



WONGA PARK & MERNDA REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER



18 October 2026

This Week's Service:

Preacher:

Chris Pretorius

Elder on duty:

Kasha Schubert

Prayer Leader:

Kasha Schubert

Bible text:

Acts 3:11-26

Sermon Topic:

Jesus is the source of
life that gives life to
all who listen to him

Bible Reader:

Salme

Children's Talk:

Janette

Coffee:

Herman & Lynette
Dyer

Giving

Today's Second Offering:

Diaconate

September Budgeted

giving:

\$17,610

Actual Giving:

\$14,711

THANK YOU!

Please join our care and community team!

As you will know we are in the process of developing our pastoral care team at church. This team will be involved in the practical care of people through our deacons, the pastoral care of members of the church, and the community events we have in church. Our new vicar will be part of this team, as I will be, along with several of our elders, but we would love to invite you to consider how you might be called to pastorally care for others in the church.

Perhaps God has given you gifts in pastoral care. Maybe, you are someone who is good at listening thoughtfully, maybe you notice when someone is struggling, and maybe you are a growth group leader who wants to make sure everyone in your group is prayed for and cared for. Or maybe your gifts lie in building community. You enjoy welcoming people, bringing others together, making introductions, and helping people find a place to belong. Then I want to invite you to join!

If this sounds like an area where you could contribute, or even if you'd simply like to explore what might be involved, please let me know. You can email me, phone me or chat to me in person, but I would love to hear from you. Maybe this is a new area God is calling you to serve in.

Chris P

THINGS TO PUT IN YOUR CALENDAR



Dates for upcoming services:

25 October:
4:00pm - Worship Service

15 November:
4:00pm - Worship Service

BOTH CHURCHES

18 October: The Lord's Supper

25 October, 5pm: Reformation Sunday
Joint Worship Service @ Box Hill
(see page 2)

3 November, 7:30pm: Prayer meeting

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.

Deacon Nominations

We are extremely grateful to put the following Deacon nominees forward:

Jo Reed
Brendina Saul
Jenna Miller

Please join us in praying for these nominees that have accepted the invitation to join the Deaconate. May the Lord bless their willing hearts and hands for the work set before them.

Finance Update - First Quarter

Our treasurer reports that giving for September was \$14,711 against a budget of \$17,610, a shortfall of nearly \$3,000. Repair and maintenance costs were also higher this quarter because of the platform materials and pest control. With our insurance premium due in October, we expect to begin the second quarter in deficit.

Thank you for your faithful and generous support of the ministry of our church.

Reformation Sunday – Joint Worship Service

Sunday 25 October, 5:00pm
Reformed Church Box Hill, 28 Watts St, Box Hill

Guest preacher: Nick Arundell (Chalmers Presbyterian)

The Reformed Church Box Hill warmly invites us to join them and other local churches for a joint Reformation Day service. It is a great opportunity to strengthen ties and fellowship between our churches. Supper follows the service – you are welcome to bring a plate to share (not compulsory).

UPCOMING

Events

SEPTEMBER



9

Young Adults Bible
Study

7:30-9:30PM



23

Young Adults Bible
Study

7:30-9:30PM

OCTOBER



7

Young Adults Bible
Study

7:30-9:30PM



18

After Church Social

12:00-1:00PM



21

Young Adults Bible
Study

7:30-9:30PM

TERM 4 2026 SUPERDASH



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: QA Discussion with Chris

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



STATE YOUTH SERVICE

4 PM @ Geelong

Sunday*



NO SUPERDASH

DUE TO MELB CUP HOLIDAY (3rd of NOV)



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



SOCIAL NIGHT

Seniors: Church Sleepover

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO YOUR YOUTH LEADERS

Request for driving roster

We would like to appeal to congregation members staying in the Basywater, Kilsyth, Maroolbark, Croydon or Ringwood areas to please consider assisting with a driving roster for Leonie Stork.

