
WELCOME

Wonga Park CRC is a church that is committed to helping people grow in their faith, one step at a time. We believe people do this by encountering God in his living word, through prayer, and in community with other believers.

New here? We would love to meet and connect with you, so please fill in your details on the back of this newsletter or send us an email to pastor@wpcrc.org.au and we will get in contact with you.

God's Word: We encourage you to take notes in the place provided, to reflect on what God has been saying to you, and to discuss it with your family, friends and children.

Prayer: We have several places in our worship service where we pray. We believe that prayer is vitally important to our faith lives, and that God powerfully answers our prayer. If you have a specific prayer request, please let us know. We would love to pray with you.

Community: We are committed to our church community, even though we can't physically meet at this point in time due to COVID-19. However, many of our church growth groups continue to meet together online. If you would like to join in an online growth group, please contact admin@wpcrc.org.au and we can get you connected.

SERMON: SCATTERLINGS KNOW HOW TO HANDLE SUFFERING

1 Peter 4:12-19 (CSB)

CHRISTIAN SUFFERING

12 Dear friends, don't be surprised when the fiery ordeal comes among you to test you, as if something unusual were happening to you. 13 Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may also rejoice with great joy when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are ridiculed for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. 15 Let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or a meddler. 16 But if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed but let him glorify God in having that name. 17 For the time has come for judgment to begin with God's household, and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who disobey the gospel of God?

18 And if a righteous person is saved with difficulty,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?

19 So then, let those who suffer according to God's will entrust themselves to a faithful Creator while doing what is good.

SERMON NOTES

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Discussion questions:

1. Why do you think suffering is so prevalent in the world?
2. In what ways have you, or are you currently, experiencing suffering?
3. How has God changed you through your suffering? What lessons did you learn?
4. How can you help others with those lessons?
5. Peter instructs the believers to rejoice 'as they share in Christ's sufferings'. How does the fact that Jesus suffered help us?
6. What does entrusting yourself to a faithful creator (v19) look like for you? How do you do it?
7. Peter says that you should do this, while doing good. Why do you think it is important to keep doing good, even in the midst of suffering?
8. Is it ever God's will for people to suffer? Why or why not?
9. How has this passage changed the way you understand suffering?

Over the last several weeks we have been exploring the 4 E's of the discipleship journey:

Engaging, Evangelising, Establishing, and Equipping. This week I want to start looking at the final E – **Equipping**.

Traditionally churches in our end of the theological spectrum have been fairly good at this final E – Equipping.

Equipping the saints for works of service is more than simply listening to a sermon on a Sunday morning. Equipping has to do with encouraging people to start living out the call God has placed on their lives to be disciple makers in the world.

Now because people are so varied, and we have a multitude of different skill sets, abilities, interests and the like, there is no way that the church can specifically equip each person to do disciple making work in their own specific context.

We can however provide general training that each and every member of a church will need to interact with others. Most Christians will then tend to “specialise” in one area of life, where God has particularly gifted them and placed them to have an impact for the kingdom.

You can think of this almost like our schooling system.

Primary school happens during the establishing phase of discipleship – here Christians are taught the basics of faith and the important doctrines we need to believe (like how salvation works and what it means to us).

Equipping is like high school, where we are taught the general skills that every believer needs to have, like how to share your testimony, how to read the bible, how to pray with someone, and how to share the gospel. Most of us will want to also pursue some further education, specific to our own personal calling. We might attend a conference on Christianity in business, or the arts. We might learn from other Christians in the sphere of science and technology as to how they are bringing Christ's lordship to bear on those areas of life. We may want to focus on music or sport or teaching. The task of the church, is to equip believers at that high school level, and encourage people to pursue their own further equipping training at the tertiary level.

I think unfortunately many churches, especially many reformed churches, have lost that high school, level focus. I myself cannot remember ever being taught how to read scripture as a young person, or how to share the gospel, or indeed even how to pray.

As we continue to pursue discipling as the focus of this congregation, we have been getting back to that middle level training, and once COVID settles down, we will continue offering workshops and other skills based events. Think about what Christian skills you would most like to learn and be trained in, and let us know.



