



# CONTACT



Charlestown & Garden Suburb Uniting  
Church Multi-Centre Congregation

**18 August 2024**

## **From Rev Tom**

This week I would like to mention two things from the Neos part of my ministry. Those mentions result in an invitation to two upcoming events. One of the things I am now involved in since my Neos role began is the "Greater Charlestown Sustainable Neighbourhood Group". It has been great to connect with a group of folk committed to growing well-being in the Charlestown and neighbouring suburbs, both for people and the environment. Their most recent project (due to other commitments I could not be involved in) was a major tree planting at "Pit Pony Park" in Kahibah. The tree planting took place on the "National Tree Planting Day" and lots of folk, including whole families, young and old, came along to contribute to the day. You might like to go to the park and have a look at the results of their efforts. Another event is the Kahibah Village Fair. This is a combined project of the "Kahibah Village Alliance", the "Greater Charlestown Sustainable Neighbourhood Group" and the "Glenrock Anglican Church". The fair takes place at the Kahibah Memorial Park and at the Anglican Church. It seems like a great opportunity of mingling with locals of the area, and seeing how the Anglicans have made a connection with their local community. It takes place this Sunday the 15 September, starts at 9 am and finishes at 1 pm – just enough time to check it out after our Sunday worship service. The other organisation I am involved in is the Hunter Community Alliance. Quite a number of our congregation attended the Founding Assembly of the alliance, along with 800 other residents of the Hunter Valley, and numerous local, Federal, and State politicians. The Hunter Alliance is continuing its work building a powerful lobby to ensure relief of the housing crisis in the Hunter, as well as ensuring a just transition as the Hunter (and basically the whole world) moves from fossil fuels to renewable energy. To strengthen this effort the Hunter Alliance is holding "table talks" across the Hunter Valley to invite locals from each area to relate their concerns, and listen to the challenges and opportunities we have in respect to these issues. By the time these table talk gatherings are done we will have a story to tell the politicians of the numbers who gathered, and the common stories of concern arising from the conversations. The Charlestown Table Talks will be at the Glenrock Anglican Church at 6:15 pm on the 4 September. It will be great to again get a big turnout of Uniting Church folk. We made a huge impact on the Founding Assembly, and it makes a big difference to the power of our asks on politicians. It also means we can hear, and tell the stories that are really impacting members of our community. And finally, we will get to meet the other folk, and organisations who are committed to the common good in our community.

# DIARY

## **Thursday 16 August**

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area opposite Butcher at Charlestown Square

1.30-2.30pm Bible Study at Garden Suburb – James and Hebrews

## **Saturday 17 August**

7.00am Men's Breakfast at Charlestown

## **Sunday 18 August – Pentecost 13**

9.00am Holy Communion incorporated in Divine Worship

Leader and Preacher: Rev'd Tom

*1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14; Psalm 111; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6: 51-58*

## **Monday 19 August**

10.00am Garden Suburb Nursing Home Pastoral Care Visitation

1.30pm SFED

## **Tuesday 20 August**

9.00am Needlework n Natter

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

## **Thursday 22 August**

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area opposite Butcher at Charlestown Square

1.30-2.30pm Bible Study at Garden Suburb – James and Hebrews

## **Sunday 25 August – Pentecost 14**

9.00am Divine Worship

Leader: Sue Warren. Guest Preacher: Ben Waters

*1 Kings 8 (1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43; Psalm 84; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69*

## **Monday 26 August**

1.30pm SFED

3.30pm Worship Committee Meeting - Teralb

## **Tuesday 27 August**

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

12.00pm Garden Suburb Ladies Fellowship

## **Thursday 29 August**

10.00am Presbytery Gathering at Salamander Bay Uniting Church

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area opposite Butcher at Charlestown Square

1.30-2.30pm Bible Study at Garden Suburb – James and Hebrews

## **Sunday 1 September – Pentecost 15**

9.00am Divine Worship

Leader and Preacher: Rev'd Tom

*Song 2:8-13; Psalm 45:1-2,6-9; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

