



WELCOME

Wonga Park CRC is a church that is committed to helping people grow in their faith, one step at a time. We believe people do this by encountering God in his living word, through prayer, and in community with other believers.

New here? We would love to meet and connect with you, so please fill in your details on the back of this newsletter, place it in the offering bag and one of our team will contact you.

God's Word: We encourage you to take notes in the place provided, to reflect on what God has been saying to you, and to discuss it with your family, friends and children.

Prayer: We have several places in our worship service where we pray. We would also love to pray with you after the service. If you would like someone to pray with you, please remain in the main auditorium and a member of our prayer team will come and pray with you.

Community: We encourage you to stay after the service for coffee and fellowship. If you are a visitor, please grab a free barista made coffee (available most mornings). We would love to meet you and get to know you more. We have a **cry room** off to the side of the church for parents with infants. During school terms we also run a **Sunday School** program during the church service for primary school aged children, and we have a **crèche** for ages 1-5 at the end of the main hallway.

ROMANS 8 "TWO WAYS TO LIVE"

Romans 8 Christian Standard Bible (CSB)

The Life-Giving Spirit

8 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, ^[a] **2** because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you ^[b] free from the law of sin and death. **3** What the law could not do since it was weakened by the flesh, God did. He condemned sin in the flesh by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh as a sin offering, ^[c] **4** in order that the law's requirement would be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. **5** For those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit have their minds set on the things of the Spirit. **6** Now the mind-set of the flesh is death, but the mind-set of the Spirit is life and peace. **7** The mind-set of the flesh is hostile to God because it does not submit to God's law. Indeed, it is unable to do so. **8** Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. **9** You, however, are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to him. **10** Now if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit ^[d] gives life ^[e] because of righteousness. **11** And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, then he who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life through ^[f] his Spirit who lives in you.

The Holy Spirit's Ministries

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are not obligated to the flesh to live according to the flesh, **13** because if you live according to the flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **14** For all those led by God's Spirit are God's sons. **15** For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear. Instead, you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry out, "Abba, ^[g] Father!" **16** The Spirit himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God's children, **17** and if children, also heirs—heirs of God and coheirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

From Groans to Glory

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. **19** For the creation eagerly waits with anticipation for God's sons to be revealed. **20** For the creation was subjected to futility—not willingly, but because of him who subjected it—in the hope **21** that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage to decay into the glorious freedom of God's children. **22** For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together with labor pains until now. **23** Not only that, but we ourselves who have the Spirit as the firstfruits—we also groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. **24** Now in this hope we were saved, but hope that is seen is not hope, because who hopes for what he sees? **25** Now if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with patience. **26** In the same way the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us ^[h] with unspoken groanings. **27** And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. **28** We know that all things work together ^[i] for the good ^[j] of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. **29** For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. **30** And those he predestined, he also called; and those he called, he also justified; and those he justified, he also glorified.

The Believer's Triumph

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He did not even spare his own Son but offered him up for us all. How will he not also with him grant us everything? ³³ Who can bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies. ³⁴ Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is the one who died, but even more, has been raised; he also is at the right hand of God and intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Can affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

Because of you we are being put to death all day long; we are counted as sheep to be slaughtered.^[K]

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SERMON NOTES

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Q1: Do you sometimes feel like you are still under God's condemnation? What does it mean to you, to not be under condemnation any more?

Q2: As a believer, Jesus' work here on Earth made you holy. What difference does this make in your life?

Q3: What is one step in faith you can take today to live a more holy life in response to what Jesus did?

Q4: What does it mean for "creation to be subjected to frustration"? How have you experienced this frustration in your own life?

Q5: When you sin, what difference does knowing you have been adopted into God's family as one of his children make?

Q6: What, according to Romans 8 is the Holy Spirit's work?

