



NEWSLETTER

27 March – 2 April 2023



NRCC News and Notices

- Please invite your friends and family to our Easter Services.

<p>Palm Sunday 2nd April @ 9 AM</p> <p>"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" (Matthew. 21: 9)</p>	<p>2023 NRCC Easter Services</p>
<p>Good Friday 7th April @ 9 AM</p> <p>Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (John 19:30)</p>	<p>Easter Sunday 9th April @ 9 AM</p> <p>He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. (Matthew 28:6)</p>

- Lenten Retreat

Lenten
SPIRITUAL RETREAT

Saturday
1st April 2023
9 AM-3 PM
North Rocks Community Church

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 26th March. Gold coin donation on the day. Lunch and tea will be provided. Please contact Sue for more info. (suzannevasilevska@yahoo.com.au) or phone 0432 272 518

▪ Safe Church Awareness Training

Safe Church Awareness Training has been developed to raise awareness of the ways in which we can ensure our churches are safe places for all who we minister to. Synod has indicated the following people must do Safe Church Training, including ministers and other religious leaders, leaders of church-run programs/events with direct contact with children, Church Council members. The training can be completed by all other interested persons.

Members of Church Council are planning to complete this training through the Baptist Church with online modules and followed by a workshop at Thornleigh Baptist Church on May 17 7pm-10pm.

If you are interested please speak to Hilton or Cathy.

▪ "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.

Latest from the Hammonds

Click [here](#) for the latest "Freedom to Flourish" news from Jacky and Mike.

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

▪ **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

If you follow the news, you see catastrophic events taking place worldwide. How do you react to these events?

Some are indifferent. They see sin and suffering around the world, and they feel nothing—as long as it is not touching them, they can maintain an emotional distance, isolating themselves from this aspect of the world's brokenness. Others think the events indicate that the world is coming to an end, so they start planning their personal survival by storing food and gold and silver.

A third group sees that the world seems to be out of control and that nature is groaning in anticipation of its final redemption. However, these people recognize that the world is under the sovereign control of God.

This group chooses to minister, serve, give, and sacrifice regardless of the circumstances, trusting the sovereignty of God. This group takes the world news and views it with a godly perspective, remembering the hope of heaven we have in Christ Jesus and saying with Paul, "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21).

Prayer: Father, help me to have a godly perspective of the events that I hear about in the news and that I see happening around me. Help me to remember that no matter what happens, You are in control. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth" (Job 19:25).

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

Intergen: Cathy Nelson Mission: Steve Turner

North Rocks Community Church

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<https://northrocks.uca.org.au>

Facebook: 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/>