She would like to continue visiting our church and we would like to get her here.

Please contact any of the deacons if you can help.

New Release

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

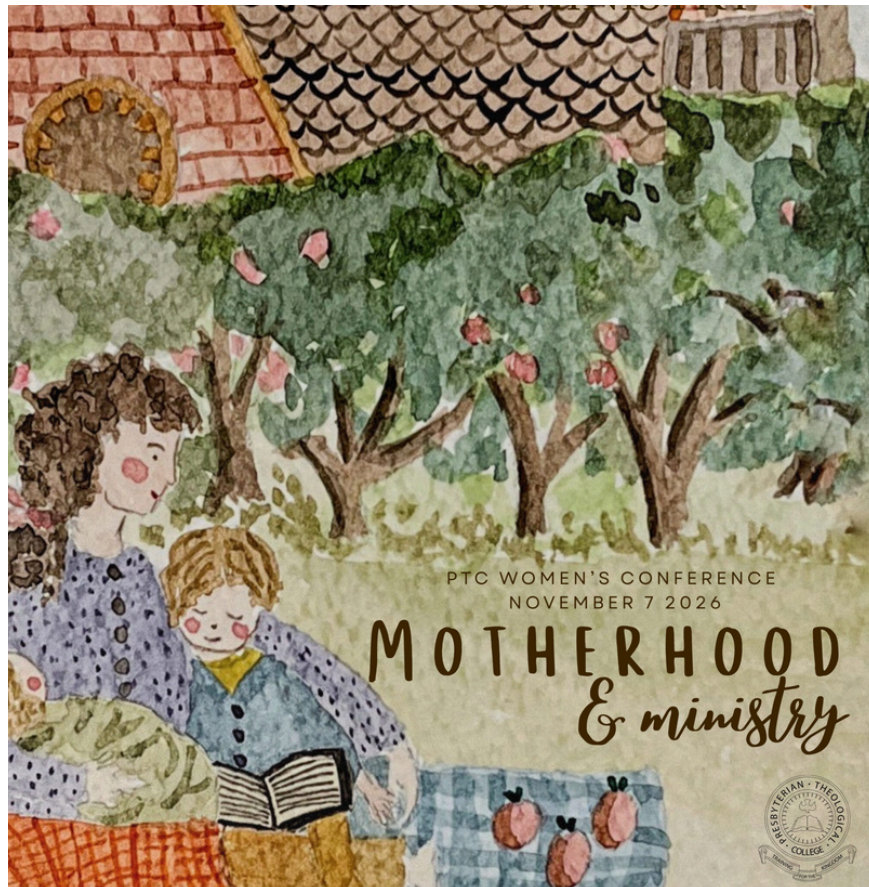
Poetica Christi Press is pleased to introduce its latest book, ... that's how the light gets in, a collection of poems and prayers by Janette Fernando.

Soft cover, 122 pages, \$20

“This inspired collection paints minutiae from Australian landscapes, cultures and peoples, while reaching through time and space. From witness to contemplation, the poetry speaks with a gentle confidence that studies, feels, prays and trusts in the Creator within creation... Life reaches beyond life in these love poems to God. This collection unveils our humanity, invites us to be ‘full of words/ or sometimes silence’. It exposes a way of being in the world, reseeding hope through caught mysteries and kindnesses – each poem ‘a unique sculpture’ revealing through the cracks a spark – ‘that’s how the light gets in’.”

– Tru S. Dowling, Poet, Freelance Writer & Editor, Performer, Teacher

If you would like to buy a copy of Janette Fernando’s new book of poems and prayers, please speak to her in person or take a copy and, to pay, use the order forms in the foyer next to display copies of her books.



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

Heavenly Father we lift our prayers to you and humbly ask you to receive them.

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

For wisdom and discernment so that we will always honour God in all decisions we may make.
But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men." (Acts 5:29 ESV)

Give praise and thanks to the Lord our God for his Word which helps us to know what is right in God's sight.

