



uniting
church

Newscope



10th March, 2024

**Wesley Castle Hill
Congregation**

Sunday's Service 9.30am

Preacher: Rev. Keith Garner

Bible Readings : Mark 8: 31-38

“The Cost of Discipleship”



<https://www.youtube.com/@wesleycastlehillunitingchu7825/streams>

Wesley Castle Hill Uniting Church

A congregation of The Uniting Church in Australia. *In partnership with Paama Seaside Church, Port Vila, Vanuatu*

Our Vision: *‘To be a caring church, uniting people in Christ’*

Phone: 9894 8999

Email: admin@wesleycastlehill.org.au

www.wesleycastlehill.org.au

32 Showground Road, Castle Hill NSW 2154 / PO Box 515 Castle Hill 1765

Mission Plan (Our Mission Plan is available on the website)





Please remember in prayer—

[names removed from online version]

For those unable to worship with us.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to be included in our Prayers, please contact the **Pastoral Care Team - Heather**

Details are confidential.

Please indicate if you wish to have your name included in Newscope.

Thought of the Week:

'Watch this: God's eye is on those who respect him, the ones who are looking for his love. He's ready to come to their rescue in bad times; in lean times he keeps body and soul together.' Psalm 33:18-19 (The Message)

Is God's eye only on those who respect him, only on those looking for his love? Not at all! His eye is on us all.

However, when we respect him as Lord, and look for his unconditional love, we open our lives for him to rescue us, to keep body and soul together. But there is more. He wants to be involved in everything that happens in our lives. He is not just present to rescue us, or to keep body and soul together. We are inclined to divide life between those things which we think we can do ourselves, and those times when we feel we need God's help. That is not what God wants. God wants to journey with us not only when life gets a bit tough, but at all times. In the birth narratives Matthew's Gospel applies the name Immanuel, "God with us", to Jesus. (Matthew 1:23)

And remember Jesus words to the disciples just before he ascended into heaven, "I am with you always..." (Matthew 28:20)

When we allow our Lord to be involved in our everyday lives, we become confident that he will be there when life presents its challenges to us. Practising the presence of God in all that we do is a wonderful faith-builder.

Grace and peace Bill Rosier



Dates for your diary-March

Today Sunday	10th March	9.30am Morning Worship Service. All are Welcome
Tuesday	12th March	9.30am Writers Group 10.30 & 7.30pm Lent Bible Studies Continues
Wednesday	13th March	10am Exercises gentle and low intensity perfect for post surgery
Thursday	14th March	12.30pm AA Meeting in the conference Room
Thursday	14th March	7pm GA Meeting in the conference Room
Sunday	24th March	9.30am Preschool Family Service
Thursday	28th March	7.30pm Maundy Thursday Service
Friday	29th March	9.am Good Friday Service
Sunday	31st March	6am Garden Sunrise Service 9.30am Easter Sunday Celebration



24
MAR

9.30am Palm Sunday
Preschool Family
Service

28
MAR

7.30pm Maundy
Thursday
A service of music
and Contemplation.

29
MAR

9am Good Friday
Reflecting on Jesus

31
MAR

6am Garden Sunrise
service at Wesley Church
9.30am Easter Sunday
Celebration

You're always
welcome at
Wesley

More information
www.wesleycastlehill.org.au
02 9894 8999
admin@wesleycastlehill.org.au



Minister's Message

Jesus said: "If any one of you wants to follow Me, you will have to give yourself up to God's plan, take up your cross, and do as I do." Mark 8:34

OPEN HANDS

**We are born with the ability to wrap our fingers around another,
To hold tight to what we know.**

Maybe that's where the instinct comes from –

This clinging, this sinking, this holding on.

Maybe that's why Peter cries, "Never!"

When Jesus must leave.

From the very beginning we've known how to hold tight.

So I pray:

Open up my hands.

Uncurl my fingers one by one.

Loosen the grip that I hold unyielding.

Remind me that birds must fly

and children must grow

And leaves must fall.

And even though we are born with the ability to hold tight,

we can learn how to love with open hands.

Poem by

Rev. Sarah Speed



This poem forms part of the Lent Study for this week.

Just like Lent, discipleship is a journey filled with growth, challenges, and transformation.

May we be a people who embrace each step with courage, humility, and hope inspired by Jesus and knowing that every lesson we learn and every trial we overcome strengthens our faith.

Blessings from Rev. Carmel

**Wesley Uniting Church is having a Garden Sale
4th Saturday of each month.**

**The next Garden Sale is on the 23rd March from
8am—12noon.**

**Loads to choose from including Garden
Ornaments and Pots.**

Cash and Eftpos facilities available.

Garden Stall

We have now had two monthly plant sales with some success. They are held on the fourth Saturday of the month from 8.00 to noon. The success of the sales means we need donations of plants (not cuttings please). We also would love donations of all things related to the garden. Donations can be left on the verandah of McPhail Cottage or on the tables in the garden area. Every item we sell brings us closer to final payment for the new roof on the church. Your help is greatly appreciated.



As you can see above Trudi and Lyn have a beautiful display of fresh herbs in the Wheel barrow located at the front of the garden area at the bottom of the car park . These include basil, sage, spring onion, oregano and parsley. There will be a pair of scissors there to assist you in cutting some herbs to be added for your cooking requirement. These herbs have been grown for your enjoyment, so please help yourself. ***Thank you Trudi & Lyn***

Wesley Community Market

Our next community market is on **Saturday, 6 April** from 9.00 to 3.00 p.m. In addition to our garden stall, manchester, books, children's books and toys and bric-a-brac, we will be providing morning and afternoon teas and a sausage sizzle. Our Young Adults group are also joining us with a stall. We will have community stalls including Parramatta Mission and Cancer Council.

