



# CONTACT

Charlestown & Garden Suburb Uniting  
Church Multi-Centre Congregation

18 September 2022



## From Rev Tom

It was an exciting time last Thursday. I must admit I tried to get out of the job feeling a little daunted by the task. It was time for the Hunter Community Alliance to check back with the Mayor of the Lake Macquarie Council, Kay Fraser to ascertain how she had been going on the 10 commitments she had previously made in November 2021 before her re-election. The meeting was held at 3pm at our Garden Suburb Church. I chaired the meeting. I was supposed to co-chair with local Anglican lay person Karen Lizoain, however ended up having to have significant dental surgery the day before, so I was on my own. Anne Threlfo had organised the audio-visuals and timing protocols. We had Kelly Hanson, the CEO of "Nova for woman and children" as our Housing/Homeless research team representative. Peter Coughlan was the Hunter Alliance Climate Change research team. There were some 20 or so folk from various churches and organisations from around the Lake Macquarie Local Government Area, and Mike Smith and Sue Warren provided personal stories on the housing crisis, and climate change respectively. We also had our newly minted community organiser Helen Fielder-Gill present (who so happens to be the daughter of Rev. Dan Armstrong). Mayor Kay Fraser had made 5 specific commitments to address the housing crisis, and homelessness in the Lake Macquarie region. One of those commitments was to trial a locker initiative for people experiencing homelessness where they could store personal belongings for a limited period. Mayor Fraser was able to indicate that a trial was underway in Toronto. We continued to work through the other issues with other positive responses. In terms of climate change she affirmed the commitment of the council to reduce greenhouse emissions by 50% by 2030. We realised that Mayor Fraser on this occasion was talking about the emission by council, however the original commitment was in relation to all activities in the LGA. So, with this discrepancy and other issues still to be realised we asked if she would be prepared to meet again with our two research teams before the end of this year, to which Mayor Fraser agreed. It was great to participate in such an activity, with a large representation and participation of Charlestown Uniting Church folk, to make a real impact on government policy and commitments in this region. There will be another major event on the 28<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm there will be a Community Assembly where the Hunter Community Alliance members (that includes all of us) are invited to come and help decide what issues we will take to our local member candidates as we move into the state elections. These events are wonderfully stimulating occasions experiencing people passionate about the things in their local communities that affect us too. This meeting is at the Southern Cross Hall, 841 Hunter St, Newcastle West (You get food too). If you are thinking about going to this please contact Anne Threlfo. It would be fantastic to have as big a contingent at that meeting of Charlestown and Garden Suburb Congregation members at that meeting as came to the meeting with the mayor. If you can't physically attend the other option is to pray for the event and the ongoing work of the Hunter Community Alliance.



# DIARY

## Thursday 15 September

1.30pm – 2.30pm Bible Study at Garden Suburb

## Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**9.00am Holy Communion Service** - Leader and Preacher - Rev Tom

*Jeremiah 8: 18 – 9: 1, Psalm 79: 1-9, 1Timothy 2: 1-7, Luke 16: 1-13*

## Monday 19 September

10.00am Pastoral Care visit to Garden Suburb Aged Care Facility

## Tuesday 20 September

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – Frankie & Co Café at Lake Macquarie

## Thursday 22 September

10.00 am Morning tea in the Community – Smelly Cheesecake Café at Charlestown Square

1.30pm – 2.30pm Bible Study at Garden Suburb

## Sunday 25 September – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**9.00am Worship Service** – Leader Beryl Gaul – Preacher P/R Lothar Nowak

*Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15, Psalm 91: 1-6, 14-16, 1Timothy 6: 6-19, Luke 16: 19-31*

## Tuesday 27 September

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – Frankie & Co Café at Lake Macquarie

12.00pm Garden Suburb Ladies Fellowship

3.30pm Worship team meet at The White House

## Wednesday 28 September

**9.30am Holiday Kids Club – Multicultural Day**

6.00pm – 9.00pm Community Assembly: Visions for the Hunter

## Thursday 29 September

10.00 am Morning tea in the Community – Smelly Cheesecake Café at Charlestown Square

