



# NEWSLETTER

16 May 2021

*Revive*  
*Restore*  
*Reach Out*

## NRCC News and Notices

▪ **COVID-19 rules:** the current Covid rules have been extended for another week until Monday 17 May 2021. Worship on Sunday **we are required to wear masks**, and there will be **no congregational singing except the music team**. **No morning tea for the safety of our community.**

### ▪ My Song My Story

If you have a particular song/hymn which you want to share with our church family, please feel free to contact Jenny or Steve so we can organize a date for you to have an opportunity to share your song & story. Why is the song meaningful and special to you? and how does the song help you to reflect on God's love for you? or to overcome challenges in your life? Our small but wonderful music team will help us sing your song for us. Your story, our story and God's story.

### ▪ Welcome back to Australia Jacky and Mike!

Mike & Jacky will be sharing their mission journey as well as God's message for us at our service on the 6<sup>th</sup> June. And after the service, come and celebrate Mike and Jacky's 15 years in Malawi with SIM and return to Australia at the Harrisons. There will be no morning tea at church on this day but feel free to drop into Dianne and Ian's and say hi to Mike and Jacky and stay for a while. Lunch will be potluck, Jenny and Craig will provide soup. Please bring something savoury or sweet to share. Please let Jenny Marshall or the church office ([enquiry@northrocks.org.au](mailto:enquiry@northrocks.org.au)) know if you are coming for morning tea or lunch.

The recent Newsletter from Mike & Jacky: <https://mailchi.mp/47e9c475601c/hammonds-news-malawi-matters-87?e=d28fae5313>

### ▪ The Kids' Box

Our kids have a question box on the table as you enter the church. You are invited to take a page from the notebook and write a question for them to answer so you can find out more about them.

## Community News and Notices

### ▪ Lay Ministry Training Opportunities from UME (Uniting Mission and Education)

#### Living Our Values

1pm-5pm, 20 and 21 May

Zoom

Info and registration: <https://ume.nswact.uca.org.au/calendar/living-our-values-may-2021/>

### **Exploring Theology**

Wednesdays 6:00–8:30pm, June 9 – July 21  
In-person (Centre for Ministry) and Zoom hybrid

### **Leading Worship in the UCA**

3 July, 9am-4pm  
Centre for Ministry

Info and registration: <https://ume.nswact.uca.org.au/calendar/living-our-faith-leading-worship-july/>

### **Proclaiming Jesus Christ**

Saturdays 9:30–11:30am, 10 July – 21 August  
Zoom

### **Sacraments Training**

9:00am-4:30pm  
July 17–18 (Tuggeranong Uniting) and Sept 11–12 (Goulburn Uniting)

### **Leading Worship in the UCA**

9:00am-4:30pm, Saturday Sept 25  
Canberra (Venue TBC)

## **Reflection of the Week**

One of our initial and natural responses to difficulty is to look for an immediate solution. We do not like tension and pressure in relationships. We despise disunity and spend enormous amounts of time trying to repair such problems. But when attempts to bring about resolution fail, we often run, abandoning the problem and situation altogether.

Our society is watching to see how we respond to conflict and trials. Are we going to run when things get tough, or will we stand firm in peace and seek the Lord's will for our next steps? Where we are placing our trust directly impacts our response to difficulty and suffering. If we are trusting in our own abilities to resolve situations, we can easily lose heart when we fail. But, if we trust in God and commit our every circumstance to Him—resting in His sovereignty and love for us—we will bring glory to His name and show the world exactly where our hope lies.

While God may not cause the difficulties we face, He certainly uses them to mature us. He shapes and fashions us more into His image as we learn to trust Him more. And it is in these times of testing that God begins to refine our hearts in new ways.

Running from the trials and tribulations in our lives in an attempt to escape difficulty carries some harsh consequences: We may escape the testing, but we will also escape God's blessing.

God enjoys rewarding His children with blessings from heaven. But no reward comes without personal sacrifice. His wondrous blessings await those courageous enough to face each challenge, dying to themselves and trusting in the one who gives true life.

*Prayer: Lord, give me the strength to face every challenge You send my way with hope in Your unfailing love. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love" (Psalm 33:18).**

## **e-give** (Direct Electronic Giving)

**Account Name:** North Rocks Community Church  
**(BSB):** 634634 **Account Number:** 100025906

## **Prayer Chain**

Our church has a “chain” of people committed & ready to pray & bound to confidentiality. Please contact Church office.

## **Ministry Leaders**

Minister: Rev. Steve Lee / [minister@northrocks.org.au](mailto:minister@northrocks.org.au) / 0433 698 690

Youth Coordinator: Catherine Nelson / [youth@northrocks.org.au](mailto:youth@northrocks.org.au) / 0411 055 403

Church Council:

Chairperson: Craig Marshall      Secretary: Jenny Keyte      Treasurer: Anne Crabb

## **North Rocks Community Church**

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