



uniting
church

Newscope



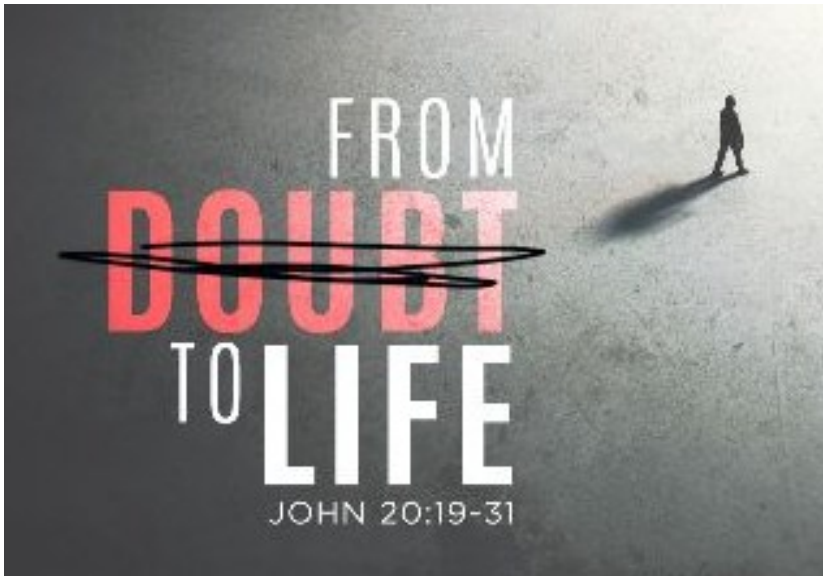
7th April, 2024

**Wesley Castle Hill
Congregation**

**Today's Sunday Service 9.30am
(Holy Communion)**

Bible Readings : John 20:19-31

"Reach Out Your Hand"



<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:

My heart has heard you say, "Come and talk with me." And my heart responds, "Lord, I am coming." **Psalm 27:8 (NLT)** We seem to be able to sail through some days, while there are other days when life is a bit of a struggle. When we are sailing through the day with the breeze at our backs, we feel that we have control of our lives; that we know what we are doing and where we are going. That, however, can be rather dangerous. In the good times, it is easy to leave God out of the equation when all the time he has been involved, but we didn't stop to notice. And, even worse, that can be the start of a habit; a kind of arrogant, "I'm OK". And you know the old saying that "pride comes before a fall".

On other days, when we seem to be swimming against the current we tend to quickly turn to God to sort things out. We hear him say, "Come and talk with me." It is then that we find ourselves virtually calling, "Lord, I am coming." If only we could do that at other times as well we might save ourselves from the inevitable fall. The Easter Jesus takes great delight in hearing from us in good times and bad. There is an old hymn that goes like this,

*And he walks with me and he talks with me
And he tells me I am his own
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known.*

When you have a moment please read, Luke 24:13ff.

Let's tarry with the risen Jesus no matter what life is dishing up to us. He will be delighted.

Grace and peace Bill Rosier



Dates for your diary-April

Sunday	7th April	9.30am Morning Worship Service. All are Welcome
Tuesday	8th April	9.30am Writers Group
Wednesday	9th April	10am Exercises gentle and low intensity perfect for post surgery
Thursday	10th April	12.30pm AA Meeting in the conference Room 1pm Mahjong all are welcome. 7pm GA Meeting in the conference Room
Friday	5th April	9am Friday Shed volunteers always welcome
Saturday	6th April	8am-12noon Garden Stall. See page 4 for details.

THANK YOU – Adrian

What a fabulous looking new LED sign on the front lawn of the Church property.

This was made possible with a generous anonymous donation that covered half of the cost and a Church Council decision to contribute to complete the cost.

However, Adrian's time, expertise, drawings, persistence with Local Council submissions and conversations with the provider enabled this sign to go ahead and make an incredible difference to Wesley's presence in the community. Thank you too to all who curated the former sign for many years and latterly, Peter who changed the alpha-numeric each week with messages of inspiration for all to read.

Wesley is a community of people who love Jesus and recognise that that love flows from God. The gifts and talents when shared for the greater good create a vibrant welcoming Community.

Thank to everyone for sharing your gifts and working together ...

God's love is shining all around!



Scrap Metal Wanted

Soon we will be doing a scrap metal collection with money raised going to our Roof fund.

If you have any aluminum or brass or copper (pots or pans) **Please No Steel** could you bring them to McPhail Cottage to be put next to the trailer this would be greatly appreciated.

Any enquiries please see Bruce
Many thanks in advance.



Relay for Life 2024



Event details



Sat 18 May 2024
Sun 19 May 2024



09:00 Sat - 09:00 Sun



Castle Hills
Showground

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.

The next Garden Sale is on the 27th April from 8am—12noon. Loads to choose from including Garden Ornaments and Pots.

Cash and Eftpos facilities available.



Minister's Message

JESUS said, 'REACH OUT YOUR HAND...'. John 20:27

The interaction between Jesus and Thomas highlights faith in the midst of uncertainty.

Thomas is invited to touch Jesus wounds, to reach out his hand and experience the reality of the resurrection.

Like Thomas, we all experience uncertainties at some point in our faith journey. We question, we hesitate, and we struggle to believe what we cannot see. Yet, in the midst of this, Jesus extends His hand of grace, inviting us to reach out and experience His presence, His love, and His truth.

When doubts cloud our minds and uncertainty grips our hearts, we can find assurance in reaching out to Jesus. He doesn't condemn our fears or insecurities; instead, He meets us where we are, offering Himself as the ultimate evidence of His love and power and to encounter his transformative grace..

Today will you reach out your hand in faith, to find Jesus there, ready to strengthen, to comfort, and to guide you.



Blessings from Rev. Carmel

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 Pl (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



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

1 in 16 men



Michelle Byrne

emeritusmayorbyrne@gmail.com

Bryan Mullan

hillsagainstdv@gmail.com



Evening Prayer for Week of Christian Unity & Annual Ecumenical Gala Dinner

To mark the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christianity Unity, there will be an Evening Service of Vespers, hosted by His Eminence, Archbishop Makarios, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in Australia, in the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation of Our Lady, 242 Cleveland St, Surry Hills, NSW 2010, at 5.30 pm on Friday 10th of May.

The Service will be followed by the Annual Ecumenical Fundraising Dinner in the adjacent hall of St Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College, at 6.40 pm.

It will be a wonderful occasion to join with the Greek Orthodox community in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia.

The suggested donation for the dinner is \$70 per person. To book your tickets click <https://www.trybooking.com/CPHLM>

Rev. Carmel Ieraci is the UCA Synod appointed member to the NSW Ecumenical Executive Council.

Contact List

Minister: Rev. Carmel Ieraci
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Day off Thursday

Administration Officer
Karen Needs, 9894 8999

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Congregation Chair
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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