1.30pm – 2.30pm Bible Study at Garden Suburb



## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

**9.00am Worship Service** – Leader and Preacher – David Chegwidde

**No Children's Corner School Holidays**

*Lamentations 1: 1-6, Psalm 137, 2 Timothy 1: 1-14, Luke 17: 5-10*

## Monday 3 October

10.00am Pastoral Care visit to Garden Suburb Aged Care Facility

## Tuesday 4 October

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – Frankie & Co Café at Lake Macquarie

## Thursday 6 October

10.00 am Morning tea in the Community – Smelly Cheesecake Café at Charlestown Square

1.30pm – 2.30pm Bible Study at Garden Suburb

## Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**9.00am Worship Service** – Leader - Anne Threlfo – P/ R Rev'd Dr. Bill Loader

*Jeremiah 29: 1, 4-7, Psalm 66: 1-12, 2 Timothy 2: 8-15, Luke 17: 11-19*



# THE PRAYER PAGE

"Lord, give me your eyes and ears today as I move about in my neighbourhoods. Show me your heart and help me to love those people around me who are my neighbours" Karina Kreminski



## Pastoral Prayer Points

- \* Jan Russell
- \* Lillian in rehab
- \* Lesley Clulow and Family
- \* Enid Hancock's Family
- \* Catherine Roser's Family
- \* Ron Lees family (funeral Monday at Morpeth at 2pm)
- \* Margaret Mensforth's family (funeral not until October)
- \* Brian Doherty
- \* Jean Cowley
- \* Tony and Nan
- \* Mert and Pam
- \* Avril Hill
- \* Judith and family
- \* Margaret Asplund
- \* Margaret Drinkwater
- \* Ashley and Lorraine
- \* Vicki
- \* John Cooper
- \* Marion and Ron
- \* Jean Townsend
- \* Wilma Birch
- \* Eileen
- \* Enid Power
- \* Ken MacDonald
- \* Fred Bryant
- \* Max
- \* Shirley
- \* Olivia
- \* Kelly
- \* Dianne

## Congregational Prayer Points

- Contacts made through Morning Teas in the Community
- Preparations for Neos
- SRE Assembly on 20<sup>th</sup> September
- Holiday Kids on 27<sup>th</sup> September
- Project Reconnect
- GCK group
- Worship Services
- Arrangements for lease of Whitebridge property
- Tom and Kathy during their holiday
- Cathy Beeton

## Wider Community Prayer Points

- Wilfreda's orphanage
- British Commonwealth as we mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II and for her funeral on Monday
- Pray for King Charles III as he takes up the reins of responsibility and for all the members of the Royal Family
- Operation Hope – Northern Iraq Project
- Work of Wayside Chapel and the ministry of Jon Owens

Maintained by SFED and Enid Power





## *Tom and Kathy are on holiday!*

From Monday 19  
September to Monday 17  
October (inclusive)

During this time, please direct all questions and concerns to Anne Threlfo or Julie Fenwick, or speak with your Elder.

The Hunter Presbytery

## Celebration Hope.

**Saturday 15 October 2022**

3pm refreshments

4pm Intergenerational Celebration

**Hamilton Uniting Church**

Further details to come – for more information  
contact Rev Rob Hanks

### “Contact” messages



While Tom is on holiday, there is an opportunity for members of the congregation to write some thoughts for the front page of Contact. It might be:

- A story of how God is speaking to you at the moment.
- Something you have read in scripture or elsewhere that has particularly touched you.
- A way you see God at work in our congregation.

You need only write a few lines, or a few paragraphs if you wish!

Contact Anne Threlfo for more information.



Our Speaker will be **Dr David Durrheim**, Lake Macquarie Ambassador for 2022 and Hunter New England Health Public Health Controller during the COVID-19 pandemic response.

Early one morning in October 2014, David set out alone for a cross-country run in Green Point Reserve. He suffered a catastrophic heart attack and was found some time later, cold, blue, pulseless....clinically dead.

David reviews the circumstances and medical records to answer the question: “Was this: Blind luck, Coincidence, A Miracle?”

## *Blind Luck, Coincidence, A Miracle?*

at Charlestown Uniting Church - 24 Milson  
St

**8am Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>  
October**

Cost \$12    RSVP: Paul Russell  
pmraus74@gmail.com, or 0411 236 047  
or sign-up sheet in the foyer.

