



ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH

“Sharing the love & welcome of Jesus”



ACT2

A couple of weeks ago I wrote some initial reflections on what happened at the UCA National Assembly. In that piece I mentioned that the main business of the assembly was taken up with ACT2, the ambitious project to discern the best structures for the Uniting Church in the years ahead.

One criticism levelled at the whole idea of ACT2 is that it is God working by God’s Spirit that makes a difference, not our institution. And of course this is true; the best institutional structures in the world can’t create a work of God, and God is quite able to work in, or outside, anything we do!

But we do have a responsibility as well; and one part of that is to try to ensure that the ways we work together are effective, both in terms of efficiency, and in reflecting the values we hold of mutuality, inclusion, and communal discernment.

So what happened on that front at Assembly? All three major strands of the report were adopted more or less completely. However, with much legal and technical work still to be done, the biggest changes will not happen until the next assembly in 2027.

But the direction, at least, is now fairly clear in those three strands:

Firstly, a significantly more flexible structure for local Church governance. The broad direction is to move away from ‘one size fits all’ and allow Presbyteries and congregations (or other faith communities) to agree the most appropriate arrangements for the particular context. This might, for instance, be a Church Council for a single congregation, like ours, a council shared between several congregations, or a council with local and Presbytery members (for instance, in a new congregation).

Secondly, the design of a simplified structure for the Church as a whole, with the current four councils (Congregation, Presbytery, Synod, Assembly) being replaced with three (Local, Regional, National). This aims to bring our resources (mostly currently held by Synods) in line with our mission (which mostly takes place locally and nationally) by creating Regional bodies which have the necessary resources to support Local groups, and a National body which will help address the considerable inequalities of resourcing that exist at present.

Thirdly, a process will be undertaken to rationalize and revitalize theological education in the UCA; reducing duplication (each state currently has its own college), and expanding theological education for the wider membership of the Church (where it presently focusses primarily on those preparing for ordination).

Chris

Sunday August 25th

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

- 9.30am **Worship Service with Chris Goringe**
Organist Sean Weatherley
In person and online...
- 10.45am **Healing & Wholeness Service**
- 5.30pm **Stories All Around and a shared meal**

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

1 Kings 8: 22-30.-43
Psalm 84
Ephesians 6: 10-20
John 6: 56-59

What’s on this week...

- Tue: Kids Playtime 10.00-11.30am
- Wed: Social Games 1.00-3.00pm
- Thur: Daffodil Day 10.00am - 3.00pm
- Fri: Christian Meditation 2.30pm
Spark 7.00-9.30pm

Sunday September 1st

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

- 9.30am **Worship Service with Holy Communion with Chris Goringe**
In person and online...
- 5.30pm **Worship service with Sonia Powell**
In person and online...

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Song of Solomon 2: 8-13
Psalm 45: 1-2, 6-9
James 1: 17-27
Mark 7: 1-8, 14-14, 21-23

Links

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

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

[Church website](#)

[Chris' sermons](#)

Church Family News

Whiz and Mark are delighted to announce the arrival of their third grandchild Max John McKeon, a brother for Alfie.

Election Day Cake Stall 14th September



More details to follow, or talk to Maz

Upcoming events:

Daffodil Day: Thursday 29th August

eSoc Walk: 7th September

World Peace Day: 21st September

Circle of Friends: Thursday 26th September

Inter Church Picnic: Sunday 13th October

All Saints Service: Sunday 3rd November

Reflective Christmas: Thursday 12th December

Join us in prayer....

Lord, we bring before you those known to us who need healing. Take pain and anxiety from them so they may know your peace. Particularly bring peace to those suffering mental illness and conflict.

Lord, please listen to the hearts particularly of those who are confused and in despair. Please guide them in a way forward. May they have confidence in your power in their lives.

Lord, no matter how much life experience and wisdom we have gained, we never come to the point where we have life worked out. May we learn to be open and prepared for the surprises of life. May we be open to wonderment, prayer and further understanding.

Lord, we live in an age of corruption and misinformation. Particularly guide our young people in their use of social media. Guide the adults in their lives to assist them and guide us all to be discerning in our use of social media.

Lord, bless and be with those in our community who serve you. Be with our minister and his family, our office staff, lay workers and elected council members. Thank you for those who work to build our community and bind us together.

Lynn

UNITING 30 SEPTEMBER - 3 OCTOBER 2024

YOUTH CAMP

TIME TO SHINE

Who: High schoolers, Year 7-12

What: Fun, Food, Jesus & Year 12 study

Where: Y Camp Yarramundi

Sponsorships and Siblings discounts available.



Roseville Ministry Contacts

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