

NEWSLETTER

2 August – 8 August 2021

*Revive
Restore
Reach Out*

NRCC News and Notices

▪ **This Sunday (8 August) Online Service**

9 AM Online Service

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9XZ6bg-Sb5az1E9oggPbFA?view_as=public

▪ **New Pastoral Care Team Leader**

We are pleased to let you know that **Robyn Pike** will be working as our Pastoral Care Team leader. We would like to thank her for taking up the role and the team members for their ongoing commitment. Please contact Robyn if you have any pastoral needs.

▪ **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 event will be live-streamed.

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.**

Steve Turner is coordinating the event and will be delighted to talk to anyone with any questions. Unfortunately we won't be able to watch it together but email Steve for all the necessary details including ticket sales.

Contact: enquiry@northrocks.org.au

▪ **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/>

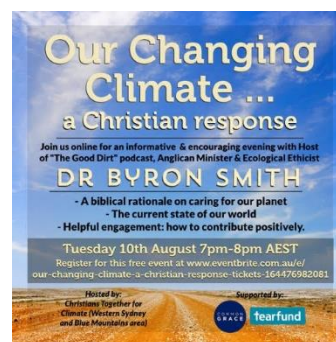
UCA Assembly Resource on **Domestic and Family Violence** can be found [here](#).

Community News and Notices

The local Christians Together for Climate (Western Sydney and Blue Mountains) group is hosting a talk from Byron Smith on Tuesday 10th August. We had planned for it to be in person but obviously it will now be online. The upside is that now anyone is able to participate from anywhere.

If you wish to register click on the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/our-changing-climate-a-christian-response-tickets-164476982081>



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

Sacraments Training

9:00am-4:30pm

Sept 11–12 (Goulburn Uniting)

Leading Worship in the UCA

9:00am-4:30pm, Saturday Sept 25

Canberra (Venue TBC)

Reflection of the Week

When a situation seems impossible, we must remember that nothing is impossible for God. In trying times, we have an opportunity to flex our faith and lean into His supernatural power. God will provide. We just need to trust Him.

Second Kings 4 tells us about a widow who was all out of options. The woman's deceased husband had left behind a debt, and his creditor was on his way to collect. She was facing shame and degradation and the loss of her sons—and then she remembered the promises of God.

The widow's husband had been faithful to God, and as the head of his household, he had led his family to trust and obey the Lord. This poor woman knew God had promised to care for the righteous and provide for their needs. So, when she approached Elisha, seeking God's help, she knew her situation mattered to God. She placed her faith not in her good works or in the faithfulness of her husband, but squarely in the God who keeps His promises.

She also displayed confidence in God's provision. When Elisha asked her what she had in her house as a starting point, she replied, "Your servant has nothing here at all," but then she thought for a moment more and remembered she did have something—"a small jar of olive oil" (2 Kings 4:2). The little bit of oil at the bottom of a tiny jar really was nothing in comparison to the size of her debt, yet she offered it to the Lord, knowing that in His hands it could be enough.

Finally, this widow maximized her capacity for blessing. Elisha told her to borrow jars and containers from her neighbours—and not just a few. So she asked for as many as her neighbours could spare, and God blessed her accordingly. The oil in that small jar of hers

filled all the containers, stopping only when the last was topped off. She prepared for a large blessing, and that's exactly what she received.

As the world around you grows dark, God is still faithful. Now is the time to expand your capacity to receive. Don't be content with just a few jars—expect great things from the Lord. He is your loving Father who is supernaturally at work in your life for your good and for the blessing of those around you.

Prayer: Lord, You are so faithful. Your blessings are overwhelming. You fill my cup to overflowing. Help me to see how You are at work in my life. May I have eyes to see Your goodness and confidence that You are able and willing to bless me as Your child. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Elisha said, 'Go around and ask all your neighbours for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few'" (2 Kings 4:3).

Prayers for our Congregation

- We pray for our preschool and for Jen, Alex and Steve as they work towards finding a provider.
- We pray for those who unwell or recovering from injury
- We pray for those missing loved ones due to death, distance or lockdowns
- We pray for those struggling with the isolation due to lockdowns.
- We pray for teachers, students and parents having to deal with teaching and learning online.
- We pray for year 12 students as they find ways to stay motivated in their studies and wait to find out about the upcoming exams.
- We pray for our missionaries: Mike and Jacky Hammond, Bill and Sandra Callister, Richard and Lindsey Parker, Stu Brownscombe.

e-give (Direct Electronic Giving)

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

Prayers

If you have any prayer requests or would like to know of those with particular pastoral needs to pray for, please contact Robyn, Steve or Pastoral Care Team.

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

132-136 North Rocks Rd, North Rocks. NSW 2151

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

Facebook: North Rocks Community Church

Email: enquiry@northrocks.org.au

Phone: (02) 9683 2586

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

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

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