

WEST EPPING UNITING CHURCH



Our Vision:

We strive to be a diverse community transformed by God's love, living fully in the power of the Spirit, with Jesus's teachings at our core.

Connection. Community. Commitment. Christ



Newsletter

Sunday
3rd August 2025

Reading

Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

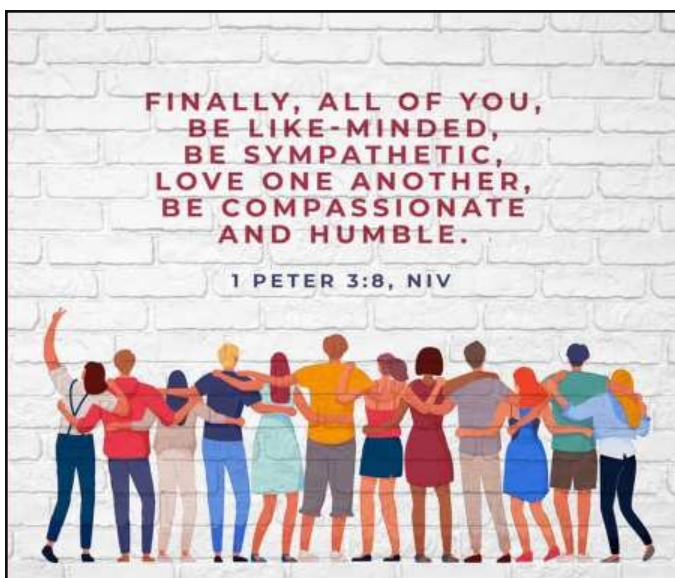
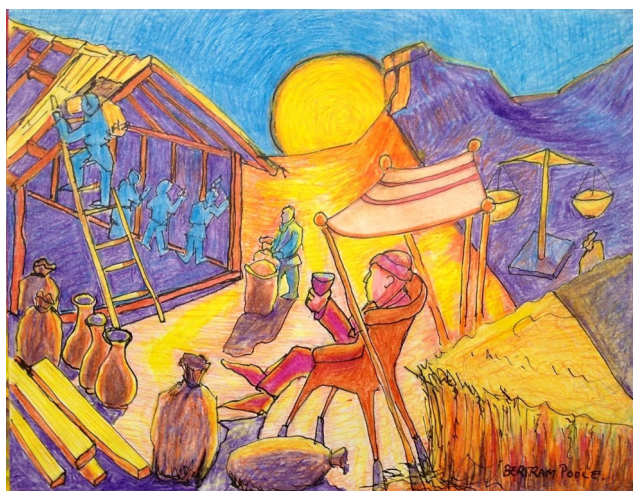
Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, 'You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'"

"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

"This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."



Ministry Leadership Team

Our The Ministry Leadership Team will be holding prayer meetings at The Cottage on the **2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, from 10:30 to 11:30am**

All are warmly invited to attend

Special Congregational Meeting Held Last Week

On behalf of the Exec team:

The special Congregational meeting held on Sunday July 27 to vote to join the new entity Carlingford - West Epping Uniting Church resulted in a **majority vote**, 35 for, 13 against.

This result will go to Parramatta Nepean Presbytery and on to Synod. Comments from two of our senior members of our congregation:

*Margaret Gibbons: *"we are all wise from our collective past histories but let us now grasp the future with hope and respect."*

*Annabelle Avern: *"there may be disappointment and challenges causing us to stumble but let us go together in faith, forgiveness, love, and our complete trust in God who know everything, leading us on."*

The Carlingford congregation is scheduled to make their decision in the coming months. We will then inform the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee at its meeting on 23 October 2025, and from there, the matter will go to the full PNP meeting on 19 November 2025 (the final one for the year).

Let us continue to seek God's guidance together as we move forward in faith, hope, and unity.

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land upon which we gather, the Wallumedegal people of the Eora nation and give thanks for their care of the land over many generations.

Ladies Fellowship

Our next meeting is on:
Friday 8 August @ 9.45am

**PLEASE NOTE: OUR STARTING TIME WILL
BE 9,45 FROM NOW ON**

This will give our planned speakers and other activities more time. As usual we will start with morning tea.

We will welcome *Gillian Batt - Chief Executive officer from Christian Community Aid* as our guest speaker.

ALL LADIES WELCOME

Lyn MacGregor - President



Men's Fellowship

Our Inter Church Men's Fellowship is on:

Monday 11 August @ 10am

The speaker will be Chaplain Gary Raymond APM, OAM from the NSW Police Post Trauma Unit.

Cost \$10.00 includes a great morning tea. Bring a friend.

