



NEWSLETTER

22 – 28 June 2026

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Dear God,

Loving and Gracious God, we lift up the members of the JNC. Grant them the wisdom to discern Your will and the patience to wait upon Your timing. Unite their hearts and minds as they seek a faithful leader to guide this congregation. Bless their discussions, give them clarity of vision, and fill them with peace in every decision they make. In Your holy name, Amen.



Happy 49th Birthday UCA

The Uniting Church in Australia marked its 49th anniversary yesterday, giving thanks for the decades of faithful witness, service and ministry across the country.

Since forming on 22 June 1977, the Church has navigated both triumphs and challenges while remaining committed to following and growing in Jesus, sharing God's love, working for justice and serving communities.

Please click [here](#) to watch the message from our moderator.

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.

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
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



Across the Pacific, Asia and Africa, the Uniting Church walks alongside partner churches doing extraordinary things: communities feeding children, lifting families out of poverty, and standing up for justice. These are people of deep faith and remarkable courage, pursuing the abundant life Jesus promised, for everyone. UnitingWorld is the agency that holds these partnerships on behalf of the wider Uniting Church.

To donate to UnitingWorld please click [here](#) to donate online.

Your donation will go where they are most needed towards God's work in the lives of our global neighbours with poverty, alleviation, gender equality, climate resilience, strong leadership and emergency response.

Thank you!

Faces of Jesus

The last four Wednesday evenings Rev. Prof. Sathi Clarke has been presenting a short course on faces of Jesus in Judaism, Islam and Hinduism, including how faith communities would encounter

these faith communities with the good news of Jesus Christ.

If you would like to listen to these talks click the links below:

Week 1: [Jesus in Judaism](#)

Week 2: [Jesus in Islam](#)

Week 3: [Jesus in Hinduism](#)

Week 4: [Their Jesuses and our Jesus Christ](#)

▪ **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

The rich man had allowed his wealth to create a false sense of security and self-sufficiency (see Matthew 19:16-30). He relied on his money more than on God. He thought he was in control of his life.

The Bible tells us to live differently from that rich ruler. Paul told Timothy, "Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment" (1 Timothy 6:17).

When we focus too much on our earthly resources, we easily become tied to those things. Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19-21).

This young ruler was entrenched in a mentality that fostered greed and selfishness. He probably thought he could make a sizable donation and buy his way into heaven. Yet Jesus was saying that no one can come to God the Father through his or her own efforts. No amount of good deeds, carefully followed rules, or financial offerings can gain a person's salvation. Only when we approach God the Father through Jesus Christ the Son can we spend eternity with Him. "Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible'" (Matthew 19:26).

Only God can change a sinful heart. Only God's grace can change a person's destiny from eternal torment to eternal bliss. No matter our financial situation, we can only come to God through the blood of Jesus Christ shed on Calvary.

Prayer: God, thank You for sending Your Son to die on the cross for me. Help me to remember to put my hope in You every day, not in my finances. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"For where you treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21).

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 JNC, for wisdom in discernment, unity, patience and guidance, to bring clarity to the process of calling a minister to our church.
- 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 Malawi, Zambia.

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