

NEWSLETTER

5 July-11 July 2021

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

- **This Sunday (July 11) Online Service:** Due to the extended restrictions we will worship online this week.

9 AM Online Service

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9XZ6bg-Sb5az1E9oqqPbFA?view_as=public

- **Guest Preacher July 11.** Cliff Fielding, from **Alpha Australia** will be preaching on July 11.

▪ Term 3 worship volunteers

We are organizing our next term worship roster (Aug-Oct). If you haven't really participated in our Sunday worship in the past, there are many areas you can bring your heart and your God-given gifts to our worship to God. Please contact Jenny (worship & music), Val R (welcomers & stewards), Sharryn (morning tea), Carol (flowers) or any other areas if you feel led to participate in our worship.

▪ **BASECAMP 2021 Men's Conference**

[Basecamp Men's Conference \(Katoomba\)](#), is on again this year as Basecamp 2021. Every year a bunch of the men from the North Rocks Church spend a weekend in Katoomba and attend the Basecamp event on Saturday. The event covers most of Saturday. This year things are a bit insecure because of intermittent lock downs and movement restrictions. The convention Centre is classed by the Government under the 2 sq metre rule which will limit physical attendees. The event will be live-streamed.

We have decided to attend the event from our Church and will attend online. The idea is that we meet at Church as a group and have tea and lunchtime together. The date for Basecamp 2021 is **Saturday 14 August and will run from 08:45 to 15:00 (3PM). Cost will be \$59/pp for the day online conference.**

If you have any questions or would like more details please email the church office at enquiry@northrocks.org.au.

▪ from Bill and Sandra Callister

Thanking you for continuing to support us financially for the ongoing translation work in PNG that we are involved in. We so much appreciate you and your fellowship with us in bringing the Word of God to the Misima and Saisai people.

Bill continues to work diligently all day most days (even Saturdays!) at the computer on translation. He has three translation teams to keep up with, two of them are doing the Misima OT books of Isaiah and Numbers, and the third one is the Saisai team, working on John. He sends notes and suggestions to them after the members of each team have worked together on doing a first draft. We are very thankful for the internet connection we can have with them - from our house in Wollongbar, Northern NSW to their village houses via satellite on their islands in PNG.

I have a variety of activities: running a book club, serving as a waitress at our church cafe, sending out monthly newsletters for about 60 Wycliffe NSW/ACT retiree missionaries, and showing hospitality to people in our street and church, as we both seek to get to know folk in this local community where God has placed us. We are also thankful to have one of our sons nearby with his family, because the other children (2 in PNG and one in northern QLD) are a long way away!

Please continue to pray for the impact of the Word on the Misima and Saisai peoples, and particularly for the next Misima Language Committee meeting 24-29 July, where we hope they will finish reviewing and checking the rest of the book of 2 Kings.

blessings and many thanks from Bill and Sandra

▪ **Useful sources of information about mental health issues:**

Beyond Blue: <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

SANE Australia: <https://www.sane.org/>

Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia Inc: <https://www.mifa.org.au/en/>

The Blackdog Institute: <https://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/>

Head To Health: <https://www.headtohealth.gov.au/>

Headspace: <https://headspace.org.au/>

UCA Assembly Resource on **Domestic and Family Violence** can be found [here](#).

▪ **Church Library**

Looking for some good Christian books or bible study resources? Please make use of our church library in the office. We have a small but useful collection of quality books.

Dates for your Diary

▪ **HSC Morning Tea postponed.** Unfortunately, due to the ever-changing COVID situation, we will not be inviting HSC students to join us on Sunday July 18. We are working on other ways to support them over the following months.

Community News and Notices

The Liverpool Loaves and Fishes Free Restaurant is now open in the grounds of Liverpool Uniting Church.

Watch this link to the first day of operation:-

<https://youtu.be/hkirE8sdCNo>



Liverpool Uniting Church
38 Pitt Street
Liverpool NSW 2170 (02) 8758 4881
email: liverpooluniting@yahoo.com



Bill Crews
Foundation

'Loaves & Fishes Free Restaurant Liverpool'

Volunteers Wanted

What is 'Loaves & Fishes Free Restaurant Liverpool'?

