



CONTACT

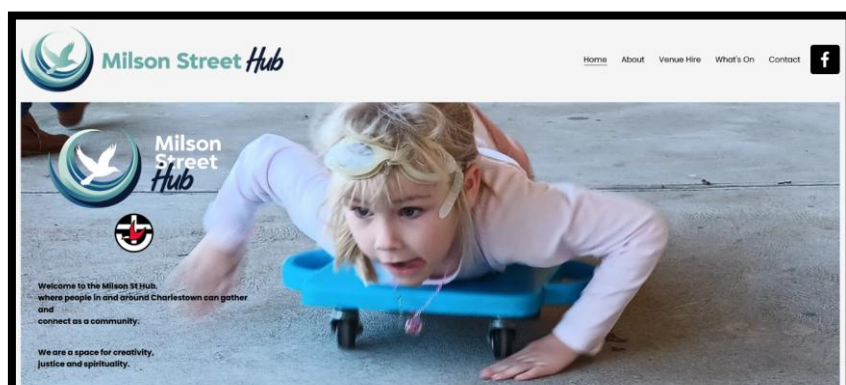


Charlestown & Garden Suburb Uniting
Church Multi-Centre Congregation

9 August 2026

We're excited to announce the launch of the new Milson St Hub website!

Check it out here: <https://www.milsonsthub.org.au>



Our Story

The Milson St. Hub was launched at the start of 2026 as a local hub committed to providing a place for connection for the local community in the Charlestown area.
The vision is to offer a safe space where people can experience creativity, friendship & belonging.
Life is definitely better in community.



Our Hall and Rooms

Flexible, welcoming spaces for your community events and gatherings

Welcome to the Milson St. Hub

Our spaces are affordable, comfortable and welcoming.
We offer bookings from 1 hour minimum.

All our spaces are airconditioned. We have a large hall with a stage as well as a great kitchen and food serving area.
We are intentionally the cheapest venue around and are perfect for a one-off or ongoing booking.

We have a comfortable auditorium, which has a fantastic projector, screen, & tech set-up.

If your event is smaller, we also have 2 great rooms for hire.

We are passionate about supporting creativity and our spaces are ideal for music, dance, sports and theatre groups.



The CHaGS website continues here: <https://www.chagsuca.org.au>
And the CHaGS Facebook page is [HERE](#)

DIARY

Thursday 6 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in the Dudley Room at Milson St Hub

Saturday 8 August

11.00am **Friendship Circle will meet at Club Charlestown for refreshments and fellowship**

Sunday 9 August – Pentecost 11

9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader: Kerrie and Preacher: Project Reconnect
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

Tuesday 11 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

Wednesday 12 August

10.00am **Ladies Fellowship at Milson St Hub**

Thursday 13 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in the Dudley Room at Milson St Hub

Friday 14 August

6.00pm Ladies Night at Kahibah

Saturday 15 August

8.00am **Men's Breakfast at Milson St Hub – more details further in Contact**

Sunday 16 August – Pentecost 12

9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader: David Chegwiddden and Preacher: Rev John Warham
Genesis 45:1-15, Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 133, Psalm 67; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

Tuesday 18 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

Thursday 20 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in the Dudley Room at Milson St Hub

Saturday 22 August

2.00pm **Music @ The Bay 26** at The Willows Uniting Church, Warners Bay see more further in Contact

Sunday 23 August

9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader: Beryl Gaul and Preacher: Les Butchers
Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 24; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

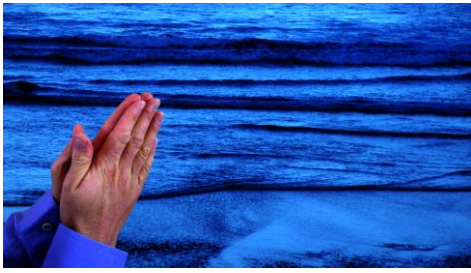
Tuesday 25 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square
12.00pm **Garden Suburb Ladies Fellowship at Wests Cardiff**
5.00pm **You are Invited to the Final Meeting of the Hunter Presbytery at The Willows** – see more information further in Contact.

