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## WELCOME

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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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@wpcrc.org.au) and we can get you connected.

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## SERMON: SCATTERLINGS ARE CALLED TO ETERNAL GLORY

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### 1 Peter 5:10-14 (CSB)

10 The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, establish, strengthen, and support you after you have suffered a little while. 11 To him be dominion forever. Amen.

12 Through Silvanus, a faithful brother (as I consider him), I have written to you briefly in order to encourage you and to testify that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it! 13 She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings, as does Mark, my son. 14 Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ. -- 1 Peter 5:10-14 (CSB)

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## SERMON NOTES

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

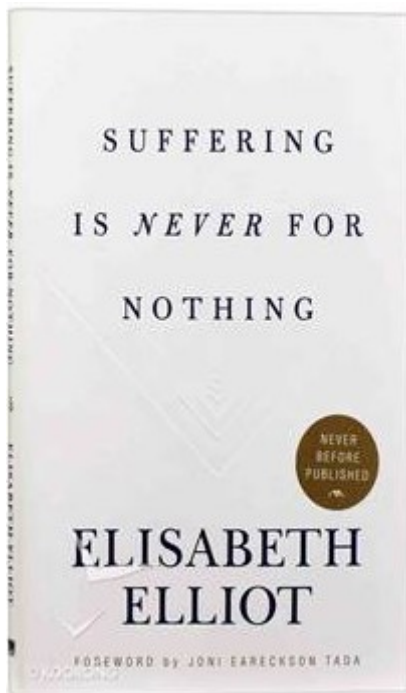
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1. What will God do for us after our time on Earth?
2. Why in life is it important for us to know that God will restore us?
3. When in life is it important for us to know that God will establish us?
4. When in life is it important for us to know that God will strengthen us?
5. When in life is it important for us to know that God will support us (can also be translated as establish us on firm foundations) us?
6. Peter grounds all of this in God's eternal dominion (v11). Why is this important? How does this relate to v.6-9?
7. What does it mean to you to be "called to eternal glory in Christ"? What emotions does this evoke in you?
8. If you were standing at the end of all things, when God has made all things new, and you look back at your life today, what would you change about your current circumstances?
9. What would you do differently today?

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## DISCIPLESHIP DIGEST

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As we continue looking at ways in which we can be Equipped as believers, I wanted to recommend another book this week. We have now been in lockdown for several weeks, the mental health of many of us is suffering significantly. But because we live in a time where many of us have never really experienced much suffering or difficulty, times like this can cause us to question our faith. So how do we process suffering? How do we deal with hard times that come with no real explanation? Can suffering be a gateway to gratitude or joy?

In her book Elisabeth Elliot seeks to answer the question "Why doesn't God do something about suffering?". Her answer: He has, He did, He is, and He will.

This truth led Elisabeth to say, "Whatever is in the cup that God is offering to me, whether it be pain and sorrow and suffering and grief along with the many more joys, I'm willing to take it because I trust Him." Suffering is never for nothing.

So this week I want to encourage you to grab a copy of her book "Suffering is Never for Nothing". It is a great read, and very helpful for equipping us in our current circumstances.



# Diary

**Sunday 20th September**

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

**10:00 am** Online Worship Service



*Happy  
Birthday!*

Hannah Remminga	8 September	Dale Reed	20 September
Nouda Berends	9 September	Abigail Viljoen	20 September
Herman Dye	10 September	J.D. Steenkamp	24 September
Cassie Van Veen	12 September	Mia Van Wyk	25 September
Ina Du Plessis	14 September	Amelia Roodt	29 September
Margreet Day	16 September	Christy Vanderjagt	29 September
Suzanne Nel	16 September	Phillip Nel	30 September
Phillip Roodt	18 September		

## 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>

## 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](mailto: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>

- Two exciting opportunities in our Communications team that require exceptional writers who are passionate about how our faith compels us to be bearers of Good News in our world today.

Content Lead (12 months) & Content writer (3 months) positions with TEAR Australia

<https://www.tear.org.au/positions-vacant/category/staff-vacancies>



September 2020

Dear Sisters in Christ

I pray that you and your families are well, and have not been too greatly impacted by coronavirus. Hearing how the virus is affecting different parts of Australia is very sobering, and I am so glad that we have the assurance that our God is in control.

