



# NEWSLETTER

13 – 19 March 2023

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

## NRCC News and Notices

### ▪ **Guest Preacher this Sunday**

On Sunday 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.

### ▪ **"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.

▪ **Lenten Retreat**



A time for rest, reflection and exploring together three 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 myself?**

**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 info. ([suzannevasilevska@yahoo.com.au](mailto:suzannevasilevska@yahoo.com.au)) or phone 0432 272 518

▪ **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 |

## Community News and Notices



### **For Richer or For Poorer?**

In just over 2 weeks Parramatta Mission will be hosting its Inaugural Rich Person/Poor Person Fundraising Dinner.

This event is an opportunity for us to put ourselves in the shoes of those experiencing homelessness and disadvantaged during the current cost of living crisis, and to better understand the challenges they face.

**We extend our invitation to you;**

**Thursday, 30 March 2023**

**6.00 PM - 8.30 PM**

**119 Macquarie Street Parramatta**

**In hosting this event, we are hoping to not only raise funds for our Meals Plus program, but also to raise awareness about homelessness, domestic violence and the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our communities.**

We aim to inspire dialogue, a new way of thinking, and constructive action.

<https://events.humanitix.com/rich-person-poor-person-fundraiser>

### ▪ **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 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.

Lots of people today are racing. They are chasing down a career or running after the latest and greatest stuff. Others are chasing down anything that will help their children succeed—at the cost of their spiritual well-being. When the world behaves this way, it's not surprising, but when Christians do it, it's a tragedy.

Christians are in a race, too, but rather than chasing personal glory, we are to seek God's glory through humble stewardship. That's how Paul described his life and ministry. He said he was willing to go to any length, go any distance, and endure any hardship. He was willing to persevere through any indignity, cope with any harassment, and stoop to any level in order to win people to Christ. Paul understood that at the end of the day, all that matters will be what we did for Christ. He was in the right race, and he ran the race to get the prize.

We, too, are in this race, but unlike this world's races, we do not compete against one another. We are competing against obstacles, against temptations that we face, and against the enemy of our souls. God does not just want one of His children to be a winner; He wants all of His children to be winners. Every single one. So, let God take hold of your race. It is the longing of His heart.

*Prayer: Jesus, give me the strength to run after You. Grant me the will and focus to overcome temptations and the attacks of the enemy by Your Spirit. I know You sustain me. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize" (1 Corinthians 9:24).**

### **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/>