thought it was well received.

On 19th November the local, annual 'St Cecilia Day' concert was held in our church. The choir participated with two items it had contributed to services earlier in the year. These were, 'He will hold me fast', by Ada Habershon and Matthew Merker (July) and 'Let us sing a joyful song', by Russell Robinson (August). We decided to reprise them for this concert as they are both lovely songs that we enjoyed singing. There was also good contrast from the sombre tone of the former to the fast, joyful beat of the latter and this was thought might be appropriate for the ecumenical audience. Brian's accompaniment for 'He will hold me fast' on piano was again joined by Helen on flute for the introduction and conclusion, with great effect.

For its 4th Sunday presentation on 26th November, the choir again went back into its repertoire and reprised, 'For the Beauty of the Earth' by John Rutter. This song was being practised for the 'Seasons of Creation' time in September but did not make it, for various reasons. We sang it in 2-part harmony and were pleased to be able to contribute it to the 7am service on that day.

The choir also gained a new singer in November when (relatively) new parishioner Don Rennie joined us one Saturday afternoon for practice. Don's participation boosts the number in the 'men's' section to 4 (5 counting Brian). Welcome, Don!

As we move into December, the choir's focus is firmly on Christmas. Its main contribution will be at the carols service and we are practising two items we hope you will enjoy.

Best wishes to all, from your choristers, for a happy and holy Christmas.



Greg Rodger



St. Luke's Connect

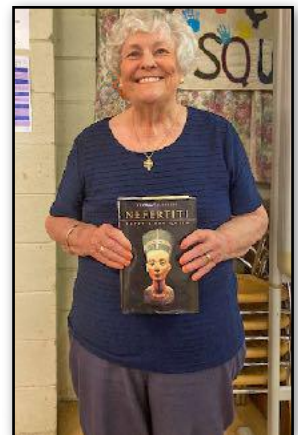
St. Luke's Connect continues to gather on the last Wednesday of the month for a 9.30 service led by Rev'd Timothy, then a social gathering in the lower hall at 10am.

During our August social, June McNicol spoke on women's education through the 20th century. June had personal experience of the barriers women faced to gain an education, especially at university level, as did others in our congregation. Fortunately for us all, women's educational opportunities have significantly improved. June read her undergraduate degree at the University of Cambridge in the UK. When she completed her studies in Natural Sciences in 1947, at Cambridge women were not awarded the full title of degree or allowed to be an active part of the graduation ceremony and they were only allowed to sit and watch the male students' achievements being celebrated. June went on to study her Master of Arts and fortunately by the time she had completed those studies women were afforded the same title as their fellow male students. June is a shining example of remarkable determination to forge equality for women.



June McNicol displays certificates

At our September gathering, Llyn Crawford gave some very interesting history of the Egyptian Queen Nefertiti and her family. Nefertiti and her husband Pharaoh Akhenaten promoted the earliest known form of monotheism, Atenism, centred on the sun disc and its direct connection to the royal household. Llyn has impressive knowledge about a variety of subjects and she generously shares her particular interests with us.



Llyn Crawford

In October we played a round of bingo. Janette was our caller providing an entertaining game and keeping us sustained with chocolate!

Our November social was Christmas themed, with carols accompanied by our star guitarist Trevor and a Christmas quiz (June McNicol and Alison put our trivia knowledge to the test!!).



Alison Lampe



Meeting Old Friends

Celebrating Maxine's recent birthday

Early in October, I spent a few days at Bribie Island. On Sunday I attended St Peter's Anglican Church. Afterwards, I met three people who had previously been parishioners of St Luke's at Ekibin – how amazing! Jan Redsell and her sister Jill moved with their families to Bribie Island a few years ago. Jan does the PowerPoint operation for the services and she and Jill are on the cleaning roster. I also met Alan Carr, whose mother, Dulcie was a regular attendee at St Luke's. They were all very friendly and interested to know how our parish was faring. They all wanted to say hello to their former friends.



Desley Soden



Greetings from the ACTS 1:8 Committee.

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”
Acts 1:8

As I sit here in my bath tub, there are a number of questions that come to my mind. Is this really the safest environment to be using a laptop computer? Why is my rubber ducky looking at me strangely and finally does the little man on my toy boat feel lonely bobbing up and down in the middle of the water?

I mean he can see the edge of the tub and has enough time to avoid colliding with a clump of bubble bath foam, but he just stands there in the wheel house. No one talks to him, he doesn't have family or friends around him and the most exciting part of his day is when I turn the tap on while yelling, 'CYCLONE!'

