



ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH

“Sharing the love & welcome of Jesus”



roseville.unitingchurch.org.au



@530worship



@rosevilleuniting

NOT ON THE TITANIC

Extracts from a reflection by Andrew Johnson, the new Assembly General Secretary

One of the most popular questions we ask is, “Is this just shuffling the deck chairs on the Titanic?” I recently discovered this phrase was first used, The Washington Post reports, in 1969 to describe reforms in the Catholic Church.

This prompted me to ask – do we think we are on the Titanic as a Uniting Church? Do we believe this enterprise of hope we embarked upon over 47 years ago is, like the Titanic, inevitably destined to sink?

Early last year I rewatched the famous box office hit of the same name. Sometimes as I move around the Church, I find people reflecting the behaviour of its various characters. The old couple, in an embrace on the bed, as the water rises around them. The unscrupulous fiancé desperately trying to buy himself onto a lifeboat. The band playing to entertain the masses and distract them, to buoy their mood despite the chaos going on around them. The lead character, Jack, judging the physics, getting to the highest point, seeking to use all his wits to save them.

So do I think we are on the Titanic? Do I believe the future of the Uniting Church is a predetermined heroic tragedy? I do not believe that. I believe that God has a future for the Uniting Church. However, we need to be honest that at least for the foreseeable future it will be a smaller and more marginal future than what we believe we knew in the past.

Yet we have something of distinctive value to offer the mission of God in our nation and globally. Our theological culture, while in need of some ongoing work is marked by an openness and willingness to change, holding in tension diverse perspectives. Our ecclesial culture seeks to be inclusive, consensus building and collaborative.

As a friend said to me, ‘I don’t think God’s given up on the Uniting Church yet’. So, for me, if God hasn’t given up then why should I?

Read the whole piece at <https://bit.ly/notitanic>

Chris

Sunday October 27th

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

- 9.30am **Worship Service with Dan Reeve**
Organist: Sean Weatherley
In person and online...
- 10.45am **Healing and Wholeness Service**
- 5.30pm **Worship Service and meal: Sharing the Jesus Story**

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Job 42: 1-6, 10-17
Psalm 34: 1-8, (19-22)
Hebrews 7: 23-28
Mark 10: 46-52

What’s on this week...

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

Sunday November 3rd

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

- 9.30am **All Saints Worship Service with Holy Communion with Chris Goringe**
Organist: Robert Bevan
In person and online...
- 5.30pm **All Saints Worship Service with Holy Communion with Chris Goringe and Jan Reeve**
In person and online...

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Ruth 1: 1-18
Psalm 146
Hebrews 9: 11-14
Mark 12: 28-34

Links

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

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

[Church website](#)

[Chris' sermons](#)

Church Family News



Please remember the family of Alistair Todd, who died earlier this week. A funeral service for Alistair will be held here in Roseville Uniting Church next Tuesday 29th October at 2.30pm. It will also be livestreamed.

Upcoming events:

All Saints Service: Sunday 3rd November

Working Bee: 9th November

SOUL FOOD: 10th November at 5.30pm

Congregational Meeting : 24th November

Heralding Advent Ecumenical Service : 26th November

Lindara Market: 30th November

Join us in prayer....

Loving God

Thank you for this new day and all of the blessings it brings.

We ask for your guidance and presence as we go about our daily tasks and responsibilities.

Please give us the strength and resilience to face whatever challenges may come our way, and help us to be a source of love and support for those around us.

We pray for your protection and care for all those in need, and for your wisdom and discernment to guide us in making good choices.

We trust in your love and care for us, and we pray for your continued presence in our lives.

Psalm 4:1

"Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!"

All Saints Service
Sunday 3rd
September

9.30am
5.30pm



SAVE THE DATE

Soul Food V
Sunday November 10th



Roseville Ministry Contacts

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