

# NEWSLETTER

23 August – 29 August 2021

*Revive*  
*Restore*  
*Reach Out*

## NRCC News and Notices

### ▪ 9 AM ZOOM Service & 10 AM Fellowship

We would like to encourage all of us to prepare ourselves on Sunday morning for the worship we are going to bring to the Lord. If it is possible, please find an appropriate place/room where you can avoid distractions and noises so that you might be able to focus on the time of worship. Hope to see you all there. **AGM will be part of our Sunday service @ 9 AM.** We pray that it will be a time to reflect on how God has guided us during last year and to encourage one another as God's family.

Since this Sunday's service is relevant to the members of NRCC, if anyone whom you know wants to join our service, we would like to encourage them to worship with us from next Sunday or our fellowship time at 10 AM.

### ▪ Morning with Psalms

Would you want to begin your day with a Psalm? Or do you need a time to be still in the presence of the Lord? It would be great if someone can read a Psalm for us each morning for a time of reflection. We are inviting all our church family to participate in this little but meaningful ministry. **Volunteers for the first 20 Psalms have been nearly filled up and we are organizing the next 20 Psalms.** Please contact Steve if you want to participate or need more information.

▪ **Happy Birthday** to all of you who celebrated birthday in August. We will put aside a chocolate for you.



### ▪ Latest news from Bill and Sandra

For the latest from Bill and Sandra, please click on the link:

<https://microsites.uca.org.au/media/10771/from-bill-and-sandra.pdf>

## ▪ Latest news from Stu Brownscombe

For the latest prayer letter from Stu, please click on the link:

<https://mailchi.mp/9312803c43fd/the-brownscombes-prayer-letter?e=1fe9cadbb8>

## ▪ 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](#).

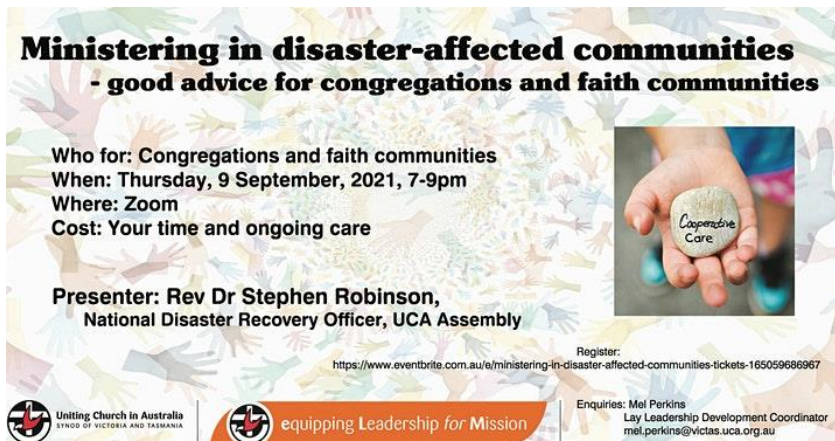
## Community News and Notices

### ▪ A thoughtful article on scripture and trauma, with a strong pastoral focus:

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/10883/scripture-and-trauma>

### ▪ Ministering in disaster-affected communities

On Thursday night, 9 September, 7-9pm (Zoom), come to the training and learn some good advice on ministering in disaster-affected communities - before a disaster occurs, when a disaster occurs, and long-term recovery. Guest presenter is Rev Dr Stephen Robinson, the National Disaster Recovery Officer for the UCA Assembly.



**Ministering in disaster-affected communities**  
- good advice for congregations and faith communities

Who for: Congregations and faith communities  
When: Thursday, 9 September, 2021, 7-9pm  
Where: Zoom  
Cost: Your time and ongoing care

Presenter: Rev Dr Stephen Robinson,  
National Disaster Recovery Officer, UCA Assembly

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ministering-in-disaster-affected-communities-tickets-165059686967>

Enquiries: Mei Perkins  
Lay Leadership Development Coordinator  
[mei.perkins@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:mei.perkins@victas.uca.org.au)

Uniting Church in Australia  
SYND OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

equipping Leadership for Mission

### ▪ National Conference of Lay Preachers 2021

#### Lay Preaching Unleashed

The Queensland Synod is pleased to host on behalf of the National Lay Preacher Committee, the National Conference of Lay Preachers 2021. 11-12 September.

<https://ucagld.com.au/national-lay-preachers-2021/>

### ▪ 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

Read Daniel 9:4-19.

As we study the prayers of the Old Testament prophet Daniel, we can learn how a righteous man prayed and follow his example.

Start with praise. Daniel began his prayer by praising God. His focus was not on himself, but on God's greatness. He prayed to "the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments" (Daniel 9:4). He acknowledged God as absolutely righteous and also merciful and forgiving. Begin your own prayers with praise and thanksgiving to God. Praise Him for His glory, power, and love. Thank Him for His daily provision in your life—your salvation and blessings. Spend time just adoring God.

Confess your sins. Daniel confessed that Israel had sinned. He didn't try to dismiss, justify, or sidestep the fact that Israel had made a grave error. He didn't make excuses to God but took responsibility. Daniel stated up front in his prayer, "[W]e have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws" (Daniel 9:5). When you go to God in prayer, don't play the blame game when it comes to your sin. Acknowledge any element of sin—whether intentional or unintentional—related to the situation or circumstance.

*Prayer: Great and awesome God, I praise You for Your glory, power, and love. Thank You for providing for all my needs and for the many ways you bless me. Thank You for sending Your Son to die on the cross for my sins. Forgive me for the things I have done that hurt You. Forgive me for not praying the way that I should. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion" (Psalm 103:2-4).**

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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/>