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Church Account details: Congregational Church Wollongong
BSB: 032695 Account No: 494743

June Income: \$6534

June Expenditure: \$5122

More Bible verses to reassure (*thanks to Cathy Edwards*)

John 14:26-27. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things & will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled & do not be afraid.

Psalms 19:8. But God will never forget the needy; the hope of the afflicted will never perish.

Romans 5:1-4. Since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance character; and character, hope.

Joshua 1:9. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God goes with you wherever you go.



Wollongong Congregational Church

12th July 2020

Greetings church family. Please continue to join our activities:

- Listen to Con's video recorded devotion each Sunday which can be viewed from our website www.wollongongcongregationchurch.org

- Tune into Con's radio program on Pulse 94.1 FM Sunday Worship 7-10am. Repeated Tues night 10pm. Morning devotions 6-7am daily.

- Communicate through our Church Prayer Chain especially while we can't meet and pray together as a church. Ring or text Leonie 0428180355.

Please note: our Tuesday Bible Study will resume after the school holidays.

Church Service and Church Meeting: **19th July at 10am in the church.**

Plans are in place for a short service followed by a members meeting. Everyone is welcome but only members can vote.

We will try to keep proceedings within 2 hours.

We recommend that you bring your own drink and food.

Remember to RSVP to Wendy by this Sunday if you plan to attend.

Hopefully this will be the start of regular services.

Please plan to join us if you can.

Conditions of Entry into the Church

Please do not attend

- ◆ if you have any cold or flu symptoms
- ◆ if you have travelled outside NSW
- ◆ if you have been in contact with anyone known to have Covid-19

We all must agree to keep a 1.5metre distance from others and avoid hugging, kissing and hand-shakes.

This little while I have been stirred by personal questions in relation to my personal faith; I have been stirred about my attitudes in relation to family and vocation.

These are the same questions that each one of us faces. To ask the question is a healthy thing. To wallow in our inabilities and allow negative answers to take control is not a healthy thing.

It is important that we seek with an honest heart and allow God to not only answer the question, but to enable each of us to 'be' and to 'do' and to live out the faith life that God has given us.

It is so easy to lose sight of the basics, foundation is important - the basics are necessary.

If the foundation is not right, not secure, not sure: then what is built on it will eventually collapse!

Look at life, look at the world, look at history, there are many ruins to illustrate what I am saying.

You can feed a person, you can love a person, you can sacrifice for another individual, you can even give your life for a person or a philosophy but these things will not save.

It starts with the heart; it is a personal challenge. We are only responsible for what we do or have done or not done. Hear the words of the Lord Jesus. What is the kingdom of God like?

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.” Matthew 7:24 The kingdom of God is based on

the words of the Lord Jesus ***“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice.”*** We can influence people; we can impress people and so on, but at the

end of the day they are the ones who must choose how to live their life and how to respond.

I believe that our job is to constantly point to, remind, proclaim, 'shout from the rooftops' the GOSPEL MESSAGE and to live out the implications of the GOSPEL of our Lord Jesus in our own lives!

God knows, God understands, and God has provided a remedy for sin that surpasses, is greater than anything we could ever do. How often have we read, heard, memorised **John**

3:16? John 3:16-17 *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*

Romans 5:8 *But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

The death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus was always part of God's plan. This is the foundation of the Gospel.

Galatians 4:4,5 *But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.*

There are some who honestly believe that they have no need of God or salvation - *“I am happy as I am”* they might say. I suppose that if this is how they genuinely feel, then there is nothing I can do to change their mind. However, this does not mean that we stop proclaiming the good news. Only God knows what lurks deep down in the heart and mind of an individual.

To quote John Piper *“Since God, the Father meant the Cross of Christ for good, we must look beyond human causes to divine purpose.”*

Because of the Lord Jesus: many are wonderfully transformed, renewed, experience freedom from sin and all its consequences. Lives are changed. People are forgiven. People forgive. Love reigns in our lives. There is security and purpose for living. There is security and purpose in dying. **Romans 8:18 *“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”*** Con

Prayer Points

Please pray for:

- ◇ Our church family
- ◇ Those In Care: Joan Weber & Dawn Coleshill
- ◇ Janice and her son Steve and a speedy recovery for Janice after surgery
- ◇ Gail and Ray in Hong Kong for God's provision and leading
- ◇ Jenny and Dave Rowe in USA: Adam and the Togo Group
- ◇ FCC Churches: *Bexley Congregational Church*
- ◇ Church family members: *Margaret Coulstock*
- ◇ God's leading and authority over decisions concerning our church
- ◇ God's leading concerning need for new Elders, Deacons, Assistant Pastor
- ◇ Romani Evangelical Congregational Church in Macedonia and their Pastor
- ◇ Pulse 94.1 FM and the effectiveness of Con's radio program
- ◇ Wisdom and opportunity to reach our community with the Gospel
- ◇ Persecuted Christians in *India*
- ◇ Joyce Souter's son John, who is fighting cancer
- ◇ Bernice for healing of leg ulcers
- ◇ Conviction of how we can best support & show love to others around us
- ◇ The poor, the hungry and the persecuted
- ◇ Wisdom, safety and protection as we plan to resume meeting together
- ◇ Completion of outstanding issues with Con and Leonie's new home so they can move in
- ◇ Dennis and Karen Bagnall and the letter box distribution of "Living Water" Gospels of John throughout the Illawarra. Pray that the Holy Spirit will open the heart of each person who receives it. Pray also for God's leading and provision of workers.

Thank you from Lynda

To everyone who sent words of comfort and cards and for coming to Ronald's funeral. Also a big thank you to Con and Gordon who did a wonderful job. Also to Wendy and Annette for doing the Bible readings.

XO Lynda