

	Lent 2—25 February 2024	Lent 3—3 March 2024
Preacher	Mark Hillis	Myung Hwa Park HC
Organist	Merril Hillis	Richard Morphey
Bible Readers	John Cox Delma Marland	Paul Cameron Bob Hendy
Vestry Elder	Kate Prowse	Carolyn Craig-Emilsen V&HC Lorraine White (Assist)
Welcomer	Carolyn Craig-Emilsen	Kathy Garland
Steward	William Emilsen	William Emilsen
Prayers of the People	Merril Hillis	John Cox
Flowers	Lorraine White	Denise Cameron
Morning Tea	Lorraine White	Denise Cameron Annie Cox

Rosters

Bible readings

Lent 2 Feb 25

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

Lent 3 March 3

Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

Sunday

Morning Worship (& Zoom) 9.30am

Taize Services 3rd Sun 5pm

Contact Carolyn 0413 993 368

Twilight Services

4th Sunday at 5pm

Monday

Playtime 10am – 12 noon during school term Contact John Cox 0408 993007

Contact Denise 0427 784877

Book Club- 3rd Monday 2.30pm Contact Delma 0407 140 837

Retreats - .Contact Carolyn 0413 993 368

Leura Forest Holy Communion Contact: revmel@bigpond.com

Friday

Christian Meditation/Prayer 11.30am

Contact John Connor 47841819

Open Table

Tuesday lunch

Thursday breakfast

Junction 142 Katoomba

Activities

Hall Bookings

Please **check with Peggy Goldsmith (0438 788 944)** whether the hall or church is free for your group or activity before advertising it in the Bulletin or email. The Timetable is on your right on the pinboard beside the entry doors to the church.

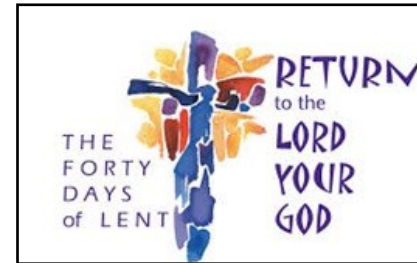
For those who wish to contribute via Bank Transfer, the details are: Leura Uniting Church – General Account
BSB 634 634 A/c No. 100031809 Reference – Offering

Online giving

Bulletin Editors Robyn & Peter tel: 0497 674213

Email: currawong2785@gmail.com **Bulletin Deadline Wednesday 8pm**

Leura Uniting Church



Corner of Grose & Megalong Streets, Leura. Located in Dharug and Gundungurra country. We have a zoom service every Sunday as well as a face-to-face service in the Church at 9.30 am. Our Church embraces diversity. All welcome.

<https://leura.unitingchurch.org.au>

<https://facebook.com/LeuraUnitingChurch>

Welcome!

A very warm welcome to everyone joining us today, especially any visitors and those joining us on Zoom. It's good to be worshipping together here. We hope you will join us for Morning Tea and a chat after the service! If you are on Zoom, if you are able to, please stay on the line for a chat after the service.

Lent 2 25 February 2024 Changed?! Mark 9:2-10

The transformation, transfiguration places Jesus squarely in the great lineage of Israel's great leaders, Moses and Elijah. The Greek word is metamorphoo from which we get metamorphic, and metamorphosis, only appears three times in the New Testament. Metamorphic rocks start as one type of rock and with pressure heat and time become another. e.g. Limestone becomes marble. Metamorphosis is most commonly seen as a caterpillar becomes a chrysalis then a butterfly.

The first is the transfiguration of Jesus. The Greek Lexicon describes Jesus "was resplendent with a divine brightness." An utterly overwhelming lightness of being. And the voice from a cloud: "This is my Son, the Beloved." God's intervention in the story declaring his place in the world of Peter, James and John and one with Moses and Elijah: "Listen to him."

The second occurrence is Romans 12.2. Paul indicates the way of renewal for the follower of Jesus. He says don't be conformed to this world. The way of transformation is by the renewing of your mind, as a way of knowing God's will. This strikes me as a process more like changing from limestone to marble. A process in which numerous forces are at work, shaping and reshaping our inner being to reflect God's will being present in our lives.

The third is the promise for the future in 2 Corinthians 3.18. It is the promise of the process. As we see Jesus more and more clearly, "Jesus is seen more and more in us as we are being transformed into his likeness with ever increasing glory".

