



WONGA PARK & MERNDA REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



19 July 2026

This Week's Service:

Preacher:

Paul Chan

Elder on duty:

Martin van der
Merwe

Prayer Leader:

Martin van der
Merwe

Bible text:

Ephesians 3:14-21

Sermon Topic:

Glory in Christ and His
Church

Bible Reader:

Nelleke

Children's Talk:

Janette

Coffee:

Martin & Marianne
van der Merwe

Giving

Today's

Second Offering:

Diaconate

Year to June Budgeted

giving:

\$216,310

Actual (June):

\$218,410



YOU'RE INVITED

Opening Day!

Join us as Mernda Reformed Church meets for the very first time!

SUNDAY 19 JULY
4:00 PM

Mernda Park Primary School

40 Riverdale Blvd, Mernda VIC 3754

*Come celebrate the beginning of something new — everyone is warmly
welcome!*

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth."

1 Corinthians 3:6

THINGS TO PUT IN YOUR CALENDAR



Dates for upcoming services:

19 July:

4:00pm - First Service in the new building! 4 PM

2 Aug:

4:00pm - Worship Service

VISITING OR NEW TO WONGA PARK OR MERNDA REFORMED CHURCH?

Jenna, our community engagement worker, would love to meet you and answer any questions you have about our Wonga Park church community.

Feel free to contact her on
0403650398.

BOTH CHURCHES

19 July: The Lord's Supper

20 July: CHURCH AGM!

4 August: Prayer Meeting@7:30pm

29 August: Trivia Night



You are warmly invited to the Women's Morning tea that we are hosting right here at Wonga Park.

The theme for the day is:
"You can make a difference!"

We are excited that we can have Shirley Patterson as our guest speaker.

Saturday 8th of August 10-12

Please scan the below QR code to register:



UPCOMING *Events* JULY



15

**Young Adults Bible
Study**

7:30-9:30PM



29

**Young Adults Bible
Study**

7:30-9:30PM

AUGUST



9

After Church Social

12:00-1:00PM



12

**Young Adults Bible
Study**

7:30-9:30PM



26

**Young Adults Bible
Study**

7:30-9:30PM

TERM 3

SUPERDASH

2026



STATE YOUTH CAMP



Sunday*

STATE YOUTH SERVICE

4 PM @ Location TBC



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



Saturday*

CONVENTION FUNDRAISER TRIVIA NIGHT

5:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO YOUR YOUTH LEADERS

TRIVIA NIGHT

Bring your friends and your brain power
for an unforgettable night of trivia.

FOOD | FELLOWSHIP | FUN

29 AUG, 2026 | 5:30 PM

Wonga Park CRC

FOOD, DRINKS & DESSERTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT
A SILENT AUCTION WILL ALSO BE HELD DURING THE EVENT

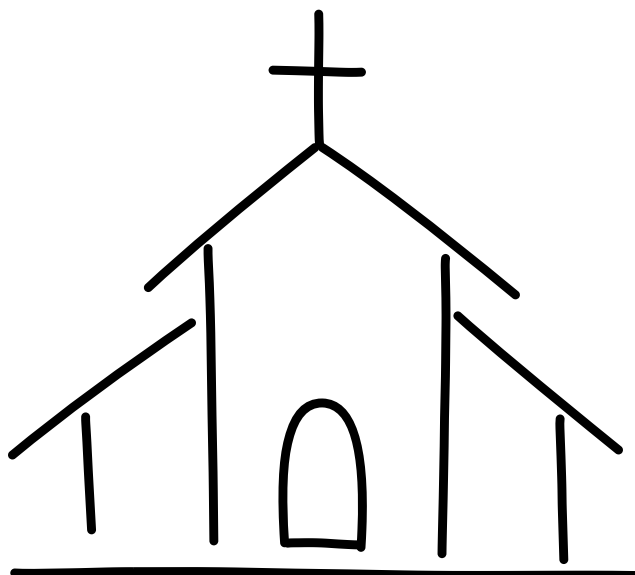
SAUSAGE SIZZLE & BOEREWORS STARTS AT 5:45 PM
TRIVIA STARTS AT 6:45 PM

Register Here



SUMMARY OF JULY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

- Leana attended the first part of the meeting on behalf of the deacons. She reported that the deacons have begun compiling a working list of outstanding maintenance items across the Wonga Park property. Each deacon has assigned themselves to a specific task. A new deacon - or ideally two - will be needed soon.
- Checked everything was ready for Mernda's first service in the school, and for the AGM.
- Youth gatherings are paused until early August due to the State Youth Camp and State Youth Service. The movie night fundraiser raised \$1,400, which was very encouraging. Nine people are registered to attend the national youth convention from Wonga Park.
- Formulated Wonga Park's formal responses to some Classis matters.
- Discussed pastoral care and support of visitors and newcomers
- There are "routine" reports and discussions each month on a range of ministries covering the breadth of our church activities.