Congregational prayer points

Please pray for Lydia Oppermann who has recently come home from hospital but still experiences pain and has other complications. Pray that the Lord will grant her healing.

Please continue to pray for Maralin and Steve Miller, pray that the Lord will grant them healing and that they may experience the comfort and peace only God can provide.

Please continue to pray for Anne and Bryce Keegel that the Lord will be their peace as they make the move to another house.

Please pray for Ben and Lauren Palmer as Ben is having debilitating anxiety attacks, pray that the Lord will grant him healing.

International prayer points

Please pray for our state especially as we get close to another election, pray for wisdom and discernment as we weigh up who to vote for.

Please continue to pray for our nation, pray that those who are suffering economically, relationally, health wise or any other way may find their answer in Jesus.

Please continue to pray that the wars around the globe, especially the war in Ukraine, will soon come to a peaceful conclusion.

Please pray for our family in Christ in India (see next page).

Please pray for our family in Christ in India.

Seven Christians have been arrested under the state anti-conversion law of Madhya Pradesh, central India, after three incidents of extremists making false accusations. On Sunday 27 September, a mob attacked a church service in Betul District. Police arrested Pastor Paul Sheshkar and Pastor Raglin from the church. Barnabas Aid contacts reported on 28 September that both had been jailed on charges of carrying out unlawful conversions.

On the same Sunday, in Rewa District, police arrested Pastor Basantlal Saket and another believer, Shyam Sundar Saket, after receiving complaints of alleged unlawful conversions being carried out at a prayer meeting. These incidents followed a similar one on 24 September. Three pastors – Rajpati Singh, Rajendra Bahadur Singh and Philip Thomas – were jailed after a group of protestors made allegations against them.

The Madhya Pradesh anti-conversion law – officially, Freedom of Religion Bill – prohibits seeking converts through force or coercion. Thirteen Indian states have anti-conversion laws. Extremists often wrongly believe that such laws criminalise all conversions from Hinduism, or even that they outlaw any form of Christian evangelism or worship.

How you can pray

Pray that there will be justice for our wrongly accused brothers in Christ. Ask that the authorities will uphold India's commitment to religious freedom. Ask too that Indian believers will remain firm in their Christian faith despite the troubles they often face.

Source: Barnabas Aid

Our next prayer meeting will be held on Tuesday 3 November at 7.30pm.

Growth Group Questions

Acts 3:11-26

1. Why does Peter redirect the crowd's attention from the miracle to Jesus?
2. Where do we look for spiritual power apart from Christ?
3. What do the crowd's choices in verses 13–15 reveal about sin?
4. How does Jesus' resurrection challenge our judgments about him?
5. Why does ignorance fail to remove our need for repentance?
6. How does God's sovereignty over Jesus' suffering give us hope?
7. What distinguishes genuine repentance from feeling guilty?
8. How does promised restoration shape our response to present suffering?
9. Why does covenant privilege make listening to Jesus more urgent?
10. What sin might Jesus be blessing you by calling you to leave?

SERMON NOTES

Bible passage:

Date:



Something
that shines
from the
passage



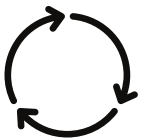
Anything
hard to
understand
or any
questions



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

	18 October	25 October	1 November
Preacher	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius	Crosbie de Kretser
Elder on Duty	Kasha	Martin	Kasha
Prayer Leader	Kasha	Janette	Kasha
Music Leader	Neil	Nelleke	Inge
Children's Talk	Janette	Joseph	Nicky
Bible Reader	Salme	Lynette	Stephen
Welcoming	Joy	Ina	Anne
Sound	Nicolas	Justin	Nicolas
Visuals	Isaac	Ené	Isaac
Broadcasting	James	Michael	James
Coffee	Herman & Lynette Dyer	Charnise & Michelle Horn	Colin, Maggie & Lynette Pretorius

