



uniting
church

Newscope



14th April, 2024

**Wesley Castle Hill
Congregation**

Today's Sunday Service 9.30am

Preacher : Rev. Carmel Ieraci

Bible Readings : Luke 24:36b-48



***“Open Minds,
Open Hearts”***



***Welcome Family and Friends
to the Baptism of
Finn***

<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:

“Sow a thought and you reap an action; sow an act and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character; sow a character and you reap a destiny.” -

Ralph Waldo Emerson

This quotation raises lots of issues. How important are our thoughts? Just where can they lead? Look at this Bible passage, ‘...*letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.*’ Romans 8:6 (NLT)

The apostle Paul makes the point that control of our minds can be a matter of life and death. That makes me shudder, but it really shouldn't. Just how do we control our minds and thus our thoughts? A little later in his letter to the church in Rome we find Paul writing, ‘*Don't copy the behaviour and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.*’ Romans 12:2 (NLT)

We are all influenced by the behaviour and customs of this world, and that influence can affect our thoughts and our thinking. The important thing is to recognise that that is happening as it happens, and immediately seek the forgiveness of God. Then we accept his forgiveness, and don't dwell on it any further. We leave it with him instead of chastising ourselves for what we consider to be thoughts that are not of God. This may be something that we need to work at, to practice. But we are not on our own here. We have an Advocate. Our defence against such thoughts is living in the Spirit. ‘...*letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.*’ I hardly need to say how important is our personal devotional life. The closer we live with God the more the Spirit is going to let us know when our thoughts and thinking are not of God. **Think about it!**

Grace and peace Bill Rosier



Dates for your diary-April

Sunday	14th April	9.30am Morning Worship Service. All are Welcome
Tuesday	16th April	9.30am Writers Group 1pm UFO craft group
Wednesday	17th April	10am Exercises gentle and low intensity perfect for post surgery
Thursday	18th April	12.30pm AA Meeting in the conference Room 1pm Mahjong all are welcome. 7pm GA Meeting in the conference Room
Friday	19th April	9am Friday Shed volunteers always welcome
Wednesday	24th April	11.15am Rest & Reflect, followed by Seniors' lunch at 12pm
Saturday	27th April	8am-12noon Garden Stall. See page 6 for details.
Mon 29th April-4th May		LifeBlood in the Hall more info to come

A BIG
thank
you



On behalf of the Wesley community, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to every volunteer for your hard work in making our community market day such a tremendous success.

Your tireless efforts, enthusiasm, and commitment to serving others are truly inspiring. From setting up the stalls to welcoming visitors with warm smiles, from organizing activities to ensuring everything ran smoothly, your passion and generosity shone brightly throughout the beautiful sunny day. It was evident that your love

for our community and your desire to make a positive impact were at the forefront of everything you did. Your willingness to give of your time and talents made a significant difference and created a vibrant and joyful atmosphere that brought people together.

Your selflessness and dedication reflect the love of Christ in action and make a difference in the lives of others, and for that I am truly grateful.

May God continue to bless each of you abundantly for supporting this opportunity to reach out to the wider community with grace, love, hope and fun! **Rev. Carmel**



Minister's Message

“Open Hearts, Open Minds” Jesus opens their minds so they can comprehend the meaning of the Hebrew Scriptures.

“This is what the Scriptures said: that the promised Anointed One should suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, that in His name a radical change of thought and life should be preached..” Luke 27:45-47

Just as Jesus appeared among His disciples when they were filled with fear and doubt, He draws near to us today. Jesus calls his friends to open their hearts and minds to the good news of peace and resurrection power.

In the midst of our own uncertainties and struggles, Jesus speaks words of reassurance, saying, "Peace be with you."

As we journey through this Eastertide to Pentecost, let us remember that the same Holy Spirit and power that raised Jesus from the dead lives within us. May we embrace the truth of His resurrection and allow it to transform our lives.



Like the disciples, may we share the message of hope, peace and transformation with a world in need.

As we reflect on the Easter story and the miraculous events that unfolded, may we be encouraged to live each day with faith, hope, peace and love, knowing that Jesus is guiding us, and empowering us to be agents of His grace.

May the peace of Christ be with you always, and may you be filled with the joy of His resurrection as we journey through this Eastertide together.

Blessings from Rev. Carmel

Uniting Climate Conference

Faith in a Better Future



UCAN
UNITING CLIMATE
ACTION NETWORK

Online

11 May
2024

In-Person

Register Now

We want to let you know the second Uniting Climate Action Network conference is coming up on Saturday May 11. *The Faith in a Better Future Conference* will illuminate ways we as a faith community can address the challenge of global warming and help build the better, safer future we long for. Concern for climate action, as the conference title suggests, arises from our Christian faith. The Uniting Church has been committed to environmental action since its inception. Our church believes God is the Creator of this world and all its life and that these are inherently “good”. More than that, our church understands that God’s ultimate purpose for the world is renewal and transformation, not destruction by human beings. Those convictions led to the creation of the Synod Climate Action Strategy in 2019, which has evolved into the Stewardship of the Earth focus of the Synod’s Future Directions. What will this conference be about? We know the problems, and that’s important, but just staying with the problems can be overwhelming. And, by itself, it doesn’t change anything. **So, this conference will inform, but it will have a focus on solutions – the steps that will improve the situation, and action - what we can do to ensure those steps happen, and quickly enough.**

Bookings: https://events.humanitix.com/ucan-conference?mc_cid=8158c61fb1&mc_eid=48bbd1acfe

On: Wednesday 24th April, 2024

Time: 11.15am Communion,

Rest & Reflect followed by

Lunch at 12 noon

Where: Wesley Church Hall

Topic: Guest Speaker: Krishi Ragupathi

Please bring any Anzac medals/memorabilia you might like to share

RSVP: Sunday 21st April, 2024

Phone: Helen or Heather

Cost: \$15.00

*Wesley Seniors'
April Luncheon*



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.



Stamp News Update

Another batch of about 4000 stamps was taken to the local collection point for the Uniting Church Stamp Room today. This was largely due to a big family collection from one of our members,

Thanks to all who collect stamps for the church.



Will you join with the Hills
Community and March for Change?

TOGETHER WE STAND AGAINST DOMESTIC AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

The Community March for Change will take place on 3 May 2024 at 7am, commencing at Castle Place (outside Castle Towers carpark).

The march will conclude at Castle Hill RSL with breakfast and speakers bringing us up-to-date on the incidence of DV and strategies developed to reduce its occurrence.

So gather up your family, your friends and your work mates and be part of the march for change in the Hills.

FOR CATERING PURPOSES PLEASE REGISTER FOR THIS FREE EVENT AT
[HTTPS://EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/THE-HILLS-COMMUNITY-MARCH-FOR-CHANGE](https://events.humanitix.com/the-hills-community-march-for-change) OR SCAN THE QR CODE



Enquiries to hillsagainstdve@gmail.com or call Bryan Mullan (0468 359 536) or Dr Michelle Byrne (0448 268 140)

Thanks to Castle Hill RSL, Castle Hills Police, Castle Towers, the Hills Scroptimists, Baulkham Hills Lions and the Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Network for being part of this important march for change.



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