Our church AGM will be held on Monday 20 July at 8.00pm. The meeting will be on Zoom, so you can join from the convenience of your home. The meeting will be run from the church and anyone preferring to join in person there is welcome to do so.

One item at the AGM is the approval of the church budget for the new financial year. It makes sense for this to take place at the start of the financial year in July, rather than a few months later as we've done in previous years.

As is our custom, ministry reports will be circulated in advance and won't be presented in person at the AGM. However, there will be time to ask any questions arising from these reports.

No new business can be introduced at the AGM, under our organization rules. If you wish to raise an item of business, please do so in writing by emailing it to Peter Williams no later than Monday 13 July, so that it can be reviewed at the Church Council meeting on the 14th.

If you have any questions about the AGM, Peter, Chris or any of the elders will be happy to help.

PRAYER POINTS

Personal prayer points

Dear Lord please incline your ear to us and hear the prayers we bring.

As we go into the coming week let us daily pray;
That our confidence in the Lord our God who is the rock on which we stand will never falter.

Trust in the Lord forever, For in God the Lord, we have an everlasting Rock. (Isaiah 26:4 NASB)

Give praise and thanks to God for constantly reminding us of his faithfulness even when we stumble.

Congregational prayer points

Please pray for Sally as she recovers from a broken arm, pray that there won't be any complications.

Please pray for the Mernda church as they start services in their new facilities, pray that the Lord's blessing will be on all they do as they seek to establish themselves in that community.

Please pray for those of us suffering from dementia, Suzanne Nel, Hanna vander Walt, Henk knol, as well as other family members of our congregation.

Please pray for our congregation as we will have our AGM on Monday, pray that this will go well and that the Lord will guide us in any decisions we need to make.

International prayer points

Please continue to pray for the leaders of our nation that the Lord will use them mightily to bring about his will.

Please continue to pray for the people of Venezuela as they mourn those who have died, recover from injuries and seek to re-establish their lives after losing so much.

Please continue to pray for all those caught up in conflicts, Iran, Ukraine as well as others.
Please pray for God's people in Nigeria.

In two separate incidents on 15 May, armed men on motorcycles kidnapped children and teachers.

In Mussa, Borno State, around 50 children, mostly between the ages of 2 and 5, were kidnapped from three schools, the BBC reports.

In Oyo State, gunmen also invaded Ahoro-Esinele community, killing a teacher and abducting a school principal alongside an unspecified number of students when two secondary schools were attacked. Between 40 and 45 people were kidnapped. The schools are the Baptist Nursery and Primary School, Yawota, and Community Grammar School in Ahoro-Esiele, and the L.A Primary School in Esiele.

One of the kidnapped staff members is in a Baptist church in Yawota. The kidnapped principal appealed to the Christian Association of Nigeria in a video asking for her release.

Punch reports a teacher was beheaded, according to a video released. Dr Suleimon Olanrewaju, the Special Adviser on Media to Governor Seyi Makinde, in a statement on Monday said a tactical team of soldiers attempting to intervene died when they encountered Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) hidden by the extremists. The school is in predominately Christian communities; however, it is not confirmed if all the children are Christians.

To our knowledge, no specific group has yet taken responsibility for the attacks. In another incident on 12 May, a faction of Boko Haram terrorists known as Jama'atu Ahlis-Sunna Lidda'Awati Wal-Jihad (JAS) beheaded at least seven captives when they tried to flee the camp where they were held in the mountains of Borno State.

According to reports, the executions were done in view of other captives, mostly women and children, to intensify fear among them. Sahara Reporters reports the faction holds over 400 other captives who remain in deteriorating conditions in remote mountain camps. According to a community leader from Gwoza, all the victims were Christian. However, we are still trying to get a second confirmation from our local contacts.