Diary

Sunday 6th September

9:40 am Online Children's talk and Sunday school

10:00 am Online Worship Service

Happy Birthday!



Henri Holtzhausen	30 August	Hannah Remminga	8 September
Carla Van Der Jagt	30 August	Nouda Berends	9 September
Johann van der Walt	31 August	Herman Dye	10 September
Adri Van Leeuwen	31 August	Cassie Van Veen	12 September
Johan Bakkes	1 September	Ina Du Plessis	14 September
Heidi Kruger	2 September	Margreet Day	16 September
Xandre Theron	2 September	Suzanne Nel	16 September
Johann Schachtner	4 September	Phillip Roodt	18 September
Richard Roodt	6 September	Dale Reed	20 September

Someone has an old sewing machine and overlocker that they are willing to give away for free. If you will be able to use it or know of someone who could use this, please email admin@wpcrc.org.au for more information.



Notice from the Hub CRC: "A Service of Thanksgiving"

On Sunday 11 October at 2:30pm, the Hub will be holding a final worship service via Zoom. Sadly, this will be the Hub's last official service. We hope it will be a precious opportunity to reflect on the journey of the Hub, to praise God for his faithfulness, and to look to Him as we move forward in faith.

The Hub is so thankful for all the people and churches who have prayed and supported us over the years. As our partners in the work of the gospel, we would love you to join us for this service of thanksgiving.

Here is the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89911968718>

Finance Overview		
Jun-20	Budget	Actual
Funds in	29,190	21,680
Expenses	25,962	28,186
Year-to-date		
Funds in	240,255	240,780
Expenses	260,021	240,663

BUDGET UPDATE

We have ended the year achieving a pleasing financial outcome. Thank you to all our church family for their faithful support of our church.

Above all, we thank our Heavenly Father for His ongoing provision and blessing of our church.

Looking for Work

We would like to provide an opportunity for fellow congregation members to notify us if you are seeking employment so we could try and support you in the process.

Please send a confidential email to admin@wpcrc.org.au. If possible please attach your resume and give us an indication of what kind of work you are looking for and your availability. As part of this we would also like potential employers or people who are aware of vacancies within their businesses to please let us know of these opportunities by using the same email address.



JOB VACANCY



- **Divisional Manager - Customer Care: Yarra Valley Water**

Full Time 3 year contract - Closing date for applications 14 Sept 2020

Improve our service by effectively leading the Customer Care Division to provide exemplary services to our customers, ensuring expectations are met through the deployment of appropriate resources, consistent with the corporation's strategic plan.

For more information go to: <https://yvw.csod.com/ats/careersite/JobDetails.aspx?id=1713&site=1>

- **Senior Business Analyst: Yarra Valley Water**

Full Time 6 months Contract – Closing date for applications 14 Sept 2020

Provide proactive, strategic business analysis services, with an emphasis on full product development life-cycle experience across small to large projects and programs of work which cover commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) products, new development, and enhancements to existing systems.

For more information go to:

<https://yvw.csod.com/ats/careersite/JobDetails.aspx?id=1666&site=1>

- **Structural Engineer: ITW Residential (Dandenong)**

Help to position and strengthen the delivery of Pryda/ITW's timber engineering offer across Australia and New Zealand. Your main objective will be to assist our customers with delivering cost effective, optimised and compliant timber structure designs for their projects.

For more information go to: <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/search/?currentJobId=1946858968&keywords=itw&location=Melbourne%2C%20Victoria&originalSubdomain=au>

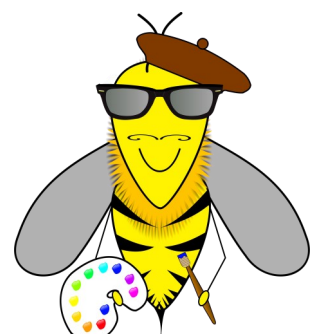
We need your help! We would like a **Working BEE logo** to be designed.

This will be used when organising our Working BEE days. 🐝🐝🐝

If you are between the ages of 1 and 18 and know how to draw, then we would like you to share your talents with us. Get out your bright colours 🎨 and draw something or perhaps just one thing that makes you think of Working BEES.

It would almost be like building a logo puzzle with multiple pieces from the contributions that we receive.

