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Wollongong Congregational Church

26th February, 2017

Welcome to all worshipping with us this morning.

Please continue in fellowship over a cuppa after the service.

Please join us tonight at 7pm for our Evening Fellowship.

ROSTERS

Date	26th Feb	5th Mar
Prayers	Helen	Wendy
Bible Readings	Cathy Glen	Bernice Jennifer
Lawns		Rob
Servers	Jill Lenore	Jo Rob Irma
Cleaning	Wendy Robyn	Cleaners
Morning Tea	Cathy Judy	Joan Lynda
Welcome	Ruth	Roger Robin
Communion Prep	-	Judy
Kid's Club	Jo	Laura
PowerPoint	Glen	Annette & George
Counting Offering	Robert	Annette

Prayer Chain.

If you have a request, please ring
Leonie or Con

Offering.

New Westpac Account:

Wollongong Congregational Church
BSB: 032695
Account No: 494743

Building Fund balance
\$12,528.65

Emergency Food Coordinator
Jill Donnelly 4229 5248

**This weeks' regular tithed giving
will go to The Wollongong Combined
Churches Education Board (WCCEB)**

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

Next Sunday 5th March,

Richard will be leading our 10am Worship Service

Note: NO Evening Fellowship next week as many are away

THIS WEEK:

Tuesday: 10am Bible Study at Annette's
7.15pm Alpha Course at church

Thursday: 10am: Ruth's home group
9.30-11.00 am: Playday

"Senior Version of Jesus Loves Me"

Jesus loves me, this I know,
Though my hair is white as snow
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still He bids me trust in Him.

YES, JESUS LOVES ME.
YES, JESUS LOVES ME
YES, JESUS LOVES ME,
THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO

Though my steps are oh, so slow, With my hand in His I'll go
On through life, let come what may, He'll be there to lead the way.

When the nights are dark and long, In my heart He puts a song..
Telling me in words so clear, "Have no fear, for I am near."

When my work on earth is done, And life's victories have been won.
He will take me home above, Then I'll understand His love.

I LOVE JESUS, DOES HE KNOW? HAVE I EVER TOLD HIM SO?
JESUS LOVES TO HEAR ME SAY, THAT I LOVE HIM EVERY DAY.

YOU ARE
LOVED
MORE
THAN
YOU WILL
EVER
KNOW

by someone who
died to know you.

ROMANS 5:8

Con's message from last Sunday...

Acts 11:19-30 "O to be a blessing to someone else!" & Psalm 100, Two people stand out in Acts 11: the Apostle Peter and Barnabas. Both men were a great blessing to the early church. Their words, faith and integrity are a great example for us to follow. They loved the Lord Jesus with all of their might! This commitment should not surprise us as it is consistent with what God asks of us:-
Deuteronomy 6:5 **Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.** And of course the words of our Lord Jesus as He sums up the greatest commandment of all.
Matthew 22:37 Jesus replied: **"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."**

In Acts 10 we saw that God wonderfully blessed Peter and the Gentiles. The high that Peter may have experienced was about to be challenged. As the church council met it was obvious that some had another agenda
Acts 11:1 **So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them."**
Everyone has an agenda-the foundations of the past can set up agendas. Sometimes we are not aware of what makes us tick, why we do what we do or say what we say. In The Apostle Peter's case the foundations were set in concrete, religion and the law played a strong part in who he was.

The Good news is that his agenda changed when he had an encounter with the living Lord Jesus Christ along with a life changing experience of the Holy Spirit that transformed his past agenda to a new and living hope!

The church in Jerusalem should have been happy to see the Gospel spread and Gentiles saved! INITIALLY this was not the case- They did not rejoice in the Gentiles coming to faith, their concern was that Peter broke the law but AFTER HEARING PETER'S TESTIMONY they saw things from a Godly perspective.

Thank God that we do not have to rely on knee jerk reactions, for this is what the early church did. This is what we do so often.

There should always be a time for the dust to settle so we can gather our thoughts- before we make any important decisions or react to situations.

Like Peter each one of us has a past and a TESTIMONY!

Like Peter each one of us has a story to tell!

Our past should not inhibit or hold us back- it is series of stepping stones to the future. There are many directions for one to turn, many questions that seek answers and so on- the Lord Jesus said: **"seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness."**

OUR NEW AGENDA SHOULD BE THE KINGDOM OF GOD;

LIVING AS PEOPLE OF THE KINGDOM
SEEKING ITS GROWTH THROUGH OUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE
MISSION OF THE LOCAL CHURCH.

Prayer Points

Please pray for;

- ◇ Wisdom and opportunity to reach our community with the Gospel;
- ◇ Wisdom as we move forward with our maintenance program;
- ◇ One new church family;
- ◇ Ron Ratcliffe—pray for upcoming hernia operation.
- ◇ Janice and her son Steve,
- ◇ Gail and Ray in Hong Kong, for children and families in all 3 schools
- ◇ Jenny and Dave Rowe in USA; Adam and the Togo Group
- ◇ Edwards family working in Fiji; Roger Dethlefs also in Fiji
- ◇ Our FCC Churches; *Emmanuel Church Mullumbinby*
- ◇ Church family members; *Jennifer Ramsay*
- ◇ Pray for the needs of Pulse 94.1 FM and the effectiveness of Con's radio program
- ◇ Bernice as she returns home from hospital.
- ◇ God's leading as we make decisions concerning our property.
- ◇ Irma for deliverance from pain
- ◇ Karah Knight in hospital undergoing tests, pray for a clear diagnosis

Concerns were raised at our meeting in relation to the hall and we have decided that we will not use the Sunday School room for the foreseeable future.

Rowes' Petals: news from Jenny and Dave Rowe who are assigned by Wycliffe Bible Translators to work under SIL International, Dave as a computer programmer with the Non-Roman Script Initiative and Jenny as a leadership development specialist for Francophone Africa. They have just celebrated **International Mother Language Day on February 21** Celebrating the minority language communities of the world and SIL's passion for enabling minority language groups to use their languages to allow them to learn and live with dignity as people made in God's image.

Diary Dates:

Friday 3rd March 10am: World Day of Prayer: at Wesley Uniting Church on the Mall. Let us know if you need transport. It is always a nice morning.

FELLOWSHIP OF CONGREGATIONAL WOMEN (FCW)

has two functions planned for 2017.

A dinner on FRIDAY 5 May 7pm at Revesby (see poster)

A day Conference at Stanwell Tops on SATURDAY 21 October, the speaker is Gill Davis.

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