



# NEWSLETTER

27 February – 5 March 2023

**Revive**  
**Restore**  
**Reach Out**

## NRCC News and Notices

### ▪ **"40 Days of Blessing" during Lent**

This year during Lent, NRCC is going to share God's blessing with those who are important to us. Do you want to be blessed to be a blessing to others? Then, let's walk this 40-day's journey together as God's family.

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap." (Luke 6:38)

Choose 40 people whom you want to share your blessings with. Pray for them. Share your blessing. A message of blessing will be provided each day during Lent.



### **NRCC 2023 Lent Activity**

**When:** During the 40 days in Lent

**Who:** 40 people you feel led to share God's blessings with

**How:**

1. Choose a time to reflect on a word of blessing
2. Pray for the person
3. Share your blessing with the person using text, email, phone call or social media.

### ▪ **Guest Preacher on Sunday, 19th March**

Pastor Ray Wadeley from Voice of the Martyrs will be sharing their ministry with us and stories of persecuted churches around the world. Please invite friends and family members who might be interested.

### ▪ **Lenten Retreat**



A time for rest, reflection and exploring together  
Lenten questions:

**How might God be drawing me near?  
What might God be calling me to release?  
How might God be calling me to give of my**

**Sally Jones**

A spiritual director, mentor, pastoral supervisor and retreat facilitator. Deputy Director of Bamabas Ministries' Listen into Life Spiritual Direction Formation program'



Registration by 26<sup>th</sup> March. Gold coin donation on the day. Lunch and tea will be provided. Please contact Sue for more information ([suzannevasilevska@yahoo.com.au](mailto:suzannevasilevska@yahoo.com.au)) or phone 0432 272 111.

▪ **NRCC Church Library**

We have a small collection of quality Christian books and Bible study resources. Please make a visit to our library. A big thank you to Samson for tidying up the shelves.



**Dates for your Diary**

CC and the ministry team leaders have discerned together and put the dates of the events/activities for this year on our church calendar. Please feel free to contact any of the leaders if you feel led to participate or want to share your thoughts and ideas.

## NRCC 2023 Calendar

March			April		
10-12	CWCI Women's Conference	Robyn	1	NRCC Lenten Retreat	Sue
18	SMBC Women's Conference	Jacky	2	Palm Sunday with Youth	Cathy
25	Fellowship @ Koorong	Sue	7	Good Friday	Steve
26	Monthly Youth Gathering	Cathy	9	Easter	Steve
			30	Monthly Youth Gathering	Cathy
May			June		
28	Pentecost	Steve	3	NRCC Women's Retreat	Sue
			17	EQUIP Conference	Robyn
			25	Monthly Youth Gathering	Cathy
July			Aug		
22	Mental Health First Aid	Steve	11-12	Men's BASECAMP	Alex
30	Monthly Youth Gathering	Cathy	27	Monthly Youth Gathering	Cathy
Sept			Oct		
9	Trivia Night		15	Potluck Lunch	Sue
			28	NRCC Spiritual Retreat	Steve
			29	Monthly Youth Gathering	Cathy
Nov			Dec		
26	Monthly Youth Gathering	Cathy	3	Advent	Steve
			25	Christmas	Steve

## Community News and Notices

### ▪ **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 Colossians 3:1-4.** If you have been raised with Christ, the Lord wants to begin to change the source of your security and confidence. He wants to change your focus from the natural to the supernatural. For your life is hidden with God in Christ, and you must no longer find your identity in earthly things.

**Jesus loves us so much that He died on the cross for us. He knows that if we find our identity in anything other than Him, our identity can be shaken.** So He uses all possible means to transform our identity, and He is in the process of giving us an identity far more glorious than any other. Whatever He removes from you, He will replace with something far greater than you could ever hope for or imagine. And when you place your whole identity in Him, what was once shaken will stand strong and secure through life's tests and trials.

As we walk with Jesus, He reveals who we really are through His Word, which is why it is so vital for us to be in His Word every day. There will be times of struggle—but take heart. The Lord has unending grace and compassion; He will lead you every step of the way.

**Are you willing to let go of all the worldly things that define you?** Only then can you rest fully in

your identity as a child of God. Only then will the storms of life cease to shake you when you fall short—a misstep at work, a financial hit, a crisis in the home. As we mature in faith, God lovingly strips us of our idols—those fragile and fickle identities—so that we might find our worth and refuge in Him alone. He does for us what it is impossible for us to do ourselves: to trust and depend only upon Him, which is the work of the Spirit in our lives (see Ephesians 2:8).

Take some time to pray and ask God where your sense of security lies. Whatever it may be, may the grace of God lead you to exchange your earthly source of identity for true acceptance in Him, complete confidence in Him, and the glorious riches of His inheritance.

*Prayer: Father, show me the worldly things in which I try to find my worth. I repent of my pride in these things and thank You for the new identity You have given me in Christ. May I boast only in my Savior. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3).**

### **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/>