So if you want to see your drawing as part of this "puzzle" email it to admin@wpcrc.org.au by Sunday 13 September 2020 at 8pm.



PRAYER POINTS

Prayer is the way you defeat the devil, reach the lost, restore a backslider, strengthen the saints, send missionaries out, cure the sick, accomplish the impossible, and know the will of God. [David Jeremiah](#)

As we go into the coming week let us daily pray;

That the Lord will keep us close to himself and continually remind us to spend time with him in prayer every day.

Thus says the LORD who made the earth, the LORD who formed it to establish it—the LORD is his name: Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. (Jeremiah 33:2-3 NRSV)

- Give praise and thanks to our God most high for his promise that if we spend time with him, he will share great and hidden things with us.
- Please pray for those among us who have separated from their spouses, Margaret and Bram Vanderjagt, Colin and Nelleke Arnold, Dirk Schuring and Hannes van der Walt. Pray for reconciliation where possible and for peace where this cannot be.
- Pray for all the marriage relationships within our congregation that God will keep strong those that are strong, strengthen those that are weak and rekindle love where love has grown cold.
- Please continue to pray for Ina de Graaf who has just spent two weeks in hospital, give thanks that she is feeling much better and able to be home again.
- Please continue to pray for Phillip and Suzanne Nel as Suzanne continues to struggle with dementia, pray that the Lord will uphold them and give thanks that they are doing well.
- Please pray for our State government that the Lord will grant wisdom as they seek to control the spread of covid-19, pray that they will find a balance between fighting the disease and sustaining the economy.
- Pray for our federal government especially as they face pressure from China, pray that they will stand strong on what they believe is right for Australia and before God in the face of bullying tactics.
- Pray for God's people in our land that we are prepared to give an answer where many are asking questions regarding things of the Spirit.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Ethiopia.

‘They came to my home and began to knock on our door violently. We tried to escape with our children via the window. They burned my home and grain mill business. But with the kindness of God, I have been able to save my children from being burnt.’ This was the testimony of Mrs Eniye Cheru, whose family survived when the Christians of Derra town in Ethiopia were attacked in the early hours of 30 June.

But hundreds of other Christians, from a wide span of ethnic groups, were killed in the co-ordinated attacks of late June and early July. Police stood by and watched as Christians were carefully selected and murdered, Christian homes and Christian businesses destroyed. Thousands of Christians were displaced; many are still sheltering in church buildings, not daring to return home. ‘These targeted genocides of Christians by Muslim extremists are going on unabated in the south, south-east and east of Addis Ababa,’ wrote an Ethiopian Christian to Barnabas Fund on 26 August.

The attackers were members of Qeerroo (literally, ‘bachelors’), a youth movement of Oromo men. The Oromo are an ethnic group who have traditionally been Muslim. The anti-Christian violence was ostensibly triggered by the assassination of an Oromo singer called Hachalu Hundessa, who was shot dead while driving in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, at around nine pm on 29 June.

By midnight the attacks had begun in towns across Oromia regional state – attacks that showed the hallmarks of careful advance planning. Some of the Qeerroo carried lists of Christians and went door to door, seeking the individuals to kill them. The emphasis was on those who were active supporters of the Church.

– Barnabas Fund

NEXT PRAYER MEETING

The next prayer meeting will be held on Sunday the 6th of September at 7.30pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5625807703>

Meeting ID: 562 580 7703

SESSION MEETING 11 AUGUST 2020 - ABRIDGED MINUTES

Bookkeeping assistance:

Lizet Kritzinger offered to help with the accounts. She has a good background and experience in this area.

Pastoral Care Callers:

Pastoral care calls are continuing for the moment, but people who are part of growth groups would be looked after through their groups and won't be contacted as part of the scheduled calls

Painting of church ceilings: The main building ceilings have been painted and looks beautiful. We are all looking forward to see it.

Maintenance book: We will provide a file to record any maintenance requests / issues that needs to be addressed

Church Cleaning: Carry this forward to another month since we are unable to access the church.

Membership requests / transfers:

We gained four communitive members who have joined our church since lockdown. Some of them have joined growth groups and we are hoping to get the others included in a group soon.

