



NEWSLETTER

28 October – 3 November 2024



Worship Services Sundays 9am

Deborah on leave

Deborah will be taking leave next week, November 4 - 10.

Reminder - Survey from Church Council due this Sunday

Church council has reviewed the draft church profile and is looking for some input from the congregation for some of the questions. Survey responses are due back this Sunday.

Term 4 Roster

The roster has been distributed. If you did not get a copy please speak to Cathy.

Transition to FOGO and new Rubbish Bins - We are getting new bins

Can members of North Rocks refrain from being helpful over the next few weeks and NOT bring empty bins in from the street. The Council will be collecting all our old bins over a few weeks and we need to leave certain ones out each week for removal. Dennis and Cathy will arrange for the correct bins to be left out and the correct ones to be brought in. Also only put rubbish, recycling and grass etc in the bins alongside the drive (in their usual position).

All the new bins have been moved behind #136 -- please do not move or use them until we put them alongside the drive.

There will be more information about what goes in what bin later when we start using the FOGO bins in November.

Dates for your Diary

Craft Group @ 10 am-noon Fridays

Bring along your latest craft project and join us for morning tea and a chat. 10am each Friday in the church.

NRCC 2024 Calendar

Nov	
1	Craft Group
3	Survey forms due back
5	Church Council Special Meeting
6	Zoom Prayer Meeting
Dec	
1	Advent

Community News and Notices

Uniting Church Assembly and Synod New Links

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

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

Reflection of the Week

In Luke 15:1-7, Jesus shares the parable of the lost sheep to further reveal the heart of God to us. In it we see that God's love is so merciful and personal that He notices and pursues even one erring sheep.

How amazing that our God is intimately concerned with those who have strayed from His fold. In the parable, when the shepherd finds his sheep in Luke 15:5, "he joyfully puts it on his shoulders" and carries the sheep all the way home. The shepherd never sets the sheep down but carries the entire burden on his strong shoulders.

Likewise, Christ stands ready to take on all our burdens, whether physical infirmities, heartbreaks, or worries. He has shoulders capable of bearing any weight we are willing to give up to Him. Your burdens become His burdens as you rest in Him.

Christ pursues us, saves us, carries us, and rejoices over us. Luke 15:6 says the shepherd then "calls his friends and neighbours together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.'"

How long has it been since you brought so much joy to someone that the person wanted to throw you a party? How does it feel to know that your salvation brings such joy to our Almighty God?

Prayer: Lord, help me to fully understand how extravagantly You love me. Help me to remember that You are my Shepherd and have given everything, including Your life, to rescue me. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Then he calls his friends and neighbours together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep'" (Luke 15:6).

Prayers for this Week

For Our Church:

- Pray for God to strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith.
- Pray for all who serve—preachers, leaders, and support teams. Ask for wisdom and unity for church leaders as they guide NRCC through this transition.
- Pray for the elderly, asking God to bring comfort, strength, and peace as they face concerns about health, relationships, and other life challenges. Pray for reassurance of God's presence and support from family, friends, and the church community.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need. Also, pray those completing the HSC exams.

For the Wider Church:

- Pray for unity and guidance among the congregations in the presbytery, asking for a clear vision as they work together to serve their communities with compassion and faithfulness.
- Pray for the global church to be a bold and effective witness, sharing the gospel with clarity, compassion, and relevance across different cultures.
- Pray for churches and believers worldwide, especially in places where it's difficult to follow Christ. Ask for strength, courage, and resilience for those facing trials and hardships.
- Pray for young people and families, asking God to inspire and guide efforts to strengthen faith in the next generation and offer meaningful support to families as they grow in their spiritual journeys.

For Australia:

- Pray for Australia as it works to fill skilled jobs through migration. Ask for wisdom in planning infrastructure, housing, and programs to help new arrivals settle well and build a strong, welcoming community.
- Ask God to bring a renewed sense of faith across Australia, drawing people closer to Him and inspiring a movement of prayer and commitment to His Word.
- Pray for reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, asking for understanding, respect, and healing in communities across the nation.

- Pray for Australia's leaders at all levels, that they would govern with wisdom, integrity, and compassion, especially when making policies that impact vulnerable communities.

For the World:

- Pray for the young generation worldwide as they navigate social media's impact on mental health and the pull of addiction. Ask for wisdom, balance, and supportive influences to help them find true connection and self-worth.
 - Pray for Gaza, Israel, Afghanistan, Haiti, and Somalia, as they endure conflict, instability, and crises. Ask for peace, effective aid, and safety for those affected.
 - Pray for Sweden as it faces rising violence, particularly gang-related, affecting cities. Ask for wisdom for leaders, protection for communities, and solutions that promote peace.
 - Pray for missionaries serving in unreached or hostile areas, asking for God's protection, provision, and open hearts to the gospel. Pray that local churches will support their mission work.
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Prayers

E - give (Anonymous Direct Electronic Giving)

Account Name: North Rocks CC - Giving
(BSB): 634634 **Account Number:** 100025906

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 922 312 / revdeborahyun@gmail.com

Church Council

Chairperson: Cathy Nelson Secretary: Samson Leung Treasurer: Anne Crabb
Alex Chow, Nicole Critchley, Jenny Keyte