There will be private stalls selling a variety of products. There will also be activities for children.

We are looking for **donations of toys, games and puzzles**. We invite you to donate the things you have at home that have been outgrown by your children or grandchildren to support the work of the Welsey Community Market.



Art Classes

Beginner Friendly First Wednesday each month...

10:30 am - 12:30 pm Water colour painting

1:00pm - 3:00 pm. Drawing Third Wednesday each month 10:30am - 12:30pm

Relaxing Art, Acrylic Painting.

Fourth Saturday each month ... 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm . Art workshop learning new techniques with nibbles n drinks.

School holiday classes for school age children. 10:30 am-12:30 pm.

Contact Jan for more details and class bookings, limited numbers.



Hills 2024

Event details



Sat 18 May 2024

Sun 19 May 2024



09:00 Sat - 09:00 Sun



Castle Hills Showground



240

RELAYS



50

TEAMS



74

DAYS TO GO

Community March for Change

hillsagainstdv@gmail.com

One in six women and one in sixteen men have experienced violence at the hands of an intimate partner. On average one woman is killed by a partner every nine days and one man is killed every month. The Hills is no exception, domestic violence is endemic in all communities.

Members of The Hills community have a proud history of standing against domestic violence. Sadly, the recent pandemic caused the cancellation of the annual march held to highlight this blight in the community.

The march will return this year on Friday, 3 May, 2024.

The march is organised in conjunction with The Hills Area Command, Castle Hill RSL, Castle Towers and Soroptimists International of The Hills.

The march will leave Castle PI (adjacent to Castle Towers Purple Car Park) at 7.00 a.m. before proceeding down Castle St to Castle Hill RSL.

Senior secondary students will complete their march at Castle Hill RSL.

Students will hear from speakers who will tailor their addresses to the "Love Bites" program being taught in Hills schools in collaboration with Castle Hill Police.

All other marchers, including your members, are invited to the Castle Hill Bowling Club for a breakfast provided by the Baulkham Hills Lions Club. You will then have an opportunity to hear from speakers who will speak about the strategies being put in place to reduce the incidence of domestic violence in our community.

We are inviting your organisation, yourself and your friends to join us to make a statement against domestic violence and seek effective ways to create change in our society.

If our society is to change, we all need to work together to make a difference.

If you would like to join us in standing against this scourge, or would like further information, please forward your expression of interest with contact details to: HillsagainstDV@gmail.com and we will forward further details.

1 in 6 women



1 in 16 men



have experienced **violence** by an intimate partner. (AIHW, 2018)

Michelle Byrne

emeritusmayorbyrne@gmail.com

Bryan Mullan

hillsagainstdv@gmail.com

Contact List

Minister: Rev. Carmel Ieraci
0426 445 608
minister@wesleycastlehill.org.au
Day off Thursday

Administration Officer
Karen Needs, 9894 8999

Council Secretary
Kate Cunneen, 0403 512 303
secretarycc@wesleycastlehill.org.au

Congregation Chair
Lindsay Smith, 0452 196 485
congregation@wesleycastlehill.org.au

Congregation Secretary
vacant
congregationsec@wesleycastlehill.org.au

Baptisms
Anne-Maree Kinley, 0417 228 534

Kids@Wesley
Lynette Case 0422 225 852

Fuse (Junior Youth yrs 5-8)
Tom Kelly 0466 244 323
Ben Speechly 0481 573 783

YA MISFITS (Young Adults. Many individuals seeking friendship in this society)
Aidan Armstrong 0401 246 427

Communications Coordinator
Peter Smith/Nicole Van der Stel
0417 443 810/ 0403 851 157

Education Team
Dermot Armstrong, 9686 2862

Community Markets
Bryan Mullan 0468 359 536

Community Connections
Helen McConnell 0408 211 471

Pastoral Care
Heather Searle, 9899 7628

Property Committee
Liz Jayawardene

Safe Church Committee
Bryan Mullan 0468 359 536

Seniors Care Coordinator
Heather Searle 0414 897 628

Stewardship Team
Dennis Hall 0414 541 610

Wesley Preschool
Jane Harvey, 9634 5282

Next Sunday's Service will be live streamed at 9.30am

Regular events	
Sundays 9:30am	Church Service (Communion first Sunday of the month)
Tuesdays 9:30am - 11:30am	Creative Writers
Tuesdays 1pm - 3:30pm	UFO Craft Group (Un-Finished Objects)
Wednesdays 9:30am – 11:30	Ladies' Exercise
Thursdays 1pm -3.30pm	Mahjong
Fridays 7pm—8.30pm	Fuse Years 5-8
Fridays 7:30pm -10pm	YA Misfits (Young Adults)
Monthly events	
1st Wednesday	Wednesdays@Wesley Hymn singing
1st Wednesday	10.30-12.30 watercolours and 1-3pm Animal drawing
3rd Wednesday	10.30-12.30 and 1-3pm Relaxing Art
4th Wednesday	Communion & Relax 11:15 Seniors Lunch 12-1.30pm
1st Thursday	Book Club 10am-12pm
4th Saturday	Garden Sale 8am-12noon
4th Friday	Rummikub 1pm-3pm

Wesley relies entirely on your weekly giving and fundraising.

**For online weekly giving, you can use the details below-Castle Hill Congregation
BSB: 634-634 A/c: 100027297**

Please submit items for Newscope by Monday