Incoming Correspondence:

We received a poster from the RCYC on the state of the nation on youth ministry giving us an indication of what we should focus on for the future.

Online church services:

We are learning as we continue. We have a pretty constant attendance of 50-55 people tuning in on a Sunday morning.

Four E's

Engaging:

Online Growth Groups: We are still encouraging all to join a Growth Group. It is great way to stay engage with our Church Community

Online reach of service: It is progressing pretty good. On average our posts reach between 700 to 1000 people per week.

Food hampers: With lockdown they are unable to access school families. Deacons are staying in touch through phone calls. If you know of anyone in need of some support during this time, please call Margreet Day.

Evangelizing:

Other activities or opportunities during Stage 3 lockdown: We still want to slot in a Christianity Explore course over Zoom perhaps around October.

It would be great if we could commit through the growth groups to pray for someone to come to the Lord so that we have been praying for quite a few people by the time that we want to run the course.

Establishing:

Growth groups: Every week the elder could do an announcement after the snippet of the growth group encouraging people to contact Annandra in order to join a group.

Equipping:

This month is the second round of our coaching conversations with Chris.

One of the Denomination has been talking about and will be presented to the Senate going forwards is Denominational Structure for running Internships within local churches. We should know if and how they want to proceed with this by March 2021

Ministry Portfolios

Finances:

Financial update: Busy preparing the report with budget items.

Thanksgiving collection: Sound equipment can now be updated due to the generous contributions received.

Deacons' ministry:

With compliment cards have been designed by Heidi Kruger. It looks great and will be used with the donations and other items that the Deacons' ministry provide to the community.

Additional Second Collection unallocated: Agreed to give it to Lifeline due to the current situation and they are also a Christian based organisations.

Church Operations

Peter Day is taking over and Jack has notified everyone involved with Maintenance of this change.

There will be a plan in place for the number of people in each area. There will be considerations around increased spacing to allow for people singing.

Matters for discussion

Request to ease frequency of Duty Elder Extra people volunteered to do prayer leading. It is good to get a few more people involved.

COVID-19 Policy – Policy document is under review in preparation of returning to Church. It will be made available as soon as it has been finalized.

KEY CONTACT DETAILS

ELDERS

Pastor

Chris Pretorius
0423 889 913
pastor@wpcrc.org.au

Youth Pastor

Tim Gray
0448 660 291
youth@wpcrc.org.au

Chairman and Worship Services

Peter Williams
0431 500 006

Finance

Lourens Geldenhuys
0409 990 398

Facilities Management

Peter Day
0404 227 776

Youth and Children

Ryan Weston
0430 465 125

Growth Groups

Jack Organtzoglou
0403 377 559

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Margreet Day
0491 117 900

DEACONS

Margreet Day
0491 117 900 AH 9723 0753

Joy Van Veen
0409 199 840

Gerry Smedes
0432 559 725

ADMINISTRATION

Session Clerk & Church**Administrator**

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0448 469 569

Child Safe Coordinator

Lynette Pretorius
0423 889 912

MINISTRY LEADERS

Prayer Ministry

prayer@wpcrc.org.au
Herman Linde
0411 069 808

Music Ministry

Mia Van Wyk
0420 817 800

Sunday School Coordinator

Nicky Bester
0439 084 987

Audio Visual

Cassie Van Veen
0499 230 872

Crèche ministry

Abigail Remminga
0497 370 820

Creative Space

Elmie Schachtner
0416 805 656

GEMS

(primary aged girls group)
Lynette Pretorius
0423 889 912

Kids Hope Coordinator

Enè Crous
0450 211 133

CAP Money Course

Neil Bester
0429 569 149
Martin Van der Merwe
0458 908 14

GIVING

In our church we have 2 offerings every Sunday. The first offering goes toward the ministry of this congregation. The second offering goes toward various ministry organisations we support. If you would like to support this work you can do so in a few different ways:

In church giving: Simply add your offering to the offering bag.

Bank Transfer: BSB: 063 167 **Acc:** 1015 8356. For the Deacons **BSB:** 063167 **Acc:** 1015 8372

Via Church App: Download it here <https://wpcrc.org.au/app/>