

*From the Rectory Desk... **

A couple of weeks ago I attended the joint northern and southern region clergy conference at Noosa. This was a very encouraging time. One presentation that particularly stood out to me was from a statistician who commented on the decline in religion observed in Australian census data over the years (we will have to wait until next year for the latest results). He argued that it was not as bad as it seems. In past years people would have ticked one of the Christianity boxes if their heritage was Christian, whether or not they were an active worshipper. Now people are more likely to only tick the boxes if they regularly attend church. He also noted that surveys show a resurgence of seeking religious or spiritual things.

This doesn't mean that we can just sit back. The model of "running services and people will come" doesn't stand up. Instead, we need to engage with our local community and find out what their needs are and respond. It is this that will connect their seeking with the Christian message. St Paul, in his letter to the Romans embodies this and encourages us as he quotes from Isaiah:

I have been found by those who did not seek me;
I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me.'

(Romans 10:20)

Rev'd Dr Timothy Nicholson
Rector

* well actually at Bilbo Baggins' desk in Hobbiton



Parish Directory – September 2026

RECTOR Rev'd Dr Timothy Nicholson 3848 2123 E-mail: priest@stlukesekibin.org.au St Luke's Church 193 Ekibin Rd East, Tarragindi Admin: 3848 2123 Admin Email: admin@stlukesekibin.org.au All correspondence to PO Box 79 Weller's Hill 4121 WEBSITE: www.stlukesekibin.org.au FACEBOOK: stlukesekibin	PARISH COUNCIL Timothy Nicholson Jen Basham Alistair Crawford Janette Hagerty Helen Hutchings Susan Johnson Judy Jones Elizabeth Lamb Alison Lampe Jason Miller Lynn Mitchell Jenny Newsome Jenny O'Sullivan Greg Rodger Brian Wood	COMMITTEE CHAIRS Building and Properties Fellowship and Fundraising Janette Hagerty - 3277 8848 Pastoral Care Jenny Newsome - 3892 2876 ACTS 1:8 (Missions) Social Media, Music Brian Wood - 0466 656 149 Faith & Worship 365 Rev'd Timothy - 3848 2123
CHURCH WARDENS Brian Wood - 0466 656 149 SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES Jen Basham Elizabeth Lamb PARISH NOMINATORS Alistair Crawford Judy Jones Alison Lampe PARISH TREASURER Janette Hagerty - 3277 8848 SECRETARY OF PARISH COUNCIL Jenny O'Sullivan SAFETY PERSON	CHILDREN'S MINISTRY Prudence Klaer 0418 780 993 families@stlukesekibin.org.au PRAYER CIRCLE Judy Jones - 0405 683 768 KOFI KLUB Alison Lampe - 0408 183 701 HELPING HANDS ORGANISER David Newsome - 3892 2876 PARISH SUPPLIES David & Jenny Newsome 3892 2876 CHURCH NEWS EDITOR Honor Lawler 0410 423 446 E-mail: phlawler@optusnet.com.au	WORSHIP SERVICES Join us to worship at St Luke's at 7am and 9am each Sunday. You can also link to the 9am service by Zoom. Midweek Communion 9.30am last Wednesday of the month and during Lent. Evening Prayer by Zoom 6 pm Tuesday to Friday Zoom Details: (https://zoom.us/j/7210725462) or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462). Contact the Parish Office for the password.
HALL BOOKINGS FOR ST LUKE'S PARISH HALL AND CENTRE St Luke's Parish Office 3848 2133 admin@stlukesekibin.org.au	LITTLE ANGELS TARRAGINDI Director: Mel Ware www.littleangels.qld.edu/tarragindi tarragindi@littleangels.qld.edu.au 07 3778 5200	ST LUKE'S THEATRE SOCIETY President: Narelle Bick Parish Liaison: Barry Kratzke www.stlukestheatre.asn.au stlukestheatrecompany@gmail.com 0493 778 379

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.

Sacraments and Rights of Passage

June 2026 – August 2026

Baptisms

Percival Rose Grenfell-Dexter

Charles Peter Jobson

Theodore Rick Jobson



5 July 2026

12 July 2026

12 July 2026

Funerals

Barbara Mary Utting

24 June 2026 (died 16 June)

Trevor Wayne Solomon

25 June 2026 (died 14 June)

Andrew William Morland

31 July 2026 (died 17 July)

Weddings

Christopher Barton and Lucielle Hedley

1 August 2026

Three Baptisms in July!

On Sunday 5th July 2026, St Luke's 9 am congregation welcomed little Percival Rose Grenfell-Dexter and his family and friends for Percy's baptism, conducted by Rev'd Timothy. This baptism was especially exciting for our parish, as Percy's brother, Ernie, had been baptised in St Luke's a couple of years before. The family have been transferred out of Brisbane but return regularly to St Luke's when they are in Brisbane.



Baptism of Percival Rose Grenfell-Dexter

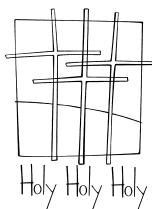


Percy and Ernie with their parents, Amy and Sam

On Sunday, 12th July 2026, two more children were baptised at the 9am service. Charles Peter Jobson and Theodore Rick Jobson were welcomed into our Christian family.

Members of the parish served a celebratory morning tea after each service. It was a privilege to share in marking these milestones in the lives of both families.

Honor Lawler



Visit to Naomi

On Wednesday 8th July a small group of choir members travelled to St Vincents Aged Care, Mitchelton to visit with Naomi T. Naomi has been a long-standing member of our choir and we deemed a visit with song was most appropriate.

We feasted on coffee, cake, and good conversation.....and then were led in song, by Trevor on his guitar. The program was devised and printed by Trevor, with some of Naomi's favourite hymns and choruses, including Don Moen's, *God will make a Way*.

*God will make a way
Where there seems to be no way
He works in ways we cannot see
He will make a way for me
He will be my guide
Hold me closely to His side
With love and strength for each
new day
He will make a way
He will make a way.*

*By a roadway in the wilderness
He'll lead me
Rivers in the desert will I see
Heaven and earth will fade
But His Word will still remain
He will do something new today*



Naomi enjoyed catching up with June, Sue, Janette and Elaine, just some of her visitors

For those with an interest in praise and worship, can I recommend Don Moen Wednesday worship, Youtube/podcast <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wulFW6q0jrw>

A special visit, for a special lady!

By, friend and fellow chorister



Sue Vassella

Evensong at Holy Trinity Fortitude Valley

For some months Brian had been encouraging choir members to make a field trip to Holy Trinity in the Valley to attend Choral Evensong at 6 pm on Sunday 19 July. The wider congregation was invited to come along and so twenty-three of St. Luke's parishioners worshipped at Holy Trinity that evening.

It was a beautiful service, with the Rector, the Rev'd Dr Rodney Wolff officiating. We were in awe of the music by organist John Rotar and the amazing choir. After the Psalm and First Lesson, the congregation stood as the choir sang the Magnificat. The Second Lesson was followed by a beautiful rendition by the choir of Nunc Dimittis.

The subject of the address by Dominic Fitzgerald, Director of Music, was "Spirituality and Music".

After the service we were invited to go to the church hall for refreshments. These were substantial and much appreciated. Delicious soup, bread rolls, sandwiches, cheese platter and sweets were enjoyed by all as we sat in fellowship with other members of the congregation.



It was also an opportunity to catch up with Rev'd Rodney who had served in St. Luke's Church as our locum priest before Rev'd Timothy joined us.

It was a very enjoyable evening. I personally found the evensong service, music and choir inspiring. The choral Evensong is held once a month on the third Sunday at Holy Trinity.

Lynn Mitchell

Reflections on our Visit to Holy Trinity, Fortitude Valley

Members of St Luke's Choir and quite a number of parishioners attended Holy Trinity Church, Fortitude Valley, for a service of Evensong on 19th July. This beautiful, old church, consecrated in 1877, was the perfect setting for this traditional sung service.

