



NEWSLETTER

19 – 25 February 2024

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Lent 2

Worship Services Sundays 9am

• Reflection on Our First Month Together

Looking back on my first month at North Rocks Community Church, I've been deeply touched by how committed and involved our church community is. Despite all the things you have going on in your lives – like doctors' appointments, family and work commitments – each of you consistently gives your time and energy to help the church. Your dedication really shows how caring and strong our community is.

Volunteering is something we value, but it's also a personal choice. Our volunteers have their own lives and boundaries, and we should respect that. Recognizing everyone's individual circumstances while still working together for the church helps us understand and appreciate each other better.

We should celebrate the amazing things our volunteers do every day and be understanding when people have concerns. While valuing our volunteers and encouraging feedback, let's ensure that the process respects everyone's perspectives and needs. By fostering an environment of constructive dialogue and mutual respect, we can work together to create a supportive atmosphere where everyone feels valued and heard.

Let's keep supporting each other as we serve and care for our church family. Together, we show what true community and love are all about.

“Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.” (Ephesians 4:15-16)

May God bless you all!
Deborah Yun

- CWCI E3 Conference

We have registered NRCC for the E3 Conference (Saturday only) to be held online on March 16 at our church. If you are interested in joining us or would like more information please email us at enquiry@northrocks.org.au



**Please join us for a live streaming of the
CWCI E3 Conference for Women**

We will be watching the conference live, over the internet

For more about the conference, or if you wish to attend the conference in person visit www.cwcie3.com

Location: North Rocks Community Church

Time: Saturday 16 March 2024 9am— 3.30pm

Contact: Robyn Pike

Or email: enquiry@northrocks.org.au

We request a donation of \$10 to cover registration costs.

Tea, coffee and morning tea will be served.

Please bring your own lunch

An activity of North Rocks Community Church



Dates for your Diary

NRCC 2024 Calendar

Feb	
6	Church Council Meeting
14	Ash Wednesday
18	1st Sunday of Lent
Mar	
16	CWCI E3 Conference for women
24	Palm Sunday
29	Good Friday
31	Easter

Community News and Notices

UCA Uniting in Prayer 2024 - invitation from Assembly

Following the popularity of the very first Uniting in Prayer event last year, we will be running the event again this year from 19 May - 22nd of June. We are currently working on a range of worship resources as well as the new 2024 Prayer Chain (a whole of church prayer chain that will include congregations, presbyteries, synod, agencies and schools).

For more information, or to sign up to receive resources click on this link. <https://www.act2uca.com/unitinginprayer2024>

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

God Is Love

Read Ephesians 3:14-19.

Deceptive ideas about God and His love as benign, spineless, insipid, and universally neutral are gaining momentum in the West like an avalanche. In reality, the love of God is active, even fierce. His love cost Him a colossal and incalculable price. The love of God displayed in the gift of Jesus Christ is astonishing and priceless. To equate it with the warm, fuzzy, and indifferent feelings of the "Love is love" mantra is a gross misunderstanding, a perversion, and, frankly, insulting.

When it comes to the disciples of Jesus, we must spend our lives attempting to comprehend the incomprehensible love of God and sharing its Truth. This is why Paul prayed that the Christians in Ephesus "may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ" (Ephesians 3:18).

Right now, in this life, no matter how much we try to comprehend the love of God, we will only touch the surface. God's love goes deeper still. In heaven, we will spend all eternity fully comprehending how wide, how long, how high, and how deep the love of God is.

Here and now, however, I want you to recognize three things about God's love for us in Christ. First, His love is costly. The perfect Son of God, who never committed a sin, whose life was infinitely more valuable than all humanity put together, died for sinners. God gave Himself; there is nothing of greater value.

Second, His love was lavished on those who could never deserve it. If a spouse or a son or a daughter needed you, you would give them the breath in your lungs, wouldn't you? But would you willingly lay down your life for someone who cursed and reviled you? The Bible says, "But God

demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

Finally, God's love culminates in immeasurable blessing. The apostle John wrote, "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" (1 John 3:1). God doesn't stop at merely saving sinners—He brings us into His family to make us co-heirs with His Son (see Romans 8:17). Then, He actually changes our nature so that we begin to bear a striking family resemblance (see 1 John 3:9): He makes us just like Jesus!

Prayer: Lord, thank You for Your astounding love. I pray that Your Spirit would empower me to understand it more and more each day and that I would be transformed by the joy and peace it brings. May I bless those around me with Your Truth delivered through an out-of-this-world love. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, . . ." (Ephesians 3:17-18).

E - give (Anonymous 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, or Pastoral Care Team.
Robyn: 0424 791 916

Ministry Leaders

Supply Minister: Rev. Deborah Yun / 0424 922 314 / revdeborahyun@gmail.com

Church Council

Chairperson: Cathy Nelson Secretary: Steve Turner Treasurer: Anne Crabb
Andrew Head, Hilton Petters, Jacky Hammond, Sue Vasilevska

Team Leaders

Worship: Cathy Nelson Discipleship: Alex Chow Pastoral Care: Robyn Pike
Fellowship: Sue Vasilevska Mission: Steve Turner Sustainability: Bill Vasilevski

