



NEWSLETTER

23 May 2021

*Revive
Restore
Reach Out*

NRCC News and Notices

▪ **COVID-19 rules updated:** for this week we don't need to wear masks, congregational singing is allowed and we will have our morning tea after the service.

▪ Pentecost Sunday

This Sunday we are going to celebrate Pentecost when the Spirit of the Lord was poured out to the believers, the Spirit who also lives in us. We would like to encourage all of us to come to church wearing in red which symbolizes the enlivening work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

▪ 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 6th 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 contact the church office if you would like to come for morning tea or lunch.

The recent Newsletter from Mike & Jacky: <https://mailchi.mp/4493422d22cb/hammonds-deputation-dates-update?e=d28fae5313>

▪ **Stu Brownscombe's** recent prayer letter can be found [here](#).

▪ 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)

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

The true test of our character is not measured by the actions we take nor the attitudes we present when we are on stage with the spotlight shining on us. The true test of our character is measured when no one is watching but God. Many people make the mistake of wearing their spiritual maturity on their sleeves. But God is not impressed with how many Bible verses we know nor how many Sunday school lessons we teach. In fact, nothing we do can impress God.

What God desires from us more than anything is a relationship. He designed us for this. We function best when we have others around us supporting us and challenging us to grow in our relationship with Him. And no relationship can thrive without communication.

In 1 Samuel 22, we find David tucked away in a cave in the mountains, hiding from King Saul and his army. Day after day, he fled through the mountains to avoid Saul's sword. And after days of running, David discovered an important Truth: Only God could save him. No matter how clever he was in escaping Saul's clutches, he began to understand that true salvation comes only from God. As a result of David's understanding of this principle, he spent those dark nights in mountain caves praying to God. He understood that in order to be used by God in the light, true champions pray in the dark.

It is in the dark that God brings to light His promises. It also is in the dark that He gives us the peace and assurance we need to endure difficulty and heartache. If we desire to be true champions, we must boldly pray to God, no matter how dire our situation appears. We must spend time with Him in prayer, submitting to Him and trusting Him. It is what He wants us to do.

Prayer: Lord, I trust Your will for my life. Grow my faith as I pray in the dark so that I may be used for Your glory in the light. I know You are my salvation. Your presence is my comfort and reward. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer" (Psalm 17:6).

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 / 0433 698 690

Youth Coordinator: Catherine Nelson / youth@northrocks.org.au / 0411 055 403

Church Council:

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

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