



## FORESTVILLE UNITING CHURCH

June 2026

Cross Cultural Worker

Freda Tong 0431 876 328

Pastoral Care Leader

Dr Greg Jacobs 0403 229 541

Minister Rev. Sanghyeon Nam

Church Office 0466 277 649

[www.forestvilleunitingchurch.com](http://www.forestvilleunitingchurch.com)

Facebook: Forestville Uniting Church

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### Our Mission

*Welcoming all generations in our culturally diverse community  
to Know, Love and Serve God*

### FROM SANGHYEON'S DESK

#### *"Universe 25"*

American ethologist John B. Calhoun created what he believed to be a perfect world for mice. The experiment was called *Universe 25*. There were no predators, no disease, and no threat of hunger. Food and water were endlessly available. It seemed to be a world in which the mice lacked nothing.

At first, everything appeared to flourish. The population grew rapidly, and the environment looked peaceful, secure, and abundant. Yet as time passed, that seemingly perfect world began to change. In a place without deprivation or danger, the mice gradually turned against one another, while the natural patterns of breeding and care began to collapse.



Then, one day, a different kind of mouse emerged. They became known as the “beautiful ones” — mice with remarkably clean and healthy fur. They devoted themselves solely to eating, sleeping, and grooming, showing no interest whatsoever in other mice. Reproduction eventually ceased altogether, and after the final surviving mouse died, *Universe 25* came to its end.

Comfort without hardship can sometimes weaken the vitality of life itself. What sustains us is not mere abundance, but the willingness to form relationships and continue the shared journey of life together. Today, for whose sake are you willing to give your time and energy?

*Let us think of ways to motivate one another  
to acts of love and good works. (Hebrews 10:24, NLT)*

### Sanghyeon's study leave

Sanghyeon will be on study leave between 29<sup>th</sup> May - 5<sup>th</sup> June. Please address any concerns in his absence to Pastoral Care Leader, Greg Jacobs or Cross-Cultural Worker, Freda Tong.

## MAY HAPPENINGS

### A Taste of Fellowship: Celebrating Diversity in Our Community

On Saturday morning, 2<sup>nd</sup> May, our church hosted a vibrant 'Different Taste' event, bringing together familiar faces and new friends for a wonderful morning of cultural discovery.

The highlight was a live cooking demonstration by Mary Ann, a beloved member of our Filipino congregation. Mary Ann generously sourced authentic ingredients and shared secrets behind traditional Filipino dishes. The room buzzed with curiosity as everyone eagerly learnt new recipes before enjoying a delicious meal together.

It was wonderful to see our church family mingling with guests from the wider local area, creating a rich, welcoming atmosphere.

We hope this event deepens our understanding of our multi-cultural neighbours and strengthens our ongoing community ministry. A massive thank you to Mary Ann and everyone involved!



## A Heart-Warming Success: Forestville Ceilidh for a Cause



What a spectacular afternoon it was at the Forestville Uniting Church Hall on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> May! We were thrilled to welcome 70 community members for our second Ceilidh.

The hall was alive with energy as guests embraced the Scottish tradition—learning the steps, singing along, and sharing a wonderful rhythm on the dance floor. The dancing was followed by a lovely afternoon tea, providing a perfect moment to connect and unwind together. Beyond the fun, this event raised meaningful support for Samaritan's Purse: Operation Christmas Child, helping bring joy to children in need this coming Festive Season.

A heartfelt thank you to the dedicated team who worked tirelessly behind the scenes, and to everyone who joined us to make the day so memorable. We look forward to seeing you at our next gathering!

## A Blessed Day of Unity: Our Combined Pentecost Service



On Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, our church community gathered with The Forest Kirk for a deeply moving combined service. Occurring on Pentecost Sunday, the gathering held a profound significance, serving as a powerful and living expression of Christian unity as we celebrated the Holy Spirit binding our churches together.

The service was richly blessed by the active participation of our own congregation members. A particular highlight was the combined choir, whose beautiful special item uplifted everyone present. We were also privileged to hear an inspiring and timely message from our Student Minister, Jermaine, who delivered the sermon for the morning.

Following the service, the fellowship continued into morning tea, where members from both congregations shared wonderful conversations, laughter, and delicious food. It was a fantastic opportunity to deepen our connections and cultivate the rich community spirit that defines us.

Thank you to everyone who attended, served, and contributed to making this combined service such a spiritually enriching and memorable milestone in our shared faith journey.

**WHAT'S ON IN JUNE**

Please check the noticeboard & table in the church entrance for brochures and information...

Communion will be celebrated on the first Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> June in church, at home via Zoom or with the paper version of the Order of Service.

Church Council Meeting on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 7pm at the church.

A Different Taste presents "Australian Fusion Cuisine"

on Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> June in church. Sandra Rim will be our guest chef and she will prepare an Italian dish that exemplifies the fusion within modern Australian cuisine.

If you are interested, please contact Freda at 0431 876 328 for reservation and further details. The event will be held between 10:30 am and 1:00 pm at FUC. Kindly RSVP, as places are limited. The cost is \$5 per person.

