



NEWSLETTER

30 May 2021

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

▪ **last Sunday**

It was a great Pentecost Sunday service where all of us felt the presence of the Holy Spirit among us. We give thanks to the Lord for giving us a wonderful community of faith whose hearts are open to the leading of the Spirit of the Lord. Everyone looks awesome in red!

▪ **Planning Day Presentation this Sunday**

During our service this Sunday, we are going to share what we discussed and planned at the recent Planning Day. We pray that the Spirit of the Lord continue to bless us and fill us with hope and joy for what the Lord is going to reveal through us as we share the outcome of the Day.

▪ **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.

Please visit our church website if you want to listen to the previous stories.

<https://northrocks.uca.org.au/>

▪ **A big thank you to Cathy**

Cathy has resigned from the position of Children & Youth Ministry Coordinator. We would like to thank her for her time and effort for our young ones during these challenging couple of years. Cathy will continue to encourage and work with these wonderful members of our congregation as part of our new Intergeneration Team.

▪ **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 morning tea. Lunch will be potluck, Jenny and Craig will provide soup. Please bring something savoury or sweet to share. Please let the church office know if you are coming 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.

▪ **The scheduled fellowship morning tea on Saturday, 5th June at Sue & Bill's** will be replaced by the welcome back morning tea for the Hammonds on the following day.

Dates for your Diary

▪ **EQUIP 21 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**

<https://www.equip.org.au/>

Please join for a livestreaming of EQUIP 21. We will be watching the conference live at our church.

Saturday, 19th June, 10 am – 3 pm. \$20 per person. Teens (girls in years 7-11) are able to view for free.

For a group booking, pay at church office or put in an envelope on Sunday. Please note that the conference sessions are not interactive. Contact: Sue or the church office.

▪ **Church Playgroup**

At the recent Church Planning Day there was strong support for moving ahead with investigating whether we could re-start Playgroup here at North Rocks. Bev is wanting to talk to people who would like to hear more about this – no commitment necessary at this stage. There are many, different ways that people could be involved. Also, we are going to have a meeting to talk and pray about this further. The suggested date is **Tuesday 8th June at 11 am here in the Church.**

Again – please talk to Bev or contact the church office if you are interested in attending.

▪ **NRCC Men's Get Together**

Where: Western Sydney International Airport Experience Centre. 100 Eaton Road, Luddenham.

When: the tour is locked in for 10 am on Sat 29th May.

How to get there: **Please be at the church by 9 am sharp** and we'll organise car-pooling and be on our way by 9.15.

Contact: the church office.

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

In today's society, people constantly blame shift. There is always some excuse to explain away the actions of people who need to be held accountable. While our society loves to bestow grace, it struggles to see how grace and consequences for our actions can live together. Adopting this type of attitude can stunt our relationship with God.

God is a God of grace and redemption, so much so that He sacrificed His only Son for the forgiveness of our sins. Yet, Jesus' death was the consequence of our sin. The consequences of sin are not dismissed simply because grace is endowed upon us.

Do we really think we need to confess our sins? And if so, do we think it is our fault that we sinned? Answering these questions will help us determine whether we are truly living by this Kingdom principle—that we are sinners who have been ransomed with Jesus' blood and who still must confess sin. If we do not confess and repent, we may try to hide from our Saviour instead of receiving His transforming and freeing love and grace.

So if we intend to experience wholeness, we must confess our sins to God and ask for His forgiveness. Whenever we turn to Christ—even in the midst of our brokenness—He is there for us, putting back together for us the shattered pieces.

A true champion knows when to lean on God—and that time is always. We cannot conquer the sin in our lives on our own. We need to put on the altar those attitudes and habits that produce sin in our lives and invite God to bring about the cleansing that purifies us. When we are diligent to confess our sins and accept responsibility for our actions, God is faithful to respond and lovingly restore us to wholeness.

Prayer: Lord, help me to be more aware of my sin and more faithful to confess it to You. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy" (Proverbs 28:13).

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: youth@northrocks.org.au

Church Council:

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

North Rocks Community Church

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