



FORESTVILLE UNITING CHURCH July 2026

Cross Cultural Worker

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Pastoral Care Leader

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Church Office 0466 277 649

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Our Mission

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

FROM SANGHYEON'S DESK

Is this where I give up?

At the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games, during the men's 400-metre semi-final, British sprinter Derek Redmond stood on the starting line as one of the overwhelming favourites for gold. His mind was fixed on only one thing—victory. Yet, after leading the race for the first 150 metres, he suddenly clutched his leg and collapsed onto the track. He had torn his right hamstring, and the injury brought excruciating pain. In that moment, every part of him wanted to give up.

But how many years of relentless training, sacrifice, and determination had led him to that very race? More painful than the torn muscle was the heartbreak of seeing his lifelong dream shattered. With tears streaming down his face, he struggled back to his feet and began



hobbling towards the finish. As he did, the crowd rose to applaud his extraordinary courage.

Then, someone rushed onto the track. It was his coach—and his father. Embracing his tearful son, he said, "You don't have to do this." Derek replied, "Dad, I have to finish." His father answered, "Then we'll finish it together."

Supporting his son with one arm around his shoulders, they continued down the track side by side. Leaning on each other, they crossed the finish line together. More than 65,000 spectators gave the father and son a standing ovation for what became one of the most inspiring finishes in Olympic history. Officially, the result was recorded as DNF (Did Not Finish), but that meant very little to them.

In much the same way, every one of us is running the race of life with all the strength we possess. Along the journey, we inevitably encounter hardships, setbacks, and seasons of suffering. At times, we feel overwhelmed by the difficulty of the road or discouraged by our own limitations. Yet we are also capable of choosing how we respond to adversity. Ultimately, what matters is not whether we stumble, but how we rise again and continue the race.

"But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40:31, NLT)

Our church Facebook, Instagram and Homepage

Through Facebook, you will be able to access our church's news and share online fellowship with various people. Please search on Facebook for "Forestville Uniting Church" and on Instagram for "forestville_uc"

Sanghyeon's day-off

A reminder that Sanghyeon has a day-off every Wednesday. The church office opens Tuesday to Saturday (Not Wed) from 9.00am to 1.00pm.

JUNE HAPPENINGS

3F trip to Quarantine station

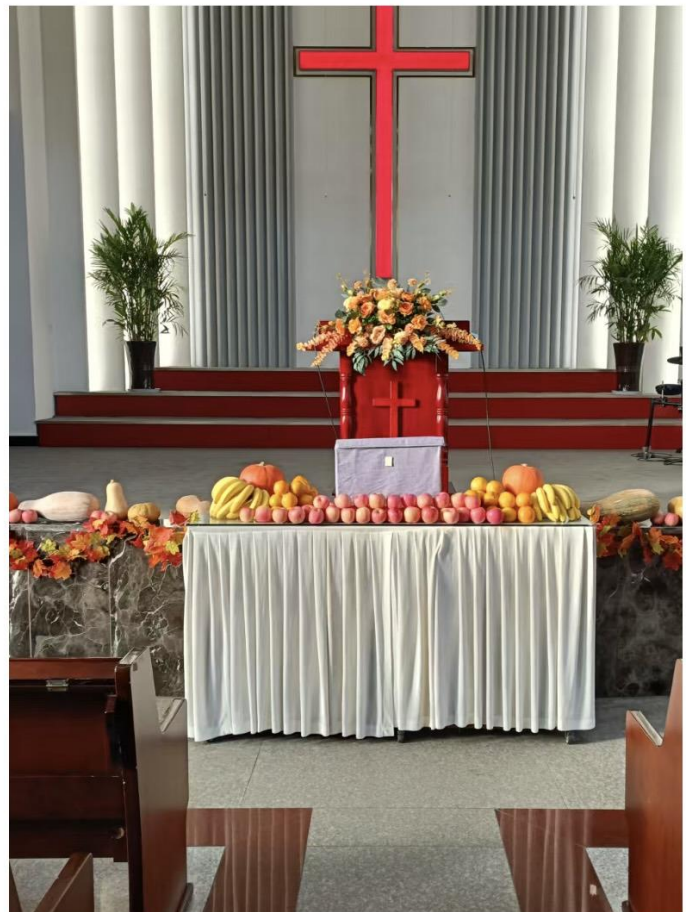


On Tuesday, 9th June, our 3F coordinated a wonderful excursion to North Head's historic Quarantine Station. Seventeen enthusiastic participants, comprising church members and Tuesday English Class students, enjoyed the beautiful winter weather while exploring the expansive heritage grounds. An informative guided tour provided rich insights into the site's fascinating history, which was beautifully complemented by a delightful morning tea and warm fellowship. The day held a deeply poignant significance for Sandra Rim, who shared her unique childhood memories of actually staying at the station. It proved to be an incredibly moving experience of connection, learning, and reflection for everyone involved. We are immensely grateful for this blessed opportunity to grow closer as a community.

