



CONTACT *Lite*



Charlestown & Garden Suburb Uniting
Church Multi-Centre Congregation

17 March 2024

Thursday 14 March

- 10.00am Worship Service at Garden Suburb Aged Care
10.00am Morning tea in the Community - common seated area opposite Butcher at Charlestown Square
1.30pm Bible Study at Garden Suburb Church

Sunday 17 March – Lent 5

- 9.00am Worship Service with Baptism of Madelaine Grace. Leader and Preacher: Rev Tom Stuart
Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33 or Psalm 119:9-16

Monday 18 March

- 10.00am Garden Suburb Nursing Home Pastoral Care Visitation

Tuesday 19 March

- 9.00am Needlework n Natter at Garden Suburb
10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

Thursday 21 March

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community - common seated area opposite Butcher at Charlestown Square
1.30pm Bible Study at Garden Suburb Church

Sunday 24 March – Palm Sunday

- 9.00am Worship Service. Leader Margaret White, with guest preacher Doug Hewitt
Liturgy of the Palms: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16

Monday 25 March

- 7.00-7.30pm Holy week service at Hamilton Uniting Church

Tuesday 26 March

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square
12.00pm Garden Suburb Ladies Fellowship
7.00-7.30pm Holy week service at Adamstown Uniting Church

Wednesday 27 March

- 7.00-7.30pm Holy week service at Charlestown Uniting Church

Thursday 28 March – Maundy Thursday

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community - common seated area opposite Butcher at Charlestown Square
1.30pm Bible Study at Garden Suburb Church
7.30pm Service at Garden Suburb

Friday 29 March - Good Friday

- 9.00am Service at Charlestown

Sunday 31 March – Easter Day

- 9.00am Worship Service with Holy Communion. Leader & Preacher Rev Tom Stuart

THE PRAYER PAGE



Please join with each other as a congregation, to commit to praying at meal times, for the needs mentioned below.

Pastoral Prayer Points

- * Lorraine Pepper and family following Ashley's death
- * Pam and Ken
- * Judith Fuller battling cancer
- * Les as he recovers from heart surgery
- * Those in our Congregation who have lost loved ones in recent months
- * Peter
- * Tony
- * Graeme
- * Jean
- * Fred Bryant
- * June Locker
- * Ryan Walpole
- * Kathryn Gray
- * Jacqueline Fenwick
- * Care facility be found for Nola
- * Isabella
- * Janice Wright
- * Eileen Dunn
- * Mert
- * Judith and family
- * Enid Power
- * Max

Maintained by SFED and Enid Power

Congregational Prayer Points

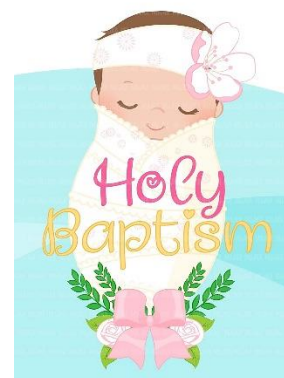
- pray for each other as we experience the Lenten journey
- pray for the successful sale of the Whitebridge property
- pray for guidance and discernment with regard to property and Mission Plan
- Project Reconnect
- Worship Services
- Cathy Beeton and SRE classes
- Worship Committee

Wider Community Prayer Points

- pray that HCA will be able to obtain attendance from political leaders to the Founding Assembly at the great Hall in April
- pray for Tom as he engages with other leaders from the community and other denominations, in his NEOS work.
- those affected by climate change in Australia eg floods, droughts and fires
- pray that a cease fire agreement will be negotiated between Israel and Hamas and that there will be relief from all the suffering
- The situation in Ukraine and other trouble spots
- Thanksgiving for all orphanage children at school thanks to generous donations
- Rohingya people in Bangladesh where 7000 people homeless

Children & Family Worker Update

This Sunday we Welcome, Rebecca, Miles, Bella & Jayden to our Service as they bring their daughter & little sister **Madeline Grace** to be baptised. Rebecca & Jayden came to our Play Centre for 4 years & Jayden was one of our last to graduate before going to 'Big School' Bella & Jayden are now regular attendees at our Holiday Kids Club, Rebecca is one of our Mums that we love to keep in touch with. Rebecca & Miles will be joined by several family members & friends, I know you will make them all feel very welcome.