3F All members of the church are welcome to join in our next 3F activity...The details are as follows:

**WHAT:** Excursion to the Quarantine Station

**WHERE:** 1 North Head Scenic Drive, Manly 2095

**WHEN:** Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> June

**TIME:** Meet at the church at 8.50am. We will carpool.

**COST:** \$25 senior or concession card holder. Could you please pay online via the Forestville Uniting Church Bank Account:

FORESTVILLE UNITING CHURCH. BSB: 634 634

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 100018395

**PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME IN THE REFERENCE FOLLOWED BY Q. For example, JacobsX2 Q**

Please email Robyn Jacobs or Freda to let them know of your morning tea drink choice \*this will incur a separate COST PAYABLE ON THE DAY

**Men's Bible Study (MBS)** MBS will be held on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.15 am at the café *Brewscape*. We ask for your prayers for MBS and the participation of those interested. Contact: Rev. Nam.

**Wild Swans Bible Study and English Conversation Classes** run on Tuesdays at the church during the school term. Bible Study from 9.30am followed by ESL from 11.00am. Contact Freda for more information.

**Kids @9** Sunday School learning and fun for all children. Come and join in the activities during the school term time.

**Play Group** Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:30am for children (0-5 years of age) and carers. Lots of fun and time to meet and share with young families.

**Morning Worship Service for Chinese** Worship; Prayer; Scripture Reading in Chinese with Christian faith, we embark on the road of experiencing God again in the busy and lonely daily life. Thursdays from 9:30 - 11:00am at the church chapel.

**Wild Geese** will meet on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00 pm at the Manse. Please bring your textbook, 'Life Lessons from John'.

**Operation Christmas Child (OCC)** During the month of June, Marion we will be collecting small, soft toys - something to love. Please leave items in the box in the church foyer. Likewise, if you would rather give a monetary donation please give directly to Robyn Jacobs or Deirdre and they will bulk shop for you. Please feel free to shop for any of the monthly items and give to the appropriate collection person but remember items must share space in a shoe box so they need to be small.

**Women & Children First Collection** We will be collecting in June for this very worthwhile need in our community and welcome any

donations. Please see the list below and if you can donate, "Thank You" in advance. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please give directly to Deirdre, otherwise please use the basket in the church entrance for food and other items. Final collection date is Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June. After that date kindly keep any items for our October/November collection.

**Pantry & Household staples** -long life milk, rice, pasta & pasta sauces, tomato sauce, 2 minute /pot noodles, instant coffee, Milo, Vegemite peanut butter, jam, honey, school snacks (nut-free muesli bars, biscuits, multi packs of chips, fruit bars, Le Snak, crackers, Cruskits, Vita-Weat, Two Fruits), nappies.

### Dates for the Diary

Christmas in July will be held on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> July. More details to follow in next month's newsletter and over the coming weeks in church announcements. Please save the date to enjoy this fellowship activity while supporting Operation Christmas Child.

Offerings The need to support the Church and its work in the community continues. EFT, cheque and cash donations can be made in the Offering Pouch on Sunday mornings or as listed below:

<p>*By Direct Deposit (internet transfer) Reference: "Offering" FORESTVILLE UNITING CHURCH BSB 634 634 Account 100018395</p>	<p>*Cheques made payable to Forestville Uniting Church can be sent to FORESTVILLE UNITING CHURCH PO BOX 264 FORESTVILLE 2087</p>
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### SHARING PRAYER CONCERNS

- Pray for nations ravaged by war, conflict, and violence.
- Pray for the elderly in need of care, families stretched beyond their means, and communities far from the centres of power; where the decisions made, fall short of what people need.

- Pray for our congregation's members who are facing physical, mental, and spiritual struggles and those who find it difficult to meet at church for various reasons - Alex Norquay, Mary Egl, Robert Dundas, Chin Yeh Chou and Hai Lian Yuan.
- Pray for our church leaders.
- Pray for our cross-cultural ministries - the Tuesday programs of Bible Study & ESL, Thursday's Chinese service and Different Taste.
- Pray for our church ministries - Wednesday Playgroup, 3F, Men's Bible Study, SRE, Different Taste, Donations - O.C.C. & Women and Children First.
- Pray for our community - Forestville. May God's grace and the gospel of Jesus Christ be shared with our community through our ministries and services.

## ROSTERS

Date	Flowers	Readers	Int. Prayer	Sunday School	Stewards	Morning Tea
7 June	Ruth Seymour	Marion Hesketh	Freda	Robyn & Doti	Robyn C	Sandra & Marion
Pent 2(10) Gn 12:1-9 Ps 33:1-12 Rom 4:13-25 Mt 9:9-13, 18-26						
14 June	Moa & Lily	Dan & Stephanie	Robyn & Greg	Helen & Nick	Freda	Moa & Lily
Pent 3(11) Gn 18:1-15(21:1-7) Ps 116:1-2. 12-19 Rom 5:1-8 Mt 9:35-10:8,(9-23)						
21 June	Esther Osborne	Brian Greeves	Keith Robards	Helen & Nick	Mei Bao	Yuru & Stephanie Chan
Pent 4 (12) Gn 21:8-21 Ps 86:1-10,16-17 Rom 6:1b-11 mt 10:24-39						
28 June	Mika	Mizi	Helen & Nick	Sophie & Victoria	Alan Mann	Helen & Nick
Pent 5 (13) Gn 22:1-14 Ps13 Rom 6:12-23 Mt 10:40-42						
Editorial: Victoria Brownlee thebrownleefamily@bigpond.com and Helen Gill helennickgill@gmail.com						