*Please advise of any special dietary requirements*

**By Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

*Please do not attend if you are unwell or have been  
to a Covid-19 hotspot in the previous 14 days.*

# Hunter Community Alliance



## Community Assembly: Visions for the Hunter

**Wednesday 28  
September 2022  
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

**Catholic Diocese of Maitland-  
Newcastle  
Southern Cross Hall  
841 Hunter Street  
Newcastle West**

What's one thing you'd change in the Hunter if you could? What are your concerns and visions for our region?

You are warmly invited to join the Hunter Community Alliance for our community assembly. For the past few months, our alliance of 25 community groups have been listening to community concerns. As the March 2023 state election approaches, we plan to identify concerns to communicate to our region's elected representatives.

Join us to:

- hear and share stories about our visions for the Hunter
- connect with diverse community members
- identify concerns and visions that are widely and deeply felt
- learn about the Hunter Community Alliance and how we're working to build people power
- share a meal!

Be sure to RSVP. There is no cost to attend, though we will invite contributions to cover costs on the night. Our venue is fully accessible. All welcome!

Free tickets here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/community-assembly-visions-for-the-hunter-tickets-416554825697?fbclid=IwAR118zJ80wcBgbK55p1KkEeuzaXxCqeQWgGbevDvQ8JUN9ImPLm7yGewGQw>

# Church Council Elections – Sunday 16 October 2022

## The Role of the Church Council

The Church Council gives priority in its life to building up the Congregation in faith and love, sustaining members in hope, and leading the Congregation to a fuller participation in Christ's mission in the world. This priority is reflected in the agenda of its meetings.

## The Role of an Elder

In our congregation, all members of the Church Council are considered to be Elders. Eldership is exercised in an individual way, depending upon the gifts of an individual, and their position on the Church Council.

Each member of the Church Council, in their capacity as an Elder, has a small group of congregation members for whom they pray, care for pastorally, and act as a point of contact for any concerns.

## Positions Vacant

### **Chairperson**

*Incumbent – Anne Threlfo*

#### **Role:**

- Lead Church Council meetings (and other roles as stipulated by the UCA Regulations).
- Assist the council in remaining focussed on the established goals of the Congregation.
- Provide support and encouragement to Elders on the Church Council.
- Support communication between the Council, Ministry Agent, sub committees and congregation.

### **Radical Hospitality**

*Incumbent – David Chegwidan*

#### **Role:**

- Coordinate the pastoral care of members of the congregation, and support the Minister and Elders in this pastoral role.
- Identify and support members of the congregation in their pastoral caring for each other and for the community.
- Identify, support and seek opportunities for radical hospitality to be expressed within and beyond the congregation
- Attend Church Council meetings and report to the Council bringing recommendations and matters to be communicated to the congregation.

### **Passionate Worship**

*Incumbent – Margaret White*

#### **Role:**

- Support the Minister in the provision of worship, meeting regularly with the Minister and the worship team.
- Encourage the congregation to encounter God in worship, and bind people to one another in the experience of worship.
- Attend Church Council meetings and report to the Council bringing recommendations and matters to be communicated to the congregation.

### **Intentional Faith Development**

*Incumbent – Ken Young*

#### **Role:**

- Encourage, support and provide opportunities and resources for the spiritual growth of the congregation.
- Facilitate regular meetings of the Spiritual Formation, Education and Discipleship Team.
- Attend Church Council meetings and report to the Council bringing recommendations and matters to be communicated to the congregation.

## Nominations Are Now Open

There is a nomination form in this edition of Contact. They are also copies in the foyer at Charlestown.

Please place completed nomination forms in the box in the foyer at Charlestown.

Nominations close on Sunday 2 October, and will be published in the Contact editions of 9 October and 16 October.

The election will take place following the worship service on Sunday 16 October.



Charlestown & Garden Suburb Uniting Church

**CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS – 16 October 2022**

### Nomination Form

I, ..... (name)

Nominate .....

For the position of .....

Signed .....

I accept this nomination

Signed by the nominee .....

Please place this nomination in the box in the foyer of Charlestown Uniting Church by Sunday 2 October

### **Some of our Church Contacts:**

#### **Minister**

Rev Tom Stuart  
M: 0427 625 502  
E: [tom@thestuarts.id.au](mailto:tom@thestuarts.id.au)

#### **Children & Families Resource Worker:**

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

#### **Administration:**

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

#### **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>