



NEWSLETTER

8 - 14 June 2026

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Dear God,

We come before you with grateful hearts as we celebrate the gift of your Spirit at Pentecost. Thank you that your Spirit is given freely to all who trust in you. Deepen our understanding of your word and help us to live it out faithfully each day. Guide us with your wisdom as we make decisions that honour you and strengthen your work within our community.

Amen.



Congregational Meeting - Forming a JNC

We have been invited by Presbytery to form a Joint Nominating Committee (JNC) for the purpose of calling a new minister for North Rocks Uniting. The Church Council requests the Chairperson of the Congregation and Secretary to call a special meeting of the congregation (see reg 3.5.1.d) for the purposes of appointing members of a JNC which will be responsible to seek an ordained ministry agent who can be recommended for call and placement at North Rocks Uniting.

This meeting will be held after church, on Sun 21 June. Please be praying about who to nominate and talk to them in advance if possible; who would represent NRCC well. Please look for the separate email/hardcopy made available to everyone.

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.

All money raised will be donated to Parramatta Mission

Please talk to Sue if you are able to help in any way.

30 Days | 30 Voices | One Church in Prayer

From Pentecost Sunday on 24 May to the 49th Anniversary of the Uniting Church in Australia on 22 June, we are embarking on a shared season of national prayer.

Over these thirty days, thirty voices from across the Church will come together. Each day, a new voice will lead us in praying as one body around a single, unifying question: ***“What does it mean to be woven together in Christ's love across cultures and boundaries?”***



The national prayer chain is one of the most significant parts of the Uniting in Prayer event, connecting every part of the Uniting Church - local communities, agencies, schools, and councils - to each other in prayer through the 35 days. NRCC will be praying for Moonta UC (SA) & Gladstone UC (Qld)

If you would like more information click [here](#).

Summary of the Church Council Meeting

Please see Sue if you are interested in helping for Trivia Night. Money raised will go to Parramatta Mission.

Updated response to question at the congregational meeting to the newsletter announcement dated 7 May.

In response to Mike's question at the congregational meeting: It was agreed that CC be requested to clarify if the rental from the manse can be used to pay the minister's housing allowance.

In determining an answer CC looked at the clause in the Lease Application Form which states: "While we are searching for a new minister the manse is empty. The income will be used to build up our Property Maintenance reserves and general reserves.

There is no restriction on how these funds can be used but previously church council agreed that the funds were intended to be used mainly to build up our property maintenance reserves.

Would you like to meet with Rod?

Rod is available to meet with people for a pastoral conversation or prayer, either at the church or at a cafe. If it is easier he can come to you. Please phone him to work out a time.

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/>

Dates for your Diary

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.

June	
13 & 27	Community Garden
21	Congregational Meeting
July	
11 & 25	Community Garden
25	Trivia Night
August	
2	Families' Service
September	
5	Lamington Drive
13	Congregational AGM
October	
18	National Christian Life Survey
December	
5	Fair Trade Market

Community News and Notices



Prime Timers' Expo
A CALL TO SERVE IN YOUR PRIME YEARS

SATURDAY 13 JUNE 2026, 1 PM - 5 PM

Christ Church St Ives - 1 Cowan Rd, St Ives NSW
Cost: \$20. Register by 8 June via the QR code
or at <https://events.humanitix.com/ptexpo>

Prime Timers' Expo is a half-day event designed to inspire, encourage, and connect Christians in their "second half of life" with meaningful ministry opportunities.

Hosted by Prime Time Ministry,
Learn more at <https://primetimeministry.org/>

TCC

Here's an opportunity for anyone over 50 who might be thinking about exploring ministry opportunities, either locally or wider afield, perhaps especially for those who might have taken, or thinking about, early retirement.

The key speaker is Mike Raiter, who is well known in Sydney circles, and served cross-culturally overseas with Interserve in Pakistan for a number years.

The afternoon is all about thinking of ministry opportunities both local and abroad for the over 50s. SIM will be hosting one of the stalls there and will have a few reps available to chat.

