



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: THE APOSTLES AND THE POWER OF GOD

Matthew 10:1-13 (CSB)

COMMISSIONING THE TWELVE

Summoning his twelve disciples, he gave them authority over unclean spirits, to drive them out and to heal every disease and sickness.

2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: First, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

5 Jesus sent out these twelve after giving them instructions: "Don't take the road that leads to the Gentiles, and don't enter any Samaritan town. 6 Instead, go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 As you go, proclaim, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those with leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you received, freely give. 9 Don't acquire gold, silver, or copper for your money-belts. 10 Don't take a traveling bag for the road, or an extra shirt, sandals, or a staff, for the worker is worthy of his food. 11 When you enter any town or village, find out who is worthy, and stay there until you leave. 12 Greet a household when you enter it, 13 and if the household is worthy, let your peace be on it; but if it is unworthy, let your peace return to you. --

Matthew 10:1-13 (CSB)

SERMON NOTES

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) How do you understand the purpose of the apostles – at least in the gospels? Has your view changed at all now? (You're allowed to answer "no" if it hasn't!)
- 2) Many of the apostles whom Jesus chose were a group "uneducated and untrained men" (Acts 4:13) who lived in the same region of backwater Galilee and who knew each other. This doesn't seem like a careful selection. Why do you think Jesus chose these people?
- 3) When Andrew first discovered Jesus, he promptly told his brother Peter about him. John probably did likewise with his brother James. And Philip went and found Nathanael to tell him. We can sometimes find it hard to share the gospel with relatives and friends. What do you think made the difference for these people? Does that give you any ideas about ways you might share the gospel with your own relatives or friends?
- 4) Matthew and Simon had strongly opposed backgrounds. Has there been a time when you've had to work together in Christian ministry or in a church with someone whose background or lifestyle were objectionable to you? How did you handle that? Looking back, do you think the collaboration was successful, and why or why not?
- 5) In Matthew 10:1-13, what were the things the apostles were to learn and practise doing?
- 6) In that same passage, the apostles were sent out without what we would commonly consider to be adequate preparation. Why do you think Jesus did this – or was his preparation of them actually adequate?
- 7) Consider your ministry areas in our church – things you could do, or things you sense the Lord wants you to do. How much training or preparation would you feel you need, and how comfortable would you need to feel before starting? In the light of Matthew 10:1-13, has your view altered, or has it confirmed your view?
- 8) Has there been a point in time which brought you insight into where your life is at, and what your future looks like? What are your goals and expectations from now for the rest of your life? What is your understanding of God's plans for you going forward – where is the Holy Spirit leading you?

DIARY

Sunday 14 March

10:00 am Worship Service

10:30 am Junior Sunday School

*Happy
Birthday*

| | | |
|----------|-------------|----------|
| Monique | Trigg | 14 March |
| Brent | Vanderjagt | 16 March |
| Peter | Faber | 17 March |
| Ameri | van Dyk | 22 March |
| Leonie | Stork | 24 March |
| Michelle | Dyer | 26 March |
| Joash | Lichtendonk | 27 March |
| Nick | Aitken | 31 March |

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

As required by Victoria Health we need to keep a record of who has been attending the church service. We have set up a QR code that you can scan when you arrive at church on which your basic information will be captured securely onto a form in Elvanto.

We will only use or disclose your check-in information for coronavirus (COVID-19) contact tracing. Your data will then be deleted after 28 days.

Your details won't be used for marketing or other purposes.

We will also have some volunteers with iPads to assist people who are unable to check in using their phones. It may take a bit of time to get everyone through the process so please try to be a bit earlier at church than what you would normally be.

**VOLUNTEER
Needed!**

The Newsletter Team is in need of one more volunteer to assist with compiling the newsletter every week.

Schedule is generally 2 weeks on and 4 weeks off.

If you are interested please email newsletter@wpcrc.org.au or feel free to chat to or contact Neil Bester (Mob: 0429 569 149) or Enè Crous (Mob: 0450 211 133)

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

Dear colleagues in ministry,

Today I received an email from a brother in Christ, Joel Jupp, who serves as music director at the Lombard CRC in the Chicago area in the USA. In addition, he also edits documents in his other time. He is looking for someone who can be an English editor to help him, someone in Australia to cover his late night and overnight orders.

This is what he wrote to me:

In short, I have been overworked for a very long time, and I need to find a good, trustworthy, honest, and flexible person to help me. It'd need to be someone strong in English grammar, and someone who checks their messages (so I can ask them if they want to edit). Again, it'd be paid (1-2 cents/word). I'm part of a CRC church, so my dad actually had the good idea of contacting you. Since I edit things like medical studies, I need to find trustworthy people, so we thought the CRC would be a good place to start. My issue is that if I received a document late at night, it can be easier to have someone help overseas.

My wife has been battling cancer, and we are very concerned of some recent tests. While I don't like talk about it, and while we hopefully pray for God to display his power, I also know that God wants me to be responsible for the sake of my family (we have three kids). Should God choose to bless us with a miracle, I would still need help either way.