Thursday 27 August

10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in the Dudley Room at Milson St Hub

THE PRAYER PAGE



Prayer is the Voice of Faith

Pastoral Prayer Points

- * Tom who came off his bike on Tuesday and is in hospital with many broken ribs
- * Pray for Janice Wright and family
- * Jean Witherspoon and family
- * Robyn Greaves and family
- * Tom's Mum
- * Tom's family as they mourn the death of Tom's mother's sister
- * Marion Box having eye surgery on Monday
- * Prayers for Grahame Beeton and family
- * Mert and Pam
- * Jacqueline Fenwick
- * Rene Kelly
- * Glen and Marion
- * Valmai
- * Kelly
- * Tony Sellen
- * Vicki
- * Pam and Ken
- * Lyn Benson
- * Jean
- * Isabella
- * Eileen Dunn
- * Max
- * Don Humphries

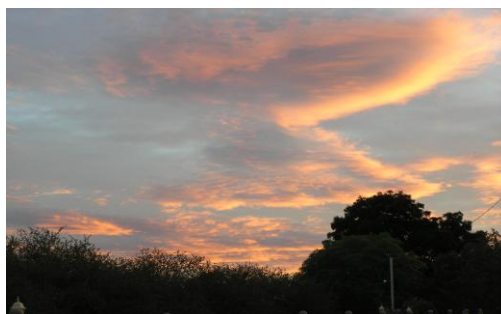
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Congregational Prayer Points

- NREMA application
- Tom on Long Service Leave
- Piteeri
- Major upgrades to the Project Reconnect website
- Worship Services
- Cathy Beeton and SRE classes
- Church profile and preparations for Tom's retirement
- Worship Committee

Wider Community Prayer Points

- pray for Catherine Pepper who has recently been appointed Associate General Secretary, Strategy and Governance for the Assembly of the UCA. Pray that she may receive wisdom and grace as she fulfills her role which is involved with preparing the church for the future in the areas of strategy and governance.
- Mayfield/Stockton
- Margaret Jurd College and Darren Twist the Principal
- Orphanage in Kenya and Wilfreda
- Neos ministry
- Those affected by climate change in Australia eg floods, droughts and fires



Farewell to Piteeri

The Church Council is sad to say that Piteeri Micail, our Milson St Hub Communications Coordinator, will be finishing her time with us next week. Piteeri has been with us six months, developing relationships in the community and building and maintaining the Facebook page for the Milson St Hub. She has also recently completed the Milson St Hub website.

Piteeri is leaving us to go to a position with more days work. We were not able to offer Piteeri four days work at the moment as we are yet to have a meeting with Synod regarding use of the sales proceeds of Garden Suburb.

There will be work for us to do in continuing to keep connections made through Piteeri, maintaining Website and Facebook and running some events where we can until we find a new person for the role.

God has blessed us and also challenged us in having Piteeri show us what is possible.



Apologies for the late notice, but if anyone would like a box of dated offering envelopes, please give me a call or text, and I'd be happy to drop them in to you.

Julie Fenwick (0414411157)

A Place So Close
Yet So Different!

The remote eastern islands of

Papua New Guinea

Rev Lu Piper OAM has worked for 20 years as a teacher, lecturer, & project officer in PNG & is still significantly involved in the islands of the Milne Bay Province.

- What makes these islands so unique?
- What has kept Lu involved over so many years?
- What is life like there now?

If you're interested to see & hear the real story of PNG, this is your opportunity!



MEN'S BREAKFAST
SAT. 15TH AUG. 8AM

24 Milson St.
Charlestown



Milson Street Hub



\$12 RSVP by Wed. 12th Aug:
Paul Russell
pmraus74@gmail.com
0411 236 047
*Please advise of any special dietary requirements



Milson Street *Hub*

Hi everyone,

I'm unsure who may already know, but I will be ending my time in the Communications role at the Milson St Hub soon, with my last day being Thurs. 13/8.

I want to take this opportunity to say thank you for the warm welcome & support I have received since I commenced work at the Hub 6 months ago.

