



CONTACT

Charlestown & Garden Suburb Uniting
Church Multi-Centre Congregation



5 October 2025

From Anne Threlfo

I had a Spiritual Director a while ago who often reminded me that God plants God's story everywhere, our task is to take notice! I guess our interests and talents influence where we see God. For example, I can look at a floral arrangement, recognise God's handiwork in the beauty of the flowers, and the skill of the florist, but I can't tell the difference between a daisy and a dahlia!

For me, God often shows up in films. In fact, I'd say there are very few films where God doesn't make an appearance in some way. (I should mention I tend to avoid horror and excessively violent films!) Two recent films which have stood out are *Four Letters of Love* and *Life of Chuck*. I'll share some thoughts about why, without giving away spoilers!

Four Letters of Love is set in a beautiful Irish landscape and tells the story of two men, who in their own ways are attempting to respond to a Divine force which they barely understand. One man in particular, finds that the decision to follow a God ordained path has far reaching consequences, not only for his family but for others with whom he becomes connected. He finds himself at odds with just about everyone around him in this response to God's calling, which he finds unexplainable, even to himself. There are other mystical elements in the film, events which can't be explained rationally, yet in another way make perfect sense. And underpinning it all is the Divine force which holds everything together, the four letters: L.O.V.E.

The Life of Chuck is the story of Chuck's life told in three acts – simply enough, except that the acts are presented in reverse: Act 3,2 then 1. The end of the story is a bit puzzling to work out, until you see the beginning! The film explores the profound value of a single life, and the beauty and importance found in everyday moments. It addresses the uniqueness of each of us; the universe we hold within us made up of all our experiences, thoughts and relationships. Consequently, every person is important since without each of us, creation wouldn't be quite complete. This film is best approached without knowing too much, so I won't say more! (*The Life of Chuck* is on at Lake Cinema this weekend, Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th).

You certainly don't need to have a deep knowledge of film to notice where God might be present; just as I don't need to know the name of a flower to appreciate its fragrance! What about you? In which films have you noticed God's story planted? I'd love to hear.

DIARY

Wednesday 1 October

10.00am Wednesday Reflective Services at Adamstown Uniting Church

Thursday 2 October

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

Saturday 4 October

12noon [Friendship Circle meeting at Harrigans Hotel at Cameron Park – All Welcome](#)

Sunday 5 October

2.00am Daylight Saving starts – move your clock 1 hour forward

Sunday 5 October – Pentecost 17

9.00am The Divine Worship

Leader: Margaret White and Project Reconnect

Lamentations 1:1-6; Lamentations 3:19-26 or Psalm 137; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

5.30-7.00pm **EMBODY** at the Adamstown Uniting Church Hall hosted by Greer Hudson (see further in Contact for more details)

6.00pm **Interfaith Celebration** in the grounds of Christ Church Cathedral (see more details further in Contact)

Monday 6 October

10.00am Garden Suburb Aged Care Pastoral Visit

Tuesday 7 October

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

Wednesday 8 October

10.00am Wednesday Reflective Services at Adamstown Uniting Church

Thursday 9 October

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

10.30am Worship Service at Garden Suburb Aged Care

2.00-5.00pm **Pastoral Care 101 Workshop** at Warners Bay Uniting Church (See more details further in Contact)

Friday 10 October

6.00pm Ladies Night at Kahibah

Sunday 12 October – Pentecost 18

9.00am The Divine Worship

Leader: Kerrie Dixon and Preacher: Rev Tom Stuart

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

Tuesday 14 October

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

Wednesday 15 October

10.00am Wednesday Reflective Services at Adamstown Uniting Church

Thursday 16 October

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

1.30-2.30pm Garden Suburb Bible Study

THE PRAYER PAGE



Prayer is the Voice of Faith

Pastoral Prayer Points

- * Those who are mourning loved ones
- * Nelda Marshall
- * Michael Smith – cancer diagnosis & in Hospital
- * Lorraine Pepper (in hospital)
- * Glen and Marion
- * Valmai
- * The family of Bev Guest
- * Graeme (in hospital) and Beryl
- * Mike Warren
- * Janice and Don Wright
- * Kelly
- * Laraine Chegwiddden
- * Tony Sellen
- * Vicki
- * Pam and Ken
- * Lyn Benson
- * Jean
- * Fred Bryant
- * June Locker
- * Ryan Walpole
- * Kathryn Gray
- * Jacqueline Fenwick
- * Isabella
- * Eileen Dunn
- * Pam and Mert
- * Enid Power
- * Max
- * Don Humphries

Congregational Prayer Points

- Church Council
- John Lewis and his work with Wesley Mission in Windale and Hamilton South
- pray for guidance and discernment
missional use of buildings into the future
- Project Reconnect
- Worship Services
- Cathy Beeton and SRE classes
- Tom and Kathy
- Worship Committee

