



WONGA PARK & MERNDA REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



20 September 2026

This Week's Service:

Preacher:

Chris Pretorius

Elder on duty:

Kasha Schubert

Prayer Leader:

Herman Linde

Bible text:

Acts 2:14-41

Sermon Topic:

The Core Message of
Salvation

Bible Reader:

Roger Fernando

Children's Talk:

Inge Theron

Coffee:

Mahdi Ahmadi,
Justin Hibma &
Kasha Schubert

Giving

Today's Second Offering:

Diaconate

August Budgeted

giving:

\$17,610

Actual Giving:

\$18,895

THANK YOU!

God's Provision

I am often amazed by God's provision for us, his people. Sometimes that provision comes in very ordinary and practical ways. Last week we learned that we have successfully received another Collier Grant to continue replacing our old gas heaters with split-systems for heating and cooling. Together with the grant we received last year, this means that God has provided enough funding for us to update this technology right throughout the whole church. Who would have thought that Wonga Park would ever be a fully airconditioned church?!

But even in that provision, God has been teaching us patience. The funding was split over two years, which meant that we could only begin the project last year. We had to wait before we could finish it. Now, in God's timing, we are able to complete the work. At the same time, you may have noticed another project taking shape: the new stage being built for our musical instruments. Again, God has provided, this time not just in money but also through people willing to give their time, skills and energy. A big thank you to Isaac, Justin, Michael, and our project manager Hennie, for making it all happen! These things are worth celebrating. They remind us that God cares for his church and provides what we need in all sorts of ways.

But we should also remember that every earthly provision is temporary. One day our split systems will stop working. The new stage will eventually wear out. Buildings need repairing, technology needs replacing, and even the best things we enjoy in this life do not last forever. These are all ultimately the consequence of the continual breakdown of things because of the fallen nature of the world because of sin. So we should never forget God's greatest provision of all. A cure to the sin problem in Jesus. God gave us his Son. In Jesus, God has provided what we could never provide for ourselves: a way back to him. Through the forgiveness of our sins, God provided us with eternal life in Jesus. So sure, aircons are great, and a new stage for the piano is wonderful, but eternal life with Jesus - that's incredible.

THINGS TO PUT IN YOUR CALENDAR



Dates for upcoming services:

27 September:
4:00pm - Worship Service

11 October:
4:00pm - Worship Service

BOTH CHURCHES

20 September: The Lord's Supper

3 October: Working Bee

6 October: Prayer meeting 7:30pm

10 October: Christian Reformed Churches
Ladies day @ Wonga Park

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.



The Convention fundraiser (Trivia Night) raised \$5,054, excluding cash given on the night. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported it.

NEW RELEASE

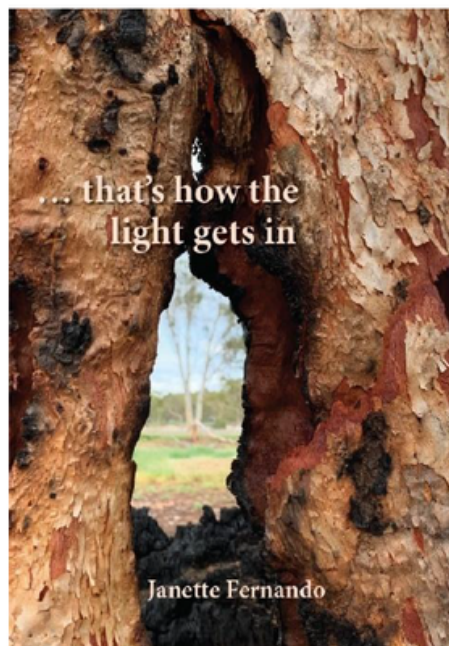


POETICA CHRISTI PRESS
invites you to the launch
of

... that's how the light gets in
a collection of poems and prayers
by
Janette Fernando

