

Church Contact Details:

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Rev Con Despinidic Mobile 0427431709
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Elders:

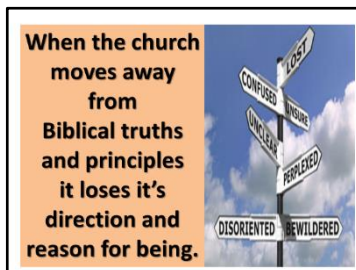
Wendy (02)42292483 / mobile 0407936981

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Newsletter: Jenny Bergstedt
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Please continue to join our activities:

- ☼ Listen to Con's recorded video devotion each Sunday 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.
- ☼ Church Prayer Chain Ring or text Leonie
- ☼ **Note:** Tuesday Bible Study will not meet for the next couple of weeks
- ☼ Personalised cards can be ordered from Lynne Grimm, 3 for \$5.00 proceeds go to the Building Fund 0438770764



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

Thanks to everyone who has been faithful in tithing and giving



Wollongong Congregational Church

11 October, 2020

— Welcome all and be blessed —

Please only attend Church if well
Masks are available should you need them
Please follow Covid-19 protocol

Please stay for Morning Tea following our service

NOTICES

We sadly announce the sudden passing of Jim Edwards on Saturday 3 October, 2020 from a stroke and his funeral is to be held on Friday 9th at Northern Suburbs Crematorium For those wishing to send Cathy and Chris Edwards a message of condolence their address is:
3 Rene Street, East Ryde NSW 2113

*Church Anniversary 18 October, 2020
Guest speaker is Pastor Michael Hunt, President of the Fellowship of Congregational Churches

*Reminder! All Annual Reports to be in by
1 November, 2020

*AGM and Member's Meeting on 15 November, 2020

September Income / Expenditure

General Account

Income	\$ 4,722.14
Expenditure	\$16,052.97

Building Fund

Income	\$ 1.28
Expenditure	\$ 489.00 (loan repayment)

Summary of last week's Sermon by Pastor Con

Scripture reading: Acts 6:1-7

Luke wanted the world to know the power behind the church and the process whereby the early church made various life changing decisions.

The world was at a crossroads, the Roman Empire was at a crossroads, the nation of Israel was at a crossroads. I believe that 21st Century man is at a crossroads! This nation is at a crossroads, politically, morally, and ethically.

We too as a church must face several important issues as we consider the future.

As we do so I would like us to be influenced in our decision-making processes by taking a leaf out of the New Testament Church's history. I believe that when the church moves away from Biblical truths and principles it loses its direction and reason for being. I believe in the principle found in **2 Timothy 3:16,17** ***"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."***

To know God's will is a beautiful thing. There is so much that we know from the Word of God that gives us direction to know God's will in our lives.

I understand that sometimes the specifics are hard to grasp, but there is no excuse for ignorance of God's general will for our lives. There are some questions that we ask God that need not to be asked. How many times in ministry have I been asked general questions about lifestyle and conduct, forgiveness, and care **as if the answer was difficult to find**. The Word of God is plain and clear about these things.

In Acts 6 we will see another situation where there are murmurings, destructive murmurings that if left unchecked could bring the house down.

We will see how the Apostles and the early church dealt with these murmurings.

If you want to destabilize a situation start rumours, sow seeds of doubt, give people a sense of insecurity, and the job is half done!

Last time I said that: **"Evil is the opposite of God, and where God works wonders the devil will work overtime to destroy"**.

His tactics are varied, he will sometimes come as an angel of light, with wonderful words and his intention is to destroy and to divert. Evil will seek to bamboozle us. It seeks to side-track us and in doing so will take us from the main thing."

Praise God that the Lord Jesus came to deal with the antics of the devil once and for all! **1 John 3:8b** ***"the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work"***. The Lord Jesus promised His followers, power for living! **Acts 1:8** ***"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."***

For me one of the most exciting aspects of the Christen walk is that despite any situation we can and do have the victory in the Lord Jesus.

If you are like me you will whinge, sulk, and complain. When the dust settles down you will also see the strength and victory that there is in the Lord Jesus.

Con

Prayer Points

Please pray for:

◇ Australia: for God's wisdom, leading and authority over our Nation, Government, Land and Peoples

- ◇ Our church family. Surround each other with love
- ◇ God's leading and authority over decisions concerning our church
- ◇ God's leading for new Elders and Deacons-Nominations sought

- ◇ Church family members: *Andrew, Melinda, Kaden & Tane Horsley*
- ◇ Those In Care: Joan Weber & Dawn Coleshill
- ◇ Irma for a speedy recovery after her hand surgery at St George Hospital on Friday 9th
- ◇ Janice Roworth now home and for her ongoing healing and ability to cope and have support at home. Also pray for her son Steve
- ◇ Cathy and her son Chris Edward's during their grief and adjustment
- ◇ Margaret, Diane and Wendie as they wait on the Lord for justice
- ◇ Joyce Souter's son John, who is battling cancer
- ◇ Bernice for healing of leg ulcers
- ◇ Nabila for God's peace and healing

- ◇ Wisdom and opportunity to reach our community with the Gospel
- ◇ 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
- ◇ Pulse 94.1 FM and the effectiveness of Con's radio program

- ◇ FCC Churches: ***Jannali (1928)***
- ◇ Romani Evangelical Congregational Church in Macedonia
- ◇ Jenny and Dave Rowe in USA working for Wycliffe Bible Translators
- ◇ Persecuted Christians in ***Saudi Arabia***

- ◇ Praise God for his goodness and any answered prayers in your life
- ◇ Thank God Con and Leonie's house repairs/faults are being rectified and they are in the process of moving into their new home