



NEWSLETTER

7 JANUARY 2021

*Revive
Restore
Reach Out*

NRCC News and Notices

Due to COVID-19 our services will be online throughout January. You can access these on our **NRCC YouTube Channel**. (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9XZ6bg-Sb5az1E9oqqPbFA?view_as=public).

Sunday ZOOM Fellowship & Prayer @ 10 AM

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/99513916682?pwd=QlhBWVnRnVZZE1NbMhRMQTBpbGtLUT09>

Meeting ID: 995 1391 6682

Passcode: 960978

We look forward to meeting together again soon.

Please visit our new website! →→ <https://northrocks.uca.org.au>

Bible Reading Challenge for 2021!

If you haven't tried reading the whole bible or the New Testament, it is a good time to do it. Please download from the web link or come to the office for a copy.

<https://www.navigators.org/resource/bible-reading-plans>

Dates for you Diary

Guest Preachers while Steve is on study leave

17th Jan: Margaret T will be sharing her faith journey with us. "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full" (John 10:10). Thanks Marg!

24th Jan: Rev Dr Rob McFarlane, the Presbytery minister will be preaching on "the meaning of discipleship".

From the Minister

Dear NRCC family,

How was your first week in January? With the current restrictions, things seem to be quite different to what we usually enjoy in this holiday season. I would like to thank the government officials and all the front-line workers who have been working tirelessly in controlling the virus spreading. It has become almost my daily routine to check the live news coverage at 11 AM. I wonder how you look after yourself, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. All the news we come across these days seem to be covered with all kinds of disheartening events from all over the world. Sometimes, I have said to myself, "Oh please, no more of this stuff." The more we spend time on news and social media, the more we would feel restless and anxious. Most of the information we get from social media doesn't require our urgent attention and it often takes away our time for resting and recharging.

So let us not waste our time on the things which are not urgent nor important but invest our time on the matters which would nourish our souls. Quiet time with the Lord is our first and foremost priority in our Christian life.

Please set a time during the day so that you can be alone with God. If you are not familiar with it, invest 10 minutes a day as a start. Once it becomes your daily routine, you will be amazed to see how much your life can be transformed. Find a place where you can be alone with God. Close your eyes. Focus on your breathing for a minute or so. Give thanks to God for the air coming in and out of your lungs. Give thanks to God for the life energy you have in your body. Give thanks to God for your ability to feel, think and meditate. Continue to give Him thanks for everything you experience. Then you will be able to feel the Lord's presence. Stay in that moment. You will know when to finish. This quiet time with the Lord will help you come closer to the real sense of the Lord's faithfulness at times like these.

Blessings!

Reflection of the Week

When Satan came to tempt Christ in the wilderness, our Lord was ready. With each Scripture that the devil twisted and hurled His way, Jesus responded with the wisdom of God's Word. "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for surely the angels will lift you up," Satan said, quoting Psalm 91. Jesus responded, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test'" (see Matthew 4:1-11).

Satan had enough knowledge of the Scriptures to twist them, but Jesus knew their true meaning and application, and He was not deceived. Many people today have lots of knowledge, but live frustrated lives. Why? Because knowledge enables us to understand the Truth, but wisdom is what helps us apply it to our lives. Knowledge tells us what to do, but wisdom tells us when, where, why, and how.

The more intimately we know the Word of God, the more quickly we will be able to call upon it in times of need. Reading a verse here and there will not be enough to ready us for the battles ahead, but the more we immerse ourselves in God's Word through study and prayer, the more Christlike our responses will be to each day's challenges.

Prayer: Lord, help me to not just read the Bible, but apply it so that I may lead a godly life. Thank You for giving me Your Word to equip me for the days ahead. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise" (Psalm 111:10).

e-give (Direct Electronic Giving)

Account Name: North Rocks Community Church
(BSB): 634634 **Account Number:** 100025906

Prayer Chain

Our church has a "chain" of people committed & ready to pray & bound to confidentiality. Please contact Felicity, Dawn or Church office.

Ministry Leaders

Minister: Rev. Steve Lee / minister@northrocks.org.au / 0433 698 690

Youth Coordinator: Catherine Nelson / youth@northrocks.org.au / 0411 055 403

Church Council:

Chairperson: Craig Marshall Secretary: Jenny Keyte Treasurer: Anne Crabb

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