According to various media reports, multiple captives have died in recent months amidst starvation, physical abuse, forced labour, a lack of medical care, and psychological pressure awaiting an uncertain fate.

Continued attacks and kidnappings on Christian and other communities cause immense fear. "These attacks not only disrupt church activities, but the entire lives of Christians who live in fear. They can't go to church; they can't send their children to school. Life comes to a halt," says Abiodun Musbau* a senior church leader in northern Nigeria. In addition, the ransoms asked for the children and teachers puts a financial pressure on the church and its members. In the past families have sold off everything just to pay the ransom.

Pray for the physical, emotional and spiritual safety of the children. Pray that someone in the place where they are held, will take care of the needs of very young children.

Pray that God will grant their parents with peace that surpasses human understanding
Pray that the government and security institutions will do everything necessary to secure the release of these children.

Pray that Holy Spirit will change the hearts of the attackers to release the captives, love Jesus, stop their actions and turn to Him for their salvation. Open Doors

Our next prayer meeting will be held on Tuesday the 4th of August at 7.30pm.

OUR GIVING, AN ACT OF WORSHIP

In our Church we have two offerings every Sunday. The first goes toward the ministry of this congregation. The second offering goes toward various Christian causes. This week our second offering is for the Diaconate.

If you would like to support the work of you can do so by in Church giving - simply add your offering to the bag at the back of Church or by bank transfer -

BSB 063-167. A/C 1015-8356

If using bank transfer please indicate whether it is for the first offering "Sun1" or second offering "Sun 2" in the reference line. Or you can give online via our Church app.

<https://wpcrc.org.au/give>



Another way to make payments is by scanning this QR code.

Growth Groups

If you would like to join one of these groups or find out more, please see either Jenna or Chris.

Rob and Jenna - Tuesday nights 8pm online

Wendy ladies group Thursdays 10am @ church

Chris and Sarah Wednesday fortnightly 8pm

Adri and Alister: Wednesday nights 7:30pm. in person

Herman Linde: Monday nights, 8pm online.



SERMON NOTES

Bible passage:

Date:



Something
that shines
from the
passage



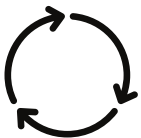
Anything
hard to
understand
or any
questions



Personal
application
for your life



Theme of
passage



How does it
fit with other
passages in
the Bible



Who will you
tell about
what you have
learnt?

HELPING HANDS

	19 July	26 July	2 Aug
Preacher	Paul Chan	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius
Elder on Duty	Martin	Peter W	Peter W
Prayer Leader	Martin	Herman L	Peter W
Music Leader	Neil	Nelleke	Inge
Children's Talk	Janette	Sarah	Joseph
Bible Reader	Nelleke	Mila	Mari
Welcoming	Anne K	Marlene	Wendy
Sound	Nina	Justin	Justin
Visuals	Salme	Isaac	Ene
Broadcasting	Christo	James	Michael
Coffee	Martin & Mariaane van der Merwe	van Gent Family	Martiens & REtha van Staden



BIRTHDAYS

Ka-men Kam	18 July
Isaac Organtzoglou	20 July
Lizemarie Szarek	22 July
Suzanne Theron	30 July
Lynette Dyer	31 July



Who Should I Contact?

Pastor:	Chris Pretorius	pastor@wpcrc.org.au
Chairman of Session:	Peter Williams	session@wpcrc.org.au
Community Engagement:	Jenna Miller	jenna@wpcrc.org.au
Church Administration:	Chris Pretorius	admin@wpcrc.org.au
Deacons:	Leana van Gent	deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Music Ministry:	Mia van Wyk	miavwyk@gmail.com
Sound & Visuals:	Michael van der Merwe	vdmichael02@gmail.com
Children's Talk:	Janette Fernando	janettefernando@iprimus.com.au
Sunday School:	Ilze Kellerman	admin@wpcrc.org.au
Youth Group:	Kasha Schubert	youth@wpcrc.org.au
Young Adults:	Michael van der Merwe	vdmichael02@gmail.com
Growth Groups:	Chris Pretorius	pastor@wpcrc.org.au
Prayer Chain:	Herman Linde	herman.linde@live.com.au
Facilities & Maintenance:		deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Newsletter:	Leana van Gent	newsletter@wpcrc.org.au

* To contact telephonically please refer to the directory in the Church app