



# NEWSLETTER

14 - 20 July 2025

**Revive**  
**Restore**  
**Reach Out**

## Sunday Worship 9am

### Prayer for Our Church

**Dear God,**

Thank You for the many blessings You have poured out on our church. In times of challenge and discouragement, help us to persevere and seek Your guidance.

May we continue to be a light in the world, bringing joy and peace through Your presence.

**In Jesus' Name, Amen.**



You are invited to pray this prayer individually, in small groups, Bible study groups or at other gatherings during the week.

### Term 3 Roster

The roster is currently being prepared up to the end of October. If you would like to be included on the roster or change your involvement in any way please contact Cathy. If you will be away for an extended period please let us know so that we can work around those dates.

### Social afternoon - Saturday 26th July, 2-4pm.

Come along for a cuppa, a chat, bring your latest craft project to work on, borrow a book from our library, play a game, or simply relax. We'd love you to see you there!

If you'd like assistance with transport or have any other queries, please contact Jenny or email [enquiry@northrocks.org.au](mailto:enquiry@northrocks.org.au).

### North Rocks Road - nightworks

#### Monday 14 July to Saturday 30 August 2025

A new nightworks program will begin on North Rocks Road from Monday 14 July continuing until Saturday 30 August 2025.

During this time, nightworks will start at 8pm, with North Rocks Road reinstated to normal use by 5am the following morning.

Two-way traffic will be maintained throughout, with traffic controllers in place to direct motorists. It is expected that night work will be scheduled for up to four (4) nights a week.

### Previous Sermons

If you have 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/>

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## Dates for your Diary

July	
26	Social Afternoon
29	Church Council Meeting
Aug	
8-9	BaseCamp
30	Serving at NRPS Fete
Sept	
6	Trivia Night
13	Community Garden Working Bee
Dec	
6	Fair Trade Market

**Wednesday Morning Prayers** - Rod will be leading early morning prayers on Wednesdays at the church from 7am. The session will last about 30 minutes. All are welcome.

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## Community News and Notices

### Synod 2025

At the 2025 Synod meeting, Rev. Faaimata Havea Hiliau invited members of the Uniting Church in NSW and the ACT to look outward and embrace the theme of "Transforming Communities."

If you would like to catch up on the news from Synod you can read about it at

<https://www.nswact.uca.org.au/events/synod-in-session-2025/>.



Medicare rebates are available with select practitioners. We offer competitive fees and concession rates; however, please note that we do not provide a bulk billing service.

Our Practice Managers can provide a free 15 minute phone consultation to help find the best match from our team. Call us on 02 9683 1444 or email us at [manager@bridgescounselling.com.au](mailto:manager@bridgescounselling.com.au)

For further information, please visit: [www.bridgescounselling.com.au](http://www.bridgescounselling.com.au)

Located in **Oatlands & Norwest**, our team of 20 plus experienced, Christian therapists have availability and are ready to support your staff and church community in:

- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Faith struggles
- Burnout and ministry fatigue
- Grief, loss or trauma
- Depression and anxiety
- Support for missionaries (before, during, and after service)
- Addictions & Eating Disorders
- Trauma & PTSD
- Conflict resolution & communication
- Marriage, relationship, or family difficulties
- Pre-marriage counselling (Prepare/Enrich)
- Parenting challenges and family transitions

## Uniting Church Assembly and Synod News Links

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

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

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

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## Reflection of the Week

In Athens, the Spirit of God empowered Paul to present the Truth of God to an unbelieving audience of Greek philosophers. Standing on Mars Hill—which was viewed as the seat of worldly wisdom—he brilliantly proclaimed God's Word.

However, after his proclamation, he became emotionally shaken. He had prayed that the hearts of those who heard his words would be changed, but his message had received only a lukewarm reception. By the time he sailed for Corinth (see Acts 18), he was struggling with discouragement, and God knew it. Therefore, He spoke words of encouragement to His servant:

*Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city. (Acts 18:9-10)*

In other words, "Paul, you are not alone. I am aware of your circumstances. I am with you, and others who know Me are with you, too."

Paul realized the key to success was not human strength or ability but faith in an unshakeable God. His responsibility was to do what God had called him to do. God's responsibility was to bring the right results from Paul's ministry at the right time.

Though he may have fought feelings of fear and discouragement, Paul knew that God was faithful and that the work he had been given to do would be accomplished. The message he had been called to preach would bear fruit at the proper time. Worry, doubt, and fear about the future only lead to sorrow and disappointment. Trust God right where you are, and He will bless you as you praise Him.

*Prayer: Lord, I give all that I am to You—all my work and all my talents belong to You. Fill me with Your strength to do the work of Your Kingdom. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it" (1 Thessalonians 5:24).**

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## **Prayer Points for This Month**

### **For Our Church**

- Pray for God's guidance and wisdom as we endeavour to connect with our wider community in a meaningful way.
- Pray for Rod as ministers to us and guides our church in our mission.
- Please pray for our Church Council—that they may continue to lead our congregation with wisdom and collaborate effectively with Rod.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need

### **For the Wider Church**

- Pray for wisdom for our senior church leaders, ministers, pastors, and teachers as they work towards reconciliation and peace.
- Pray for other churches in our local area, and for Uniting Churches at Carlingford, West Epping, Parramatta and Baulkham Hills.
- Please pray for the missionaries we support—Mike & Jacky, Richard & Lindsey, and Bill & Sandra—that they may continue to find meaningful ways to share God's Word with those who have not yet heard it.

### **For Australia**

- Pray for strength for those struggling with the cost of living.
- Please pray that our political leaders would listen to those they represent and lead with wisdom and integrity in their service.
- Pray for unity, peace and reconciliation, that our communities might be drawn together in understanding through God's love.

### **For the World**

- Pray for those in areas of conflict, that they might know your peace, and love.
  - May all people learn to treat your creation with love and care.
  - Pray for world leaders, that they would govern with wisdom, justice, and compassion.
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## Ministry Leaders

### **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

Supply Minister: Rev Dr Rod Benson / 0412421678 / [rod@northrocks.org.au](mailto:rod@northrocks.org.au)

## Church Council

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