

**Church Contact Details:**

33 Market Street Wollongong  
PO Box 205, Wollongong 2520; Phone: 4226 1750

**Website:** [www.wollongongcongregationchurch.org](http://www.wollongongcongregationchurch.org)

**Facebook:** Wollongong Congregational Church

**Rev Con Despinidic** 42713235 Mob. 0427431709  
[cdespini@gmail.com](mailto:cdespini@gmail.com)

**Elders:**

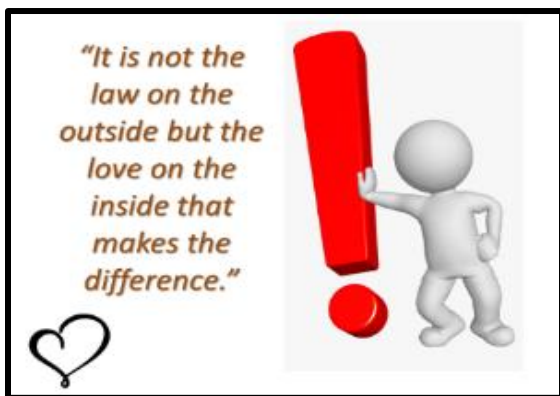
Wendy 42292483 / mobile 0407936981

Leonie 42713235 / mobile 0428180355

**Newsletter:** email Jenny Bergstedt: [abe.berg@hotmail.com](mailto:abe.berg@hotmail.com)

**Please continue to join our activities:**

- ⊗ Listen to Con's recorded video devotion each Sunday from our website [www.wollongongcongregationchurch.org](http://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.
- ⊗ Church Prayer Chain Ring or text Leonie
- ⊗ Tuesday Bible Study at 10am at Con and Leonie's home at Figtree. Join us if you can.
- Personalised cards can be ordered from Lynne Grimm, 3 for \$5.00 proceeds go to the Building Fund 0438770764



*Wollongong  
Congregational Church*

*6 September 2020*

*- Welcome all and be blessed -*

*Happy Father's Day!*

Please only attend church if well.  
Masks are available should you need them.



**We will trial Morning Tea after church this week**

**Church meeting 20 September-** Agenda and minutes have been emailed out. Please pick up a printed copy if needed.

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

**August Income / Expenditure  
General Account**

Income	\$6,117.53
ATO Job Keeper	\$3,000.00
Expenditure	\$4,666.13

**Building Fund**

Income	\$ 108.35
Expenditure	\$ 489.00 (loan repayment)

## Summary of last week's message... Galatians 5:13-26.

The reality of life is that many of us face a tug of war, this struggle has an impact on every area of our being; PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL and SPIRITUAL. I believe that is something that every Christian faces, particularly when it comes to matters of the will. Simply put **"my will verses God's will"**.

**Galatians 5:16-26** underlines the basic fact that all humanity struggles with sin and its consequences. The Apostle Paul was interested in the everyday life of the Christian. He moves from the argument of the Law verses Grace to practical living. What does it mean to be a Christian in everyday life? The legalists thought they had the answer to the problems in the church. For Paul, no amount of legislation could change man's basic sinful nature.

There is one strong truth that stands out throughout the Scriptures; **"It is not the law on the outside but the love on the inside that makes the difference."**

We can never legislate change in the heart of a person; this can only come with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Paul's words in chapter 5 should stir our hearts: **<sup>16</sup> So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.**

Here are just 5 things about the Holy Spirit that are found in Galatians.

1. The Holy Spirit indwells when we believe
2. We are given new birth, Spiritual birth
3. We are given assurance of salvation by the Holy Spirit
4. We are enabled to live the Christian life by the Holy Spirit
5. The Holy Spirit is more than a force or power He a divine personality.

It is important to understand that the Holy Spirit is at work in us.

**Verse 15. "But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. The Holy Spirit enables us to fulfil the Law of Love."**

The Christian finds GRACE & FREEDOM in the Lord Jesus.

The Christian is free from the guilt and penalty of sin,

The Christian is free from the Old Testament law and its demands and threats.

**WE** have this standing in God. **IT** is the working of Grace in our lives. **THIS** means that our actions in life will be different; they will change, because they are now governed by God's Grace and Love. **There is a love that is manipulative** and constrictive. **There is a love that accepts** us for who we are and empowers us to be the person we were intended to be. It frees us from expectation, and it stirs us to action, and it produces more love. Not because we must, but because we want to! It grows in us and continues to draw us closer to God. This is made evident in Paul's prayer for the Philippians. **See Philippians 1:8-10**

*God's love is something that frees us from guilt and manipulation*

*God's love will give us freedom, strength, and self-control*

*God's love will enable us to see and know His perfect will in our lives*

**Con**

## Prayer Points

### Please pray for:

- ◇ Our church family
- ◇ Those In Care: Joan Weber & Dawn Coleshill
- ◇ Janice and her son Steve—Janice is still experiencing pain
- ◇ Gail and Ray now resettling in Wollongong
- ◇ Jenny and Dave Rowe in USA working for Wycliffe Bible Translators
- ◇ Adam and the Togo Group
- ◇ FCC Churches: *Establish Congregational Church, Cronulla*
- ◇ Church family members: *Max and Judy Edwards*
- ◇ God's leading and authority over decisions concerning our church
- ◇ God's leading for new Elders and Deacons
- ◇ Romani Evangelical Congregational Church in Macedonia
- ◇ 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 *Yemen*
- ◇ Joyce Souter's son John, who is battling cancer
- ◇ Bernice for healing of leg ulcers
- ◇ Completion of outstanding repairs to Con and Leonie's new home
- ◇ Dennis and Karen Bagnall and the letter box distribution of "Living Water" (Gospels of John) throughout the Illawarra
- ◇ SRE and school ministry workers as they serve their schools
- ◇ Irma is waiting for hand and back surgery, so she and John have decided to self-isolate until then
- ◇ Nabila for God's peace and healing
- ◇ Don in Bulli Hospital for another week. Visiting is 11-1pm but only one at a time. Ring hospital to check.
- ◇ Lynda's nephew Rodney Ratcliff in Victoria recovering from surgery
- ◇ Jennifer Ramsay for a speedy recovery
- ◇ Jeff and Mary for safe travels visiting family and friends
- ◇ George and Annette as we wish them God's blessing for their new life in Canberra