



NEWSLETTER

15 August – 21 August 2022

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

Sabbath Time: Rest, Renew, Reconnect

You are invited to this retreat day and rest from your work. As God did on the sixth day, we will celebrate that what we have done, what we do, is very good! We will bless our living and one another, held and loved and deeply blessed by God, our Creator.



Kate Scholl

Pastoral Theology Team & Registrar at
United Theological College (1987 –
2000)
Eremos Events and Communication
Coordinator
St Vincent de Paul Society

Registration by 21st Aug. Gold coin donation on the day.
For more info and an RSVP, please contact Alex
(alex.chow@optusnet.com.au) or phone 0414 846 426



▪ **Hammonds Preaching this Sunday**

Mike and Jacky will be sharing their mission journey as well as a God's message with us. Please invite your friends or family members to this wonderful opportunity to know what the Lord is doing through the hands of His followers.

Community News and Notices

The Uniting Climate Action Network invites you to an on-line forum on electric vehicles.

Are you interested in making the switch to an electric vehicle but have questions?

To provide some answers to these and other questions, the Uniting Climate Action Network has organised an on-line Electric Vehicle Forum. We are very pleased that Dr Jake Whitehead, the Head of Policy at the [Electric Vehicle Council](#) has agreed to be our main speaker. He will explain the benefits of EV's, how they work, their current availability in Australia, and factors that affect their cost and public demand for them. There will be time for participants to ask more questions after his talk.

The forum will take place on Wednesday September 7, from 7.00pm – 8.30pm. [You can register for the event here](#) and the Zoom link will be emailed to you before the evening. If you have any questions, please contact Jon O'Brien in the Uniting Climate team at jobrien@unting.org or 0477 725 528



The poster is for an 'Electric Vehicle Information Forum' held on September 7 from 7pm to 8.30pm. It is a free online event. The text encourages people to register if they are considering buying an electric vehicle or are just curious. It highlights that cars are responsible for about half of all transport emissions in Australia and asks if switching to an electric vehicle is the right investment. The guest speaker is Dr Jake Whitehead, Head of Policy at the Electric Vehicle Council. The forum is aimed at the wider church community but is open to all. A 'Register on Eventbrite' button is prominently displayed. Logos for UCAN, Uniting Church NSW & ACT, and Uniting are at the top. A small circular photo of Dr Jake Whitehead is at the bottom right.

UCAN
Uniting Church
NSW & ACT
Uniting

Electric Vehicle Information Forum

September 7 | 7pm-8.30pm
Free Online Event

If you've ever considered buying an electric vehicle or are just curious to learn more about them, join us at our **Electric Vehicle Information Forum**.

Cars are responsible for about **half** of all **transport emissions** in Australia. Could switching to an electric vehicle be the right investment for you and the planet?

Come along to hear from guest speaker Dr Jake Whitehead, Head of Policy at the **Electric Vehicle Council** and get answers about the benefits of EVs, how they work, the factors that influence their uptake and more.

This forum is aimed at any in the wider church community but open to all
Click the link below to register:

[Register on Eventbrite](#)

Jake is Head of Policy at the Electric Vehicle Council of Australia. He was formerly a Lead Author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a member of the International Electric Vehicle Policy Council at the University of California, Davis, and also runs his own mobility-as-a-service company in Queensland, ODIN PASS.

▪ Uniting Church Assembly and Synod News Links

Uniting Church Assembly: <https://uniting.church/news/>

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

▪ Moderator's Flood Appeal to help devastated communities

The Uniting Church NSW/ACT has launched a special appeal to help those communities devastated by record-breaking floods.

<https://nswact.uca.org.au/communications/newsroom/media-release-moderator-s-flood-appeal-to-help-devastated-communities/>

Reflection of the Week

Sometimes in his letters, Paul seems so strong and confident, so full of faith, that he appears to be a spiritual superhero. But Paul was as human as you and I. Cut him, and he bleeds. Slander him, and he feels the wound. Criticism and opposition always hurt. Yes, we can reach a stage of spiritual maturity where we are better able to manage our pain and forgive an injury, but only a person with ice water in his veins could say that criticism doesn't hurt.

Paul looked to the example of Jesus. He was comforted in knowing that his Lord and Savior, his role model, was constantly criticized and attacked. The Lord's enemies called Him a glutton, a drunkard, a lawbreaker, a blasphemer, a seditionist, and a demon-possessed madman. Evil always tries to portray good as evil and evil as good. Evil men always try to create confusion and divert attention from their wickedness.

One way evil people try to confuse the issue is by claiming that those who stand for Biblical morality, for God's Truth, for the Gospel of Jesus Christ, are guilty of that most vile of all sins, the sin of intolerance! If a Christian supports God's model for Christian marriage and the Christian family—one man and one woman raising children in the nurture of the Lord—that Christian will be labeled a bigot and be accused of intolerance. By supporting what is godly and good, a Christian will be demonized as a hater.

When Paul responds to criticism and opposition, he does not give in to anger or self-justification. His response is focused entirely on defending the Gospel itself. He reminds the Thessalonians of his love for them. He wants them to know that the Gospel he preached to them was delivered in love, not out of any selfish motive. If Paul's motives had been tainted, the Gospel he preached might have been tainted as well. Paul wanted the Thessalonians to know that the Gospel they received from him was pure and trustworthy.

When you are criticized for your faith in God's Word, for your trust in Jesus Christ, for your belief in the Gospel, look to Jesus. Remember His love and compassion and also His unwavering commitment to the will of the Father.

Prayer: God, help me to trust in You when I am criticized and maligned for my faith. May I remember the grace I have received and respond with compassion, standing firm. May I trust in Your perfect justice. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:44-45a).

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 / 0433 698 690

Church Council

Chairperson: Cathy Nelson Secretary: Jenny Keyte Treasurer: Anne Crabb

Team Leaders

Worship: Steve Lee Discipleship: Alex Chow Pastoral Care: Robyn Pike Fellowship: Sue Vasilevska
Intergen: Fiona & Cathy Mission: Steve Turner

North Rocks Community Church

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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/>