I have really enjoyed getting to know some of you & thoroughly loved working with the dynamic team for the Easter Egg Hunt, which went so well!

For this last 2 weeks, I will be doing a handover process with Church Council, so that whoever replaces me will have a good foundation to work with.

I was speaking with Dianne Davis, the CWA President & Publicity Officer, this morning, & she let me know that this week is Loneliness Awareness Week. I reflected on how good the CWA is at creating a space for connection, belonging, & friendship, & the best part is that they offer that to the surrounding community from the Milson St Hub. You can all feel very proud of that, that you have provided a place where so much relationship happens weekly, benefitting so many.

I pray that God continues to forge the Hub to be a place of strong belonging 😊

With love,

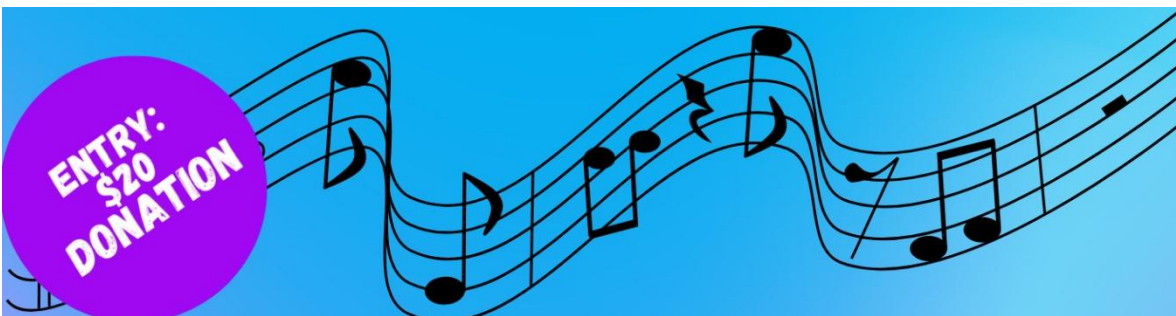
Piteeri



**Will meet at 11.00am on 8 August at Club
Charlestown for refreshments and
fellowship**

And

**On the 22 August we will be attending the
Music at the Bay '26 Concert at Warners
Bay Uniting Church at 2.00pm**



**ENTRY:
\$20
DONATION**

MUSIC @ The Bay 26

Featuring Performances by:

Novatones Harmony Chorus

Bella Voce – 5 Part Vocal Group

Soprano Eloise Rowland and Tenor Ian Fisher of
Opera Hunter

Archer Nicholas- Canning - a Young Tenor

Aaron Rothmund – Flute and Piccolo

2pm Saturday August 22th, 2026

Location :

**The Willows Uniting Church,
342 Hillsborough Road, Warners Bay**



Includes a delicious afternoon tea at the
conclusion of performance.

Supporting Local High School **SRE** (Scripture) provided
by Charlestown & Warners Bay Christian Education
Associations

More Information :

Contact Paul : 0411 236 047





Charlestown Ladies Fellowship

Will meet on **Wednesday August 12** at
10am

You are welcome to come and join us
for morning tea and a chat

ALL WELCOME

Invitation

The final meeting of the **Hunter Presbytery**, before we become part of the Northern Presbytery on 1 September 2026, will be held at Warners Bay Uniting Church on Tuesday 25th August commencing with refreshments at 5.30pm. Arrival anytime from 5pm.

This will be a night when we reflect on the past **49 years of the life and ministry of the Hunter Presbytery** and give thanks and celebrate as we look forward to joining the Northern Presbytery.

We warmly invite members of our congregations who have perhaps been linked with the Presbytery in some way, or who are interested to join us for this special celebration.

Cost of refreshments is \$12 each. Please RSVP no later than Friday 21 August with any dietary requirements to: Jenny Mathieson: jennyandray@bigpond.com or phone: 49468143

August: Witnessing

August's readings inform disciples who witness to what is real: wounds that linger, hunger that must be organised into shared bread, storms that expose fear, belonging made difficult by difference, and the liberating call that meets us on the margins.

