ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH

"Sharing the love & welcome of Jesus

roseville.unitingchurch.org.au @530worship @rosevilleuniting

SEASON OF CREATION

For many congregations around the world, across a wide range of denominations, the start of September marks the beginning of the "Season of Creation". In the words of the 2024 celebration guide,

Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. It is a special season where we celebrate God as Creator and acknowledge Creation as the divine continuing act that summons us as collaborators to love and care for the gift of all that is created. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call to care for Creation. We are co-creatures and part of all that God has made. Our well-being is interwoven with the well-being of the Earth.

The theme for this year is "To hope and act with Creation", which I think encapsulates three very important ideas for our relationship with the natural world in time of ecological crisis.

The first is *hope*. Many who pay close attention to the current state of the climate find it hard to find hope. An increasing proportion of young people identify the prospect of an increasingly disrupted climate a source of existential fear – indeed, there is a rapidly growing trend of youth and young adults who say they do not intend to have children because of the likely state of the world that the next generation would inherit. And though some say this is an overreaction, or 'green brainwashing', this it a view supported by a large proportion of climatologists. As I heard recently, "if you aren't panicking, you aren't paying attention".

So hope is an important word. Because the alternative is despair, and despair leaves us unable to respond to the second idea in the theme – *act*. As the saying goes, the best time to have done something about climate change was thirty years ago, and the second best time is now. And of course *hope* and *act* are closely linked: without hope we cannot act, but taking action can help grow hope.

And finally, the word *with*. I think this is an often neglected idea when we talk about the climate. We refer to the damage we are doing, or the ways we can fix things; but the reality is that if we are to reverse the harm that has been done it will be by working with creation. Reforestation, for instance, or even the tiny version of it that is planting a tree – we do a bit of work, but it is the natural process of creation, growth, photosynthesis, that actually draw carbon from the atmosphere and store it in the plant.

Read more about seasons of creation at https://seasonofcreation.org/

Chris

Sunday September 8th

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

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

10.45am **Second Cuppa Group**

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

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:
Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2: 1-10, (11-13), 14-17
Mark 7: 24-37

Sunday September 15th

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:
Proverbs 1: 20-23
Psalm 19
James 3:1-12
Mark 8: 27-38

Sunday September 22nd

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

9.30am **Worship Service with Chris Goringe**
In person and online...

10.45am **Healing & Wholeness Service**

5.30pm **What's Our Story and Shared Meal**
In person and online...

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:
Proverbs 31: 10-31
Psalm 1
James 3: 13-7-8a
Mark 9: 30-37

Links | Service live (or replay) streaming | Zoom (for meetings) | Church website | Chris' sermons

Upcoming events:

International Day of Peace: 21st September. Details on notice board.

Circle of Friends: Thursday 26th September

Uniting Youth Camp: 30 September—3 October

Inter Church Picnic: Sunday 13th October

All Saints Service: Sunday 3rd November

Reflective Christmas: Thursday 12th December

Join us in Prayer…

God of patience and understanding thank you for loving us and forgiving us when we so often show little patience and understanding to others.

God of all creation, forgive us for abusing your world - climate change, wars and hatred among many people - Equip us with knowledge and enthusiasm that we can each make a positive difference.

God of love, may we show to others the love and compassion You show to us.

May each day bring an enthusiasm to spend time with You, reading your word, listening for Your voice and praying.

" Worry is a conversation you have with yourself about things you cannot change.

Prayer is a conversation you have with God about things He can change"

Whiz

ROSEVILLE
Asylum Seeker and Refugee Support Group

Afghani Family Reunion The Roseville Asylum Seeker and Refugee Support Group are delighted to report that 1 of the 4 Afghani men we have been connected with, Murad, has been granted Permanent Residence Visas for his family. This means that Murad will be joined by his wife, and two sons (19 and 17) - and they have permission to move and settle in Australia permanently. Murad has booked a flight for his family to arrive on Saturday the 14th September. After their difficult legal ordeal to be reunited, we would like to organise a "welcome pack" for the family. It has been 13 years since they have lived together.
Murad has been given some money (vouchers) to use as he needs, so this is more about creating a small personal, warm 'Australian' welcome for the family.
What can you do?
* We have left a card for you to write a message of welcome
* Bake something - maybe something Aussie biscuits or cake.
* Buy: A special hand cream or soap for his wife
* Buy: A picture book about Australia?
* A bag of nuts or dried fruit.
* A house plant
* A t shirt for the boys- both medium and sporty .

If you would like to be involved with creating a welcome pack for Murad - please leave items at the church by no later than 12/9. Alternatively, ring Gwyn 0419-150-139.

Remember, there are three other families, so we are hopeful that we will have to do this again in the future. 😊
Gwyn

From the office..... I will be away for 2 weeks from 6th—20th September, so this is a combined newsletter. Chris will send out any additional information as required. Cath

A Climate Conversation

Tuesday 10th September at 7.30pm

North Shore Temple Emanuel More details on the notice board.

I cordially invite you and your friends to the 21st Anniversary of the Interfaith Prayer Service to be held on the International Day of Peace, Saturday 21 September at 3 PM, at Knox Cultural Centre, Knox Grammar School, 2 Boambil St., Wahroonga (Next to Warawee train station). Prayers for peace from 14 faiths will be offered. Dr Elijah Buol OAM, CEO of Acts for Peace will deliver the occasional address. There will be refreshments afterwards. Please RSVP by 10 September. Thanks.

Rev Dr Manas Ghosh More details on notice board

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