



# NEWSLETTER

27 September – 3 October 2021

**R**evive  
**R**estore  
**R**each 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.

### ▪ 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.**

### ▪ Daylight Saving Time Starts

Sunday, 3 October 2021, 2 AM clocks are turned forward 1 hour to 3 AM local daylight time.

### ▪ Term 4 Worship Roster

We are currently organizing our worship roster (Nov 2021-Jan 2022). There are many ways you can participate in our worship on Sunday. Music, bible reading, prayer, My Song My Story, welcoming/stewards, sound, media, flowers, morning tea etc. Please feel free to contact Steve or Jenny (worship service), Sharryn (morning tea), welcoming/stewards (Val R), flowers (Carol).

### ▪ Beryl's Marmalade

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

### ▪ 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](mailto:enquiry@northrocks.org.au) Once life returns to normal perhaps we could do a church cook book.

**This week's recipe comes from Elise.**

Since it is almost summer, maybe a watermelon smoothie with some mint and lime juice.

## Watermelon Smoothie

This recipe is incredibly refreshing and take 2 minutes to make. This recipe makes six, 1-cup servings.

### Equipment

- Blender
- Cutting board
- Chef's knife
- Liquid measuring cup

### Ingredients

- 6 cups cubed watermelon frozen
- 2  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup water
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup lime juice
- 3 tablespoons honey
- 12 mint leaves (optional)



### Instructions

1. Add frozen watermelon, water, lime juice, honey and mint leaves to a high-powered blender
2. Blend for about 30 seconds until smooth.
3. Serve

## 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](mailto: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?

**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 Trawlwoolway man from northern Lutrawla (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

**For more information and to register, go to:**

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

▪ **PNP Multicultural Celebration**

Celebrating our Diversity in Unity with Christ

Saturday 23rd October 2021, 10:00am-1:05pm

ZOOM ONLINE SESSION ONLY

This is an opportunity to raise an awareness about the Multicultural Strategy Committee and its role, and to enthuse and empower those from our Multicultural communities to take on leadership roles in the Presbytery and other councils of the Church.

The Committee also wants to reaffirm the declaration the National Assembly made in 1985 that the Uniting Church in Australia is a Multicultural Church.

If you are interested please email [enquiry@northrocks.org.au](mailto:enquiry@northrocks.org.au) for more information.

**PARRAMATTA-NEPEAN**  
**Multicultural Celebration**  
 ZOOM ONLINE SESSION ONLY

**worship**  
 Auburn Youth Leading Worship  
 Lejeh Eijjan Youth Closing Worship  
 President Elect Rev. Charissa Suli

**panel discussion**  
 Moderator Rev Simon Hansford  
 Moderator Elect Rev Fatamata Hiliou

**conversation**  
 Space to reflect, discuss and celebrate as a community

**SATURDAY**  
**23 October 2021**  
**10:00AM - 1:05PM**

**Uniting Church in Australia**  
 SYDNEY PRESBYTERY

▪ **Job Vacancy**

Parramatta Nepean Presbytery is seeking to employ a Business Manager. If you would like more details, or would like to see the position description please email [enquiry@northrocks.org.au](mailto:enquiry@northrocks.org.au). (Applications close 29 October.)

# Reflection of the Week

Have you noticed that the higher our expectations, the greater our disappointment when they are not met? Whether our unrealistic expectations are placed in other people, in our own strength, or in specific situations, we will always experience discouragement when things do not go as planned. But when our expectations are placed in the promises of God, we will never be disappointed. His timing may not always be as quick as we would like, and His methods may be different from what we expected, but God will always follow through on His promises.

In Luke 2:25-35, we read about Simeon, who placed his expectations on God's faithfulness. He had spent his lifetime anticipating the arrival of the Messiah. And because God had told him he would personally see the Christ, Simeon knew that Jesus would be born in his lifetime. After years of waiting and watching, Simeon was ready to be relieved of his post.

When he held the Christ child in his arms, he prayed, "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32).

Simeon's prayer was a confident prayer. He was not surprised that God had fulfilled His promise. He knew God would remain faithful. Simeon's expectations were met because they were rooted in the promises of God. God had promised to send the Messiah, so He sent Jesus Christ to earth. Simeon never gave up on God, and God did not disappoint him.

What a contrast to the expectations we place on this world! We place high expectations in the wrong things and the wrong people and are surprised when we end up bitterly disappointed. We forget that the only one who will never disappoint us is God.

*Prayer: God, help me to place my expectations in You, not in this world. I know that You will never disappoint me. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God" (Psalm 42:11).**

## **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: Cathy Nelson      Secretary: Jenny Keyte      Treasurer: Anne Crabb

### Team Leaders

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

## **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/>