Meeting with Joey in China

During my study leave in Shanghai last month, I was grateful to meet Joey, who served in our church several years ago. We met in Hangzhou, southwest of Shanghai. Joey married Leo on the 2nd of May this year, and they now live about an hour away from Hangzhou. They began dating late last year after being introduced by an elder from Leo's church. We

shared tea in a park near my accommodation and caught up. Leo has attended church since childhood, plays piano and guitar, and serves on the worship team. He spoke in Chinese, and Joey kindly translated.



They shared photographs of their church, which operates under government oversight. Looking closely at the photograph, can you notice anything unusual? There was a cross on top, but the government required it to be modified so it could not be used as a public symbol. Even so, around 400 members gather there to worship, study the Bible, and enjoy fellowship. As we parted at Hangzhou Railway Station, I invited them to visit Sydney. While discovering new things through travel is valuable, I was reminded that the greatest joy of travelling is meeting loved ones and sharing meaningful moments. (by Sanghyeon)

WHAT'S ON IN JULY

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

Communion will be celebrated on the first Sunday, **5th July** in church, at home via Zoom or with the paper version of the Order of Service.

Leaders' Meeting on **Tuesday, 7th July** at 7pm at the church.

Christmas in July will be held on **Saturday, 25th July**. Tickets are \$55pp. All proceeds support OCC Christmas boxes, bringing joy to children in need. Please direct deposit using reference "**Surname Xmas**" and confirm your attendance by **Sunday, 12th July**.

3F All members of the church are welcome to join in our next 3F activity - CINEMA - Further details will be shared in due course.

Men's Bible Study (MBS) MBS will be held on **Monday, 27th July at 7.15 am** at the church. 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 Tuesdays at the church during the school term. **Bible Study from 9.30am** followed by **ESL from 11.00am**. The classes will have a break

from 7th July along with the school term break and **resume on Tuesday, 28th July**. 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. The last playgroup for this term will be on Wednesday 1st July.

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, 24th July at 7.30 pm** at Sandra Rim's home. Please bring your textbook, 'Life Lessons from John'.

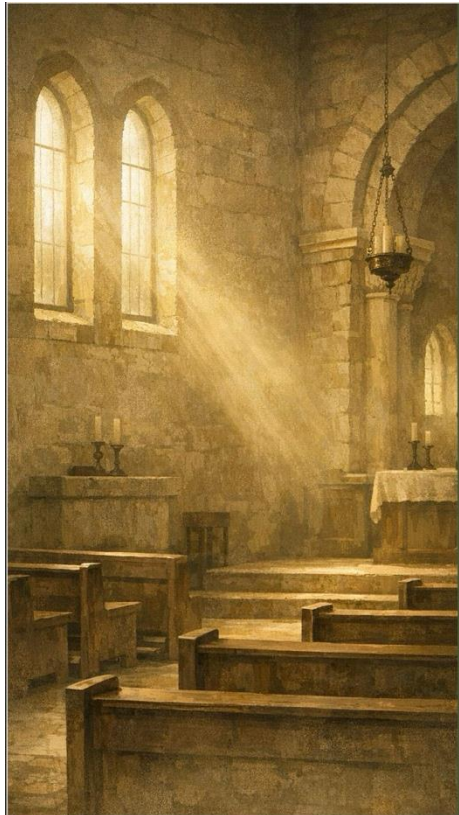
Operation Christmas Child (OCC) During the month of July, Victoria will be collecting *Something to wear* - hats, beanies, t-shirts, underpants, skirts, shorts, jewellery. Please leave items in the box in the church foyer. Likewise, if you would rather give a monetary donation please give directly to 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 - Remembering items must share space in a shoe box so need to be small.

Dates for the Diary

Celebrating 67 Years of Grace and Community

This July, Forestville Uniting Church celebrates its 67th anniversary. For nearly seven decades, our church has been a place of sanctuary, fellowship, and faithful service. As we gather on Sunday, 19th July, we will thank God for His guidance and the vibrant community we share

today. Our anniversary service will feature a special segment with Student Minister, Jermaine. Whether you have been here for decades or recently joined, you are part of our story. Please join us to celebrate sixty-seven years of God's faithfulness.



You are warmly invited to
Rev. Minh Towner's Induction Service

Saturday 11th of July 2026 at 10.00 am

**Hornsby Uniting Church
24 William Street, Hornsby – NSW 2077
*Refreshments following the Service***

Parking is available on site and along William Street
The church is approximately a 10-minute walk from Hornsby train station.

RSVP: Please confirm your attendance for catering purposes.
Email: minister.hornsbyuc@gmail.com
(M) 0410 885 632

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:

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

- Peace to prevail in the many war-torn regions of the world.
- 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 Eggl, Robert Dundas, Chin Yeh Chou and Hai Lian Yuan.

- Pray for our church leaders and volunteers.
- 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

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