to be launched by Julien Winspear

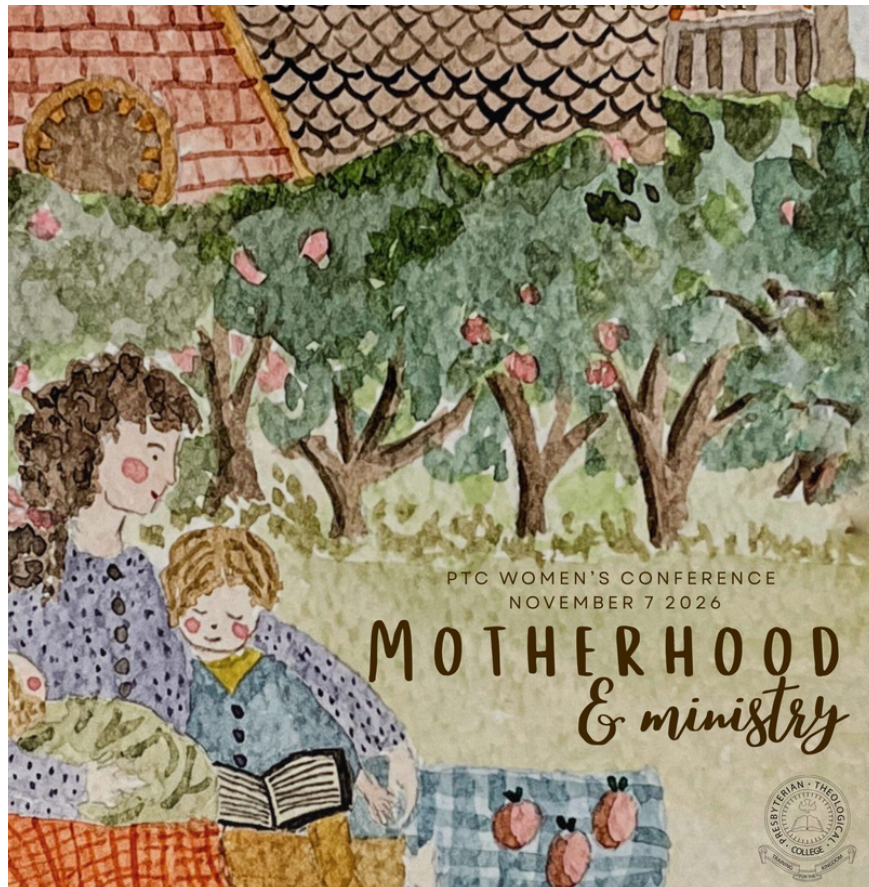
on **Sunday, October 4th** at **2.30 pm**
at Montrose Church of Christ
7 Leith Rd, Montrose
(entrance via carpark in Walker Rd.)



RSVP by September 30th to 0422 887 228.

If you can't attend, but would like to buy a copy @ \$20, see Janette or email poetica@iprimus.com.au





REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

PTC Women's Conference is back! It is a great opportunity to learn, fellowship and encourage each other as women.

TOPIC: Motherhood and Ministry

SPEAKER: Jocelyn Loane (Chaplain at Moore College)

WHEN: Saturday 7th November from 10:00am

WHERE: 684 Elgar Rd, Box Hill North, VIC 3129

TICKETS:

Early Bird – \$45 (until 3 October)

Standard – \$55

Late registration – \$65

Group of 5 – \$200

Group of 10 – \$350

REGISTER HERE

www.ptc.edu.au/event/ptc-womens-conference-2026/

PRAYER POINTS

Personal prayer points

Father, please help us never to forget what it cost you for us to have the privilege of being allowed to come before your holy throne in prayer.

As we go into the coming week let us daily pray;

That we will demonstrate the life of our Lord Jesus Christ living in us in every situation no matter what we face or have to endure.

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20 ESV)

Give praise and thanks to the Lord our God for the sacrifice of his dear Son so that we may be sons and daughters of our heavenly Father.

Congregational prayer points

Please pray for Roger Fernando as he is once again helping out at a school in northern Australia, this time in Arnhem Land. Pray that the Lord will grant him good health and strength and that he will be a blessing to the people there.

Please continue to pray for Lorensz and Sandra Stork as they deal with the stress of selling up and moving house to a much smaller home, pray that God will give them strength and that they will not have too much stress.

Please continue to pray for those of us struggling with the effects of dementia, both for the sufferers and their families as the impact on all can be severe.

International prayer points

Please pray for our nation that God's pure light will shine for all the lost and that many will be attracted and accept Jesus as their saviour.

Please pray for the world we live in that those with power will be moved to use that power for the good of all and not to stroke their own egos.

Please continue to pray for all those affected by natural disasters.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters suffering persecution.

Extremist mobs abducted a pastor and vandalised a house church in separate incidents in West Bengal, eastern India, on Sunday 6 September. At around 11am, about 25 people invaded a Christian home in Nandapurya village in West Medinipur district, where Pastor Sukhendu Singh was conducting a service for Christians from eight families in nearby villages. "They threatened Pastor Sukhendu Singh and forcibly took him away," Purna Hembram, a Christian present at the service, said.