For my full-time work, I lead worship music at Lombard CRC church. Since my wife and daughter are high risk for COVID-19, we've been in quarantine for 11 months, and I've been helping to record music and help oversee online services for the church during the pandemic. As you can imagine, that ministry also takes a lot of my focus.

Perhaps you know of someone in your church who is looking to do some work from home, who meets some/all of the requirements Joel mentions above. I have checked out Joel's references, and can vouch for Joel with his requests/expectations. If you have someone (or several) in mind, please pass on their contact details to me, and I will personally forward them to Joel. In this way we can be of assistance to our brother, who is facing various challenges, both personally and work-wise. This might also be off good benefit to someone you know.

Please send me a quick reply, so I can do likewise in response to Joel.

May God continue to bless and guide you in all that you do in life and in ministry.

Grace and peace,

Jack De Vries

Ministry Development Coach

p. 07 3285 3678

m. 0437 339 008

e. mtc@crca.org.au

w. www.ministryformation.com.au



It is with great pleasure that we announce that Tim and Leah have a daughter Ruther Esther Gray, born 10 March, 2.04kg at exactly 35 weeks. Mother and baby are both healthy.

FROM THE DEACONS...

Just a note from your current serving deacon.

I am starting up the 'deacons pantry' again to assist those who could use a helping hand with keeping mouths fed when money is a bit tight.

I would love to see some of the pantry staples that most people can use.

Ideas include...coffee, tea, milo, cereals, spreads, rice, pasta, cans of fish or beans or fruit....maybe just check your own pantry for the staples you would rather not be without as an idea of what to give to others.

Sanitary / personal health, (eg hand sanitiser and disposable masks), and kitchen wraps and cleaning products are also helpful.

Yarra rd Primary will happily take some bags of groceries from us for four of their families and the rest will be distributed as we see someone who might benefit from this service.

Thank You for your love and prayers at this time. Please continue to pray and support not only me but all who have been, and who are, and who will be involved in diaconal work for our congregation.

Yours in Christ's name—Joy van Veen.



CRCA WOMEN'S CONVENTION 2021

May 28th - May 31st 2021

a weekend retreat for women of all ages

Bungalow rooms
with 5 beds and ensuite

visit tivolicrc.org.au

wendy 0408 073 680



Working Bee Saturday 13th March 2021

Much work needs to be done both inside and outside our church. Many hands needed!
Please come enjoy a time of fellowship and work, to praise God and thank Him
for all He has done for us. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

- Church building area - clean church windows in worship, foyer and hall areas
- Church building area - outside wall remove spider cob webs
- Kitchen - clean.

Outside and gardens

- Clean up piles of bushes on property.

Verandah

- Repair patio decking boards especially on the east side

Outside building walls

- Treat with protective oil

Church cottage

- Clean-up around the cottage, including gutters

Please bring all necessary tools for work which needs to be done. Particularly for working in the garden. Secateurs large and small, digging equipment, chain saws, any other saws, wheel barrows as well as window cleaning equipment and equipment for removing cobwebs would be useful.

Expressions of interest invited for: The Publicity Officer(s) position for World Transform (WT) and G.O.S.P.E.L.

The Christian Reformed Churches of Australia (CRCA) are seeking to minister internationally to needy peoples with good holistic development programs and to reach unreached peoples with the message of the Gospel.

In India (which by 2024 is to become the most populous nation of the world) CRCA is facilitating Holistic Development (DEED) and Church Planting (WORD) ministries because the needs are so acute.

- **The subcommittee called World Transform (WT) does relief and development work according to its mandate.**

“We see India as a very strategic place. It is where development is most urgent because the poverty is very severe.”

- **The subcommittee called G.O.S.P.E.L. engages in a church planting partnership in India. |**

“We engage with indigenous church planters through the Christian Reformed Fellowship of India to train, resource and equip evangelists to work mainly amongst tribals in central/western India who are unreached by the Gospel.”

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As Rev Bert Kuipers will be retiring, the WT and G.O.S.P.E.L. subcommittees
(in consultation with GROW) are looking to appoint:

Either

o **One ordained Publicity Officer (PO) for up to two days a week** for both components of WT and GOSPEL (0.4 FTE)

Or

o **Two Publicity Officers, each serving up to a day a week (2 X 0.2 FTE)**

(1) For World Transform - an ordained or un-ordained officer. [The WT subcommittee does not feel the task requires the applicant to be ordained.]

(2) For GOSPEL an ordained officer. [The GOSPEL subcommittee believes an ordained applicant is required.]

Please send all expressions of interest to the Admin Officer by **17th March** deadline.
worldtransform@crca.org.au

For any further information, or a confidential chat, please contact Bert Kuipers by phone or email bkuipers@netspace.net.au
Phone: 03 6327 3058
Mob: 0438 343 101

A formal application process will be conducted in due course.
An appointment will be initially for a one year probationary period for training and evaluation.
The CRCA Synod meeting in May 2021 makes 3 year appointments.