The Convention Planning Committee (CPC) has been praying for all the CRCA ladies throughout Australia, especially those who were hoping to attend Convention this year. It is encouraging to us that some interstate ladies have indicated that they are still hoping to come to next year's convention. More than ever, we are aware that God is determining the outcome of the plans that we have put in place. We are trusting that some of us will be able to meet together next May.

I have always loved to sing Book of Worship 91- "Safe in the shadow of the LORD". It has always given me a strong sense of being in God's care. In a recent email our speaker, Robyn, mentioned Psalm 91 as being particularly encouraging at the moment. The psalmist talks about God being our refuge and fortress in verse 2, and tells us that He will save us from the "deadly pestilence" in verse 3. I hope that each one of you has the same assurance as the writer of this psalm in these unpredictable times.

With all the uncertainty that is around at the moment, it is difficult to send you an update about the plans for Convention knowing that many of you are not in a position to know whether you will be able to travel to Queensland next year. However, we are aware that a small number of ladies were considering booking motel accommodation and attending Convention as Day Visitors. We wanted to share extra accommodation options with you at this time, so that you can include them in your planning.

Besides the standard accommodation offered in the Registration Brochure, we are now also able to offer Twin Share and Triple Share accommodation. The costs of these options are:

Adult Twin Share accommodation & meals - \$520.00 per person

Pensioner Twin Share accommodation & meals - \$490.00 per person

Adult Triple Share accommodation & meals - \$425.00 per person

Pensioner Triple Share accommodation & meals - \$390.00 per person

Ladies who are interested in booking Twin or Triple Share Accommodation will need to contact Wendy by email at [wendyjoyvowles@gmail.com](mailto:wendyjoyvowles@gmail.com) or on (07) 3294 6889 / 0408 073 680, as they will need to book and pay for their accommodation as a group.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, the CPC will need to confirm the total number of people staying overnight Alexandra Park Convention Centre by the end of this year. We will need to pay for this number of people regardless of the number of women who actually come to Convention. Given the current situation in Australia, we are unable to use the number of women who have attended previous conventions as a guide to how many people we can expect next year.



To assist us with making this difficult decision, the CPC is asking anyone who is planning to come to Convention if they are able travel to the Sunshine Coast to let us know by the end of November. You will still have until 24 April 2021 to lodge your registration, so there will be no commitment if you are unable to come. We would like to thank the people who have already contacted us after our last newsletter.

Here's how you are able get a copy of the Registration information:

- Online at [www.tivolicrc.org.au](http://www.tivolicrc.org.au) and then select "CRCA Women's Convention 2021"
- Contact our treasurer, Wendy, at [wendyjoyvowles@gmail.com](mailto:wendyjoyvowles@gmail.com) or on 3294 6889 / 0408 073 680

Registrations will close on Saturday, 24 April 2021

The Committee has stayed in touch with Alexandra Park Convention Centre regarding our booking throughout this year. The centre has been able to continue to function in spite of coronavirus. Information about their COVID Safe Plan can be found at <https://alexpark.com.au/about-us/coronavirus>.

As always I would like to end this Convention update with some prayer points, so that we can continue to support each other in this difficult time. Here are some items you may like to include in your prayer time:

- *Thanks for God's care for each of us*
- *Blessing for all CRCA women during this time of uncertainty*
- *Blessing for our main speaker, Robyn, and our guest speaker, Heather, as they prepare to speak to us*
- *God's provision for women who would like to come to convention next year, so that they will be given the opportunity and finances to attend*
- *Blessing for Alexandra Park Convention Centre, so that they will be able to continue operating in spite of coronavirus*
- *Wisdom for the 2021 Convention Planning Committee, as we continue planning all aspects of Convention*

Blessings

Sylvia de Jongh  
Planning Committee Convenor

### Proposed Program

Time	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
7.00am		Prayer Meeting	Prayer Meeting	Prayer Meeting
7.30am		<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>
8.30am		Information	Information	Information
9.00am		Teaching Session 2	Teaching Session 4	Teaching Session 6
10.30am		<i>Morning Tea</i>	<i>Morning Tea</i>	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11.00am		Teaching Session 3	Teaching Session 5	Closing
12.30pm		<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
1.30pm		Outing to Mooloolaba	Photos	Leave
2.00pm	Arrive Registration Afternoon Tea Settle in		1 2 1 Bible Reading	
3.00pm			<i>Afternoon Tea</i>	
3.30pm			Craft /	
4.00pm			Free Time	
6.00pm	<i>Dinner</i>	<i>Dinner</i>	<i>Dinner</i>	
7.00pm	Welcome / Info	Fun Night	Mission Spot	
7.30pm	Teaching Session 1		Guest Speaker	
8.45pm	Next Day Info	Next Day Info	Next Day Info	
9.00pm	<i>Supper</i>	<i>Supper</i>	<i>Supper</i>	