Please advise your attendance by Wednesday 6 August to b.sheldrick@optusnet.com.au



Police Post Trauma



Friday Discovery

Our next meeting is on:
Friday 15th August @ 10am

Our guest speaker is Jennifer Farrer, on "Plants in Colonial Sydney". A fascinating subject!

All Welcome!

Enquiries - Joan Ross, 9873 3713

House Warming

Our Mainly Music team was delighted to bless Jeane Finnegan, our dedicated Children and Family Ministry Worker, with a special housewarming gift as she settles into her new home.

It was a small way to show our appreciation for all the love, energy, and faith she pours into our families and little ones each week. May her new home be filled with joy, peace, and many happy memories!



Worship this Sunday will be a hybrid Holy Communion service

Everyone is welcome to attend or join us on zoom.

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or join us on zoom.

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Telephone 02-8015-6011

Meeting ID 864-749-2332 passcode 2121

Or you can watch on our youtube channel

[WEUC - Youtube](#)

Mid-Week Devotion



Join us on **Wednesdays at 10am** on zoom
led by Pastor Lyn Graham.

Join Zoom Meeting at 10am

[https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/91952761718?](https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/91952761718?pwd=WmtNRfhKbDV3OTZLaVJVRWk4VGvKZz09)
[pwd=WmtNRfhKbDV3OTZLaVJVRWk4VGvKZz09](https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/91952761718?pwd=WmtNRfhKbDV3OTZLaVJVRWk4VGvKZz09)

Meeting ID: 919 5276 1718 Passcode: 2121

Family & Intergen Service Sunday's @ 5pm

A relaxed church gathering with bible readings,
discussion, kids craft and a light meal



Zoom Prayer Group

You are invited to join our weekly prayer time on
zoom on **Thursdays at 4pm**.

Everyone is welcome to join in. For more
information contact Lois Rees.

Join Zoom Thursday Prayer Group at 4pm

[https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/98939453219?](https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/98939453219?pwd=dG9paSs1eGg4MGZDbGozNWdqOHlQQT09)
[pwd=dG9paSs1eGg4MGZDbGozNWdqOHlQQT09](https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/98939453219?pwd=dG9paSs1eGg4MGZDbGozNWdqOHlQQT09)

Meeting ID: 989 3945 3219 Passcode: 2121

Geoff's Reflection

The video reflection this week is called:

Making a difference: what can you do this week?

It can be found at: [Making A Difference....](#)

Prayers



If you would like to know of some
specific names of people with
particular pastoral needs to pray
for, please **contact Annabelle
Avern** (member of the Pastoral
Care Team) on 0428 368 870



From the Cottage

Sacredise Daily Worship Downloads

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Where do we find meaning? In what do we place our trust? These are central questions in every human life, and there is no shortage of answers vying for our acceptance. This week, the Lectionary readings challenge us to face these questions in the light of Jesus' message and mission. In the Gospel, Jesus is asked to resolve an inheritance dispute between two brothers, but instead, he warns his listeners about the danger of giving in to greed. In Ecclesiastes, the writer laments how pointless it is to accumulate great possessions through hard work, when it all gets left to others who have not worked so hard. And in Hosea, God wrestles with a desire to judge the people who have turned away from God, but in the end, God relents and promises restoration. All of these readings challenge us to think carefully about where we place our allegiance, and on what we depend for security and life. It is easy to say the words of faith, to sing the songs of faith, and to attend the gatherings of a community of faith. But it's our actions and our values that reveal what we really believe. When we allow our desire for wealth or comfort to undermine our relationships, we contradict our faith in Jesus. When we seek pleasure, possessions, or power for our own sakes, we get out of step with the mission and message of Jesus. But, as the call of Jesus takes hold of us, we slowly but surely start to see a shift in our priorities, we begin to embrace the sacrifice, simplicity, and service of following Jesus, and we discover that abundant life is found not in the size of our bank accounts, but in the size of our hearts. This week we examine our priorities in the light of God's reign.

REFLECT (based on Ecclesiastes 12:1-8, 13-14)

The writer of the Book of Ecclesiastes tried everything – pleasure, power, and possessions – but in the end he discovered that it's all meaningless. All that remained, at the end of his search, was relationship with God, and living God's way. The truth, that this Teacher discovered – and that many people since have also found – is that living for personal gain, wealth, and status is empty and completely unsatisfying. That's why so many people, when they reach retirement, start looking for ways to make a contribution to the world. It's in giving and serving that true life is found. The teacher learned this the hard way, but he tried to convince his readers to avoid his mistakes. Instead of chasing after empty things, he encouraged them to remember their Creator before they got old, and life lost its joy. The way he describes old age and death sounds very depressing, but there seems to be an implication that if we remember our Creator when we are young, then old age will be more meaningful, more vibrant, and less regretful. This is certainly the testimony I have heard from many of my elders in the faith. But, once again, it's all about priorities. Whether young or old, when we make God's life our priority, our life is richer and more meaningful, and it makes an important difference to the world.

