



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

# UPDATE

**SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

## The Resurrection of Jesus

In John's Gospel (John 20:1-18), Jesus cares a lot about seeing and believing. Throughout the account, people are told to look around them and to pay attention to what they see so that they may believe in Jesus. At the beginning of the Gospel, as Jesus calls the first disciples, they are invited to "come and see" (1:39) as they join him on the journey they believed. Once people see things in John's Gospel, they believe. But when we get to the horrible visions of the Holy Week. Betrayal, arrest, unjust condemnation, death on a cross and burial in a borrowed tomb. Who wants to see that? What are we supposed to see in those events? How are we supposed to believe in LIFE when we see only death? So, we get it when Mary shows up that morning to weep at the tomb. Mary can't let go of Jesus. She isn't ready to relinquish what she thinks she knows about life and death. The world she lived in last week had problems; for sure, they have taken away Jesus, someone who accepted her and included her as his friend.

And then she sees Jesus standing there and hears him ask, "Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for? And even as she supposes him to be the gardener, you wonder if she begins to see and believe as she hears his voice. Mary wondered, but when Jesus calls her by name, "Mary," that's what it takes for Mary to turn around, away from an empty tomb, and away from seeing and believing in death to seeing and believing in LIFE. When Jesus called "Mary," she sees him and finally believes. How glorious that moment must have been for Mary in the garden. How powerful that word of resurrection was for her grieved spirit. The sound of her name on Jesus' lips changed everything. The hope for resurrection for all people is that the living God calls all from darkness into light by name.

Moreover, John's Gospel begins with "*In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God*" (John 1:1), opening in the darkness of the first creation as in Genesis 1:1 with Jesus, the Word. In the end of the Gospel, Jesus is again in the garden at the first light. Bringing forth forgiveness and new life so that his disciples can begin their calling anew. Unlike the first creation, the Garden of Eden, where Adam hid from God when God called him, Eve (the Woman) was generally the one Adam blamed. Instead, in this garden in John, the Woman responded, and Jesus sent her out to be the first evangelist to announce the new creation. She responded in faith. The resurrection story needs to be shared, and we are those entrusted with this message of hope. The sadness of Good Friday is over, and the new day of hope is today, and we have been chosen to be the evangelists of the resurrection.

Now is our turn. Jesus is saying to future generations of Mary Magdalens, "*I need you to be signs of that new life right here and now.*" Like Mary, we long to be known by God. As Jesus did for Mary, Jesus comes to us not as a general idea or an imagined ghostly figure but as a presence that reaches beyond our minds' powers of knowing and touches our lives in ways we cannot see. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is God's promise that all creation will be raised to life with God. God will make all things new, giving us hope and assurance that our lives will not end just on this earth. The resurrection is the foundation of our eschatological hope.

By: Rev Samuel Annan

### **Bible Readings 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024:**

Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

## **ROCKINGHAM CONGREGATION**

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

### **Week's Events from 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Today 9:30am**                      **Morning Worship Service:** led by Rev Samuel Annan with Holy Communion  
**Elder on Duty:** Lois Lewis

**Monday 3:30pm**                      **Op Shop Committee Meeting**

**Friday 5:30pm**                      **Music Practice**

### **Coming Events**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April: Worship Service at 9:30am** – conducted by Rev Samuel Annan

**Women's Connect Group**  
Wednesday April 17, 9:30am-11:00am at the Church  
THE STORY by Randy Frazee  
Session 13

**Men's Group**  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 10:00am  
Boule/Bocce at Churchill Park, Flinders lane end, Rockingham. Ladies welcome.

**Youth and Children's games**  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April, 4:00pm-7:00pm, at Church hall/ Simon's hse  
Movie Night

**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.

**Mission Shaped Ministry (MSM):** The MSM is a one-year course on how to start and sustain a Fresh Expression of church. It's about how to re-invent church for 21st century culture. MSM 2024 will be held face to face over four weekends: April 27-28, June 22-23, August 24 -25 and October 26-27. Each of these Saturdays at Mt Pleasant Uniting Church and Sundays at Nedland Uniting Church. You need to attend both days and all four weekends to fully participate. We want to register all who are willing to participate. Kindly contact Simon Cartwright to register if you would like to participate fully in this.

## **Notices**

**In your prayers** remember the lands and people of Bulgaria, Hungary, and Romania.

### **PASTORAL LISTS**

With the addition of new Elders there have been changes to the Pastoral List. You may have a new Elder. Please check the noticeboard in the Hall for the updated list. If you are not on the list and would like to be included, please contact either Rev Samuel or an Elder. Thank you.

### **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.

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

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

<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>	
<b>Bus Driver</b>	Cam Crothers 0402 243 295
<b>Reader</b>	Gerry Ligtermoet
<b>Elder &amp; Announcements</b>	Rachael Thaiyalan
<b>Stewards</b>	John Burns & Pat Nevin
<b>Communion Stewards</b>	
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Mary Paton & Kerry Dunn
<b>Accompanist</b>	Ken Paton
<b>AV System</b>	Shirley Garrod & Adrian Graetz
<b>KUCA</b>	Jamie McKeig

Four week averages: 67 Adults, 5 Children