



uniting church

# Newscope



**21st April, 2024**

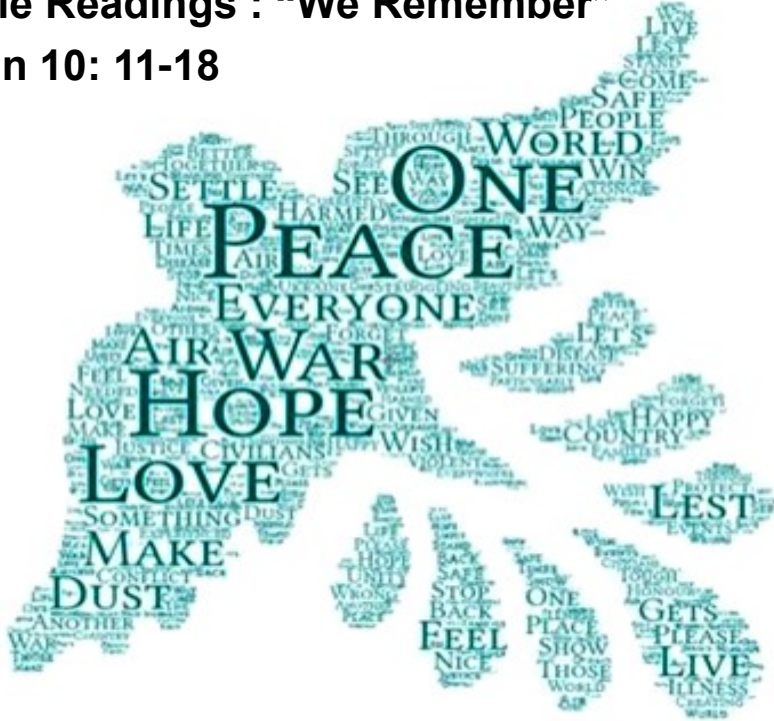
**Wesley Castle Hill  
Congregation**

**Today's Sunday Service 9.30am**

**Preacher : Tara Murphy**

**Bible Readings : "We Remember"**

**John 10: 11-18**



<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"*

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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 defense 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                           | 21st April | 9.30am Morning Worship Service. All are Welcome   |
| Tuesday                          | 23rd April | 9.30am Writers Group<br>1pm UFO craft group   |
| Wednesday                        | 24th April | 10am Exercises gentle and low intensity perfect for post surgery.<br>11.15am Rest & Reflect, followed by Seniors' lunch at 12pm |
| Thursday Anzac Day<br>25th April |            | 12.30pm AA Meeting in the conference Room<br>7pm GA Meeting in the conference Room  |
| Friday                           | 26th April | 9am Friday Shed volunteers always welcome   |
| Saturday                         | 27th April | 8am-12noon Garden Stall. See page 7 for details   |
| Mon 29th April-4th May           |            | Life Blood in the Hall more info to come  |



One of the most important days on the Australian calendar is Anzac Day, which is celebrated annually on April 25. It is a significant occasion across Australia and New Zealand, with the day being a public holiday on both sides of the Tasman Sea.

This date is the anniversary of the day Australian and New Zealand soldiers landed on the beaches of Gallipoli in 1915 as part of the Allies' invasion.

We recognise more than 1.5 million men and women who have served Australia in all conflicts, wars and peacekeeping operations.

# **COMMUNITY MARCH FOR CHANGE**

**Friday 3rd May, 7am**

**Every week in Australia a person is killed by their partner or a former partner. Many more are subjected to abuse and violence.**

## **Enough is Enough!**

**Domestic and family violence is no longer a private matter. It is a whole of community problem and together we can work towards ending domestic and family violence in our community. As part of Domestic Violence Awareness in May, we will march for change and a call for an end to domestic and gender-based violence in the Hills.**

**The march will begin at Castle Place, Castle Hill (outside Castle Towers Carpark) at 7am and will finish at Castle Hill Bowling Club. The march will conclude with breakfast and speakers bringing us up-to-date on incidence of DV and strategies developed to reduce its occurrence.**

**The breakfast BBQ is free but ask that you consider making a gold coin donation to the Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Network to support the incredible work they do in our community.**

**Grab your friends, your family and your workmates and join us in working towards eradicating domestic and family violence in our community.**

**You can sign up for the march using the QR code on the posters in the church, or by putting your name on the sign-on sheet in the church foyer on Sunday morning, or by sending Bryan an email**

# *Minister's Message*

## ***What's it all about???***

***Jesus said: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34***

As a nation we are grieving the senseless loss of lives in Bondi, the ongoing trauma in the lives of those who witnessed the shocking attacks, and also the horrific attack of an Assyrian Orthodox Church leader, along with civil unrest in western Sydney.

In times of adversity and unrest, the strength of our faith and unity as Christians becomes even more vital. The recent attacks and the civil unrest we witness challenge us to stand firm in our convictions and to come together as a united body of believers.

Let us remember the teachings of Christ, who called us to love one another as He loved us (John 13:34). In the face of hatred and violence, let our response be one of love, peace and compassion. Let us reach out to those who are hurting, offering our support, prayers, and encouragement.

Unity does not mean uniformity; it means embracing our diversity and celebrating the unique gifts and perspectives each of us brings to the body of Christ. Together, we can be a beacon of hope, peace, and reconciliation in our communities.

As we navigate these challenging times, let us remain steadfast in our faith, trusting in God's providence and guidance.

The Church is open during the week for silent prayer. May we as a community pray for those directly affected by these events and for our communities at large.

May our unity in Christ shine brightly, dispelling the darkness of division and discord. Together, as one body, let us work towards a world where love triumphs over hatred, and where justice and peace reign.

*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](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 McConnell 0408 211 471 or**

**Heather Searle 0414 897 628**

**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 three 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.



## 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

| <b>Regular events</b>     |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Sundays 9:30am            | Church Service<br>(Communion first Sunday of the month) |
| Tuesdays 9:30am - 11:30am | Creative Writers  |
| Tuesdays 1pm - 3:30pm     | UFO Craft Group<br>(Un-Finished Objects)                |
| Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:30  | Gentle Exercise   |
| Thursdays 1pm -3.30pm     | Mahjong   |
| Fridays 7pm—8.30pm        | Fuse Years 5-8  |
| Fridays 7:30pm -10pm      | YA Misfits (Young Adults)                               |
| <b>Monthly events</b>     |   |
| 1st Wednesday             | Wednesdays@Wesley<br>Hymn singing                       |
| 1st Wednesday             | 10.30-12.30 watercolours<br>and 1-3pm Animal drawing    |
| 3rd Wednesday             | 10.30-12.30 and 1-3pm<br>Relaxing Art                   |
| 4th Wednesday             | Communion & Relax 11:15<br>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*