Position description

- 1) To be familiar with the respective mandates of WT, GOSPEL as set by Synod. (There are three main components: Deed ministries, Word ministries and also both international and emergency relief work as situations arise).
- 2) To be a good student of God's Word and to keep abreast of good practices with regard to International Relief and Development and Global Missions.
- 3) To give visionary leadership and continue to promote the ministries within the CRCA.
 - a) Reporting i. For the subcommittees who provide governance to the ministries.
 - ii. Assisting the subcommittees with drafting Synod reports.
 - iii. Attending subcommittee meetings, GROW meetings.
 - b) Media i.e. Keeping the churches aware of and up to date with relevant reporting. i. Use of Electronic and Print media.
 - ii. Help coordinate and compile the Compassionate Catalogue.
 - iii. Church Visitation
- 4) Liaison, consultation in the field. Good communication is the key. This entails at least annual personal contacts in the field as well as discussions with respective development stakeholders.
- 5) Work closely with the Admin. Support person.
- 6) Challenge the denomination to ever greater compassion and love for the lost and needy in the majority world.

PRAYER POINTS

**There is a place where thou canst touch the eyes
Of blinded men to instant, perfect sight;
There is a place where thou canst say, "Arise"
To dying captives, bound in chains of night;
There is a place where thou canst reach the store
Of hoarded gold and free it for the Lord;
There is a place — upon some distant shore —
Where thou canst send the worker and the
Word.**

Where is that secret place--dost thou ask, "Where?"

O soul, it is the secret place of prayer! — Alfred Lord Tennyson

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

That the Spirit will guide us into prayer that is in harmony with God and that brings before his holy throne that which will bring him glory.

In the same way the Spirit also joins to help in our weakness, because we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with unspoken groanings. And He who searches the hearts knows the Spirit's mind-set, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. (Romans 8:26-27 HCSB)

- * Give thanks and praise to God for his Holy Spirit who offers up our prayers on our behalf in a way that we could never do.
- * Please continue to pray for Leah, pray that everything will go well for her and her baby.
- * Pray also for Christel Weston and her babies, pray that she will be healed from the infection she contracted.
- * Pray for Martie Schachtner as she faces more treatment for cancer that the Lord will use this treatment to heal her completely.
- * Please continue to pray for Suzanne and Phillip Nel, pray that they will know the touch of God's loving arms around them.
- * Please pray for our congregation as we are going through a time of turmoil right now, pray that there will be grace and love demonstrated amongst us all and that we will seek God's honour above all.
- * Please pray for our pastor Chris Pretorius and the session as they seek to do the will of our God as they lead us, pray for wisdom, strength and courage in the decisions they make.
- * Please pray for the church in our nation, pray for God's protection over his people and for a spirit of power so that the lost will see his light.
- * Pray for our governments especially our federal government with his servant Scot Morrison at the helm, pray that he will be protected from all that the evil one throws at him.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in India. A family who converted to Christianity this year has been banished from their Indian village, after they stood firm in their faith and refused to recant. The Padiami family came to faith in Christ after hearing the Gospel when a group of Christians visited their home. Mr Padiami and his wife were called to a village meeting last month and told by the village chief to renounce their Christian faith. They refused, Mr Padiami telling village leaders, 'Even though you will drive me out of the village, I will not leave Jesus Christ.' This enraged local villagers who ransacked Padiami's home. The family has since been forced to leave the village and told they would be killed if they returned. — International Christian Concern

NEXT PRAYER MEETING

To be confirmed

STATE YOUTH SERVICE — EQUIP NIGHT

VICTORIAN CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCHES YOUTH

EQUIP NIGHT

SUNDAY 21st MARCH

5:00 PM - 7:30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC

251-253 YARRA ROAD, WONGA PARK

"FEASTING ON THE WORD"

WORKSHOPS

YOUTH

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE
FOR ALL ITS WORTH

PARENTS

WAYS TO READ THE BIBLE
WITH YOUR FAMILY

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

Growth Groups

Jack Organtzoglou
0403 377 559
Margreet Day
0491 117 900

GROWTH GROUPS

We have a number of growth groups in our church, please contact **Annandra Kock** on **0407 405 555** to get connected to one. We have a few specific groups (noted below) as well as some general groups.

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday Evenings
Wednesday Evenings (Young Adults)
Thursday Mornings (Women's Bible study)
Thursday Evenings
Friday Evenings (GEMS, and Youth Group)

DEACONS

Joy Van Veen
0409 199 840

ADMINISTRATION

Session Clerk & Church Administrator

Annandra Kock
Mondays 9am-3pm
clerk@wpcrc.org.au
or
admin@wpcrc.org.au
0407 405 555

Newsletter Editors

newsletter@wpcrc.org.au
Neil Bester
0429 569 149
Enè Crous
0450 211 133

Treasurer

Nelleke Arnold
treasurer@wpcrc.org.au
0448 469 569

Child Safe Coordinator

Lynette Pretorius
0423 889 912

Facilities Management

Rob De Reus
0407309257

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

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: Online or via our church app: <https://wpcrc.org.au/give>