



# NEWSLETTER

11 - 17 August 2025

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

## Sunday Worship 9am

### Prayer for Our Church

**Dear God,**

Thank You for working through our church. Help us be a place of welcome, hope, and love for our community. Give us wisdom to reach those who don't know You, and let us shine Your light as we share Your good news.

**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.

### Trivia Night

Trivia night is just over a month away. Please invite your friends to come along for a fun evening. The event is on Facebook to share or you can pick up some flyers at the back of the church. If you have any items that can be used as prizes they can be left in the church office. We are also looking for donations of chocolate bars to use for prizes.

### **COMPLETE CLOSURE OF NORTH ROCKS ROAD NOTICE:**

**From 8pm Friday 15 August to 5am Monday 18 August.**

There will be a COMPLETE CLOSURE of North Rocks Road between Church St and the Woolworths entrance, except for pedestrians and buses.

The suggested detour for those normally coming up from (or down to) the bottom end of North Rocks Rd is via James Ruse Rd, Pennant Hills Rd, Bettington Rd/Statham Ave to the top end of North Rocks Rd and then down to the Church (or the reverse).

This detour is about 7km and you should allow an extra 15 minutes drive time on Sunday morning, and more at other times.

Access to and from Woolworths car park will only be from the North.

## 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

Aug	
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



Join us for a special night of music and help raise funds for local and international aid projects.

Venue: Leigh Memorial Church, 119 Macquarie St, Parramatta

Date: Saturday 23 August

Time: 6.30 - 10.30pm

## Safe Church Awareness / Culture of Safety Training

Synod provides safe church training to all Uniting Church Ministry leaders and church council representatives so they can maintain safe places and programs, and to congregation safe church persons. This is not just about compliance, although there are many legal obligations to consider, it is primarily an outworking of our desire to make a Jesus-shaped difference in our communities.

All members of the church are able to attending this training. If you are interested there are a few sessions being held in our area in September. If you are interested in attending please click [here](#) for further information, or talk to Cathy.



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

God is the absolute authority and ruler over His creation. Neither a hair nor a sparrow falls apart from God's will (see Matthew 10:29-30). Without infinite, unchanging power and authority, God's other attributes would be conditional. If God were not all-powerful, His love could be affected or changed by outside forces. Thankfully, we serve a God whose love is perfect and eternal; it is not affected by anything outside His will.

We know from Romans 8:28 that "God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Even though we do not know everything we may want to know about the Lord, in Scripture He has revealed what we need to know about His attributes and desires.

First and foremost is that He loves us: "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). He desires for us to share the Good News of Christ with others. Jesus said, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20).

No matter how impossible our call may seem, how difficult our obstacles, or how fierce our opposition, we must hope in the Lord and let Him renew our strength (see Isaiah 40:31). God's strength is sufficient for His children, and He will never let anything separate us from His love (see 2 Corinthians 12:9; Romans 8:38-39).

There is much comfort in God's revelation of Himself to us. Spend time in His Word and get to know Him in a richer and fuller way. In His presence lie all the contentment, peace, and joy you could desire—and more!

*Prayer: Father, I am so grateful that You have absolute authority and that Your love is unconditional. Help me to spend more time in Your Word so that I will know You better. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand" (Psalm 16:11).**

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## **Prayer Points for This Month**

### **For Our Church**

- Pray for enthusiasm among our members as we ask God for guidance as we look for ways to connect with our local community.
- Pray that Rod's ministry would be blessed as he preaches God's Word with authority & conviction and cares for our congregation.
- Please pray for leaders in our church, that they will have a spirit of humility and a heart to serve others.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

### **For the Wider Church**

- Pray for wisdom for our senior church leaders as they find ways of working together to bring us your reconciliation and peace.
- Pray for other churches in our local area, and for Uniting Churches at Carlingford, West Epping, Parramatta and Baulkham Hills.
- 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 the vulnerable, marginalized and voiceless, and bring justice to those who have suffered injustice.
- Pray that God will give our leaders wisdom & strength to work towards unity among all people.

### **For the World**

- Pray for the world, asking for freedom from conflict, unity in troubled nations, and wisdom for world leaders.
- May all governments and people of the world commit to looking after your creation.
- Pray for peace around the world and that leaders will lead with compassion for their people.

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#### **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](mailto:rod@northrocks.org.au)

#### **Church Council**

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