Wider Community Prayer Points

- Margaret Jurd College and Darren Twist
the Principal
- Young people who struggle to participate
in our school system
- Orphanage in Kenya and Wilfreda
- Neos ministry
- Those affected by climate change in
Australia eg floods, droughts and fires
- The situation in Israel and Palestine
- The situation in Ukraine and other trouble
spots





Uniting Church in Australia
The Hunter Presbytery
invite all members of congregations to a

PRESBYTERY GATHERING

THURSDAY 23rd October 2025

hosted by

**Morpeth Uniting Church
98 High Street, Morpeth NSW 2321**

10 am Morning Tea (provided)

10.30am Programme begins

An opportunity to meet Rob Floyd



**National Director, Frontier Services
who will be the Guest Speaker
(Offering towards MUNCH (Food program of
Maitland Uniting Churches) and Frontier
Services)**

Bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee provided
Sales Table with Greeting Cards etc.

with support of UCAF NSW/ACT Synod Committee



Spiritual Practice of the Week

Solidarity in Jesus' Suffering: We are in solidarity with Jesus' sufferings when we hold our pain and bear our burdens together with Jesus and his own sufferings for the world.

Practice: Choose an event in Jesus' life that mirrors an experience in your own: unjust accusations, betrayal by friends, being misunderstood by family or colleagues, becoming exasperated with others, facing temptation and so on. As you read the story of the event, imagine Jesus sharing in your suffering. Pray deeply into this solidarity with him.

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

SEASON OF CREATION 2025

You are invited to an Interfaith
Celebration in the grounds of Christ Church Cathedral
at 6.00pm on Sunday 5 October 2025



This celebration is being organised by the Hunter Group of the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change. Further details from Doug Hewitt - M: 0431 935 097 or doug.isabel35@gmail.com



GATHER IN COMMUNITY
TO PLAY WITH THE STUFF
OF LIFE IN A SACRED
CONTAINER OF
MOVEMENT, STORY, SONG
AND STILLNESS

EMBODY



HOSTED BY
GREER HUDSON

- 📍 Adamstown Uniting Church hall
- 📅 First Sunday of every month
- 🕒 5:30pm-7pm

Reach out to
@adamstownunitingchurch or
info@adamstownuca.org.au
for more information.





TRISH WATTS



**ADAMSTOWN
UNITING CHURCH**
An Adamstown Uniting Church
Event for the Hunter Presbytery





Cost: \$20
(\$15 concession)

SACRED SONGS OF THE SEASON: ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Congregational Singing Workshops for Worship Leaders, Music Coordinators and Singers

This workshop offers:

- Songs that help us prepare for the coming of the light of Christ
- Focus, amidst the tinsel and rah rah of the end of year
- New advent and Christmas music
- Basic skills for building confidence in song leading & animating congregational singing for worship and prayer

CONTACT INFO@ADAMSTOWNUCA.ORG.AU FOR MORE INFO

REGISTER HERE: [HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM/E/SACRED-SONGS-OF-THE-SEASON-ADVENT-AND-CHRISTMAS-TICKETS-1550115921449?AFF=ODDTOTCREATOR](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sacred-songs-of-the-season-advent-and-christmas-tickets-1550115921449?aff=oddtotcreator)



**Sunday 26
October 2025**



**2:00pm to
4:30pm**



**Adamstown
Uniting Church**



**Afternoon tea
provided**

About Trish:

Trish brings years of experience as a song leader in sacred spaces. She is passionate about the singing community that instills joy, courage, prayerfulness and solidarity.

Check out: www.trishwatts.com for more info

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/3ppv5ws>

PLEASE NOTE: On **Wednesday 8 October** there will be no Electricity between 8.00am and 4.00pm, at the Charlestown Church Office due to a planned outage by Ausgrid.

Jenny will be working from home on the 8th October, after forwarding emails to myself from the Church Office on Tuesday 7 October around 4.00pm. **So Please make sure that if you have anything to go into Contact that you have sent it to the church office before 4.00pm Tuesday 7 October.**

The mailed Contacts and Booklets will go out a day or two later than usual.



The Uniting Church in Australia
NORTH LAKE MACQUARIE
Warners Bay | Boolaroo

PASTORAL CARE 101 WORKSHOP A MODEL OF PASTORAL CARE BASED ON THE STORY OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN



*Warners Bay Uniting Church
with Rev. Dale Gardy*

Warners Bay Uniting Church
342 Hillsborough Rd,
Warners Bay



Scan or email registration to
DaleY@nswact.uca.org.au



Bring a
friend!

Men's Breakfast

When: 8am Saturday 18 October

Where: Charlestown Uniting Church, 24 Milson St

Cost: \$12

Guest Speaker

Matthew Clarke

Principal Researcher with the Freedom Keys Project

"Modern Slavery"

There are currently about 50 million people living under such extreme forms of abuse, coercion or exploitation that they have virtually no freedom. We'll be looking at the broad scope of what is covered by the labels modern slavery and human trafficking, and consider the ways Australians create the demand that fuels these abuses.

Booking details

RSVP to Paul
pmraus74@gmail.com
by 15 October 2025

*Pick up a flyer in
the foyer*

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>