

NEWSLETTER

8 November – 14 November 2021

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

• Sunday @ 9 AM

We look forward to seeing everyone in person at church. We give thanks to God for everyone's patience and care for each other during lockdown. Here are some safety measures for the safety of all who will be attending our service:

- If you are feeling unwell, please consider others - stay away and get tested
- 2 sqm indoors. Ensure 1.5m physical distancing where possible
- Check in using our QR code. If this is not possible, please check in at the desk.
- Wear a mask while indoors.
- Singing is now allowed with a mask if you are fully vaccinated
- At the end of the service please help by wiping down your chair
- We won't be serving morning tea for now

• Support for our Year 12s and Thank You to our Teachers

As you know we were blessed to receive a \$1000 grant from the UCA Stamp Committee for an outreach/community project.

This week we have delivered about 35 support packs to year 12 students including students from Stu's Bible Study group at Muirfield, former Nudgites, and family and friends of those in our congregation. They were all very excited to receive these and to know that we have been praying for them.



We have also delivered about 35 boxes of chocolates to the year 12 teachers at Muirfield High School. The teacher who accepted the chocolates was quite excited that they had their names on them and that there was a hand-written note.

Thank you for continuing to pray for our students and teachers as they approach the end of the year, and also to everyone who wrote notes for us to include in the gifts. I hope that this will be just the start.

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.

How about some Barbecued Pork Ribs

SLOW COOKER BARBECUE RIBS

Easy Slow Cooker Barbecue Ribs are melt-in-your-mouth incredible! Let your slow cooker do all the work and come home to sticky, fall apart ribs!

Prep Time: 10 mins / Cook Time: 3 hrs (or longer for more tender ribs) / Serves 6



Ingredients

- 2 cups (500ml) barbecue sauce
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons minced garlic
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tablespoon cayenne pepper (optional for a hint of spice)
- 2 kg (4 pounds) baby back pork ribs

Instructions

1. Spray inside of a 6-quart slow cooker with cooking spray.
2. Remove inner skin (membrane) from ribs and place ribs in slow cooker. Discard skin.
3. Combine bbq sauce, brown sugar, garlic, Worcestershire sauce and cayenne pepper in a small bowl. Mix well to combine and completely cover with half of the sauce.
4. Cover with lid and cook on low setting for 7-9 hours or high setting for 3-5 hours *see notes. Refrigerate remaining sauce to use later.
5. When ribs are tender and falling apart, transfer onto an oven tray (or baking sheet), lined with parchment paper. (Lift them carefully as the meat will be very tender and falling off the bone).
6. Pour half of the juices from the slow cooker bowl into the remaining sauce. Baste ribs with half of the sauce and grill in preheated oven at 400°F (220°C) for about 10 minutes or until beginning to char and crisp on the edges.
7. Serve ribs with remaining sauce.

Note: Cook times depend on the results you are looking for:

- LOW: 7 HOURS / HIGH: 3 HOURS — Ribs that are soft but stay on the bone (as shown in the video in post).
- LOW: 9 HOURS / HIGH: 4-5 HOURS — Tender, fall apart ribs that melt in your mouth like butter (as shown in the images in post).

Community News and Notices

Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia's (CRSA) Group Mentorship Program, gives opportunities for groups and Churches to provide practical support and friendship to newly-arrived refugee households in NSW/ACT.



Uniting  

The Uniting Church has a long and proud history of campaigning for the rights of refugees and people seeking asylum and of welcoming and supporting these people in our communities. This is an exciting opportunity for local groups and Churches so please register to learn more about the program and how you could get involved: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/uca-briefing-group-mentorship-program-for-refugees-tickets-190041558417>

Details:

Wednesday 17th November 7pm, - 8.15pm via Zoom
All welcome, [REGISTER HERE](#)

For more information, please contact Alex Hogan ahogan@uniting.org / 0423 503 998

Advent Bible Study

Rev Dr Chris Walker will conduct an online Advent Bible Study based on his recently published study *Jesus Christ: The Same Yesterday, Today and Forever. Finding Hope and Strength in Trying Times* (MediaCom, 2021). Chris is an adjunct lecturer at United Theological College and a former national consultant for theology and discipleship for the Assembly of the UCA.

