
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, place the it in the offering bag and one of our team will contact you. Alternatively send 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 would also love to pray with you after the service. If you would like someone to pray with you, please remain in the main auditorium and a member of our prayer team will come and pray with you.

Community: We encourage you to stay after the service for coffee and fellowship. If you are a visitor, please grab a free barista made coffee (available most mornings). We would love to meet you and get to know you more. We have a **cry room** off to the side of the church for parents with infants. During school terms we also run a **Sunday School** program before the church service for high school aged children and during the church service for primary school aged children, and we have a **crèche** for ages 1-5 at the end of the main hallway.

Groups: We have a number of growth groups that meet throughout the week to pray for people, gather around God's word, and care for one another. If you would like to join a group, please contact pastor Chris (pastor@wpcrc.org.au).

Church is all about building each other up in Christ!

1 Cor 14:26-33 ORDER IN CHURCH MEETINGS

26 What then, brothers and sisters? Whenever you come together, each one has a hymn, a teaching, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Everything is to be done for building up. 27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, there are to be only two, or at the most three, each in turn, and let someone interpret. 28 But if there is no interpreter, that person is to keep silent in the church and speak to himself and God. 29 Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should evaluate. 30 But if something has been revealed to another person sitting there, the first prophet should be silent. 31 For you can all prophesy one by one, so that everyone may learn and everyone may be encouraged. 32 And the prophets' spirits are subject to the prophets, 33 since God is not a God of disorder but of peace. -- 1 Corinthians 14:26-33 (CSB)

Hebrews 10:19-25 EXHORTATIONS TO GODLINESS

19 Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have boldness to enter the sanctuary through the blood of Jesus — 20 he has inaugurated for us a new and living way through the curtain (that is, through his flesh) — 21 and since we have a great high priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water.

23 Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, since he who promised is faithful.
24 And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, 25 not neglecting to
gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as
you see the day approaching. Hebrews 10:19-25 CSB

SERMON NOTES

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you had just one sentence to explain why you go to church, what would you say?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 13: This is Paul's famous chapter on love, and it is the most common wedding text in the world. However, this chapter is part of Paul's teaching on using your gifts to build up the church. Why do you think Paul put this teaching on love here in his letter to the Corinthian church?
3. Look at the different ways in which love is described in verses 4-7. How would these attitudes apply to our behaviour in church?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 14:1-12 and 26-33. What is it about prophecy that makes it better than speaking in tongues in church?
5. How do you think this relates to love in chapter 13?

6. What guidelines are given as to who should speak in the gathering, and how?
7. Read Hebrews 10:19-25. If we have access to God through Jesus, and not through the priesthood, then why is it that we gather as a church?
8. Taking this all together, how would you summarise the point of gathering as a church?
9. What might be the symptoms of a consumer or spectator attitude to church?
10. What might be the fruits of a servant attitude to church?
11. Do you think it might be possible to 'love' your church without actually 'loving' your church? How?
12. What is one way you can grow in loving someone else and building someone else up in love today?

GROWTH GROUPS

We have a number of growth groups in our church, please contact the person listed below to connect to one. We have a few specific groups (noted below) as well as some general groups.

Sunday afternoons (Afrikaans in person)

Contact: Lourens Geldenhuys

insightabs@bigpond.com

0409 990 398

Wednesday Nights (Online)

Contact: Tim Gray

timothygray000@gmail.com

0448 660 291

Monday Nights (currently online)

Contact Peter Williams

pw4@live.com.au

0431 500 006

Wednesday Nights (Online)

Contact: Chris Pretorius

pastor@wpcrc.org.au

0423 889 913

Wednesday Nights

(Young Adults, hybrid in person and online)

Contact: Kasha Schubert

kasha.schubert@hotmail.com

0450 012 177

Thursday Mornings (In person)

Contact: Wendy Harrison

wendy@tagroofing.com.au

0407 801 630

Wednesday Nights (In person)

Contact: Lynette Pretorius

pretorius.lynette@gmail.com

0423 889 912

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>

DIARY

Sunday 13 June

10:00 am Worship Service (Online)

4.00 pm Zoom for Youth (Online)



Lynette	Kock	13 June	Rhoda	Barnard	17 June
Pieter	Viljoen	14 June	Abigail	Vanderjagt	17 June
Annemarie	Van Zyl	15 June	Tanya	Crous	24 June
Martin	Van Zyl	16 June	Karien	Bester	25 June

Families (particularly with teens) are encouraged to attend the next State Family Equip service on the 18th of July at One Hope Community Church in Scoresby, VIC. 5pm - 7:30pm with a discipleship workshop + FREE dinner follow the service. There are four of these services a year that are hosted by different CRCA churches.