It makes you stop and think, or at least I do, what his Christmas must be like, for most of it he will be alone in the bathroom with no one to talk to. By now you are thinking – that's it! He has finally lost the plot! He thinks the guy in the toy boat is real. Okay so he is not real, but seafarers, who will be on boats over Christmas, are real people, who are leaving behind real families and friends.

Us landlubbers are privileged. We will get to decorate our homes, enjoy food and gifts with family and friends. We are grateful to be able to do this and so for the second year in a row, St Luke's decided to show that we care about these hard-working men and women who don't have the same opportunities that we have.

As part of our mission focus for October, we collected Christmas items and small gifts that could be packaged into Christmas bags that will be given to seafarers who visit the Mission to Seafarers. These bags will give them the opportunity to decorate their cabin or enjoy some luxuries that they may not always get to enjoy.

I took a trip out to the port of Brisbane with a boot full of goodies that the parish had donated.



There I caught up with the Supervisor of Mission to Seafarers Brisbane – Heather. It is rare to find someone who is so genuinely passionate about her work or as excited about receiving a load of Christmas goodies. We all managed to donate enough goods that it covered a table.

Heather did tell me one story that I would like to share. Last year she presented a seafarer with a bag that contained a Christmas card written by a child. This man had been away from his family for months and still had months before he would return home. He had tears of joy when he read the card. Something so small, can mean so much.

Again we would like to thank you for your support in 2023 of our mission and outreach focuses and as one last request for the year, I invite you and encourage you to add the Prayer for Seafarers from page 205 of 'A Prayer Book for Australia', to your prayers and devotions.

'Heavenly Father, we commend to you all seafarers. Guard and protect them in danger and temptation; sustain them in loneliness; and support them in sickness and anxiety. Bless all who minister to them. Watch over those who are near and dear to them, and grant them the blessing of your presence. These things we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.'



David Frarricciardi

God Provides

St Paul told us to pray without ceasing – good advice. So often we think we have to act, or that we have the best solution to a situation. I have learned recently the resolution of a particular situation is prayer – it is all I can do.

On some occasions at the flats next door, there is a little girl who gets really angry and distressed – she shouts, screams, cries, and pleads. The woman looking after her remains calm and tries to reason with the little girl, but only rarely loses patience. I do not know them, or the nature of their relationship, or the details about their situation. In fact, I have only seen either of them about twice in a year.

Whenever these distressing incidents occur, my response is to pray for them both and to leave the situation in God's capable hands. Thank you, God, for the gift of praying for others – even when I don't know the result.

Desley Soden

St Cecilia Day Concert

This year we were honoured to host the annual St Cecilia Day Concert featuring the musicians and choir of St Luke's and musical talent from the local community, and the performances were outstanding.



St Elizabeth's Primary School Stage Band

The opening act was the brass jazz band from St Elizabeth's primary school and what a splendid performance it was. They raised the roof with a selection of well-known pieces ranging from, "The Final Countdown" to "Santa Claus is Coming to Town". The young saxophone soloists, never mind being in primary school, were of near professional standard. I'm told that their music teacher, Macarthur Clough, who is himself a professional clarinettist, is the driving force, but it goes to show what can be achieved with young people given the opportunity. St Luke's featured with our own choir singing two favourite pieces.



Elizabeth Lamb



Sue Vasella

A nine-year-old Torri Hannington sang a spirited version of “Zip-a-Dee-Do-Dah”. It left me with an ear worm. I’m still singing it.



Torri Hannington



Elizabeth Lamb took centre stage to perform two lovely pieces for the cello, accompanied by Sue Vasella, and Sue shared with the audience her heartfelt experience growing up with music as an introduction to her performance. She said she never plays in public. Well, the public is missing out on a lot of talent. The well-known local group, Vocal Manoeuvres, presented their highly polished performance but what stole the show was the last act.



Milla Terzic, Aarya Darth & Tyra Read
of *Vocal Manoeuvres*

In addition to playing two solo pieces on the organ and accompanying the congregational hymns, Brian Wood was also acknowledged for all his work in organizing the concert. Those of us in the choir, especially, know how much Brian contributes to music at St Luke’s and the community.

Thank you, Brian.

Trevor Lunn



K I D S K L I P S

A Child Is Born



Luke 2:7 is part of the Christmas story. Use this code to discover these verses.

A	‡	D	↔	G	⌘	J	▬	M	✧	P	▲	S	◆	V	:	Y	·
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Answer
And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger.

Savior

We also know Jesus is God's Son and our Savior. Jesus is called our Savior because he saved us from being separated from God by our sins. He was even willing to die on the cross for us. Why did he do that? Color in the shapes with a dot in them to find out.

