



ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH

“Sharing the love & welcome of Jesus”

roseville.unitingchurch.org.au



@530worship



@rosevilleuniting

For Everything a Season

This month our Wednesday Small Group is reflecting on changing seasons – and particularly on our present autumn season. There are some keen gardeners among us and some of us have travelled afar to see some very beautiful gardens. Closer by we have been drawn to The Palm Beach Bible Garden where “The Garden and the view behind it provide a perfect example of the glory of God’s creation.”

Turning to the scriptures we are revisiting some of the gardens where significant events of our faith took place: the gardens of Eden - Gethsemane - by the empty tomb...What? Who do we ‘see’ and ‘hear’ in these gardens?

Our scriptures hold many images of our natural world. Among his many parables, Jesus pointed to the kernel of wheat, the mustard seed, the fig tree, the rocky- or the good - ground ... His words were clear, direct: “I am the true vine and my Father is the gardener...” (John 15:1) Imagery continues into Paul’s letters to the early churches as he talks of the fruit of the Spirit, the fruit of righteousness, sowing and reaping sparingly - or - generously...

Looking around us we see that the natural world is patterned around cycles and seasons. “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.” (Ecclesiastes 3:2) Both observations and metaphors invite us to reflect on the changing seasons of our own lives and times. “Like the seasons through which we move, life itself is a never-ending series of harvests, a different fruit for every time.” (Joan Chittister. For Everything a Season).

Do we ever stop to think of our own lives as moving through seasons – the springtime of life, the autumn...? Are these images necessarily age-related, or at any age are we ready to let go, to allow a quiet working within us – preparing us for new growth?

But apart from the personal, we are always living beyond ourselves, and as we do this we see that there are some very large issues for us here today: climate change, environmental degradation... And so, all the while, we continue to act and to advocate, to appreciate and give thanks, to reflect – and to wonder...

WHY?

cont’d....

Sunday May 11th

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

9.30am **Worship Service with Chris Goringe**
Organist: Sean Weatherley
In person and online...

5.30pm **Worship Service with Chris Goringe and Stuart Powell**
In person and online

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Acts 9: 36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7: 9-17
John 10: 22-30

What’s on this week

Tue Kids Playtime 10.00-11.30am
Wed Small Group 10.00am
Social Games 1.00-3.00pm
Young Adults Dinner 7.00pm
Fri Christian Meditation 2.30pm

Sunday May 18th

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

9.30am **Worship Service with Amanda Jones**
Organist: Alan Caradus
In person and online...

10.45am **Second cuppa**

5.30pm **Worship Service with Amanda Jones and Sonia Powell**
In person and online

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Acts 11: 1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21: 1-6
John 13: 31-35

Links

[Service live \(or replay\) streaming](#)

[Zoom \(for meetings\)](#)

[Church website](#)

[Chris' sermons](#)

I turned the soil...an act of hope,
I planted the seed... an act of faith,
I carried the water...an act of sustenance,
I pulled the weeds...an act of maintenance,
I reaped the rewards...an act of thankfulness,
I shared the fruits of my labours... an act of love,
I am a gardener...because I believe.

-Sandra McBride in Garden Blessings. June Cotner.

-Margot

More dates for 2025

14th May: Young Adults' Dinner 7.00pm

23rd May: A taste of Meditation 1.00pm

3rd June: Ecumenical Service, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Roseville UC, 7.30pm

10th June: Young Adults' Dinner 7.00pm

14th June: Potluck Dinner and Games Night 6.00pm

15th June: Congregational Meeting **4.00PM**

12th July: Working Bee

19th July: Lindara Market

31st August: Rev. Keith Garner to preach at Roseville UC

8 November: Working Bee

22nd November: Lindara Market

Thank you to all who contributed to the cake stall on Saturday. We raised \$530 for the Asylum Seeker Centre in Newtown.



Join us in Prayer...

Present and loving God

Thank you that you are with us always, indwelling our hearts and minds as we seek to move more fully into the life you have for us in Christ.

Thank you that we have the capacity to choose, and that you still love us when we make bad choices along the road to becoming who we are meant to be.

Thank you that when you created the universe, you saw that it was good; that you have loved your creation from the beginning and that you continue to love us.

Thank you for our recent peaceful election season. We ask that your Spirit will move in the politicians in all our Parliaments to guide their decisions, to protect the vulnerable and marginalised, and to work together with integrity and cooperation for the common good.

We pray for nations in political turmoil; protect those who are scared; strengthen those pursuing justice and fairness; soften the hearts of those who ignore or persecute those they deride.

Thank you for those who have welcomed new life into their families.

Thank you that you are with us through grief, sadness and ill health, and that we have friends to get alongside us in these times.

Thank you for our mothers and foremothers and the examples they have set before us of love, resilience and courage.

Thank you, our loving God

Amen

Amanda



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