VICTORIAN CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCHES YOUTH

EQUIP NIGHT

SUNDAY 18th JULY

5:00 PM - 7:30 PM @ ONE HOPE

SCORESBY SECONDARY COLLEGE CAVELL ST, SCORESBY

DINNER INCLUDED

"WHO ARE YOU, REALLY?"

WORKSHOPS FOR YOUTH & PARENTS TO FOLLOW AFTER DINNER

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.

PRAYER POINTS

God never gives us discernment in order that we may criticize, but that we may Intercede. — Oswald Chambers

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

That we will never lose heart but always trust in the God of our salvation even in the fiercest storms.

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. (Isaiah 12:2 NRSV)

Give praise and thanks to God our saviour who has redeemed us and called us his own.

Please continue to pray for Johanna Rademan as she continues to recover from her recent fall, pray that the doctors will be able to diagnose why these falls are occurring.

Please pray for our elderly folk especially those who can't get out and about, Johann and Hanna van der Walt, Henk Knol, Eveline van Dortland, Ina de Graaf, Phillip and Suzanne Nel as well as family members of our congregation.

Please pray for those amongst us who have been adversely affected by the current lockdown, those who have suffered financially, whose businesses have suffered or who have been traumatized through it.

Pray for God's people in our nation that we will be a witness to our Lord and Master that God will be proud of.

Pray for our governments, state and federal, that they may lead in a way that is pleasing to our heavenly Father.

Please pray for our Synodical Interim Committee (SIC) which is meeting on Monday 24 June to consider the alternatives for our next Synod meeting in light of the Covid19 challenges currently effecting conference and travel conditions in Australia and overseas. The SIC are seeking your prayers as they consider the options. (Late October 2021 or a further delay till May 2022). There are a number of issues that the SIC need to consider, so please ask for the Lords' wisdom for them as they make this decision. We have a great God who hears our prayers.

Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in China. Christians in China are being detained in secretive, mobile "transformation" facilities where they're subject to brainwashing, torture and beatings to force them to renounce their faith, a new report has revealed. Li Yuese, a member of an underground "house church" in the southwestern province of Sichuan, told Radio Free Asia (RFA) he was held in a facility run by the ruling Chinese Communist Party's United Front Work Department after a raid on his church in 2018. "It was a mobile facility, that could just set up in a basement," Li recalled. "It was staffed by people from several different government departments. They mainly target Christians who are members of house churches," he said. Li said he was held in a windowless room with no ventilation and prohibited from going outside during the time he was held captive in the facility.

He was subjected to various forms of torture, from beatings to mental manipulation. "They threaten, insult and intimidate you. "You have to accept the statement they prepare for you. If you refuse, you will be seen as having a bad attitude and they will keep you in detention and keep on beating you." Li said most of his fellow inmates were also people who had been released on bail during criminal detention for taking part in church-related activities. Because police couldn't prosecute them for any particular crimes, they were sent to the so-called "transformation" facilities. "They were using brainwashing methods on those of us who were on bail from the detention centre," he said. I don't know the longest time anyone has been held there, but I was detained for 8 or 9 months. You can't see the sun, so you lose all concept of time."

The Christian said suicide and self-harm were not uncommon in the facility due to the continuous torture inmates endured. "After you've been in there a week, death starts to look better than staying there," Li said. "I bashed myself against the wall to self-harm." When he was finally released, Li said he was in extremely poor health and remains haunted by the experience. Another Christian told RFA that similar facilities are being used across China, made specifically for Christians, members of the underground Catholic church, and of the Falun Gong spiritual movement. A lawyer surnamed Zhang from the northern province of Hebei, who previously represented a number of former detainees who are Catholics, said that instead of pursuing criminal charges against the religious practitioners, the CCP simply "disappeared" them.

