

NEWSLETTER

18 - 24 September 2023



NRCC News and Notices

Steve's Closure of Ministry

Steve's Closure of Ministry service will be held next week, September 24 at 9am. Please invite family and friends who would like to come. If you are able, could you please bring a plate to contribute to morning tea.



▪ Fair Trade Market

DATE: SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

PLACE: NORTH ROCKS COMMUNITY CHURCH,

132 North Rocks Road, North Rocks NSW 2151

TIME: 9am - 2pm

ITEMS FOR SALE: Jewellery, fashion, homewares, bags, body care, and more



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

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.usca.org.au

▪ Guest Preachers

Ross Mackay will be preaching for us October 1 & 8.

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

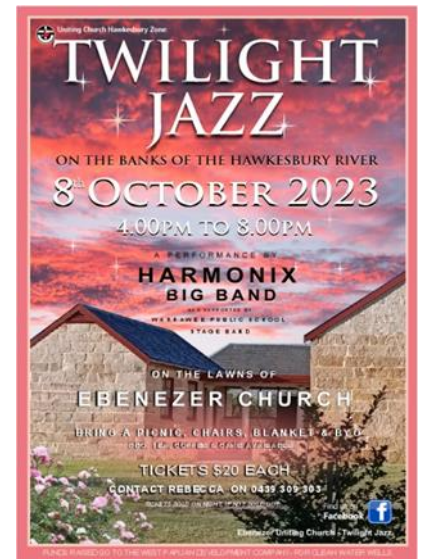
Sept		Oct			
9	Trivia Night	Sue	28	Planning meeting	
23	Fair Trade Markets	Jacky			
24	Steve's Closure of Ministry				
Nov		Dec			
		3		Advent	
		10		Potluck Lunch	Sue
		25		Christmas	

Community News and Notices

Twilight Jazz

Attached is a flyer for this year's October Jazz Night at Ebenezer Church in support of building fresh water wells in West Papua.

It is on Sunday October 8, from 4:00 pm and will be a really good, fun night. Details are in the flyer and you can contact Rebecca Andrews on 0439 309 303 to purchase tickets or 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

Read Habakkuk 3.

We see a great Old Testament example of persisting in prayer in the three chapters of the book of Habakkuk. Historical clues within the book of Habakkuk suggest that he lived during the reign of Israel's King Jehoiakim, when the Babylonian Empire was on the rise but before the Babylonians came to lay siege to Jerusalem. The central theme of Habakkuk focuses on the prophet's effort to grow from a place of doubt and impatience with God to a place of trust in Him, despite God's apparent delay in answering prayer.

Three features of Habakkuk's prayer in chapter 3 are particularly worth noting for our own prayer life:

1. Habakkuk's humility before God. The first feature of effective prayer is humility. In chapter one, Habakkuk seems to be lecturing the Lord: "How long, LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen?" (1:2). But by the end of Habakkuk, even in the midst of unanswered prayer, Habakkuk stands in awe of God's mighty works.

2. Habakkuk's adoration of God. When you pray, ask God to teach you more about Himself because He is worthy of your adoration and obedience. That's a prayer that will always be honored.

3. Habakkuk's focus on God's work. Habakkuk prayed that God in His mercy would send a great awakening to Israel. The people of Israel didn't deserve it; they deserved only the destruction that God had repeatedly warned them was coming. But Habakkuk desired that God would bring revival so that His name would be glorified.

In those times when our prayers seem to go unanswered, we might sink into depression, become angry with God, or give up praying altogether. In the prayer of Habakkuk, we see a very different response to unanswered prayer. We see him ask God, in effect, "What do You want me to learn from this? How can I learn to pray in greater alignment with Your will? Lord, teach me to trust You more." Habakkuk takes the trial of unanswered prayer and turns it into an opportunity to grow in intimacy with God.

In the prayer of Habakkuk, we find a model of prayer that will protect us from the disillusionment and discouragement that so often accompany God's delays in answering our prayers.

Prayer: Father, thank You for the example of tremendous faith found in Habakkuk. May I, too, set my heart on You, the God of grace, wisdom, and sovereign power. I trust in You, my Savior and my God; I believe Your promises and will wait on You. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior" (Habakkuk 3:17-18).

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 / 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

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

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

Parramatta Nepean Presbytery <https://parramattanepean.uca.org.au/>