

NEWSLETTER

1 – 7 May 2023

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

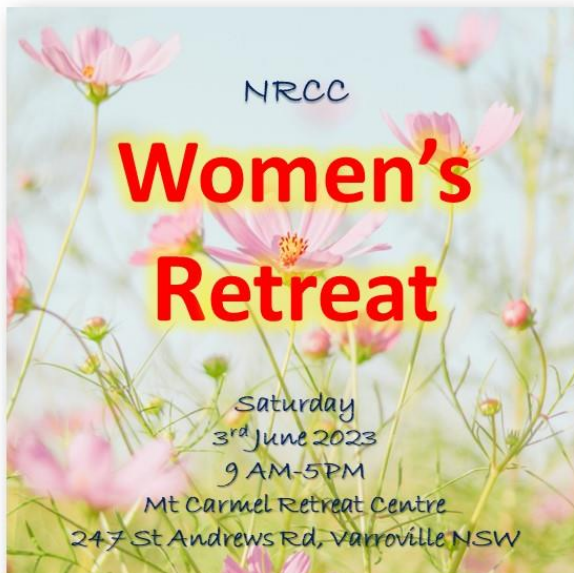
▪ Steve is taking leave

Steve will be on leave from May 8-21.

We are fortunate to have Bill & Sandra Callister preaching on May 14 and Mike & Jacky Hammond on May 21. Tony K will be sharing a reflection on one of his songs. For any pastoral needs, please contact Robyn (Pastoral Care Team Leader). For other church matters please contact Cathy (Church Council chairperson).

▪ Women's Retreat

Carolyn Craig-Emilson is running a retreat for women on Saturday June 3. Please come along and invite friends who might also be interested in attending.



Carolyn Craig-Emilson

Carolyn is an experienced retreat leader and spiritual director in Uniting Church. Led spiritual retreats for other organizations. A member of Well Spring Community in Australia.



**"FINDING REST & RENEWAL
IN THE LORD"**

\$55/pp Registration by 28th May.

Morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea included.

Please contact Sue or Steve for more info.

(suzannevasilevska@yahoo.com.au) or phone 0432 272 518

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

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

Community News and Notices


▪ North Rocks PS Centenary Open Day

Saturday 27 May, 10.45am - 3pm at North Rocks Public School.

Past & present students, staff and community members of NRPS are invited to celebrate our Centenary on Saturday 27 May. Open school events will include a smoking ceremony, assembly, performances, food & drink stalls, centenary museum & school tours.



The poster features a collage of historical black and white photographs of school children. A central blue box contains the following text:



Centenary
EVENTS

Past & present students, staff and community members of North Rocks Public School are invited to celebrate our 100 year Centenary celebrations on

Saturday 27th May 2023
10:45am - 3:00pm

Open school events will include a smoking ceremony, assembly, performances, food & drink stalls, centenary museum & school tours.


WATCH THIS SPACE FOR MORE INFORMATION



NORTH ROCKS
1967
1ST

▪ Synod Mentor Training

Let's see how inventive we can be
in encouraging love and helping out... spurring each other on...
Hebrews 10:24-25 (The Message)



Synod Mentor Training

We need mentors! Mentors from all walks of life. Mentors who are equipped and confident to spur on, to encourage, support, guide and walk with others as they open themselves to the grace of God in their lives.

Mentoring is not an optional extra if followers of Christ are to mature and fulfil God's purpose for them. John Mallison

Training Details

The Synod Mentor Training is strongly recommended if you are a current mentor for:

- Pastors
- People in Phase 2 and 3 of ministerial education
- People in a Period of Discernment
- Anyone who may be considering becoming a mentor.

To complete this training you will need to attend 3 online sessions.

Our first set of sessions will be on the **23 May, 30 May** and **6 June** from **9:30 -11:30am**.

Click [here](#) for more information

▪ Uniting Church Assembly and Synod News Links

Uniting Church Assembly: <https://uniting.church/news/>

NSW & ACT Synod: <https://nswact.uca.org.au/communications/newsroom/>

Reflection of the Week

The Gospel is often presented as a matter of simple believism: Agree with a certain list of doctrines about Jesus, and you are saved eternally. However, we cannot preach Jesus as Savior without preaching Him as Lord.

James sums this up early on in his letter: "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" (James 2:17). Make no mistake—salvation is by faith alone, but that faith is evidenced by our works. James' words prompt us to ask ourselves, "If Jesus is not the Lord of my life, then is He truly my Savior?" Salvation through Christ is so life-altering that Jesus refers to it as being "born again." If so-called faith does not produce any real change in our lives, perhaps it isn't faith at all.

James goes on to say, "You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder" (James 2:19). What a convicting Truth! Even Satan agrees with Biblical doctrine—he just doesn't live by it. He knows better than anyone that Jesus is God, that He was raised from the dead, and that He is the only way to eternity, but knowing this does not make Satan a Christian.

So what does saving faith look like? Genuine faith denies the self, takes risks, loves others, and continually seeks to please God. This is not a faith we can muster up ourselves; it is the gift of God, extended freely by His grace. Only when we accept His invitation will we see Him transform our lives.

If you have not yet received the gift of saving faith, will you ask for it today? As you turn to the Lord in faith, you will be filled with a joy that compels you to serve others and love God deeply. If you have received saving faith, but are struggling to experience everyday faith, will you draw near to God today? Ask for His help as you learn to trust, follow, and obey Him daily.

Prayer: Jesus, I want You to be not only my Savior but the Lord of my life. Renew my faith where it has grown stale. Thank You for empowering me to obey You, even when it feels impossible. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world" (James 1:27).

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

132-136 North Rocks Rd, North Rocks. NSW 2151

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

Facebook: North Rocks Community Church

Email: 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/>