Who Is This For?

Christians in their "second half of life" who want to:

- Be encouraged and inspired alongside others in their prime years
- Explore new or different ministry opportunities
- Serve God with purpose in this season of life”



On June 13th, 2026, the Body of Christ will converge on Blacktown Showgrounds for a historic day of worship, prayer, and activation. Marking the 420th anniversary of the declaration of Australia as the 'Great South Land of the Holy Spirit,' Pentecost 26: Australia Arise is a strategic gathering designed to unify the church and launch a decade of harvest. Join us as we align with the Reach Australia 2033 vision to see every person in our nation encounter the love of Jesus.

For more information or to buy tickets click [here](#).

▪ 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/>

Reflection of the Week

Joseph spent years confined to an Egyptian dungeon. While he had done nothing to deserve imprisonment, God knew that Joseph's faith needed to be tested. God would fulfill His promises, but first He wanted to grow Joseph's faith—strengthening Him with His presence in every circumstance. Joseph did not avoid personal surrender. He knew that if he did, he would risk missing God's will and purpose for his life—so he called upon the Lord.

If God has allowed you to settle in a difficult place—pray. But don't just pray for a way of escape. Instead, pray for the Lord to work His good pleasure into your life. If there is a need for discipline, be willing to receive it so that you will experience the blessings of God.

Trying to manipulate the Lord's will through prayer never works. Instead of solving the problem, this can lead to frustration. Therefore, we need to be willing to trust God and wait for His answer.

There will be times when we think we cannot face another trial or another minute of persecution. Jesus understands our weaknesses. The night of His arrest He prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done" (Matthew 26:42). Earlier, He had taught His disciples to pray, "[Y]our will be done," so they would know how to submit their will to God just as He had submitted His (6:10).

God knows the hurts, disappointments, and frustrations you are facing, but He longs to hear you pray what Christ prayed in the garden the night of His arrest: "Yet not as I will, but as you will" (Matthew 26:39). Is this the prayer of your heart? In your struggles, ask the Spirit to intercede for you and help you grasp the heights and depths of God's love for you. As you do, you'll be empowered to trust and obey Him in trials.

Prayer: God, I come to You in a difficult place. I pray that Your will would be accomplished in this season of my life. Help me to trust You and wait on You. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"But while Joseph was there in the prison, the LORD was with him, . . ." (Genesis 39:20-21).

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church

- Pray for perseverance in our faith strengthening us to keep our eyes on Jesus.
- Pray for the leaders in our church that you will enable them to lead with integrity, compassion, and a deep commitment to Your Word.
- Pray for Rod, for wisdom in his leadership and discernment in his decisions.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

For the Wider Church

- Pray for greater unity among believers around the world and help us to love one another as you love us.
- Pray for community services organisations connected to local UCA congregations: [Gateway Family Services](#), [Junction 142](#), [Parramatta Mission](#) and [Castlereagh Conference Centre](#).
- We pray for protection, strength, and comfort to be with those around the world who suffer for their faith.

- Pray for those in mission as they reach out to those who do not yet know you. We pray especially for the missionaries we support - Mike & Jacky Hammond, Richard & Lindsey Parker, and Bill & Sandra Callister.

For Australia

- Pray for those who are struggling with the cost of living.
- Pray for reconciliation between all who call Australia home.
- Pray for wisdom for leaders to make decisions for the good of all Australians.

For the World

- Pray for peace for those living in areas of increased conflict. May they know the hope that can only be found in God.
 - Pray for guidance for world leaders that they might find ways to work together for the good of all.
 - Pray for Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Eswatini
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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 a confidential prayer request please contact Bev (0404 809 102).

If you have pastoral care needs or would like to share a prayer request in the newsletter please contact Cathy (0411 055 403) or another member of the Pastoral Care Team.

Ministry Leaders

Transitional Supply Minister: Rev Dr Rod Benson / 0412421678 / rod@northrocks.org.au

Church Council

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