Thank you to everyone who has enquired about my granddaughter Josie, after I mentioned earlier this year that she had Juvenile Arthritis, Josie is doing very well, at the end of February she went to Adventist Hospital in Sydney to have steroid injections in both knees (under general anaesthetic) to reduce the swelling, this has worked very well her knees are almost back to normal meaning the stiffness has gone for now. She will be monitored for a while & praying that these injections will last the 2 years the doctor says they should.

Thank you for caring so much.
Our next Holiday Kids Club will be Wednesday the 24th April, registration forms will be available from next week.



Cathy



12-13 September 2024 | Wesley Conference Centre, Sydney

Rediscover pastoral care at SoulCare 2024

SoulCare is back in 2024! Join us to be energised, inspired and equipped to bring transformative pastoral care to your church, community and school.

At SoulCare 2024, alongside our exciting keynote speaker sessions, each day you can choose from a series of workshops, participate in daily reflections and much more.

The Keynote Speaker is Rev Dr Jane Leach, Principal of Wesley House, the Methodist College in Cambridge, UK.

More information and registrations here:

<https://www.nswact.uca.org.au/calendar/soulcare-2024-12-13-september/>



The Hunter Presbytery Prayer Diary



This diary provides an opportunity to pray each week for congregations in the Presbytery. By praying together, we can encourage one another in mission, as we grow in faith and unity and develop understanding and relationships across the region. Each week there will be information and a prayer for each of the congregations in the Hunter Presbytery. This week we pray for:

17 March 2024 - Adamstown Uniting Church

Adamstown Uniting Church is a growing congregation with a number of children and young people. We are blessed to have an accepting and open-minded congregation, with live-streamed services and involvement of a range of leaders in worship and in the Church Council and elders. While we have had supply ministers for two years, we look forward to our new minister, Rev Greer Hudson who will join us on Easter Sunday. The congregation recently appointed a youth worker, who will work with teens and tweens on Sundays.

Prayer: For Rev Greer Hudson as she prepares to lead Adamstown Uniting Church. For Pearl who will be commissioned as our Youth worker. Adamstown leaders and elders as they prepare for our new minister. Give thanks for the growth

24th March 2024 - Hunter Community Alliance

The Hunter Community Alliance brings together diverse community organisations, environmental groups, unions and religious organisations to advance the common good and achieve a fair, just and sustainable region. For The Hunter Presbytery this mirrors the invitation to participate in God's mission in the world. We are strengthened in our 'loving God and loving neighbour' in each context. The Alliance is built on relationships and works through a Community Organising Cycle very similar to any faith community exploring its mission, informed by stories of lived experience in its community. Hunter Community Alliance has for some time focused on Climate Change and Housing and Homelessness solutions, with a Founding Assembly 10th April, at the University of Newcastle Great Hall, where a public negotiation will ask State and Federal Leaders for effective action alleviating these problems. Everyone who belongs to the Uniting Church in the Hunter is invited to attend and participate in the Founding. Please pray for this, for a great night and for the work flowing from it.

Prayer: For a large and diverse turnout to the Founding Assembly 10th April 2024. Strength and effectiveness for the organisations involved in the Alliance. State and Federal decision makers will work with us, participate in the Founding and the negotiations towards a committed action in policy and funding. Thankful for the relationships and connections across our diverse organisations and for a renewed valuing of faith organisations and individual Christian's perspectives, including great respect for the values and commitment of the Uniting Church in the Hunter. Amen.



The Church Office will be closed on Wednesday 13 and 20 March as Jenny will be on holidays!

There will be no Contact next week, Sunday 24 March

We mourn the passing of our dear friend

Ashley Pepper

and hold Lorraine and family in our hearts and prayers
in this sad time.

A Memorial Service for Ashley will be held at

Charlestown Uniting Church

Thursday 4 April

11.30am

JOIN US FOR

**Holy Week - Church Crawl
7.00 - 7.30pm**

**Monday 25th March
Hamilton Uniting Church**

**Tuesday 26th March
Adamstown Uniting Church**

**Wednesday 27th March
Charlestown Uniting Church**



Holy Week at CHaGS

Palm Sunday

Sunday 24th March
9.00am at Charlestown

Maundy Thursday

Thursday 28th March
7.30pm at Garden Suburb

Good Friday

Friday 29th March
9.00am at Charlestown

HUNTER COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

FOUNDING ASSEMBLY

6pm Wednesday
10th April 2024
The Great Hall,
University of Newcastle

YOU ARE INVITED

Everyone in the Uniting Church across the Hunter is invited to participate in engaging National and State leaders to take action on these issues:

**"Just" Energy Transition in communities
Housing and Homelessness**

Registration/Event details soon!!!

*"This is the world as it is.
This is where you start" Saul Alinsky*



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

<https://events.humanitix.com/hca-founding-assembly>

If you wish to attend, and do not have internet access, please speak to Rev Tom Stuart, Kerrie Dixon or Anne Threlfo

Attendance and Transport Arrangements

Please add your name to the sheet in the Charlestown foyer and indicate if you are able to offer a lift to the Assembly, or if you would like a lift from someone



A Prayer

Blessed be the longing that brought me here
And quickens my soul with wonder.
May I have the courage to listen to the voice of desire
That disturbs me when I have settled for something safe.
May I come to accept my longing as divine urgency.
May I know the urgency with which God longs for me.

John O'Donohue

The **Uniting Church** Hunter Community Alliance “Turnout Team” have calculated we are likely to have at least 150 Uniting Church members attend the Founding Assembly on the 10th of April. We know that will be by far the biggest turnout by any single organisation. We want to give opportunity to show that whole community of our commitment to building a better community in the Hunter. The best way to achieve that at such an event is to put that on display and the display board on the night is our bodies. So, while there is no requirement to wear a T-Shirt we are hoping lots of Uniting Church Members wear one on the night ... and it is such a great design ... to wear on other occasions!



Order Form

‘Uniting For the Common Good in the Hunter’ T shirt

We hope everyone who plans to attend HCA Founding Assembly April 10th at the University of Newcastle, will buy a t shirt to wear! We know they will be useful at any gathering, rally, workshop or network where UCA people want to show 'turnout'

Bank Details

Account Name Robert J Hanks
BSB 637000
Account Number 726784574

Unisex T shirt Size	SML	MED	LRG	XLG	2XL	3XL	4XL
Body width cm	47	52	56.5	61	64	68	75

Select size by laying a shirt you already own on a flat surface, measure it side to side and pick the next size up if you are in between

Your Order Details \$25 per T shirt

Name

Tshirt size:

ph:

email:

UCA Congregation:

Address:

T shirt collection will be before 10th April
 Details to be advised via the email you put on this form

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE
MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION 2024



“REPAST WITH THE REPTILES?”

An invitation is issued to ALL members of the church to join us for our Annual Mother’s Day Outing.

The Place – The Hunter Wetlands Centre – 1 Wetlands Place, Shortland.

Date - Saturday May 4th May 2024.

Time –11-15 am for 11-30 am for Morning Tea. There will be a new Art Exhibition for all to see on the day. There will be a demonstrated talk on reptiles during M/T. Lunch will follow ordered from the café with M/T.

For those interested, there is a guided tour at 10-30am for the energetic. There is an entry fee of \$5 to the Wetlands. Approximate duration of tour is 45 minutes. Please phone Grahame on 0402 335 410 if interested..

Consider Car Pooling. Meet at the church if you need a lift. Please notify Sue Warren on 4944 7793.

Please let your seasonal hosts extraordinaire for the day, Grahame Pricter and Noel Drinkwater, now by phoning 0402 335 410 or 0428 431 169 to book your “Repast with the Reptiles.” RSVP 28th April 2024

I/We, Will be//will not be attending the **“Mother’s Day Repast with the Reptiles”** on Saturday 4th May 2024.

PICNIC AT NEWCASTLE PEACE PARK CLIMATE ACTION - NOT NUCLEAR SUBS



PEACE not WAR

2pm Sunday 24th March 2024
Maitland Rd opp Tighes Hill Tafe
scan QR for location
Speakers * Music * Kids games *
Bring blankets, chairs
details- events on fb [hunterasylumseekeradvocacy](#)



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>