



CONTACT



Charlestown & Garden Suburb Uniting
Church Multi-Centre Congregation

17 May 2026

From Rev Tom

So how did you go?

Two weeks ago you received a report. In that report we had all of the major elements of what is happening concerning our present circumstances and plans for the future. Having said that, there is a degree of vagueness in plans for the future as we live through such uncharted territory for the church.

Then, last Sunday we had the Congregational Meeting. I was so impressed by everybody so willingly shifted from the church, grabbed what they wanted for morning tea, and readied themselves for the presenters to talk about their bit in the report. It might seem like a little thing but often Congregational Meetings are something people are eager to avoid, making a quick exit instead.

Perhaps no one arrived expecting the most exciting experience of their lives — I can't measure that. But what I could see very clearly was the willingness of people to engage, and the shared commitment to doing what genuinely needed to be done.

Each presenter then took their turn, drawing attention to the key points for those who had already read the report, while also providing an overview for those who had not.

So again I ask: how are you going?

How are you responding to all the happenings, all the plans, all the circumstances. There is no doubt upheaval! Massive changes to what was and is our church property. Present and future changes of our employed personnel. Reorientation of mission and ministry.

Where do you find yourself in the midst of all this? How are you feeling? Excited? Overwhelmed? Anxious? Hopeful? What do you sense is the call upon this congregation, with all its considerable gifts, assets, limitations, and responsibilities?

I hope that conversations will continue. They might be challenging. They might be surprising. But let it always be with the purpose of love, and with the intent of "thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"!



DIARY

Thursday 14 May

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community – common seated area at Charlestown Square
10.30am Worship Service at Garden Suburb Aged Care
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in Dudley Room

Sunday 17 May – Easter 7

- 9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader and Preacher: Rev. Tom Stuart
Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11
From **SANCTUARY** – Singing Workshop + Twilight Service at Adamstown Uniting
4.00pm Church. (More information further in Contact)

Tuesday 19 May

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square

Thursday 21 May

- 10.00am **Biggest Morning Tea at Milson Street Hub** (see more details further in Contact)
1.30-2.30pm Bible Study in Dudley Room

Sunday 24 May – Pentecost

- 9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader: Sue and Preacher:
Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

Tuesday 26 May

- 10.00am Morning tea in the Community at Lake Macquarie Square
11am-1pm **My Aged Care Forum at Toronto Uniting Church** (see more details further in Contact)
12.00pm **Ladies Fellowship at Wests Cardiff**

Thursday 28 May

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

Sunday 31 May – Trinity Sunday

- 9.00am The Divine Worship
Leader: Kerrie Dixon and Preacher: Cathy Beeton
Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20



THE PRAYER PAGE



Prayer is the Voice of Faith

Pastoral Prayer Points

- * Those who are mourning loved ones
- * Elaine Ross and Family
- * Family of June Locker
- * Mert has moved to Narla Village – continue to pray for Mert and Pam
- * Robyn and Geoff Greaves (the latter being much improved)
- * Jacqueline Fenwick in rehab at HVPH
- * Rene Kelly
- * Nelda Marshall
- * Glen and Marion
- * Valmai
- * Janice and Don Wright
- * Kelly
- * Tony Sellen
- * Vicki
- * Pam and Ken
- * Lyn Benson
- * Jean
- * Isabella
- * Eileen Dunn
- * Max
- * Don Humphries

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Congregational Prayer Points

- the role of Piteeri, our new Communications Coordinator for the Milson St. Hub.
- Tom and Cathy's trip to Parkes for Project Reconnect
- Tom's mother's 98th Birthday
- Major upgrades to the Project Reconnect website
- Worship Services
- Cathy Beeton and SRE classes
- Worship Committee

Wider Community Prayer Points

- H.C.A. Loneliness and Isolation Symposium in May – Milson St. Hub Ministry
- Pray for Bulahdelah and Caves Beach Uniting Churches
- 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
- Prayer for those in conflict zones in the world



Would you like a printed copy of the report to the congregation?
Please collect a spare copy from the church foyer.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE OF THE WEEK

Self Care: Self-care honours God by nurturing and protecting the limits and desires of the body, mind and spirit.

Practice: Sit quietly in a comfortable position. Breathe slowly and notice any tightness in your body. What is your body saying to you right now? Listen to it. Don't scold it. • How would Jesus want you to care for yourself right now?

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



Cancer Council
Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

BIGGEST MORNING TEA
10am Thurs. May 21

Milson St Hub
24 Milson St,
Charelestown

BRING A DONATION!

for more info:
Sue Warren
0427 737 793

Raise a cuppa to a cancer free future.

Unique ID: 265801792

MENS' BREAKFAST
SAT. 20TH JUNE 8AM

Charlestown Uniting Church
24 Milson St.

\$12 RSVP by 17/6
Paul
pmraus74@gmail.com
0411 236 047
Please advise of special dietary requirements

REST ASSURED – PREPARING FOR THE INEVITABLE

Guest Speaker: Ruth Boydell, an end-of-life doula who had a life-changing 'near miss' that prompted her to explore death & dying. Ruth will share about support for nearing end of life & practical planning

- Wills
- Power of Attorney
- Guardianship
- Advance Care Directives
- Supporting families emotionally, practically, & ritually
- Hosting a local Death Café with the Threshold Choir



My Aged Care Forum

Empowering individuals to make informed decisions about their ageing journey.

Join us to gain the knowledge and confidence to navigate aged care—exploring supports, government funding, and how to access and apply for the services you need.

Date: Tuesday, 26 May 2026

Time: 11am – 1pm

Venue: Toronto Uniting church, 118 Boulevard , Toronto NSW 2283

- Expert inputs
- Practical next steps
- Light Refreshments
- Q & As

Places are limited.
Please register by scanning the QR Code
or leave a message with
Jan McGeachie on 0428 591 723
General enquiries: ccoates@uniting.org



UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
Toronto Uniting Church

Uniting




SANCTUARY
an evening of prayer, silence and song
from the Taizé Community

3RD SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH
 BEGINNING 15TH FEBRUARY

SINGING WORKSHOP + TWILIGHT SERVICE
 4-5pm: Song workshop - Learning the songs of Taizé
 5:30pm-6:30pm: Twilight Service

228 BRUNKER RD ADAMSTOWN
 TEA & COFFEE AVAILABLE BETWEEN WORKSHOP + SERVICE
 NO NEED TO REGISTER, DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME

Some of our (

Minister

Rev Tom Stuart
 M: 0427 625 502
 E: tom@thestuarts.id.au

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

Administration:

P: 4943 4019
 E: office@charlestown.unitingchurch.org.au
 24 Milson St, 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>
 Worship Services: <https://tinyurl.com/CHaGS-YouTube-Link>