"Some were sent back home after five or six years, and that was how people learned about the brainwashing centres — from their accounts," Zhang said, adding he believes such facilities have been running for a long time around China. Churches are being monitored and closed down across the country, whether they are underground or part of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement, the officially sanctioned Protestant church in China. The government has also imposed a ban on the online sale of Bibles and uses high-tech surveillance to oppress and monitor believers. Other crackdowns on Christians have involved ordering Christians to renounce their faith and replace displays of Jesus with portraits of Chairman Mao and President Xi Jinping, as well as the ongoing demolition of churches.

Boyd-MacMillan, director of Strategic Research at Christian charity Open Doors, recently said that the CCP is becoming increasingly concerned about the Christian population's growth and is cracking down on religion as a result. "We think the evidence as to why the Chinese Church is so targeted, is that the leaders are scared of the size of the Church and the growth of the Church," Boyd-MacMillan said. "And if it grows at the rate that it has done since 1980, and that's about between 7% and 8% a year, then you're looking at a group of people that will be 300 million strong by 2030. And, you know, the Chinese leadership, they really do long term planning, I mean, their economic plan goes to 2049, so this bothers them. Because they think if the Church continues to grow like that, then they'll have to share power."

Source: *Christian Post*

EMERGENCY RELIEF APPEAL FOOD AND MEDS FOR A FAMILY

Severe lockdowns in India. Means another FOOD CRISIS !

The second wave of the pandemic in India has again brought huge suffering. Not only is there a public health emergency across the globe because of the pandemic, but acute hunger continues to affect the poorest of the poor. Again, because of the pandemic day labourers have no work, no pay and no means of feeding the family. Last week, in anticipation of your support, World Transform started a response in many villages, providing food essentials & basic medicines.



World Transform is prioritizing hundreds of marginalized people living in poverty in Central Western India. We will again be giving **food but also medicines** for many with fever, diarrhoea, pain or congestion. (Paracetamol for pain. Antihistamine for allergies & colds. Antibiotics for infections and diarrhoea.)

World Transform is appealing again for help to: "Feed a Family" for at least a week.
\$20 will truly help one family!

1. PRAY.

At your home, please pray for hungry families.

2. Feed a Family. Can you feed just one family?

Christians and non Christians will be helped in the precious name of Jesus.

What can be done?

Make a donation by EFT to the WT account below!

World Transform.
BSB 037 608 A/c No: 131745
Write: **"FOOD"** in message.

Just \$15 will buy enough rice, veg, dhal & oil for a family of 2 adults and 3 children for a whole week.

&

\$5 more will help hungry sick kids get a bit stronger again.

BUDGET UPDATE

Funds in: March was a better month in terms of offerings and funds received into our church bank account.

Expenses: Payments for the month were much higher than budget, primarily due to some arrears CRC Australia ministry share contributions that were brought up to date. The year-to-date expenses as reported is now reasonably accurate and mostly in line with budget.

Shortfall: Our year-to-date cash shortfall is about \$25k, marginally better than budget. This means y.t.d. we have drawn down on or depleted our cash resources to the amount of about \$25,000. .

Finance Overview

Mar-21	Budget	Actual
Funds in	19,660	18,725
Expenses	23,608	34,312
Year-to-date		
Funds in	171,520	174,335
Expenses	198,579	199,486

KEY CONTACT DETAILS

ELDERS

Pastor

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

Youth Pastor

Tim Gray
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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

Martin Van der Merwe
0458 908 148

Harry Berends
0421 302 418

Neil Bester
0429 569 149

ADMINISTRATION

Session Clerk & Church**Administrator**

Currently vacant
clerk@wpcrc.org.au
admin@wpcrc.org.au

DEACONS

Joy Van Veen
0409 199 840

Sandra Stork
0418 592 206

Lizet Kritzinger
0405 762 190

Dale Reed
0412 216 300

ADMINISTRATION

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Neil Bester
0429 569 149

Treasurer

Nelleke Arnold
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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

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

CONNECT WITH US

If you would like someone from church to connect with you, please fill in this page, tear it off and put it in the offering bag.

Your name:

Contact number:

Contact email:

Notes: