



UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
Rockingham Congregation
4 Erindoon Way, Waikiki 6169

UPDATE

SUNDAY 14th April 2024 at 9:30am

Service conducted by Rev Samuel Annan
Please join us for morning tea following worship

Welcome to Rockingham Uniting Church

Our hope is that all who come through our doors find Spiritual rest and nourishment, and that you will experience the presence of the living God in our midst.

MISSION AND VISION

- ❖ We aim to be a diverse community with the crucified risen Lord Jesus Christ as our guiding light spreading the good news of reconciliation to all.
- ❖ We aim to welcome all newcomers, encourage spiritual growth in all members of the community, nurture faith in children and young people and care for those in need,
- ❖ We will strive to achieve this by committing ourselves to God through love, worship, prayer, bible study and diligent management of our time, talents and resources.

Minister Rev Samuel Annan	Minister's Days: Sunday, Tuesday – Thursday, Saturday Mobile: 0406 346 432 E-mail: samannan15@gmail.com
Office Staff Office Hours Contact Details	Margit Hanisch Monday & Thursday: 9:00am to 12:00noon Phone: 9527 1014 Email: RockinghamUniting@gmail.com
Postal Address	PO Box 263 Rockingham WA 6168
Website Address	www.rockinghamuniting.org
Church bank details	Account Name: UCA Rockingham Parish BSB: 086918 Account Number: 015990422
Opportunity Shop	169 Parkin Street, Rockingham Phone 9527 4660 Monday to Friday: 10:00am to 3:00pm Saturday: 9:00am to 12:00noon

Doubt and Believe

The scene in John 20:19-31 opens with fear – on the part of all the disciples. How can we ignore their obvious doubt and blame Thomas alone for his disbelief? Contrary to both science and traditional wisdom, seeing is not always believing. Some who saw the risen Christ still doubted! Unlike Thomas, their problem and ours is more than just a lack of information. The hesitancy to believe is more a product of what we know than we don't know. Mark Twain said, "*Some people worry about the parts of the Bible they don't understand. I worry about the parts I do understand!*"

John's answer begins at the door we see at the start of the story. Instead of depicting a Jesus who opens it, walks right up to Thomas, and starts to argue with him by trying to answer his rationalist queries, John paints a different picture that tells us much about the unique character of resurrection faith and its relation to doubt. John tells us first that Jesus walks through a closed, locked door to get to Thomas. It is not that Thomas's doubts drive him to demand answers from Jesus. It is Jesus who is determined to reach out to Thomas. It is Jesus who refuses to let chains block the movement of love towards the one who lacks faith. The centre of this is not Thomas but Jesus. God comes seeking us, stepping through the "closed-doors" that hardship builds around us, offering love. In the wonder of those wounds, Jesus finds us. Thomas serves not as a character open to ridicule because of his doubt but as a hero who uses doubt carefully but ends up believing.

The closed-door did not keep the risen Jesus out. In our journey, wherever we find ourselves now, which sometimes makes us feel that we are in a closed door. The feeling of being alone, like Thomas, makes us doubt where our future may end. John's reading today offers us Jesus, who comes into every closed door, shows us his wounds, and assures us of his presence. Reflect on Jesus' word in that closed-doors: "*Peace be unto you*" he knows you need Peace in your closed-doors and offers that Peace to us. May the God of Peace bring us the inner Peace we all want to experience in our journey. Be assured that God is with you in that enclosed space.

By: Rev Samuel Annan.

Bible Readings 21st April 2024:

Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

ROCKINGHAM CONGREGATION

Weekly Worship with Children's Activities each Sunday 9.30am (with Communion on First Sunday of each month).

Week's Events from 14th – 20th April 2024

Today 9:30am

Morning Worship Service: led by Rev Samuel Annan

Elder on Duty: Rachael Thaiyalan

Today 11:00am

Music Practice

**Wednesday 9:30am-
11:00am**

Women's Connect Group at the Church
THE STORY by Randy Frazee
Session 13 - The King Who Had It All

Thursday 10:00am

Men's Group

Boule/Bocce at Churchill Park, Flinders lane end, Rockingham. Ladies welcome.

**Saturday 4:00pm-
7:00pm**

Youth and Children's games

at Church hall/ Simon's house
Movie Night

Coming Events

Sunday 21st April: Worship Service at 9:30am – conducted by Youth

Lost Property Box: Please check the Lost Property Box (located in the hall between kitchen and store room) for any left behind items before the end of April, all left over items will be relocate.

Name Badges. Gerry will be placing an order for magnetic Church Badges on Mon 29th April. If you would like one please add your exact name to the list in the Foyer or email Gerry the exact spelling at Geogerry@icloud.com.

If you recently joined us and **wish to be a full or confirmed member of our congregation**, please write down your name on the sheet in the atrium. The council has decided to include your details in our Contact List and will officially like to introduce you to our congregation as a confirmed member. If you have any questions or queries about this and the collection of data, contact Rev Samuel or any of the Elders.

Church Volunteers

We are seeking volunteers for the Following positions: bus drivers, readers, stewards, morning tea servers, AV-systems, and communion stewards. If you would like to fill any position please put your name and details on the list in the atrium. Your help will be much appreciated.

Notices

In your prayers remember the lands and people of Belarus, Moldova, Russia, and the Ukraine.

House Cleaning

Mag Lyse is providing private house cleaning service. For costs and additional information please contact Mag on 0416 945 144

If you want to watch the live-streaming of our Sunday service, simply follow this link:

https://www.facebook.com/RockinghamUnitingChurch/videos/?ref=page_internal

Otherwise, you can go to Facebook and search Rockingham Uniting Church.

Sunday 21st April 2024	
Bus Driver	Kylie Harrison 0415 744 496
Reader	Youth
Elder & Announcements	Cam Crothers
Stewards	Brian Williams & Christina Harman
Communion Stewards	
Morning Tea	Joy Williams & Christina Harman
Accompanist	Michael Baker
AV System	Niclas Hanisch & Adrian Graetz
KUCA	Rachael Thaiyalan

Four week averages: 68 Adults, 6 Children