



NEWSLETTER

3 - 9 March 2025

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Supply Minister

Church Council is pleased to inform you that we have signed a 6 month supply agreement with Rev Dr Rod Benson (we hope this will be extended after that time). Over the coming weeks we will meet with Rod to determine, in more details, his role with NRCC.

Each of Rod's sermons are posted on his website after he has delivered his message.

<https://rodbenson.com/>

We also continue to upload the sermon each week on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@nrcc6214>

Donations to the Community Gardens

A few people have asked how they may make donations to the setting up of the Community Gardens.

Anne and Dennis last year set up an account that can be used for short term special donations that are fully anonymous. Any money paid into this account during March 2025 will be deemed to be a donation to the Community Gardens.

Account Name: North Rocks CC - Special Giving

BSB: 634-634

Account Number: 100092776

Dates for your Diary

Craft Group @ 10 am-noon Fridays is not currently meeting.

Mar	
8	Community Garden working bee
9	First Sunday of Lent
21	Games Night
April	
13	Palm Sunday
18	Good Friday
20	Easter Sunday

Community News and Notices



If you would like to find out about how you can contribute to Lent Event this year please go to <https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/event/lent-event>



We're excited to invite you to *A Place at the Table*, a unique event that brings our community together in meaningful conversation and action. This event remains a powerful reminder of the

importance of shared humanity and support for those doing it tough.

The night is designed to shift perspectives—helping us walk in someone else's shoes, bridge the gap between “us” and “them,” and recognize that, at any moment, any of us could find ourselves in need of support.

It is a powerful reminder that empathy and action can create real change.

When: Thursday 3 April 2025

Time: 6pm - 8.30pm

Venue: Parramatta Mission, 119 Macquarie St, Parramatta

Please join us for this event to show your support for those doing it tough and learn more about how Parramatta Mission is working to transform lives every day. The event will raise much-needed funds for the services of Parramatta Mission. To purchase tickets go to <https://events.humanitix.com/a-place-at-the-table>.

Uniting Church Assembly and Synod News Links

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

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

Reflection of the Week

Our culture's idea of peace is but a shadow of God's peace. The Hebrew word for peace, shalom, does not mean merely the absence of war, but rather a total well-being of mind, heart, soul, and spirit. Shalom brings supernatural assurance in the midst of uncertainty and confusion.

Peace of this kind, however, comes at a price. The price for our peace with God was Jesus' shed blood on the cross. Similarly, the price for our peace with others is often vulnerability, brokenness, and self-denial. If we are to be peacemakers, we must be willing to pay the price to build a bridge and seek reconciliation.

But peace at any price is not Biblical peace. Man's peace ceases hostility, but God's peace builds unity. Man's peace is a cold war, but God's peace is a warm friendship. Peacemakers must hold fast to God's Truth, remembering that pursuit of godly peace comes with a reward.

So, when people throw stones, pick them up and build a bridge. When they come at you with swords, disarm them with love and beat those swords into plowshares. In this way, you will reflect your heavenly Father's character, spread the Gospel of His peace, and show others that you are truly a child of God.

Prayer: God, may I seek peace in my relationships, my workplace, my neighborhood, my city. Help me to see ways to serve and bring restoration in Your name. May I keep in step with Your Spirit so that I can work with humility and gentleness, that people might see Your goodness at work in me and praise You. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9).

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church:

- Pray for our commitment to following God's word, looking to Him for encouragement in our journey.
- Pray for wisdom and guidance for those serving in our church.
- Pray for our church council, for wisdom, unity, and care for our church's well-being during this time of transition.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

For the Wider Church:

- Pray for church leaders in our congregations, Presbyteries, Synods and Assembly. Give them your wisdom and discernment as they lead and bring transformation to their communities.
- Pray for churches without ministers in the UCA, asking for guidance, provision, and effective leadership during this time.
- Pray for strength and wisdom for mission organizations and missionaries as they share the Gospel, especially those reaching the unreached who have not yet heard about Jesus.

For Australia:

- Pray for those struggling in our communities, especially those facing financial hardships and

sorrow. May God's love surround them and bring them comfort and renewed hope.

- Pray for our political leaders that they will serve the people with wisdom, integrity, and compassion, especially when shaping policies that impact vulnerable communities.
- Pray for unity across our lands. Pray that we all might be reconciled with one another through God.
- Pray for those affected by substance abuse and poor mental health.

For the World:

- Pray for world leaders, that they will work together to govern with wisdom, justice, and compassion.
- Pray for peace in areas of conflict and unrest.
- Pray for compassion and effective support for migrants and refugees, that their needs may be met and that they find safety and hope.
- Pray for the just and consistent application of anti-trafficking legislation in countries around the world.

E - give (Anonymous Direct Electronic Giving)

Account Name: North Rocks CC - Giving
(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 Dr Rod Benson / 0412421678 / rod@northrocks.org.au

Church Council

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