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### BUDGET UPDATE

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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



## Synodical Interim Committee

Rev John De Boer (Chairman). Rev Clinton Berends (Vice-Chairman). Mr John van Dijk. Rev. Jack Kapinga.

27 August 2020

### Letter to all CRCA Congregations regarding the Solomon Islands Workgroup

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

We would like to bring you up to date with some developments with our SWIM Mission in the Solomon Islands and the Solomon Islands Workgroup (SIW).

- In January this year Ron & Tanya Pirini, who have been serving at the SWIM Base for the last three years, completed their term and returned to New Zealand. Their efforts were greatly appreciated and we wish them God's ongoing blessing. Initially no replacement for them was appointed.
- To facilitate the ongoing work of the SWIM Base, a Local Leadership Team (LLT) was formed comprising of Simon & Ana Burgaaf, Peter Steunenberg and Ken & Margi Martin, whose names you will have seen in the latest SWIM Newsletters. Ken & Margi also began serving as interim and voluntary Base Managers.
- Since then the SIW has also undergone some significant changes. A number of workgroup members decided to stand down and we wish to thank Jenny Ragaruma, Kerry van den Bosch, Danielle Hugman and Ingeborg de Ruysscher for their dedicated work during what has been a difficult season. Furthermore Classis Queensland decided that given the establishment of the LLT, Rev. Jim de Witte would no longer act as Classis liaison on the SIW and this left Jack Visser as the only remaining member of the workgroup.
- Following an approach to Classis Queensland it was then left to the Synodical Interim Committee (SIC) to appoint an Interim SIW to oversee the LLT and the mission on behalf of the denomination. Thus Jack Visser has now been joined by Jan Hughes (Qld), Mike Vos (Tas) and Rod Peet (NSW). We are very thankful for their willingness to take on this task and for Rod's willingness to also serve as the new SIW Chairman. The brief of the interim workgroup is to take the work at the SWIM Base forward to Synod 2021 when the long-term future of the Mission will be discussed.

In all this, the desire of the SIC and the Interim SIW is to ensure the CRCA's ministry and mission in the Solomon Islands continues as per the decisions of Synod 2018.

It has been a time of great challenge and change for SWIM and the SIW and we earnestly seek your prayerful support for this work. Please pray for stability for this Mission and that through it the Kingdom of God will be manifest both in the CRCA and through the work in the Solomon Islands.

John de Boer, on behalf of the Synod Interim C'ttee.

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## PRAYER POINTS

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**Prayer is the easiest and hardest of all things; the simplest and the sublimest; the weakest and the most powerful; its results lie outside the range of human possibilities-they are limited only by the omnipotence of God. ~ E.M. Bounds**

### **As we go into the coming week let us daily pray**

That the Lord will assure us of his nearness so that we will have great joy in him and will lie down and sleep in peace even if the world around us is turned upside down.

*You can be sure of this: The LORD set apart the godly for himself. The LORD will answer when I call to him. You have given me greater joy than those who have abundant harvests of grain and new wine. In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, O LORD, will keep me safe. (Psalm 4:3&7-8 NLT)*