2 August – Pentecost 10

Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7,15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

Jacob is renamed through an epic struggle and the realisation that he has seen God face to face. His resulting limp matters: bodies carry histories of struggle; blessing is not the erasure of wounds, but dignity and future carried through them.

How the Psalmist keeps watch for justice in the darkness of oppression and prays for God's face to turn towards the vulnerable!

Paul's anguish for his kin names the pain of belonging and exclusion.

In Matthew, Jesus refuses to dismiss the hungry crowd; instead, he involves the disciples in organising food for all: "You give them something" Then Jesus takes what is offered, blesses, breaks, and gives – a Eucharistic echo through the ages that frames abundance as shared provision.

9 August – Pentecost 11

Genesis 37:1-4,12-28; Psalm 105:1-6,16-22,45b; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

Through the tragic perpetuation of dysfunctional family trauma, Joseph is sold into slavery in a narrative that exposes the commodification of life. The Psalm's remembering of Joseph's suffering upholds his story of survival as sacred history, while the letter to the Romans calls on those who have been "saved" to get their beautiful feet moving among those who have not yet heard that Jesus is Lord of ALL.

The image of Jesus coming to his disciples on stormy water, in the midst of their fear and fright, and being within immediate grasp of Peter as his trembling, imperfect, yet reaching step falters is a powerful challenge to the church to reach quickly for those who are sinking.

God does not abandon those in the pit; Christ comes toward us in the storm; the Spirit puts the gospel in our feet.

16 August – Pentecost 12

Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a,29-31; Matthew 15:(10-20),21-28

Joseph reveals himself to his brothers and names a path toward family survival and relational repair through truth-telling and tears, while Psalm 133 sings the beauty of siblings dwelling together.

Yet, both New Testament texts touch on the complexity and cost of unity. Romans 11 insists that God has not rejected God's people and reimagines mercy as the promise that holds open a future for insiders and outsiders alike.

Matthew pushes this frame into a concrete, contested encounter as Jesus and the Canaanite woman negotiate boundary, speech, and healing. Jesus' initial refusal of the request and ethnicised language have rightly troubled interpreters. Yet the woman persists, argues, and secures healing; her voice drives the story toward widened mercy.

23 August – Pentecost 13

Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Rom 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

Exodus opens with an anxious empire that responds to perceived threat with policy violence. The resistance of midwives, a mother, a sister, and Pharaoh's daughter disrupt the machinery of death. Psalm 124 voices a communal testimony of survival – what Pharaoh intends as an engulfing flood becomes, by God's sustaining presence and by the courage of these women, an escape from empire's intent.

Paul urges the Romans to resist conforming to the age of empire through "living sacrifice" language that directs worship away from spectacle toward shared life for the common good. Gifts are for building up, not status!

In Matthew, Peter's confession of the Messiah is affirmed, and Jesus speaks of a community that will endure, but urges his disciples to keep this revelation quiet. In empire language, "Messiah/King" is easily heard as a rival regime.

30 August – Frontier Services Sunday

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6,23-26,45b; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Moses encounters God in a burning bush in the everyday landscape of an exile. His ordinary work tending the flock becomes the holy ground of liberation as he cares for God's people and advocates for their release. Psalm 105 keeps his memory alive, reminding us that God's faithfulness is a refrain to be rehearsed and retold.

Following on from Peter's confession, Jesus rejects empire-power as he turns decisively towards the cross and its costly allegiance. Romans 12 gives the cross shape in communal ethics of hospitality, shared joy and grief, perseverance, and non-retaliatory resistance.

Frontier Service Sunday widens community to consider ministry at the edges where presence, endurance, and justice are practised far from the centre. These readings remind us that through communal care, God meets people on the periphery where services are scarce and needs are real.

These Lectionary Reflections were prepared by Rev. Yvonne Ghavalas

Some of our Church Contacts:

Minister

Rev Tom Stuart

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Administration:

P: 4943 4019 E: office@charlestown.unitingchurch.org.au

24 Milson St, 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

Communications Coordinator:

Piteeri Michail

M: 0493 094 231 E:

Piteeri.m@outlook.com

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>