



CONTACT



Charlestown & Garden Suburb Uniting
Church Multi-Centre Congregation

15 March 2026

DIARY

Thursday 12 March

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
10.30am Worship Service at Garden Suburb Aged Care Facility
1.30-2.30pm **Bible Study at Charlestown Church – ALL WELCOME**

Friday 13 March

- 6.00pm Ladies Night at Kahibah

Saturday 14 March

- 10.30am **Friendship Circle meet at the Church**, then leaving for Maitland Art Gallery
(see more information further in Contact)

Sunday 15 March 2026 – Lent 4

- 9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader: Beryl Gaul and Preacher: David Chegwiddden
1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Tuesday 17 March

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

Wednesday 18 March

Office closed – Jenny away (No Contact on Sunday 22 March)

Thursday 19 March

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
10.30am Worship Service at Garden Suburb Aged Care Facility
1.30-2.30pm **Bible Study at Charlestown Church – ALL WELCOME**

Sunday 22 March 2026 – Lent 5

- 9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader: Sue Warren and Preacher: Rev. Tom
Ezekial 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Tuesday 24 March

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square
12.00pm Garden Suburb Ladies Fellowship at Wests

Thursday 26 March

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
1.30-2.30pm **Bible Study at Charlestown Church – ALL WELCOME**

Saturday 28 March

- 9.30am to 12.30pm **Exploring the Poetry of the Mystics** at the DoMN Library – see more details
see more details further in Contact

Sunday 29 March 2026 – Palm Sunday

- 9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader: Cathy Beeton and Preacher Rev. Tom
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 118:1-2,19-29; Philipians 2:5-11; Matthew 21:1-11
3.00pm **Fundraising Concert at Adamstown Uniting Church** – see more details
further in Contact)

THE PRAYER PAGE



Prayer is the Voice of Faith

Pastoral Prayer Points

- * Those who are mourning loved ones
- * Pam and Mert (care facility placement being sought)
- * Warren and Pam
- * Rene Kelly
- * Nelda Marshall
- * Glen and Marion
- * Valmai
- * Janice and Don Wright
- * Kelly
- * Tony Sellen
- * Vicki
- * Pam and Ken
- * Lyn Benson
- * Jean
- * June Locker
- * Jacqueline Fenwick
- * Isabella
- * Eileen Dunn
- * Max
- * Don Humphries

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Congregational Prayer Points

- Church Council
- the role of Piteeri, our new Communications Coordinator for the Milson St. Hub.
- Major upgrades to the Project Reconnect website
- Worship Services
- Cathy Beeton and SRE classes
- Tom and Kathy on holidays
- Worship Committee

Wider Community Prayer Points

- H.C.A. Loneliness and Isolation Symposium in May – Milson St. Hub Ministry
- Margaret Jurd College and Darren Twist the Principal
- Orphanage in Kenya and Wilfreda – floods are being experienced in Kenya affecting their crops
- Neos ministry
- Those affected by climate change in Australia eg floods, droughts and fires
- Prayer for the situations in Israel, Palestine and Ukraine

Children & Family Worker Update



As I mentioned last Sunday, Piteeri has organized an **Easter Egg Hunt** for the 31st March at 3.15pm, as a way of getting to know the local families and church users.

I have sent Flyers to local schools and will be handing out in Scripture Classes.

I know a few of you had concerns with the safety at this event, but I will ensure it is done in a safe manner.

If you would like to be involved in this exciting activity you could make a donation towards buying the Easter Eggs. Please place cash in an envelope (with 'Easter Eggs' written on it) and place in the Offering box in the foyer.

Or you may like to be present on the day and help with the scattering of eggs, with the children or chatting with parents. If you can help on the day please let Piteeri or myself know.

Blessings

Cathy



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE OF THE WEEK

Worship: happens whenever we intentionally cherish god and value him above all else in life. Worship reveals what is important to us.

Practice: Think of the times you have been deeply moved in worship. What was happening in your life at that time? • What was going on in worship? • Put yourself in places where you most easily connect with God in worship.

These resources come from Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices That Transform Us (Transforming Resources). InterVarsity Press



The Facebook page for the Milson Street Hub has been launched! If you are on Facebook, go [here](#), and click on "Follow". From little things big things grow!



Milson Street *Hub*



MEDITATION/REFLECTION/SHARING

EXPLORING THE POETRY OF THE MYSTICS

Reading and listening to poetry before becoming silent and still. It engages the whole person-mind, heart and body. John Main wrote-" we soon pick up the currents of reality that give us direction and momentum...By stillness in the spirit we move in the ocean of God's love."

