

Church Contact Details: PO Box 205, Wollongong 2520; 4226 1750

Website: www.wollongongcongregationalchurch.org

Facebook: Wollongong Congregational Church

Minister: Rev Con Despinidic - 42713235/42261750

Mob. 0427431709 cdespini@gmail.com

Please feel free to contact Pastor Con should the need arise.

Elders: Wendy 42292483, Leonie 42261750 /mob 0428180355

Tim 0422599894 Annette 4271 6763/ mob 0401089938

Church notices: Jennifer Ph.42833630 – or to Con by Tues 2.00pm
ramsayja2@bigpond.com



Wollongong Congregational Church

2nd October, 2016

Welcome to all worshipping with us this morning.
During our service, we will be celebrating Holy Communion
and invite all those who desire to deepen their life in Christ to
share in this sacrament with us.

Please continue in fellowship over a cuppa after the service.
You are also invited to join us at 7pm for our Evening Service.

THIS WEEK:

Tuesday: 10am Bible Study at Annette's

Wednesday: 7.15 pm: Men's Bible Study at Church

Next Sunday, 9th October

10.00am: Worship Service 7pm evening service



AGM and ordinary Church Meeting next week 9th October

The following nominations have been received:

Elders: Wendy, Annette, Leonie, Tim, Robert

Treasurer: Davina

Minutes Secretary: Dianne

Please note that Robert will have been a member a little short of 11 months and our rules require a minimum of 1 year of membership before election as an Elder. The Elders approach is to consider his 22 months committed involvement in our church as sufficiently within the spirit of the law.

ROSTERS

| Date | 2 Oct | 9 Oct |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Prayers | Leonie | Richard |
| Bible Readings | Cathy Andrew | Jill Leonie |
| Lawns | - | - |
| Servers | Joan Cathy Irma | Judy Peter |
| Cleaning | Diana | - |
| Morning Tea | Cathy Gordon | Robin - |
| Welcome | Lynda | Jennifer |
| Communion Prep | Joan | - |
| Crèche | - | - |
| PowerPoint | George | Annette George |
| Counting Offering | Davina Robert | Wendy |

Prayer Chain.

If you have a request, please ring Con or Leonie. If they are not available please ring Wendy, Annette or Tim.
Phone numbers above.

Income for August: \$5,482.05
Expenditure: \$4,800.54

Building Fund balance \$11,459.
(includes grant monies)

If you would like to help with the cost of repairs etc please place your gift in an envelope marked Building Fund.
Thank you.

Emergency Food Coordinator
Jill Donnelly 4229 5248

This 4 weeks' regular tithed giving
will go to the work of the
TOGO GROUP

Additional gifts may be placed in the plate at any time, using a suitably labelled envelope.

Acts 5

In the book of Acts, we see that the early church experienced growth. There were signs and wonders performed. The apostles were able to speak with boldness and there was a beautiful attitude of love within the fellowship.

They held all things in common, they helped each other.

The church became an Island of refuge in a hostile world.

They were exciting and frightening times!

Acts 5 is the story of true Christian commitment and the essence of Discipleship.

The question that I have been asking myself for years is: *'What is it that stops us from being more committed?'*

It might be lack of faith.

It might be selfishness.

It might be fear.

It might be a lack of desire.

Maybe one thing leads to another which leads to another.

Why is it that some are warriors of the faith while others slink away? One man or woman strongly believes in prayer while others struggle with the concept.

In my own life there are times when I am conscientious about what I believe and there are times when I am slack. I have a suspicion that I am not the only one who has felt like this.

There are also times when we look at others and say to ourselves, *'why aren't I like that person?'* **We can be like that person or like that other church- we are who we are, each one of us can take small steps of faith in a wonderful journey of faith, beginning with one small step at a time.**

The New Testament Christian was an ordinary person living in an ordinary world; facing extraordinary problems and experiencing extraordinary power.

The ordinary, the mundane things of life were consistent, day after day! There were many down times; meals shared, times of laughter and times of serious discussions, just like we have. It was in these times where relationships were formed, it is also at these times when our relationship with God can develop and grow.

One thing is obvious there was intentional fellowship.

In the midst of struggles of everyday life and survival the church was in fellowship

Here are just a few definitions of fellowship:

Common faith and friendship

Sharing the essentials of life

Partnership in mission

A relationship with God through the Son in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Last week I left you with four words to describe the early church. I was reminded by one of you that there should be a fifth word to that list.

TENACITY

FAITHFULNESS.

BOLDNESS

OBEDIENCE

PERSEVERANCE

Prayer Points

- ◇ Please continue to pray for the Evening Service;
- ◇ Wisdom and opportunity to reach our community with the Gospel;
- ◇ Wisdom as we move forward with our maintenance program;
- ◇ One new church family;
- ◇ Continue to pray for Jean Millman. For Janice and her son Steve.
- ◇ Ron Ratcliff, in care, and undergoing ray treatment
- ◇ Gail and Ray Warhola in Hong Kong, Jenny and Dave Rowe in USA:
 Roger Dethlefs, working in West Timor and the Edwards in Fiji;
- ◇ Our FCC Churches; Bexley Chinese Church;
- ◇ Church family members; Leigh Emery;
- ◇ Our annual meeting and the election of office bearers on 9th October
- ◇ Pray for the needs of Pulse 94.1 FM and their new CEO
- ◇ Also for the effectiveness of Con's radio program;
- ◇ Please keep Leonie and Con in your prayers
- ◇ Bernice Beekman in hospital,
- ◇ Ralph Dunn for ongoing healing
- ◇ Ralph and Janece's great granddaughter, Amari

ROSTERS will soon be prepared for November, December and January. Please give any dates for which you are unavailable and any duties you might like to do to Jo and Jennifer no later than the 23rd October. Thank You.

Annual Reports are available. Please make sure to take it home and read it and bring it with you to the meeting. To save time we suggest that instead of reading out the reports in the meeting, we will just take questions.

Diary Dates:

24 Sep - 9 Oct School holidays

8 Oct FCC Assembly at Hazelbrook

9 Oct AGM and member's meeting

23 Oct CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

29 Oct FCW 1-day Conference at Stanwell Tops

5 Nov Church Working Bee (general cleaning, gardening,
undercoat the porch)

Pastor Con on Pulse 94.1 FM Sunday Worship 7-10am.
Also Tuesdays 10 pm to midnight. Daily devotions 6:45 am.