The Reverend Dr Rodney Wolff warmly welcomed us as "people from the deep south"!

A bell was rung to signal the procession of the Holy Trinity Choir and priest down the aisle to take their places. The choir and organ were magnificent, as the congregation followed the service sheet. The anthem was O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem by Henry Howells (Psalm 122 verse 6: "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee" King James Bible).

However, the congregation came into their own with the rousing singing of two hymns.

The Director of Music, Dominic Fitzgerald, gave an address as part of the Spirituality and Music series. He touched on his relationship with his father and their very different musical preferences – but on how they were a good influence on each other. Music had enriched his spirituality from a very early age and it was just as important today.

This was an uplifting service and it was a pleasure to meet the Reverend Rodney again.

Desley Soden

Parish Camp 2026

Well, our annual Parish Camp at Mt Tarampa was a lot of fun, as usual, with something for everyone to enjoy.

Watching the children enjoying the open spaces, the lakeside, the farm animals, the games, the craft, the dress-ups, all with their friends and family, was a particular highlight for me.



Naomi and Lidia enjoyed quilling with Pru's help



The ball games, organised by Jen & Danny, were a challenge for some of us!



The dress-up box was very popular! Elton put on as many items as he could!



The local cows and bull were very pleased to have some grass from the other side of the fence!!

For the adults, there were so many choices too. Fellowship, the time to talk together away from time pressures, to worship together, share food together, sunset walks beside Lake Atkinson, wonderful bird life including a family of four sea eagles (see photo of juvenile sea eagle), work on craft and jigsaws together, or just relax in the bush surroundings, the list is endless.



The welcome to the Parish Camp included Pru explaining one of the craft projects



Brian brought his electronic piano so we could sing together in our worship



Wonderful sunset walks...



The adults enjoyed the challenge of a jigsaw or two!



The second craft project, organised by June, was a prayer tree where individual prayers could be made into birds to decorate it.



The bird watchers had a wonderful display from the sea eagles - this is a juvenile sea eagle



The end of the day at Parish Camp at Mt Tarampa — what a sunset!

A special treat was catching up with Chris and David Bromwich, still part of our much-loved St Luke's Parish family, even though they live in Dalby.

None of this would be possible without the contributions of many: Jen & Danny, and Brian, June & Rev'd Timothy, and Pru to name a few. Many, many thanks to all who came and helped to make another special memory in the life of our Parish.

Honor Lawler

Choir Report

June 2026 to August 2026

The choir's first contribution in this period was the song, 'The Journey', a beautiful piece of music arranged by modern American sacred-songwriter Joseph M Martin. He combined Antonin Dvorak's, 'Symphony in E minor' with the traditional Shaker hymn, 'Simple Gifts' in an arrangement suitable for choral singing. The choir presented it as the reflection items after sermons at the 9am service on 14th June and 7am service on 28th June. The presentation commenced with a solo section from Greg, another short sequence from the women, then 2- and 3-part harmony to the finish. Accompaniment was from Suellen on piano and Helen on flute.



Singing "The Journey", accompanied by Suellen on the piano and Helen on the flute

In July the choir contributed the reflections after the sermons at the 9am service on the 12th and the 7am on the 26th. The song chosen was, 'To You, O Lord, I Lift up my Soul', a setting of Psalm 25 by another modern American sacred-songwriter, Bob Hurd. It was arranged with 3 verses and a refrain. The presentation commenced with a solo refrain from Trevor, with a variation of voices in the verses.



The choir sang "To You O Lord, I lift up my soul" in July

Available choristers also participated in other informal activities in July. On the 1st, half a dozen of us visited retired chorister Naomi Tatzenko at her new residence at Mitchelton. Trevor took his guitar, we sang a selection of hymns and had some morning tea. Naomi enjoyed our visit. On the 29th, many of us made it to the Evensong service at Holy Trinity Church in Fortitude Valley. Brian arranged this to gain experience of the sung liturgy, with the view to an Evensong service at St Luke's at our patronal festival later in the year.

Finally, in August, the choir contributed the reflections after the sermons at the 9am service on the 9th and the 7am service on the 23rd. The song chosen was 'Oh God of my Comfort', by Australian singer-songwriter Geoff Bullock. The melody is gentle and the lyrics reflect biblical references to God as a comforter. The choir sang it mostly in unison but with 2-part harmony in the refrain.

Greg Rodger



Children's Ministry

June – August 2026

Our parish continues to be blessed by the regular attendance of families with children at our 9 am family service.

The leaders of our children's ministry, Pru, Greg and Brenda, assisted by Elizabeth, Trevor, Sue, Denis and Honor, continue to prepare and supervise creative activities to help the children develop an understanding of the bible stories, apply the messages in the scripture to their daily lives and grow in understanding the love Jesus has for all of us.



Rev'd Timothy's and June's Children's Message, given at the beginning of every family service, continues to educate and entertain, not just the children, but the whole congregation. It's particularly encouraging to see the engagement of the children in Rev'd Timothy's "science" experiments!



Children's Message on 12th July including blowing bubbles - so many bubbles they could touch all the congregation, just like the seeds in the parable of the sower - so many seeds - so much love to spread to everyone!



On 16th August, the bible story of Joseph and his coat was shared with the congregation by Greg and the children

Ada wears Joseph's "coat of many colours", made by Pru, and decorated by all with much enjoyment



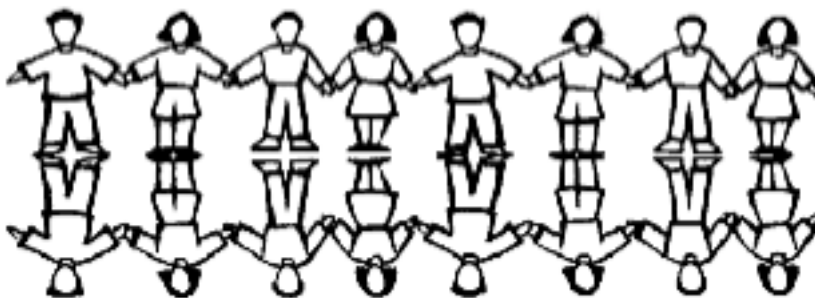


Naomi and Denis
preparing the "river"
for Moses' basket
reenactment at
Children's Church on
23rd August

Intergenerational family services are held on 5th Sundays, with children staying in church to assist in running the service, with readings, prayers, songs and helping with the collection and assisting at the altar.

Thank you to all those committed to sharing the word of God with the next generation.

Honor Lawler



Naomi and
Isabelle shared
the readings for
the Family
Service



June showed us
how to make our
own pumpkins
representing the
many gifts we
receive from God.
Rev'd Timothy
asked us to cut
out the shape of
our own hand and
note a prayer point
that was on our
own hearts. Then
we were invited to
attach our prayers
to the prayer tree.



Chloe and Whitney helped Greg and Colin take up the collection



June prepared a mini Harvest Festival: the children found 12 items we can thank God for, hidden around the church

St. Luke's Connect

At the June Connect gathering Jocelyn Hawes gave a talk about her experiences moving from Brisbane to Bowen as a young woman just married, for her husband to commence a medical posting. Adjusting to a very different environment with its unique challenges made for some very interesting anecdotes. Jocelyn's story is printed in the bulletin for others to read.

In July our theme was Christmas in July. We had a sing along with Trevor playing Christmas favourites and we enjoyed hearing

from Desley about the Christmas customs of other countries. Desley had found a pictorial quiz and we had fun as a group trying to work out the Christmas carol or song from each of the picture clues. June had prepared a pass the parcel and we all had our fill of delicious sandwiches, mince pies and trifle.

In August we have an Ekka theme: Show and Tell.

The last Wednesday of each month is a time for the St. Luke's Connect worship service, chatting, feasting and merriment.



Celebrating Christmas in July

Alison Lampe

My Life as a Young Doctor's Wife

(This is the first part of a talk given by Jocelyn Hawes at St Luke's Connect meeting in June 2026. The next exciting episode will be in the next Church News in December!)

1959 The wedding.

Lawrie and I were married Saturday 10th January, 1959. A hot muggy January day. I was nineteen. The church was packed with my relatives when the Reverend Guy Dark pronounced us man and wife.

So the great journey began. A journey that lasted over 61 years. Our greatest blessing was of course our family which grew as the years progressed.

Lawrie had been graduated for one year and had been working as an intern at Princess Alexandra Hospital.

At the beginning of this second year he had been appointed Medical Superintendent of the Bowen hospital. During his 6 years of study his fees had been paid by a scholarship, so he was committed to work for the Government for 7 years afterwards. The Bowen Hospital was in the Wangaratta Shire and ran two hospitals, one in Bowen and one in the coal mining town of Collinsville about 80 miles inland. As well as caring for patients in Bowen, Lawrie had to travel for emergency operations to give anaesthetics.

To access Collinsville the trip took 3 hours to cover 80 miles of a road that was barely more than a bush track winding through cattle stations, up mountain ranges, across a shallow river on a causeway in the dry. Sometimes this river was flooded so we abandoned our car on one side



Jocelyn Hawes, in going away dress

and crossed by walking across the railway bridge. The shire engineer/overseer would pick us up in his 4 wheel drive. Pat Toohey became a great and reliable friend to us. The next 20 miles were the worst as there were 80 culverts to manoeuvre. The road was just a track really. No mobile phones then. If you got a puncture you fixed it yourself. Or waited for help and prayed.

After our honeymoon at Noosa we packed some of our belongings into our little Volkswagen Beetle. The wedding presents and other necessities were put into tea chests and sealed to be sent by railway. It was raining heavily and we knew the trip would be treacherous in parts. The Burdekin and the Connor river systems were two that often flooded and cut the road.

The first night we got to Rockhampton, the road had been muddy and slippery but our little car handled it well. At that stage I was unable to drive, so all the driving was done by Lawrie. There were roadworks everywhere. Detours took us off the highway into gravel roads, At one stage we ended up at St Lawrence on the coast just outside Rockhampton.

The second day we left Rocky for Mackay about 300 miles to the north and then got to Bowen on the third day where we booked into a local hotel, after phone calls to say we had made it. The resident doctor who was handing over to Lawrie left as quickly as he could with his family. Probably because a baby was due to be born, one with possible problems. Lawrie was left virtually holding the baby but she was born safely much to his relief. Babies were prolific in Bowen. 80 births in one year.

A week later we moved into the doctor's house. It was situated about 50 yards below the hospital which was positioned on the top of the hill. The wooden house was furnished with mismatching shabby furniture, old fashioned in style and lined with tongue and groove boards painted in drab colours. Three bedrooms opened onto a wide verandah with all doors double French doors. A small bathroom and toilet were tucked in on the back verandah, and verandahs where possums stalked at the

night were wide open. Green frogs played games in the bathroom, wanting to share the tub with me. In the kitchen the kerosene refrigerator growled and shook the house as it kept the food moderately cold. A small ice box froze ice for drinks but nothing else. I was grateful for hot water for baths and washing up etc. The laundry was downstairs



The Doctor's House, Bowen 1959

under the house with a gas copper and three wash tubs. In Brisbane my mum had a washing machine or two. My dad could fix anything so he often had a few spares lying around in Brisbane. I was relieved when our belongings arrived by train and unpacking them was a joy. Cupboard space was poor so I used a wardrobe in the second bedroom for some of the precious china. A bookcase became a display cabinet for some of my pieces. We would eventually get a radiogram as we both loved listening to music and Dad arranged that from Brisbane.

In those first few weeks we met many of the town's main citizens including the two other medicos who had private practices. One was a

member of parliament, Dr Delamothe. He was also the government medical officer. I also met the matron, a woman of substance, bossy and aware of her power, and various nursing sisters. The nurses were kind and helpful. The dragon matron laid down the law - visiting the doctor while he was on duty was forbidden. If I had been more mature then I would have handled that relationship better but her aggressive manner threw me. In those days all the nursing sisters wore crisply starched veils



Bowen Hospital 1960s

and uniforms that must have been uncomfortable in the heat.

Another challenge for me was to be aware of my position in the hierarchy of the town which I didn't understand. When I went shopping I was given priority in the queue. Everyone stopped and let me go straight to the counter where 20 customers watched as I ordered steaks and sausages etc or at the fruit shop where everything was weighed and everyone was chatty. I found it hard to answer some of the more personal questions. Fortunately some food was delivered. I never would have been able to carry it. I also fell into the trap of people asking me how I liked Bowen. When I said I was missing my family and friends, I

found that was the wrong answer. So, I said how much I loved the beauty of Bowen, not mentioning the dragon matron or any more of the hurdles. I was readily accepted with this answer.

People called into the doctor's house to welcome us, including the local priest, Father Walter Daniels. He had served as a missionary before the war at the Edward River mission in far North Queensland and on Thursday Island. After the war he returned to Thursday Island to pick up the pieces so to speak. Everyone loved him for his humility and caring nature. His wife Elfreda had also been a schoolteacher at the mission. Our attendance at church was spasmodic - we usually arrived a bit late and tried to sneak in, but this was impossible.

The Daniels family had three children, Sister Angela who was a teaching nun at St Margaret's School in Brisbane and Nigel and Rodney both born after the war were at boarding school and only home for holidays. Also Father Daniels had a speaking impediment which caused him to stutter. I mention this because it defined the courage it took him to often get a word out. He had an early onset of Parkinsons Disease. Years later he was made a Canon in the Diocese of Far North Queensland.

We joined various church groups. At one stage I was in the youth group called the Barbarians, named after the ship Santa Barbara which sank in the Coral Sea near Bowen, the Ladies Fellowship, a group of elderly woman who basically ran fundraising events and the Mothers Union, although not a mum at that stage. Mrs Daniels thought that as this group was a meeting place for young mothers I would meet young women approximately my own age. She was right of course and later those contacts were useful when my daughter was born.

But first we had to survive our first major challenge. A cyclone. My dad, a meteorologist rang me on 16th February. He was at work at the Archerfield aerodrome. He said there was a cyclone forming in the Pacific region and due to hit the coast probably tomorrow. I laughed as the sky outside was a brilliant blue. Dad said to be wary.

Jocelyn Hawes

(To be continued in the next edition of the Church News)



K I D S K L I P S

Word Fun

Circle the word in each square that does not belong.

chair table heart	friend run walk	flower love tree	speech pen pencil	car gracious truck	valley mountain king
2	6	1	4	3	5

In the blanks below, write the word you have circled from each box, matching the numbers.

Those who _____ a pure _____ and are _____

in _____ will have the _____ as a _____.

Proverbs 22:11

Answers: love, heart, gracious, speech, king, friend



Loving Ways

Read the first word in Group A. Then look for a word in Group B that is the exact opposite attitude.

1. Draw a line to connect these two words.
2. Circle the word that describes the attitude that is most loving.
3. Cross out the word that is not loving. (The first one is done for you.)

Group A

~~rude~~
selfish
humble
bored
kind
forgiving
deceitful
lazy
cheerful
annoyed
stubborn

Group B

mean
patient
honest
resentful
grumpy
flexible
generous
respectful
proudful
helpful
interested

Answers:
rude - respectful
selfish - generous
humble - proudful
bored - interested
kind - mean
forgiving - resentful
deceitful - honest
lazy - helpful
cheerful - grumpy
annoyed - patient
stubborn - flexible