## **Monday 2 September**

10.00am Garden Suburb Nursing Home Pastoral Care Visitation

1.30pm SFED

With Guest Speaker  
Rev Graham Perry

# THE PRAYER PAGE



Prayer is the Voice of Faith

## Pastoral Prayer Points

\* those in our congregation whose loved ones have died in recent times

\* Cathy Beeton

\* Lesley

\* Kelly

\* Laraine Chegwiddden

\* Tony Sellen

\* Liz and Peter

\* Nelda Marshall

\* Mike Warren

\* Elaine Ross

\* Vivianne

\* Shirley Elkin

\* Lorraine Pepper

\* Vicki

\* Judith Fuller battling cancer

\* Pam and Ken

\* Lyn Benson

\* Jean

\* Fred Bryant

\* June Locker

\* Ryan Walpole

\* Kathryn Gray

\* Jacqueline Fenwick

\* Isabella

\* Janice Wright

\* Eileen Dunn

\* Pam and Mert

\* Judith and family

\* Enid Power

- Max
- Tom and Kathy
- Don Humphries

## Congregational Prayer Points

- Church Council
- pray for guidance and discernment  
missional use of buildings into the future
- Project Reconnect
- Worship Services
- Cathy Beeton and SRE classes
- Worship Committee

## Wider Community Prayer Points

- The orphanage
- Tom and Neos
- HCA and ongoing issues of homelessness,  
affordable housing and climate change
- 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





# 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:

## 18 August 2024 – North Lake Macquarie Uniting Church

North Lake Macquarie consists of two congregations, Boolaroo and Warners Bay. They are currently served by Rev Brian Brown in supply, and are involved in mission planning this year towards calling a new full time minister.

**Prayer: For the newly commissioned elders and members of the Mission Council, and for the North Lake Macquarie Congregations as they formulate a mission plan for 2024 and beyond. Amen.**



Uniting Church The Hunter Presbytery

### PRESBYTERY GATHERING

THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2024

Salamander Bay Uniting Church  
174 Salamander Way, Salamander Bay 2317

10 am Morning Tea

10.30am Programme begins

Guest Speaker

Rev Graham Perry

The Hunter Presbytery Minister

Offering shared between

Flying Padre based at Broken Hill and  
Yaacaaba Centre, Port Stephens

(This service provides early intervention support and counselling services to assist vulnerable people who are at imminent risk of homelessness)

Bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee provided.

Sales Table with Greeting Cards etc.

Supported by UCAF The Hunter Presbytery Committee



*Note New Speaker*

Tom is on Leave for 3 days – 28 to 30 August



If you have any concerns during this time, please contact Anne Threlfo or your Elder.

# Spiritual Practice of the Week

A number of spiritual practices that transform us have been introduced recently in our weekly *Contact* and by members of the congregation during worship. We're going to be reminded of one practice each week for you to try for a week, a month or a lifetime. This week's practice is:

**Celebration:** is a way of engaging in actions that orient the spirit toward worship, praise and thanksgiving. Delighting in all the attentions and never-changing presence of the Trinity fuels celebration.

**Practice:** Identify the place you most readily connect with God. Is it in nature? listening to Christian music? participating in corporate worship? solitude? Go to that place. What do you want to tell God about the joy you receive there?

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

## HUNTER COMMUNITY ALLIANCE – LISTENING SESSIONS

The Hunter Community Alliance is organising listening and action sessions across the Hunter.

These sessions are where our communities have a say in decisions that affect them, their families, and neighbourhoods across the Hunter.

We are listening specifically around household energy, housing, energy, and transition; as well as listening to what else is happening for people.

Then we discuss how we act together.

You'll meet other local Hunter Alliance members, organisations, and leaders.

Wear your organisational T-shirts, bring your members, family, friends and don't forget to bring a plate!



HUNTER COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

COMMON GOOD LOCAL LISTENING SESSIONS



MEET \* SHARE \* LISTEN \* LEARN \* ACT \*

Attend the local Charlestown event **FREE** on Wednesday 4 September at 6.15pm for a 6.30pm start. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/38vtaypb>

Glenrock Anglican Church  
34 Hexham St, Kahibah NSW  
Bring a plate

## Some of our Church Contacts:

### **Minister**

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

### **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

### **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

### **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>