The studies will be conducted via Zoom on Mondays from 7.30 – 9.00pm on 22 & 29 November and 6 & 13 December. Anyone across the Parramatta-Nepean Presbytery is welcome. **It will be helpful to purchase the Advent Study from MediaCom as soon as possible. Simply call them on 08 8371 1399 or go to:**

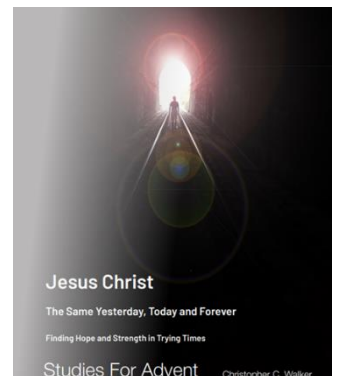
<https://www.mediacomeducation.org.au/shop/the-coming-of-jesus-christ-past-present-and-future/>

Zoom link (same link for all four sessions):

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/97510887364?pwd=UC9vOFZPd0hZOFBDZzJVNy9jem1HUT09>

Meeting ID: 975 1088 7364

Passcode: 482061



seeks volunteer Management Committee members

Gateway Family Services (Gateway) is an NGO which has been operating for over 25 years as a mission project of the Blaxland Uniting Church. It provides a range of family support, emergency consultation and relief services in the Blue Mountains, Penrith, and surrounding communities. Operational bases are located in Blaxland (HQ), Katoomba, and Penrith. The Management Committee of Gateway currently seeks interested and appropriately skilled individuals to be volunteer members of the Committee.

In particular the Committee is seeking a volunteer Chairperson. The Chairperson's duties include providing leadership to the Committee at monthly meetings, serving as primary liaison with Gateway's CEO, and shaping the direction and strategy of the organisation in conjunction with the committee and the CEO. The position would suit someone with a Christian faith, a keen interest in community well-being, and solid leadership/governance experience. Knowledge of the health and human services sector, and established networks in this sector would be helpful but not essential.

For further information, please contact the Committee's Acting Chairperson - Peter Tamsett (tamsettpg@gmail.com) - by 15 November 2021.

▪ **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](#).

Reflection of the Week

As He delivered the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus was intentional about the order of what we call the beatitudes. He was leading us through the way of the Christian life, guiding us from that first step of knowing our need for Christ to this fifth one—the greatest way to imitate our heavenly Father—exercising mercy.

Our world doesn't always see mercy as a virtue, however. One Roman philosopher called mercy "the disease of the soul." Sadly, Roman men treated women and children the way our society treats the unborn today: with no mercy. Even among the Jewish people, the Pharisees taught that it is only necessary to show mercy to someone when they have shown mercy to you.

However, Jesus' teaching on mercy turned that worldly wisdom upside-down. He said that when we show mercy to others, our hearts will be in such a condition to receive more and more of God's mercy so that we may be able to give more mercy. The more mercy we pour out, the more His mercy will pour into us. You see, God is looking for people to be conduits of His mercy—to be people who resemble and represent the Lord Jesus Christ. For love generates mercy, and mercy provides forgiveness. That's a message the world needs to hear and a hope the lost need to experience: the love of God displayed in His mercy toward sinners.

Prayer: Father, I know mercy is beautiful because it is a part of Your character. I experience Your mercy every day as You forgive my sins and extend to me a love deeper than I can fathom. May I be a conduit of that incredible mercy to those around me. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy" (Matthew 5:7).

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: Cathy Nelson Secretary: Jenny Keyte Treasurer: Anne Crabb

Team Leaders

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

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/>