

NEWSLETTER

7 November – 13 November 2022

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

We give thanks for the wonderful commissioning service and the potluck lunch last Sunday. We are blessed to have Christ-following leaders in our church. Our Lord is faithful and His love endures forever!

LADIES' FUNCTION @ NRCC

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 10AM - 12PM
20 NORTH ROCKS COMMUNITY CHURCH
132 NORTH ROCKS RD NORTH ROCKS

CONTACT: ROBYN 0424 791 916
RSVP: NOVEMBER 12
No charge for the event. Morning tea will be served.

Guest Speaker: Elaine Butler
Elaine became a Christian after having 4 boys and coming to Jesus in her 30's. She went on to become a gifted speaker for KYB (Know Your Bible) classes and a speaker at Christian Women Conference International here and in America when her husband worked there.

Latest News from Sandra and Bill

PNG front: Bill continues to work on Isaiah and Psalms with the Misima teams; for Saisai, we are having a translation consultant check the book of John, so Bill still needs to complete the back translation from Saisai into English, so that the consultant knows what is in the translation and can ask questions etc. I am working on the Misima dictionary, among other things.

Australia front: Our big praise point is the birth of Amara to our youngest son Peter and his wife, in Cairns on 25 October (her father's birthday too!). Here she is (below) at 2 days old. She and her parents are doing well. Peter will be leaving this week to return to PNG for work, while Irene and the baby will stay on with her own parents.



Our big prayer point is my hip replacement surgery scheduled for this Wednesday 9 November. We are very thankful our daughter will come down from northern Queensland to stay a week with us after the surgery. Pray I will be diligent in my exercises, and able to cope with the pain and recover quickly.

We are so thankful for your prayers, and support in so many ways,

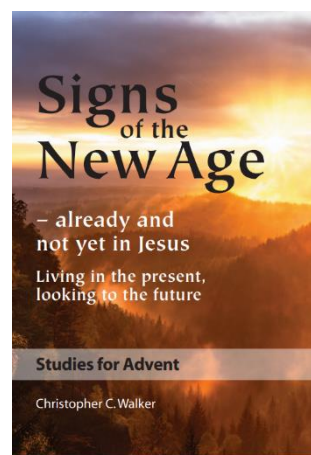
In his grip and under his watchcare,

-- Sandra and Bill

Community News and Notices

Advent Bible Study

Chris Walker's new Advent Study *Signs of the New Age - already and not yet in Jesus* is now available. It includes not only considering the lectionary readings but includes stories, quotes and prayers. It is selling for \$11.95 by MediaCom. You can obtain it from: mediacomeducation.org.au He will be conducting it from 7.30 - 9.00pm on 21, 28 November and 5, 12 December at Auburn. The Zoom link is: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/93347342432> for those who would like to join by Zoom.



▪ **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

Read Revelation 2:1-7.

In the Roman Empire, Ephesus was an important and prosperous city—the center of pagan worship. Near the city was the famous temple of Artemis, or Diana, which was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Needless to say, Ephesus was a popular destination for religious pilgrims and tourists alike. The city was so influential that the apostle Paul spent three years there as part of his Gospel mission to the Gentiles

In His letter, Jesus commended the believers in Ephesus for their hard work and perseverance. He applauded their zeal and how they rejected false teachers who tried to lead them astray. He also recognized that they had endured hardships for the sake of His name (see Revelation 2:2-3). However,

even with such a praise report, there was a serious problem. The Ephesian church had forgotten their first love.

May this be a warning to us all. It's possible to be doing all the right things for Jesus, believing all the correct things, working hard in His name, and living a holy life in the midst of great temptation—and still be missing the most important thing. For what Jesus craves the most is our love. He desires love above everything else we can do for Him. Brothers and sisters, if everything you're doing to serve Jesus and minister to others does not flow out of your love for the Lord—if all this activity has replaced intimacy with Jesus—then please stop and reclaim your first love. Don't miss the most important thing!

Prayer: Lord, forgive me for forgetting the most important thing—an intimate relationship with You, my Savior. Help me to hold fast to my first love for You, making You my priority and delighting in You as I seek Your face. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first" (Revelation 2:4).

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 / 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

Interger: Cathy Nelson 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/>