This restaurant is a new partnership between the **Liverpool Uniting Church** and **The Exodus Foundation**. During the current Covid-19 Pandemic the Bill Crews Foundation Food Van has been serving meals each day mainly by volunteer staff. Whilst this has served the people well it's time to make a move and bring the relationship closer together and open a restaurant similar to the 'Loaves & Fishes Free Restaurant' at the Ashfield Uniting Church. The restaurant will serve free meals to anyone who comes to the restaurant. On the weekends the meals will continue to be served from the mobile food van.

The Bill Crews Foundation are committed to serving the homeless, rough sleepers, and anyone who is in need.

If you would like to know more about what it means to be a volunteer in the organisation you can visit:
billcrews.org/volunteer-ashfield-sydney/ where you will find the details.

Please contact the Volunteering Department on (02) 8752 4674 or
Email: volunteering@billcrews.org

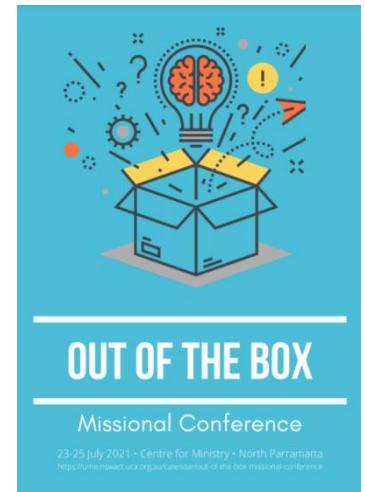
▪ Out Of The Box Missional Conference

https://ume.nswact.uca.org.au/calendar/out-of-the-box-missional-conference/?fbclid=IwAR3yB0giMAxoDhVbzP_41OP1oYK6hF5pE4bTVv1yID-P114Ye9OKGka1zwM

What does it mean to be a community-engaged, missional church? How can we make our churches more 'now' and inter-cultural? This 3-day conference unpacks these questions, and more.

If you are not available for the whole conference you might like to just attend the Saturday sessions.

from: 23/07/2021 3:00 pm to: 25/07/2021 3:00 pm, at 16 Masons Drive North Parramatta



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

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

All around us the world is changing, and most of these changes are not for the better. Our culture is becoming more ungodly, and our society is on a downward spiral. Many Christians feel helpless and hopeless at the condition of our world. They have become resigned to the state of society's moral decay. They are overwhelmed by the sinfulness surrounding them. Yet the Bible teaches us that Christians should be the most hopeful people on earth.

Paul encourages us, "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" (Romans 12:12). As a Hebrew, Paul would have been grammatically inclined to place the most important idea at the end of the sentence. Paul is essentially saying that when we persist in prayer, we will not only be steadfast during the tough times, but we will also rejoice in hope.

Paul is not talking about temporary optimism or positive thinking. He is saying that persistent prayer leads to a truly optimistic, hope-filled outlook on life. Prayer puts things in an eternal perspective. Through prayer, the Holy Spirit can show us how God views our circumstances so that we do not persist in our faulty, pessimistic attitudes. Only through an ongoing fellowship with God can we find the joy of Biblical hope.

Biblical hope comes from knowing who we are in Christ and that we belong to Him. Biblical hope comes from the absolute confidence and trust that God has our best interests at heart. When we are filled with

Biblical hope, we wake up each morning with enthusiasm, eager to see how God is going to meet our needs, walk with us that day, and use us mightily for Him.

Prayer: God, thank You for the hope that comes from a relationship with You. When I am tempted to despair, help me to remember to turn to You in prayer knowing that You will give me hope. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you" (Psalm 39:7).

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 Steve or Church office.

Ministry Leaders

Minister: Rev. Steve Lee / minister@northrocks.org.au / 0433 698 690

Church Council:

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

North Rocks Community Church

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Uniting Church in Australia <https://uniting.church/>

NSW & ACT Synod <https://nswact.uca.org.au/>

Parramatta Nepean Presbytery <https://parramattanepean.uca.org.au/>