Reflective Question: How can you remember your Creator today?

PRAY: When I chase after what does not satisfy, O God, forgive me and lead me back to you.
Amen.

For devotional material, pls refer to the link below:

<https://sacredise.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2025-08-03-09.pdf>



Pre-dinner Thinks!

AN "INTER-GENERATIONAL CONVERSATION"



FOR ALL THOSE WHO LIKE SOMETHING TO CHEW ON, JOIN US FOR CHEESE, CRACKERS AND A DISCUSSION LED BY SATARA UTHAYAKUMARAN ON SUNDAY 10TH AUGUST, 4:00PM IN THE CHURCH



NORTH RYDE UNITING CHURCH
2 CUTLER PARADE, NORTH RYDE
ADMIN@NRCC.UNITINGCHURCH.ORG.AU
(02) 9888 9978



NORTH RYDE UNITING CHURCH

A compassionate, revitalising Christian community

PRE-DINNER THINKS 4-6PM, SUNDAY AUGUST 10TH

Have your Voices Heard at the United Nations! Satara Uthayakumaran – Australia's Youth Representative to the United Nations – will be hosting a special "Inter-Generational Conversation".

This is a wonderful opportunity for people of all ages – whether you're passionate about youth advocacy, or global engagement – to take part in a conversation that bridges generations and amplifies the voices of young Australians at the United Nations.

Contact Us

2 Cutler Parade, North Ryde
admin@nrcc.unitingchurch.org.au
www.northrydeunitingchurch.org



MORE INFO

What's on this week

Sunday 3rd August	Holy Communion Worship Service 9.30am Intergen Worship Service 5pm
Monday 4th August	Bible Study 10am
Tuesday 5th August	Mahjong & More! 9.30am Playgroup 9.30am
Wednesday 6th August	mainly music 10am Zoom Mid Week Devotion
Thursday 7th August	Zoom prayer group 4pm
Friday 8th August	Ladies Fellowship 9.45am
Sunday 10th August	Worship Service 9.30am Intergen Worship Service 5pm

Rosters

10th August	9 30am Worship Service
Liturgist	Rev Tennyson Chan
Preaching	Rev Tennyson Chan
Ministers Assistant	Annabelle Avern
Welcomer	Jan Dunsten, Lyn MacGregor
Stewards	George Esplin, Helen Davey
Reader	Adele Booth
Prayers for the people	Lois Rees
AV desk	Morris & Allie B
Flowers	Robyn Harris
Lectionary Readings	Is 1:1, 10-20 Ps 50:1-8 Heb 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40

An Invitation from Our Ecumenical Friends

AN INVITATION TO VIEW THE MOVIE -THE LETTER-



THE LETTER is a documentary featuring Pope Francis and his call to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. It builds on the teaching of Pope Francis' letter to us, Laudato si'.

REGISTER FOR ONE OF THESE SESSIONS:

19 August 7pm - 9pm at OLHC Epping
21 August 7pm - 9pm at St Gerards
25 August 10am - 12pm at St Gerards
27 August 10am - 12pm at OLHC Epping

THE LETTER runs for 80 minutes. Our time together will include time for refreshments, reflection, conversation and how we might take action together as a parish community.

Register by contacting: Gail Gill on 0424 464 507 or gail.gill@bbcatholic.org.au

Leading This Sunday 3rd August 9.30am Service:
Rev. 'Oto Faiva & Mr Ian Parkin



Parramatta Nepean Presbytery
The Uniting Church in Australia NSW & ACT Synod

Join us at our next Presbytery Meeting

Saturday 16th August 2025 | 9:30am
Parramatta Centenary Uniting Church
46 Sorrell St, North Parramatta

For further information, please contact
the Presbytery office: (02) 9683 5023

Generous | Vibrant | Diverse

Minister

Rev 'Oto V Faiva 0405 636 088

Church Planter

Rev Tennyson Chan 陳志偉牧師 0411 896 274

Children & Family Ministry Worker

Jeane Finnegan 0452 001 876

Office Administrator

Emma Butler 9868 3574

Safe Church Contact Person

Erica Harrison 0409 044 923

Church Office

Office Hours

Email

Website

Facebook

WEUC Bank Account

35 Orchard St Epping 2121 p: 9868 3574

Thursday & Friday 8.30am to 2.30pm

weppinguca@gmail.com

weppinguca.org.au

facebook.com/weppinguca

Westpac BSB 032 081 Account 961263

West Epping Uniting Church uses information and news provided by its members, adherents and officers for the purposes of conducting its pastoral ministry. In the course of that ministry, material published in this bulletin may reach an audience wider than the membership of the congregation.