- Give praise and thanks to God for his steadfastness in times of turmoil, his comfort in times of suffering, his peace in times of anxiety, his support in times of hardship and his presence in times of loneliness.
- Please continue to pray for Martin Hanscamp and his family as Martin is drawing close to his departure to be with the Lord. May they all know the loving arms of their Lord and Saviour around them at this time.
- Please pray for Gretchen Fourie as she has had to go back into hospital suffering from pleurisy with added complications, give thanks that she is doing much better and pray for a full recovery.
- Please pray for all those who continue to suffer due to the corona virus, pray that the Lord will provide for all their needs whether that be healing, comfort or economic needs.
- Continue to pray for our governments as they work to lead us through this current crisis, pray for wisdom, courage and perseverance and that they will seek to do what is right and what is best even if that is unpopular.
- Pray for the churches in our nation, that God's people will show the love of Christ in all their dealings showing patience and trust in God.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Chad. Christians in Chad are on the brink of survival as they face flood, drought, violence and Covid-related problems, according to Pastor Clément Hlama, director of a Coalition Of Evangelical Churches In Chad On Compassion. He says that Christians in Chad presently are worried about food, health, housing, education of children and the survival of their faith. Pastor Hlama told Barnabas Fund, Christians face violent persecution as Islamic extremists seize opportunities created by the COVID-19 situation. Across Chad the poor are poorer, children are malnourished, young people's education is suffering, agricultural production is down and the churches are greatly affected. Pastor Hlama says the very existence of the Church is at risk. But Christians remain faithful, clinging to the Lord. Barnabas Fund has already fed more than 600,000 Christians suffering from the COVID-19 crisis and the locust plague. Chad is one of the least developed countries in the world and has a life expectancy of 50 years. – Barnabas Fund

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## NEXT PRAYER MEETING

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**The next prayer meeting will be held on Wednesday the 23rd of September at 7.30pm.**

Join Zoom Meeting

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

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## UNITE 714 PRAYER

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### Unite 714 Prayer

Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

— JAMES 5:17-18 (ESV)

And Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of the rushing of rain." So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Mount Carmel. And he bowed himself down on the earth and put his face between his knees. And he said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea."

And he went up and looked and said, "There is nothing." And he said, "Go again," seven times. And at the

seventh time he said, "Behold, a little cloud like a man's hand is rising from the sea." And he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot and go down, lest the rain stop you.'" And in a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel.

— 1 KINGS 18:41-45 (ESV)

Lord, Your Scriptures are filled with astonishing accounts of men and women who changed their world through prayer. Elijah is among these heroes and heroines of the faith. He was human, just like us. Your Scriptures record he was greatly overwhelmed with fear and anxiety at one point in his life. Yet, even in the weakness of his humanity, You made him strong. Through Your power and his prayers, the course of history changed. Today, knowing You are the God whose strength is made perfect in our weakness, we humbly come united before Your throne, crying out in prayer. Lord, make us strong in our weakness today. Fill us with the faith we need to patiently persist in prayer until COVID-19 is eradicated and our world is flooded with a fresh outpouring of Your Spirit.

Heavenly Father, Elijah had just experienced the greatest encounter of His life. Fire literally fell from heaven. His enemies were seemingly defeated. Yet, there was no rain, and a drought was destroying his world. Today, like Elijah, we will not just settle for great church services. Our cities and nations are being ravaged by a relentless pandemic, and the hearts of the world's people are parched and desperate for the rains of heaven. Like Elijah, we can hear the sound of divine breakthrough. Yet, it is no time to merely settle and play. Like Elijah, it is time for us to pray.

Lord, we will not settle for great church services and simply being blessed by the manifestation of Your presence and power. No, we boldly come before You in unity, crying out: Please eradicate COVID-19 and bring a fresh move of Your Spirit to the earth.

Heavenly Father, prayer is often hard work. Today, we rise out of the mire of discouragement and patiently climb the mountain of prayer. Like Elijah, who did not settle for rain clouds and winds, we too, will persevere, until the spiritual drought destroying our planet is broken by the fresh rains of heaven.

Lord, we boldly come before Your throne from 179 nations around the world. You have transformed our desperation into the discipline we need to change the course of our world through united prayer. We now cry out, saying: Heal our lands from the ravages of this pandemic, revive and unite Your church, and save millions through Your glorious Gospel. In Jesus' name we pray.

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## KEY CONTACT DETAILS

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### ELDERS

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**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

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### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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Margreet Day  
0491 117 900

### DEACONS

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Margreet Day  
0491 117 900 AH 9723 0753

Joy Van Veen  
0409 199 840

Gerry Smedes  
0432 559 725

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### ADMINISTRATION

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0448 469 569

**Child Safe Coordinator**

Lynette Pretorius  
0423 889 912

### MINISTRY LEADERS

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**Prayer Ministry**

prayer@wpcrc.org.au  
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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

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### GIVING

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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/>