



# NEWSLETTER

21 - 26 August 2023

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

## NRCC News and Notices

### ▪ Guest Preachers

Steve will be taking leave from August 28 - September 15. We have three wonderful guest preachers sharing with us in September -

Sept 3: Rev Russell Davies  
Sept 10: Allan Blyth  
Sept 17: Mike Hammond

### ▪ North Rocks Public School Fete

NRPS are holding a fete on August 26, 10am-4pm. We have been asked to assist on one of the stalls. Steve T will be organising a roster. Please speak to him for more details or if you would like to help out on the day.

### ▪ Trivia Night

We are planning to hold a Trivia Night on September 9.

We are in need of prizes for the night. Here are some suggestions:

For Tombola - Chocolate bars, packets of tea, hand wash, shampoo, lollies, chips, moisturiser, shower gel, Jatz, soap for tombola.

For Trivia - bottles of wine, choc biscuits, boxes of chocolate, hot chocolate, jam, gifts lying around at home, candles. Gift cards, donations from shops.

Prizes can be placed the box at the back of the church on Sunday, or left at the office during the week.

Please contact Sue for more information, or to offer help.

Flyers will be available from Sunday and the event will be advertised on our public Facebook page. If you are on Facebook, please share the event to reach as many people as possible.

? **Tr** **i** **v** **i** **a** ?  
? **NIGHT** ?

**Get together your team ready  
for the NRCC Trivia Night.**

When? **Saturday 9th September, 7.00pm**

How much? **\$10 includes tea & coffee**

How many in a team? **8 people per table**

Where? **North Rocks Community Church,  
132 North Rocks Road, North Rocks**

Do I need to book? **Yes please. To register yourself or a team please contact Sue on 0432 272 518 or email the church at [enquiry@northrocks.org.au](mailto:enquiry@northrocks.org.au) by September 2.**

**Payment can be made with cash on the night or direct deposit into the church bank account.**

**(details given on registration)**

What you I need to bring? **BYO nibbles and drinks, and loose change for games on the night**



**North Rocks Community Church  
Revive, Restore, Reach Out**

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

▪ **Fair Trade Market**

NORTH ROCKS COMMUNITY CHURCH  
**FAIR TRADE MARKET**  
 SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2023

9am - 2pm  
 132 North Rocks Rd  
 North Rocks

- Jewellery
- Fashion
- Homewares
- Fairtrade food products
- Bags
- Toys
- Body care

Morning tea  
 Sausage sizzle  
 Get ready for Christmas

IT'S A SMALL MIRACLE THAT WE AS CONSUMERS CAN PARTICIPATE IN A PROCESS THAT IS KEEPING SKILLS & COMMUNITIES ALIVE.

Choose fair trade products to help create a brighter future for millions of farmers, workers, and their families in developing countries.

NORTH ROCKS COMMUNITY CHURCH  
 T. (02) 9683 2586 E. enquiry@northrocks.org.au North Rocks Community Church  
 Website. northrocks.uca.org.au

▪ **News from the Hammonds**

For the latest news from Jacky and Mike please click [here](#).

▪ **Steve's Closure of Ministry**

Steve's Closure of Ministry service will be held on September 24 at 9am. Please invite family and friends who would like to come.

**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**

July		Aug	
		11-12	Men's BASECAMP Alex, Mike
		26	NRPS Fete Steve T
		27	AGM
Sept		Oct	
9	Trivia Night Sue	15	Potluck Lunch Sue
23	Fair Trade Markets Jacky	28	NRCC Spiritual Retreat
24	Steve's Closure of Ministry		
Nov		Dec	
		3	Advent
		25	Christmas

## Community News and Notices

### ▪ **Reachout Missions Conference**

Every year Missions Interlink (umbrella organisation for Missions and many mission minded organisations) holds the Reachout! Conference – a conference where people come to learn about mission and be able to speak with mission minded organisations and real-live people about what cross-cultural mission involves. It's like a missions' careers market with talks!



In the past it has been a weekend conference in the Blue Mountains, but this year it will be a one-day Saturday conference on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept at Pacific Hills Christian School, Dural (not far from us)

We have 30+ mission organisations and/or colleges represented with stands/stalls etc. If anyone from church is interested in mission ideas or opportunities or just wanting to know more of what God is doing in the world, it would be a great place for you to visit.

Other info can be found here on the website : [2023 Conference — REACHOUT \(reachoutmissions.com.au\)](https://reachoutmissions.com.au)

Registration is necessary - \$99/adult, \$59/student, \$40 children 3-12

### ▪ **Kairos Ministry**



We want to share with you an opportunity for members of your congregation to be involved in God's work of changing the lives of prisoners and their families through the love of Jesus.

We would like to invite you and members of your congregation and other interested people to attend a

#### **Kairos Information Afternoon**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

**2.30pm - 4.30pm**

(afternoon tea included)

**at Blacktown Uniting Church**

**59 Bungaribree Rd.**

**Blacktown NSW 2418**

Click [here](#) for the flyer

Kairos is an interdenominational and international organisation.

Kairos' aim is to share the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the hearts and lives of incarcerated men, women and youth, as well as their families, to become loving and productive citizens in their communities.

We have seen amazing transformations in people's lives as they have experienced the love of Jesus through His people. There is opportunity for people to get involved in several ways in this ministry. This could involve going into prisons as part of a team or ministering to women who have family members or friends in prison.

We are keen to introduce as many people as possible to the Kairos Ministry.

### ▪ **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.

Safe Church will be conducting a workshop on the 2nd of September from 9.00am to 1.00pm at Auburn Uniting Church. Please click [here](#) for more information.

### ▪ **'Winter Classics' Fundraising Concert for Parramatta Mission**

When: Sunday 30 August @2.30pm

Where: Leigh Memorial Uniting Church, Parramatta.

For more information please click [here](#).

### ▪ **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**

When it comes to the issue of forgiveness, sooner or later, we find ourselves on both sides of the fence. But whether we are in need of another person's forgiveness or struggling to forgive someone who's hurt us, the desire to put things right keeps our connection with God strong.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says, "Therefore if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift" (Matthew 5:23-24). If you have deliberately wronged someone and have not made restitution, you can offer all the sacrifices you want. But what God really wants you to do is reconcile with your brother.

At first, Jesus' words may sound strange. Why shouldn't God hear our prayers when we are in need of another person's forgiveness? After all, our heavenly Father is in the forgiveness business. That's what makes a relationship with Him possible in the first place. But once we've been reconciled to God, He calls us to reconcile with everyone else we know. And that is why if you have wronged someone and have not taken care of that wrong by making restitution, the Bible feels so heavy. You may avoid reading the Word of God, and your prayer life is crippled. Your lines of communication with the Lord have come down.

But you can restore communication with the Lord as you seek to restore relationships with others, putting things right so that you honor God, love others, and prevent your prayers from being hindered.

*Prayer: Lord, thank You for not letting me neglect to seek forgiveness from others for the ways that I wrong them. I know it is good for me and for my relationships to seek reconciliation. Help me to do so with humility and grace. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18).**

---

## **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/>