



NEWSLETTER

9 May 2021

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

▪ **COVID-19 rules:** Due to the new COVID case in Sydney the guidelines have changed. This weekend, for both Planning Day on Saturday and Worship on Sunday **we are required to wear masks**, and there will be **no congregational singing except the music team**. We have also made the difficult decision to **not serve morning tea for the safety of our community**.

▪ From the Fellowship Team

- Special mid-week Devonshire tea event: Wednesday 12 May 11.00 AM at Sue and Bill's house. Please RSVP enquiry@northrocks.org.au just so it is known how many to cater for. Thanks. Sue

▪ Happy Mother's Day

"My mother is a walking miracle." – L. D.

"My mother, she is beautiful, softened at the edges, and tempered with a spine of steel. I want to grow old and be like her." – J. P.

"Acceptance, tolerance, bravery, compassion. These are the things my mum taught me." – L. G.

"Mama was my greatest teacher, a teacher of compassion, love and fearlessness. If love is sweet as a flower, then my mother is that sweet flower of love." – S. W.

▪ The Kids' Box

Our kids have a question box on the table as you enter the church. You are invited to take a page from the notebook and write a question for them to answer so you can find out more about them.

Dates for your Diary

▪ **Thursday Evening Prayer @ 7.30 PM:** If you feel led by the Spirit of the Lord to uphold our church community in prayer with other fellow sisters and brothers, please come and join us.

In person prayer meeting (the first Thursday of the month from June), ZOOM prayer meeting (the rest Thursdays of the month).

Community News and Notices

▪ **Lay Ministry Training Opportunities from UME (Uniting Mission and Education)**

Understanding the Sacraments

April – May

Via Zoom on Tuesday evenings, with hybrid in-person/Zoom full-day on May 8 at the Centre for Ministry

Info and registration: <https://ume.nswact.uca.org.au/calendar/understanding-the-sacraments-april-may/>

Living Our Values

1pm-5pm, 20 and 21 May

Zoom

Info and registration: <https://ume.nswact.uca.org.au/calendar/living-our-values-may-2021/>

Exploring Theology

Wednesdays 6:00–8:30pm, June 9 – July 21

In-person (Centre for Ministry) and Zoom hybrid

Leading Worship in the UCA

3 July, 9am-4pm

Centre for Ministry

Info and registration: <https://ume.nswact.uca.org.au/calendar/living-our-faith-leading-worship-july/>

Proclaiming Jesus Christ

Saturdays 9:30–11:30am, 10 July – 21 August

Zoom

Sacraments Training

9:00am-4:30pm

July 17–18 (Tuggeranong Uniting) and Sept 11–12 (Goulburn Uniting)

Leading Worship in the UCA

9:00am-4:30pm, Saturday Sept 25

Canberra (Venue TBC)

Reflection of the Week

Though we are confident that God has the power to deliver us from any situation or circumstance in life, we often lose hope as we try to figure out solutions to our problems. The fact remains that despite our most determined efforts to make life work harmoniously for us, we need God.

When there is no hope in our lives, we become despondent. We wonder how we are ever going to make it. Despite all our knowledge of what God can do, we opt to wallow in pity and despair. When this becomes our response, we are like many characters in the Bible.

David, who experienced the pit of despair on more than one occasion, commanded his soul to praise God, even though he did not feel hopeful or encouraged. He wrote, "Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God" (Psalm 42:5).

David lived as though both praise and hope were synonymous. To him, hope was not possible without praising God. He wrote, "As for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more" (Psalm 71:14).

When we praise God, hope will rise up within us. We realize that, although our situation may look bleak, we are not without a Saviour. What an encouraging feeling to know that someone is willing to rescue us—not only to save the day but also to reverse our circumstances.

As we open our mouths, may our words speak what we know is true in our hearts: God will hear our prayers and words of praise and one day fulfill His promise to restore all things.

Prayer: Lord, reveal the power of praise to me today. Help me to experience the overwhelming hope that comes with praise. Thank You that those who hope in You are never put to shame (Psalm 25:3). I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD" (Psalm 31:24).

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 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

North Rocks Community Church

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