

# NEWSLETTER

19 September – 25 September 2022

Revive  
Restore  
Reach Out

## NRCC News and Notices

### ▪ **NRCC Men's Retreat**

This weekend our men's group is attending a retreat at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre (247 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW). Please pray for them to have a great time of fellowship and to know more about each other's journey.

### ▪ **Steve's annual leave**

Steve will be on annual leave 26<sup>th</sup> September – 9<sup>th</sup> October. Dennis (2 Oct) and Mike (9 Oct) will be our guest preachers while Steve is away. For any pastoral needs, please contact Robyn (Pastoral Care Team Leader). Other church matters please contact Cathy (Church chairperson).

## Community News and Notices

### Multi-faith Service for climate justice

**Where:** St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

**When:** Thursday, 13th October, 9.30 am – 10.30 am

Join with people of diverse faiths, in solidarity with Pacific and First Nations peoples, to show your support for an open letter to the PM calling for climate justice. The service will feature the OLMC string Ensemble, a Pacific Islander choir, chanting, congregational signing and prayers from a range of faith traditions. Come along and be inspired!

More information: <https://www.arrcc.org.au/f4cj2022>

**Faiths 4 Climate Justice 2022  
Multi-faith service**  
St Patrick's Cathedral  
1 Marist Pl, Parramatta  
Thursday 13 October 9.30am

For The Sake Of All Beings  
NO MORE FOSSIL FUELS

This multi-faith service supports the launch of an open letter, signed by senior faith leaders, that calls on the PM to limit coal and gas mining.

We invite people of all faiths or none to join us in solidarity with Pacific and First Nations peoples in their struggle for climate justice.

aikoumene  
ARRCC  
Action Resource Response to Climate Change

Scan the QR code for more info

Uniting Church Hawkesbury Zone:  
**“TWILIGHT OF JAZZ”**  
 On the banks of the Hawkesbury River -  
 at Ebenezer Church

**SUNDAY 16th OCTOBER** 4:00PM - 8:00PM  
 Gates open at 3:00pm

Featuring:  
**HARMONIX BIG BAND**

TICKETS \$20 per head - School students free  
 To prebook your tickets call or text Rebecca on  
 0439 309 303 or visit our Facebook page.  
 Tickets will be available on the night: 4:00pm - 7:30pm

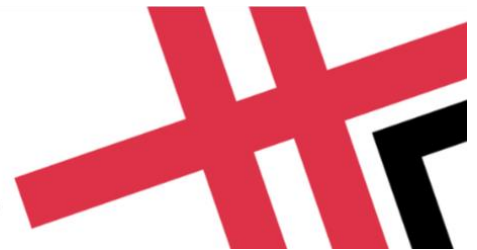
Bring your chairs, blanket or a picnic.  
 Sausage sizzle, cake stall, tea & coffee  
 will be available to purchase.  
**BYO Alcohol**

Facebook: Ebenezer Uniting Church - Twilight Jazz  
 Funds raised go to the West Papuan Development Company for clean water wells.



## WALKING TOGETHER

HOW CAN THE CHURCH EMBRACE FIRST PEOPLES' THEOLOGY IN A POST-COLONIAL AUSTRALIA?



Hosted by the Synod of NSW and the ACT, United Theological College, Uniting Mission and Education, and Newtown Mission, this Conference is an opportunity to hear the voices and perspectives of First Peoples on issues relating to the Uniting Church, Theology, and Reconciliation.

The theme - ***Walking Together: How can the Church embrace First Peoples' Theology in a post-colonial Australia*** - comes at an important time with the Uluru Statement of the Heart and plans to enshrine a First Nations Voice into the constitution.

You can find out more about our speakers and the event [here](#).

**Saturday 22 October 9:30 am to: 4:45pm**

**Wesley Conference Centre, Sydney**

**In person and online tickets available**

### ▪ **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

One of the hardest lessons we will ever learn is how to take a negative situation and turn it into a positive experience. In Psalm 23, King David reminds us that it is all a matter of faith and perspective: "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me" (v. 4).

David's words are stepping stones to a great faith. In fact, if we practice the principle that he lived, God will develop a conquering faith in our lives.

David lived with adversity, and from time to time, we will, too. No one escapes difficulty. It is a part of life lived in a fallen world, but we do not have to live with feelings of defeat, discouragement, and cynicism.

You may be thinking: But you don't know my circumstances. There is no way for you to understand the pressure I feel or the discouragement that plagues my heart.

While we can't truly know or understand the hurt another person may be experiencing, we do know that there is one person who understands perfectly, and that person is Jesus Christ.

He was rejected, betrayed, criticized, and crucified. If you are looking for someone to identify with the pain that you are feeling, do what David did—realize there is one who is walking through the valley with you. No matter how dark life becomes, He will lead you on to ultimate victory in Him.

*Prayer: God, as I face trials and discouragement, help me to remember that You understand what I'm going through. Help me to focus on You and to remember that I'm not alone. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me" (Psalm 23:4).**

## **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: Sue Vasilevska

Treasurer: Anne Crabb

### **Team Leaders**

Worship: Steve Lee   Discipleship: Alex Chow   Pastoral Care: Robyn Pike   Fellowship: Sue Vasilevska

Intergen: Cathy Nelson   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/>