



NEWSLETTER

5 - 11 May 2025

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Community Garden

There will be a working bee, morning tea, & blessing of the Community Garden on Saturday 10th May.

The working bee will start at 8.30am, with morning tea at 10.30am. Please come along at any time during the morning -we'd love to see you there.

Prayer Requests

If you have any prayer requests or would like to be added to our confidential prayer group, please contact Rod or Robyn.

Summary of the Church Council Meeting

- A number of activities have been organised by various members of the congregation. Please check the next section of the newsletter.
- We are still in a good position financially.
- Rod's role as transition minister was discussed. This involves Rod working with us for a year or more to work out our future direction. This will enable us to complete a church profile which will be sent to presbytery for approval.
- Prayer requests can be forwarded to Rod or the pastoral care team.
- If you would like to start a prayer group and would like some assistance please contact Rod or Cay.

Previous Sermons

If you would missed any of our previous sermons you can listen to them on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@nrcc6214> or read them on Rod's blog at <https://rodbenson.com/>

Dates for your Diary

May	
10	Community Garden Working Bee
June	
21	Cancer Council Morning Tea
22	Lunch after church at Castle Hill RSL
July	
11-13	Synod 2025
Aug	
8-9	BaseCamp
30	Serving at NRPS Fete
Sept	
6	Trivia Night
Dec	
6	Fair Trade Market

Community News and Notices



The poster features a dark blue background with a repeating pattern of white teacups and yellow hearts. A large white circle in the center contains the text 'Australia's Biggest Morning Tea'. Below this, a white rectangular box contains the event details: 'Please join us for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. North Rocks Community Church Saturday June 21st 2025 10 am - 12:30 pm'. At the bottom right, the Cancer Council logo is displayed, featuring a yellow flower icon and the text 'Cancer Council Australia's Biggest Morning Tea'.

**Australia's
Biggest
Morning
Tea**

Please join us for
Australia's Biggest Morning Tea.
North Rocks Community Church
Saturday June 21st 2025
10 am - 12:30 pm

 **Cancer Council**
Australia's Biggest
Morning Tea

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

Standing Alone

There will be times when we must stand alone for the Truth. Even if others abandon us, God will always be with us. Paul shares,

At my first defence, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them.

But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully

proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. (2 Timothy 4:16-17)

When we feel alone, Satan will try to convince us that God has abandoned us. He will try to convince us that worldly living isn't ever lonely or disappointing. He will slowly begin wooing us away from godly friends, the church, and the Lord—and into the world.

But God's wisdom says it is better to stand alone in righteousness than to follow the crowd.

"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

In essence, Paul's last words to Timothy in this letter were: "Don't ever, ever, ever give up. Stand for the Truth, for God is with you—even when everybody else that matters to you forsakes you. In Christ alone place your trust. Find your glory and your joy and your power in Christ alone."

Prayer: God, give me the courage to stand for the Truth even when that means standing alone. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved" (Matthew 24:12-13).

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church

- Pray that we stay rooted in God's Word, seeking His guidance in every step of our journey.
- Pray for Rod, that he may be strengthened and guided as he leads us.

- Pray for our Church Council, asking for unity and discernment as they faithfully lead the congregation.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

For the Wider Church

- Pray for wisdom and discernment for church leaders at all levels—congregational, Presbytery, Synod, and Assembly.
- Pray for missionaries and mission organizations, especially those reaching the unreached, that they may be bold, wise, and fruitful in sharing the Gospel. We pray especially for the missionaries that we support: Mike & Jacky, Richard & Lindsey, Bill & Sandra.

For Australia

- Pray for those in our communities who are struggling. May they feel God's love and find renewed hope.
- Pray for our political leaders that they might lead with integrity and prioritize justice, especially for the vulnerable.
- Pray for national unity and reconciliation, that our communities might be drawn together in understanding and peace through God's love.

For the World

- Pray for world leaders, that they would govern with wisdom, justice, and compassion.
- Pray for peace in areas facing conflict and unrest.

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