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Church notices: Annette ameldrum@ozemail.com.au or 42716763 or Con

ROSTERS

Date	19 Mar	26 Mar
Prayers	Con	Wendy
Bible Readings	Lynda Joan	Janice Judy
Lawns	-	Peter
Servers	Davina Robert Jennifer	Dianne Richard
Cleaning	Cleaners	Andrew
Morning Tea	Judy Joan	Leonie Lynda
Welcome	Irma	Yvonne
Communion Prep	Jill	-
Kid's Club	Jill	Jill
PowerPoint	Glen	Annette George
Counting Offering	Wendy	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

February Finances

February Total Income \$ 6,040.50
February Total Expenditure \$ 6,999.41

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.



Wollongong Congregational Church

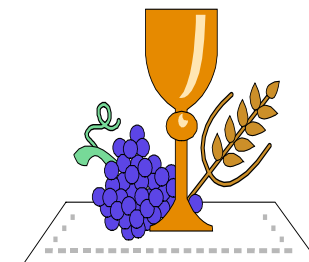
19th March, 2017

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.

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



Next Sunday 26th March,

10am Worship Service 7pm Evening Fellowship

THIS WEEK:

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

Wednesday: 22nd March, 7.15pm Alpha Course at the church

Thursday: 10am: Ruth's home group

9.30-11.00 am: Playday in the hall



**WOLLONGONG
PRAYER
BREAKFAST**

2017 will be the **5th Prayer Breakfast in Wollongong**. The event will be held on **Friday, 26th of May 2017, 7.00 - 8.30 AM** at **City Beach Function Centre**. The aim is to reach and to encourage Christians in the city, also civic and business leaders in their faith and love for our Father in heaven. Promoting unity between all those who are followers of Jesus Christ the son of God and challenging them to be salt and light to the City and the world they live in. The speaker of this year's Wollongong Prayer Breakfast is **Wendy Simpson OAM**. Our church has pre-booked a table of 10 at the Early Bird price of \$45 per person. Please let an Elder know if you would like to attend.

Summary of Con's sermon from last Sunday...

I believe that God Sees Our Trials; though it might not appear so- they are times of struggle, fear and anxiety and yes even indifference to the faith that we profess. For many of us things are relative. For some, a trial may appear to be more than they can bear, for others the same experience is like a walk in the park. Circumstances may differ, attitudes; personality, background, training and past experience, impacting how we view and walk through various situations. Most of us speak out of our experiences in life- our past- the good and the bad has an impact on who we are. Our faith experiences also colour our present life. The past is often the foundation stone for the present and the future.

For some there is a faith journey of the past. For some there is a dramatic conversion experience, sometimes born out of pain and desperation. For others, a gradual act of conversion as one slowly comes into a life changing faith. For others, a time when the penny drops and the light is turned on and God through the Lord Jesus becomes so real!

No matter what the process- this is real and it has a lasting impact on our lives- and the life of those in our inner circles.

The apostle Paul put it this way as he reflected on the God given relationships that were only possible because of the gospel. ***"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy."***

Acts 12 is not so much about Peter and the early Church, it is more about God and His provision. **God and His perfect will for His people. God's plan for His Church and a reassurance that God KNOWS, SEES AND UNDERSTANDS our plight in life.** ***"The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous."***
1 Peter 3:12

Imagine the scene in Acts 12- there is great concern, King Herod had arrested James and killed him- the church is distressed you can't blame them! People of faith do get distressed, fearful and worry. Then Peter is jailed! What are God's people to do?

"God allowed Herod to kill James, but He kept him from harming Peter. It was the throne of heaven that was in control not the throne on earth." Wiersbe p 452.

There are so many verses of scripture that encourage us- in times of great difficulty and trial

John 16:33 ***"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."***

1 Corinthians 10:13 ***"No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it."***

2 Corinthians 12:9 ***"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."***

1 Peter 5:10 ***"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast."***

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, Janice and her son Steve,
- ◇ Gail and Ray (Hong Kong) for the children & families in all 3 schools
- ◇ Jenny and Dave Rowe in USA; Adam and the Togo Group
- ◇ Edwards family working in Fiji;
- ◇ Our FCC Churches; *Bexley Chinese Church*
- ◇ Church family members; *Dianne Rinses*
- ◇ Pray for the needs of Pulse 94.1 FM and the effectiveness of Con's radio program
- ◇ God's leading as we make decisions concerning our property.
- ◇ New SRE teacher, Heather Grant, at Illawarra Sports High School.
- ◇ Paul Harb's missionary work in Pakistan. For protection for converts from Muslim backgrounds who suffer severe persecution and protection for Christian women and girls.
- ◇ Bernice back in hospital, Trevor recovering from Ross River Fever

HOT CROSS BUN Fundraiser for WCCEB. Half dozen \$6. Delivery 2nd April. Orders to Lynda with money by **26th March.**

Wollongong Prayer Breakfast, 26th May 2017, City Beach Function Centre, 7am-8.30am. \$45 pp. We have pre-booked a table for 10.

Diary Dates:

9th April: Church Meeting

13th April: Tenebrae Service

14th April: Good Friday

29th April: FCC Mission Awareness Day, Bexley Cong. 5pm

FELLOWSHIP OF CONGREGATIONAL WOMEN (FCW)

FRIDAY 5 May Dinner 7pm at Revesby *RSVP by 5th April*

SAT 21 Oct, 1 day Conference, Stanwell Tops speaker Gill Davis, Coordinator High School scripture Northern Illawarra

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