Be encouraged.

John Cox



Agapanthus

February

Sun 25—Twilight service 5pm

Sun 25—Lenten Bible Study 11am

Wed 28—Belonging & Believing 7pm

March

Fri 1—Christian meditation 11.30am

For our thoughts and prayers. We pray for those who are sick, in pain, grieving, lonely.



TODAY 25th February at 5.00pm, our TWILIGHT Gathering, will also focus on the theme of 'Sabbath.' We will take a little time to discover how each of us have a need, even a secret longing, for the Sabbath experience. BRING SOMETHING THAT REPRESENTS REST AND RECREATION FOR YOU (A picture of a place? A piece of music? A spiritual practice?) Learn more about Sabbath rest and how to be kind to yourself and others in this crazy world. *Mark Hillis*

Sydney's Mardi Gras Parade will be held on **Saturday 2 March**. Uniting Church members have a long tradition of participation in the Parade since 1987. If you are planning to attend and celebrate, we send our prayers and solidarity to you, and to all LGBTIQ+ people of faith and their allies.



George is shaving! The big day is 3rd March! (Note corrected date) It's that time of year again, the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave. On 3rd March George Osborne will once again be shorn to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation. A tax deduction receipt is available over \$2.00. If I raise over \$500 I will also shave my beard off. *George Osborne*. Please see George or donate online: <http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/georgeosborne1>

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- Minister**
Myung Hwa Park 0400191880
- Congregation Chairperson**
John Cox 0408 993 007
- Congregation Secretary**
Stephen White 0474 224533
- Congregation Treasurer**
Kerry Jordan 4784 3051

Upcoming events...

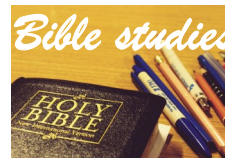
Fri 1—World Day of Prayer

Sat 2—Holy Communion in Leura Forest

Mon 11—Church Council 7pm

Thurs 21—Junction 142 Board 7pm

Sun 31—Easter Sunday



Our Lenten Study Series continues today, Sunday 25th February, at 11.00am following Morning Tea. Feel free to join. Our study text is Walter Brueggemann's *Sabbath as Resistance* - a study that offers new insights from the Old Testament. There are six chapters in the book and six weeks in Lent. Therefore today's study will be based on Chapter 2, 'Resistance to Anxiety'. Haven't read the book? You could still take a meaningful part in the study. It's not only the book that matters. Want a copy of the book anyway? Contact Mark Hillis (0408 412 414).

Our **'Foundations of Christian Faith'** series also continues this week. Let Myung Hwa know if you would like to take part or receive more information.

Foundations of Christian Faith Study incorporating Bible & Christian Life Studies. First Study Continuing Wednesday Feb 28

Venue: The Manse, 223 Katoomba Street Time 7pm-9 pm Wed

Topic: **Belonging and Believing** Facilitator: Rev. Laurel Barr



Mel Macarthur will conduct a service of **Holy Communion in the Leura Forest** in the Jamison Valley on **Saturday morning, 2 March**. We will meet at the Elysian Restaurant (Rooster Restaurant) Merriwa Street Katoomba at 8.00am. We will enter Leura Forest via Fern Bower (opposite Elysian) and exit via the Giant Staircase. Enquiries: revmel@bigpond.com

World Day of Prayer—the World Day of Prayer is an ecumenical day of prayer led by Christian women on the **first Friday in March**. Each year, it is an opportunity for local churches to come together to pray for a particular place in the world. This year, we pray for Palestine, and the service is at **Blackheath Baptist Church, 6 Bundarra St at 1.30pm, or at Hazelbrook Uniting Church, 4 Rosedale Ave at 10am, Fri 1 March.**



Many thanks to those who offered assistance with rosters last Sunday. However, **more assistance is still needed to fill the Morning Tea and Steward Rosters**, especially April-June. Please speak to Lorraine or Stephen today if you can help. We'd love to hear from you!

We have in the past had a Communion Offering for specific causes. This year we have been asked to pay \$600 to use the **Amphitheatre on Easter Day** for our **Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service**. We ask that you bring an offering on **Sunday March 3** or give an earmarked special offering online towards this amount. Every offering will help. The congregation at Our Lady of the Nativity Lawson will be fundraising too. **Easter** is such a special season! *Peggy Goldsmith*

