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**Secretary:** Andrea Bell [wollongongcongregationchurch@gmail.com](mailto:wollongongcongregationchurch@gmail.com)

**Newsletter:** Jenny Bergstedt [jenabe.bergstedt@gmail.com](mailto:jenabe.bergstedt@gmail.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)
- ⊗ **Food Coordinator:** Jill Donnelly 0466661879
- ⊗ **Church Prayer Chain** Ring or text Leonie
- ⊗ **Tuesday Bible Study will meet at 10am this week at Con & Leonie's home. 6 Holstein St. Calderwood**
- ⊗ **Personalised cards can be ordered from Lynne Grimm, 3 for \$5.00 proceeds go to the Building Fund 0438770764**
- ⊗ **Reminder!** We'll be collecting gifts for **Toys 'n' Tucker** and **Food Hamper** donations. If you'd like to donate, please contact Andrea Bell our Secretary for further information



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

15 November, 2020

*— Welcome all and be blessed —*

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

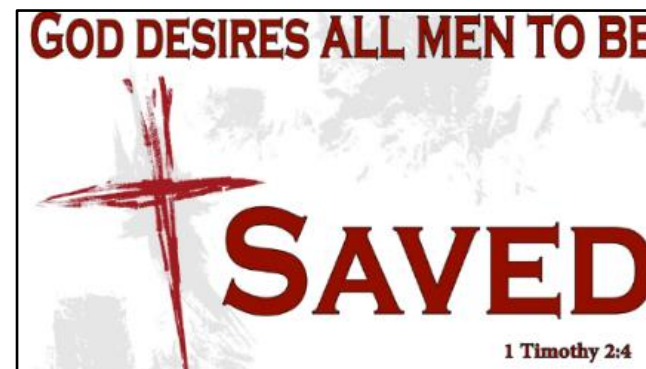
Please stay for Morning Tea following our service

And it's

### **AGM and Member's Meeting today**

Agenda, Minutes and Reports have been emailed out  
Please pick up a printed copy if needed  
Please pack your own sandwich or lunch

Congratulations to George Meldrum on his 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
celebrated this week



## Summary of last week's Sermon by Pastor Con Despinidic.

I believe that sometimes we spend too much time trying to do the work of God. We should rest in Him and trust God to do His sovereign work in our lives and in the life of His Church. I believe that the Lord wants each one of us to be ready for service; obedient when we hear His call and willing to change direction. So far, the church was growing; lives were being challenged and changed. We saw in **Acts chapter 10** Peter's perception of life and the Gospel had to change!

Was it that he had got caught up in the letter of the Law and not the Spirit of the Law?

They were to be a Holy people; to Trust God for all things; to be a light to the world and God's representatives, untainted by the practices of the world. Unfortunately, they became proud and arrogant. They saw that the only way to God was to embrace the faith of Israel and become a convert to Judaism; be circumcised and obey the law. The Apostle Paul's advice and teaching to young Timothy helps us to see the heart of God.

**1 Timothy 2 :3 "This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, <sup>4</sup> who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.**

Peter had to be reprogrammed. Peter's words "**I now realize**" (**Acts 10:34**) registers his own surprise at the new understanding he has just received. The great thing about this new revelation is that he can share it with others!

Sharing this new revelation is important to Peter, it will become the foundation for further missionary activity and the growth of the church. He speaks and challenges his hearers, and he shares his convictions. Ten years have passed by since the day of Pentecost and news has reached the church in Jerusalem that the Gentiles have been saved. Peter had experienced a beautiful thing, and one might be tempted to say that he was on a high!! You would have thought that the church in Jerusalem would have been happy to see the Gospel spread and Gentiles saved! This was not the case.

*There are always those who lose sight of the big picture.*

Peter went to Jerusalem to share the good news of the conversion of the Gentiles. They did not rejoice in the Gentiles coming to faith! Their concern was that Peter broke the law **Acts 11:3 "the circumcised believers criticized him <sup>3</sup> and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them."**

To this Peter's reply was a simple one. This is my story. Peter gave an account of himself; he knew that he was under authority. We are all under authority. God is a God of order' **1 Corinthians 14:33 "For God is not a God of disorder but of peace. As in all the congregations of the Lord's people."**

This was the opportunity to share what God had done IN HIS LIFE in RELATION TO HIS ATTITUDES. (attitude adjustments are not always that easy!) Peter wanted to show the church that they were to spread the Good news to all. *Look said Peter. "I will not defend myself; this is what God has Done!"*

They accepted the gentiles. **Acts 11:1-18** The truth always prevails! May our eyes always be open to the wonderful truths of God.

**Con**

## Prayer Points

◇ 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: **Jo and Glenn Martin**  
◇ Those In Care: Joan Weber & Dawn Coleshill  
◇ Lenore Rinses for complete healing  
◇ Andrew Horsley's brother Tim involved in a cycling crash with a car and he is in hospital  
◇ Con's brother, Nick and his family. A car crashed into their house  
◇ Janice Roworth for her ongoing healing and the ability to cope and have support at home. Also pray for her son Steve  
◇ Margaret, Dianne and Wendie as they wait on the Lord for justice  
◇ Joyce Souter for ongoing healing and her son who is battling cancer  
◇ Bernice for healing of leg ulcers, and for Peter as he cares for her  
◇ 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  
◇ All students who have just completed their HSC exams

◇ FCC Churches: **MANLY (1862)**  
◇ Romani Evangelical Congregational Church in Macedonia  
◇ Jenny and Dave Rowe in USA working for Wycliffe Bible Translators  
◇ Adam and the work in Togo  
◇ Persecuted Christians in **Somalia**

◇ Praise God for his goodness and any answered prayers in your life