Singh was not released until late that evening after his abductors had beaten him and forced him to sign a written statement promising not to visit the villages to lead prayer services. "They also forced him to say that he would go to every Christian house and tell them that Christianity is a foreign religion," said Victor Behera, state coordinator of the Bengal Christian Council.

In a separate incident the same morning, another extremist mob of about 125 people vandalised a house church in Rangilabasan village in East Medinipur district. The mob entered the house shortly after the morning service had ended, thankfully after most of the worshippers had already left. Among other acts of vandalism at the property, the assailants broke a cross into four pieces, and attacked the homeowner, Tapan Samanta. The attackers dragged Samanta to a local police station, along with some women from the church who sought to defend him. They were later released.

"Despite continuous assurances from the administration, repeated disruptions and attacks during Sunday prayer services remain deeply alarming," commented Herod Mullick, founding secretary of the Bengal Christian Council.

Pray for Pastor Singh as he recovers from his ordeal. Ask that any undertaking signed under duress will be annulled and worship services will continue without disturbance. Pray also that Tapan and the women who courageously intervened will recover from the trauma endured. Ask that God will work all things for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28) with improved police protection across the state, strengthened faith in believers and increased interest in the Gospel generated by the attention given to churches in West Bengal.

Our next prayer meeting will be held on Tuesday the 6th of October at 7.30pm.

SERMON NOTES

Bible passage:

Date:



Something
that shines
from the
passage



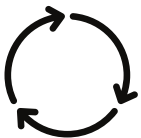
Anything
hard to
understand
or any
questions



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?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Acts 2:14-41

Read Acts 2:1-13 to set the scene, then read 2:14-41 aloud in full.

What is this noise? (vv14-21)

1. Peter answers the mockery by quoting the prophet Joel. Look at who receives the Spirit in vv17-18. Sons and daughters. Young and old. Male and female slaves. Through Israel's history the Spirit came on a few chosen people for particular tasks. What is God announcing by widening it this far?
2. Peter says this is happening "in the last days" (v17). If we are living in the same stretch of history he was, what should that change about an ordinary Tuesday?

How do you know he rose? (vv22-32)

3. Read v23 slowly. Peter says the crucifixion happened by "God's determined plan and foreknowledge," and in the same breath says "you... used lawless people to nail him to a cross and kill him." How do you hold those two together? What would be lost if you dropped either half?
4. Peter's argument in vv29-31 rests on a simple fact: David's tomb is still in Jerusalem and everyone knows where it is. Why is that such a strong argument? What is Peter saying David's words were really about?

Where is he now? (vv33-36)

5. In v17, God pours out the Spirit. In v33, Jesus pours out the Spirit. Peter does not stop to explain the shift. What is he claiming about Jesus?
6. Verse 36 is the summit of the whole address. Read it aloud, slowly, right to the final word. If you had been in that crowd seven weeks after the crucifixion, what would that sentence do to you?

So what do we do? (vv37-41)

7. The crowd is "pierced to the heart" (v37). Notice that this is something done to them. What is it that actually convicts a person, and what does that mean for how we speak to friends and family about Jesus?
8. Their question is "What should we do?" Peter's answer is repent, be baptised, receive (v38). Why does repentance come first? What does repentance actually look like for you this week?
9. Verse 39 says the promise is for "you and your children, and for all who are far off." Who is far off? What does that verse tell us about who this church is for?
10. Where in your life are you treating Jesus as a good memory rather than a living Lord on a throne?

HELPING HANDS

	20 September	27 September	4 October
Preacher	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius	Harry Berends
Elder on Duty	Kasha	Peter W	Martin
Prayer Leader	Herman L	Peter W	Inge
Music Leader	Brendina	Nelleke	Brendina
Children's Talk	Inge	Nicky	Roger
Bible Reader	Roger	Nelleke	Karien
Welcoming	Ina	Anne	Marlene
Sound	Nina	Nicolas	Justin
Visuals	Salme	Isaac	Ené
Broadcasting	Christo	James	Michael
Coffee	Mahdi, Justin, Kasha	Roger & Janette Fernando	Christina & Jacob du Toit



BIRTHDAYS

Abigail Viljoen	20 Sep
Anthonet Corney	20 Sep
Dale Reed	20 Sep
Sally Moore	22 Sep
JD Steenkamp	24 Sep
Mia van Wyk	25 Sep
Inge Theron	27 Sep
Phillip Nel	30 Sep



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