



# NEWSLETTER

3 – 9 January 2022

**R**evive  
**R**estore  
**R**each Out

## NRCC News and Notices

### ▪ Updated safety measures for our Christmas services

- **Following the government guidance, we strongly encourage all to wear a mask while indoors. Please advise your family members and friends who are coming to our services.**
- If you are feeling unwell, please consider others - stay away and get tested
- Ensure 1.5m physical distancing where possible
- Check in using our QR code. If this is not possible, please check in at the desk.
- At the end of the service please help by wiping down your chair
- We won't be serving morning tea for now

### ▪ Rapid Antigen Tests

Have you been able to access a Rapid Antigen Test when needed? We all know it is difficult to find one at the moment. Hopefully, there will be plenty available soon but if you are in need of one urgently please contact Steve. There are a few spares in the office if you are unable to get one. Thank you to Michael & Marg Tolar and others who have donated the test kits.

### ▪ 2022 Term 1 Worship Roster (February – April)

If you would like to be more involved in our Sunday worship, please feel free to contact the following persons for the various areas of worship you wish to be part of.

Worship: Steve (worship leading, prayers, bible reading, sound, media, story sharing etc)

Music: any of the music team members

Welcomers & Stewards: Val R

Flowers: Carol

Morning Tea: Sharryn

### ▪ Steve's annual leave (17th – 30th January)

Rev John Barr (23rd Jan) and Rev Dr Rob McFarlane (30th Jan) will be our guest preachers while Steve is away.

### ▪ Key Register

We are currently updating our office key register. If you have an office key please contact Cathy so that the number can be recorded.

## Reflection of the Week

The world we live in is a place of constant change—and many of the changes we've experienced as of late have not been positive or meaningful. Knowing this, it's understandable to feel apprehensive about the new year and all that it may hold—but the good news is this: We follow a God who is supernatural.

There is another kind of fear that grips people at the start of a new year. For some, it's not the unknown that terrifies them; it's the known. They know the culture will grow more hostile toward the Christian faith. They know that their faith in Jesus Christ may cost them in ways that only a few short years ago seemed impossible. God's presence is there for these people too. As we walk through the year to come, knowing that serious challenges await us, Jesus stands with us. We can cling to Him in the midst of every storm.

David Livingstone, the famous missionary who brought the Gospel to unreached peoples in the jungles of Africa, knew all about known and unknown fears. He knew the very real dangers inherent in God's calling on his life, and he also knew there was no way he could prepare for everything he would face.

Late in his life, Livingstone was awarded an honorary degree from the University of Glasgow. As he made his way to the podium, his tired, gaunt, and crippled appearance told a tremendous story about the life he had lived. One might think Livingstone would be done risking his life in such a dangerous place, but that's not how David Livingstone viewed his calling. He told the crowd gathered there that day that he was actually preparing to return. He said,

"But I return without misgivings and with great gladness. For would you like me to tell you what supported me through all those years of exile among people whose language I could not understand, and whose attitude towards me was always uncertain and often hostile? It was this: "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world!" On those words I staked everything and they never failed me!"

The promise of God's presence gave Livingstone tremendous courage—and it can do so in yours, too. No matter what you may be dreading about the months and years ahead, know this: The infinite, almighty God goes with you. He loves you; you are not alone.

*Prayer: Father, thank You for the confidence You bring with the presence of Your might and the assurance of Your love. Help me to have courage for whatever events You have ordained for my life so that I might do the good works You have planned in advance for me to do. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you" (Deuteronomy 31:6).**

## **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. Robyn: 0424791916

## **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  
Intergen: Fiona & Cathy    Mission: Steve Turner

## **North Rocks Community Church**

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

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

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