



NEWSLETTER

20 September – 26 September 2021

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

▪ 9 AM ZOOM Service & 10 AM Fellowship (Same ZOOM Link)

If you have friends or family members who would like to join us for our Zoom service please send them the link.

▪ Church Council Office Bearers

At our first CC meeting after the AGM, we appointed the following CC office bearers.

Chairperson: Cathy, Secretary: Jenny K, Treasurer: Anne. And other CC members are Alex, Andrew, Steve L, Steve T and Sue. Let us continue to uphold them in our prayers as they lead our church to bring glory to God.

▪ Steve T Mission Team Leader

We are pleased to announce that Steve T will be working as our Mission Team leader. We thank the Lord for him to take up the important role for our church. He will bring his heart to find ways to participate in God's mission for our community and beyond including the current missionaries we have been supporting. Thanks Steve.

▪ Building Each Other Up

Have you felt God's leading in your life for a particular ministry? Have you been looking for an opportunity to bring your heart and God-given talent for your church here at North Rocks? Or do you have any ideas and thoughts which might help our church to grow in faith and in number? Please feel free to contact our team leaders or Steve so that they might pray and work with you to discern God's plan for us.

Worship: Jenny K, Pastoral Care: Robyn, Discipleship: Alex, Fellowship: Sue, Intergen: Fiona & Cathy, Mission: Steve T.

▪ Beryl's Marmalade

Beryl has been busy making marmalade and has donated some jars for church. If you would like some please contact Steve.

• **Happy Birthday** to all of you who celebrated birthday in September. We hope to be able to share some cake with you soon.



▪ **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](#).

Recipe of the Week

Do you love cooking but are getting tired of cooking the same thing over and over? Do you need some new recipes? Have you cooked something this week, or do you have a favourite recipe, that you would like to share with the rest of us?

I am always looking at recipes but the best ones are always those tried and tested by friends. It can be any type of recipe at all, savoury, sweet, entree, snack or a meal.

If you are interested send your recipe to enquiry@northrocks.org.au Once life returns to normal perhaps we could do a church cook book.

This week's recipe comes from Dawn.

Fruit Strudel Slice

Ingredients

- 1 cup SR flour
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 cup dates or ½ cup date and 1 Granny Smith apple finely sliced
- Walnuts or sultanas or mixed fruit (you can change these to something else if you prefer)
- 3 ounces margarine melted
- 1 beaten egg

- ½ tsp mixed spice

Instructions

1. Mix together dry ingredients
2. Add beaten egg and melted margarine
3. Press into greased lamington tin
4. Bake at 180°C for 20 minutes
5. Dust with icing sugar if you wish



Community News and Notices

▪ History of Youth and Children’s Ministry in the Uniting Church

Rearview Vision: I am spending my time in Lockdown doing research on the early history of youth and children’s ministry in the Uniting Church (NSW) and leading up to Union, from 1970 to about 1985. Whether you were a child/youth, minister, leader, parent I would love to hear your experience. If you would be willing to fill in a questionnaire, please contact Christine Gapes, Uniting Church Chaplain at Western Sydney University, c.gapes@westernsydney.edu.au.

▪ **A thoughtful article on scripture and trauma, with a strong pastoral focus:**
<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/10883/scripture-and-trauma>

▪ Meet the First Peoples of Gondwana

Tue, 12 October 2021, 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

We invite you for a walk with Rev Dr Garry Deverell to listen and engage with his story and reflections as an indigenous person.

Garry will be speaking on

- Who are the First Nations/First Peoples of this country, and what is our traditional spirituality or way of life?
- What happened between First Peoples and (mainly European) colonists in the period 1788-1960? How were the churches involved?
- What is the result of this history when it comes to First Nations health, well-being and socio-economic status?
- What do modern-day Indigenous people want?
- Who are the ‘Second Peoples’ and how can they be good allies in the Indigenous struggle for something resembling justice?

For more information and to register, go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/meet-the-first-peoples-of-gondwana-tickets-167694624135>

ONLINE SEMINAR **Meet the First Peoples of Gondwana** **SYNOD INTERCULTURAL FORUM**

About the seminar
 "Following Christ, walking together as First and Second Peoples, seeking community, compassion and justice for all creation."

We invite you for a walk with Rev Dr Garry Deverell to listen and engage with his story and reflections as an indigenous person.

Garry Deverell is a Trawoolwey man from northern Lutrawita (Tasmania), an Anglican priest, and the Vice-Chancellor's Fellow in Indigenous Theologies at the University of Divinity. Garry has ministered in parishes, hospitals, welfare organisations and academic institutions for 30 years. Many of those years were spent in the employ of the Uniting Church in Victoria and Tasmania. He is the author of two books, *The Bonds of Freedom and Gondwana Theology*, and is a regular contributor to radio programs, podcasts, and conferences on Indigenous matters.

Garry will be speaking on:

- Who are the First Nations/ First Peoples of this country, and what is our traditional spirituality or way of life?
- What happened between First Peoples and (mainly European) colonists in the period 1788-1960? How were the churches involved?
- What is the result of this history when it comes to First Nations' health, well-being and socio-economic status?
- What do modern-day Indigenous people want?
- Who are the Second Peoples and how can they be good allies in the Indigenous struggle for something resembling justice?

When: October 12 **Time:** 9am-12:30pm **Where:** Zoom (will be given on registration)
Fee: \$20 (inclusive of Eventbrite fees)
Register: [Click here](#)

empowering Leadership for Mission Education & Formation for Leadership **Uniting Church in Australia** SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

Reflection of the Week

We can see how effective are the prayers of a righteous person through the Old Testament prophet Daniel. His prayers provide a model for us to follow. Read his powerful plea to God in Daniel 9:4-19. Now, let's take a look at the key components of his prayer.

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, but also merciful and forgiving. Begin your own prayers with praise and thanksgiving to God.

Praise Him for His glory, His power, and His love. Thank Him for your salvation, your many blessings and glorious promises, and His daily provision in your life. Spend time just adoring God. We must remember that prayer is not just a means of getting what we ask for—it is fellowship with God. When we pray, we are investing in an intimate, personal relationship with Him.

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, "I 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 or wrongdoing—intentional or unintentional—related to the situation or circumstance. When God reveals sin in our hearts, His ultimate desire is to reconcile us to the fullness of a right relationship with Him.

Prayer: God, I want to praise You today for Your love and for the gift of salvation. Thank You for giving us Your Word to provide examples like Daniel for us to follow. Forgive me of any sin in my life. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God my Saviour!" (Psalm 18:46).

E - give (Direct Electronic Giving)

Account Name: North Rocks Community Church

Prayers

If you have any prayer requests or would like to

(BSB): 634634 Account Number: 100025906

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: Cathy Nelson Secretary: Jenny Keyte Treasurer: Anne Crabb

Team Leaders

Worship: Jenny Keyte Discipleship: Alex Chow Pastoral Care: Robyn Pike Fellowship: Sue Vasilevska
Intergen: Cathy & Fiona Mission: Steve T

North Rocks Community Church

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<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/>