Saturday, March 28th 9.30am to 12.30

Location: DoMN LIBRARY

(Corner Tudor and Parry St, Hamilton. Parking behind Library off Tudor St and Sacred Heart Cathedral Car Park)

DONATION: \$10.00

Morning Tea Provided at 9.30

RSVP by March 23rd

annecuskelly@hotmail.com or 0407436808

Fundraising Concert

Proceeds of the concert will be shared between the following projects:-



Kiwaniis Beachside-Newcastle projects for children in local refuges and refugee children

Margaret Jurd College for Year 9-12 students needing extra support, well-being fund



Featuring



Sydney songstress Rachel Collis has been described by reviewers as no less than "prodigy", "sheer genius" (Australian Stage) and "a welcome jolt back to the time of Joni Mitchell and Carole King" (The Orange Press). Rachel is good old-fashioned songwriting, combined with whirlwind virtuosic piano and Celtic-like vocals. Rachel has released 4 studio albums which have grown Rachel a dedicated fanbase in Australia, the UK, the US and Canada. Her songs and stories explore the beauty and spirituality of everyday life. Beautifully-crafted and emotionally honest, each song is an invitation to find affinity and belonging in the simplest of moments. With a passion for social justice and inclusion, Rachel is also a champion for widening the tent of who is seen and heard in society. Through her stories of love, loss, shame, and messy, authentic faith, Rachel creates connectedness and a safe space for listeners.

"Momentum" is an "A Capella" group of eight people who greatly appreciate singing and love to harmonise. The group sings a range of songs from renaissance to contemporary, folk, gospel and mainstream; especially enjoying singing songs of devotion and hope.

They have been inspired by groups such as "The Idea of North", "Pentatonix", "Rajaton" and Tripod.



Concert Details:

Sunday 29th March, 2026 @ 3pm

Adamstown Uniting Church, 228 Bruncker Rd, Adamstown

Tickets via Trybooking \$25 each, concession \$15, families \$60.

Visit <https://www.trybooking.com/DJIHT> or click on QR code



Delicious afternoon tea provided

Contact details: Jennifer Burns 0474 496 168 or Rae Pidgeon 0407 921 277

A Call to Prayer for Peace in the Middle East

The World Council of Churches has expressed grave concern over escalating military attacks in the Middle East and called for an immediate cessation of violence, the protection of civilian populations, and renewed diplomatic engagement.

As part of the global fellowship of churches, the Uniting Church in Australia stands alongside our ecumenical partners in prayerful solidarity. We share the deep concern for the safety of civilians, the stability of the region, and the urgent need for de-escalation and dialogue.

In a time when rhetoric intensifies and fear spreads quickly, I invite the Uniting Church to be what we are called to be — a praying people. We hold before God all whose lives are endangered, and we pray for communities here in Australia who are watching these events with deep concern for loved ones.

We recommit ourselves to being people of restraint, reconciliation and hope.

Prayer for Peace

God of Abraham and Sarah,

God of Hagar and Ishmael,

God of Isaac and Rebekah,

God revealed to us in Jesus Christ,

We bring before you the lands where our faith was born,
now shaken by escalating violence and deep uncertainty.

We pray for the people of Iran,

for the people of Israel,

and for all across the region living tonight with fear.

We pray for children woken by sirens,

for families seeking safety,

for those carrying grief, anger and anxiety.

Prince of Peace,

interrupt the cycle of violence.

Protect civilian life on every side.

Grant leaders wisdom and restraint.

Turn hearts from further destruction toward dialogue and de-escalation.

Call all nations to act with responsibility,

with care for human life,

and with respect for the obligations of international law.

Spirit of the Living God,

comfort those in Australia whose loved ones are in harm's way.

Strengthen Jewish, Muslim, Iranian, Arab and Christian communities who may feel vulnerable or unsettled.

Guard us from antisemitism, from Islamophobia, and from every form of hatred that rises in times of conflict.

Make your Church a place of safety, compassion and steady hope.

May fear give way to understanding.

May violence give way to courage for peace.

May justice and mercy meet.

In the name of Christ, who is our peace.

Amen.

President Rev Charissa Suli

Friendship Circle



A trip to Maitland Art Gallery on the 14 March leaving the Church at 10.30am with a Gallery inspection and Lunch at the gallery at 12.30pm

All Welcome

Contact Sue Warren on 0427 737 793 for transport

PLEASE NOTE

The Office will be closed on the 19 March so there will be no Contact for Sunday the 22 March 2026.

Some of our Church Contacts:

Minister

Rev Tom Stuart
M: 0427 625 502
E: tom@thestuarts.id.au

Administration:

P: 4943 4019
E: office@charlestown.unitingchurch.org.au
24 Milson Street, Charlestown NSW 2290
PO Box 449, Charlestown NSW 2290

Children & Families Resource Worker:

Mrs Cathy Beeton
M: 0409 445 933
E: Cath4858@gmail.com
Mrs Cathy Beeton is also our Safe Church Contact Person

Bank Account Details for the Charlestown Garden Suburb Multi-Centre Congregation:

Bank Account held with: Uniting Financial Services
Account Name: Charlestown Congregation General Account
BSB: 634 634 Account No.: 100030837

For Offering please put Ref: Offering

Keep up to date with happenings and info:

Webpage: <http://www.chagsuca.org.au>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CharlestownUnitingChurch>
Project Reconnect: <http://www.projectreconnect.com.au>
Worship Services: <https://tinyurl.com/CHaGS-YouTube-Link>