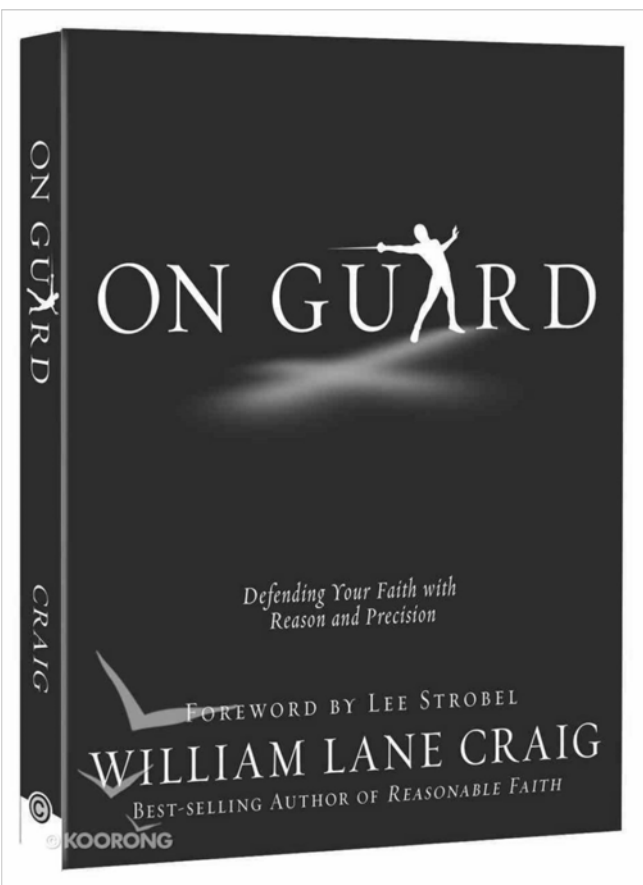
Q7: How have you experienced this in your life?

Q8: This chapter teaches us that the Christian life is about resembling Jesus more and more each day, and each year. When you look back over the last 3,5,10 years of your life what is different today because of your faith in Christ?

DISCIPLESHIP DIGEST

Welcome to the weekly discipleship digest. This part of our weekly newsletter is designed to help us all take steps in being more active and more effective at discipling others. This week, I would like to recommend a book to you.

Have you ever come across the situation where one of your friends says something like "I can't think of any good reason why anyone would believe in God?" How confident would you feel to be able to answer that person?



I would guess that for most of us it would be pretty difficult to have a faith based discussion with someone like that. If you want to be able to say "Well, actually, I can think of at least 4 good reasons for believing in God", then this resource will help you get there. In his book "On Guard", William Lane Craig gives you a number of good arguments for God's existence, as well as giving you a good game plan for interacting with people. I used this book as the main textbook for an apologetics workshop I ran during the recent youth convention. I cannot recommend this book highly enough!

Over the next several weeks, I will be breaking down a couple of these arguments, so keep your eyes peeled for next week's edition. In the meantime grab yourself a copy of this book and dive in. I trust that this will give you everything you need to answer your friend's statement and help you have a good faith based conversation with them.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

YOUTH FUNDRAISER!

CHRISTIAN REFORMED
CHURCH OF WONGA PARK

SATURDAY 29TH FEB, 2020
3PM – 10PM

\$20 DONATION PER PERSON.
(OR A GOLD COIN IS FINE)

SOME SUPPER PROVIDED.

PLEASE ALSO BRING
SOMETHING TO SHARE
AND GAMES TO PLAY!

LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD
LIKE TO RUN A PARTICULAR
GAME ON A DESIGNATED TABLE

RSVP 28TH FEB, 2020



The Church IGNITE youth would love the community's support for running some of the youth programs this year!

Event open to both those inside and outside our Church community.

Funds raised will go towards providing food, materials, leader study materials, and helping support leaders in discipleship to attend some offsite events like SYG and adhoc training days. Any extra funds raised will go towards the Church sound system.



DAN PATERSON



JORDAN THYER



YOUSSEF YACCOUB

Tough Questions

FRI 7 - SUN 9 FEB 2020

FRIDAY 7 FEB 7PM:
IS FOLLOWING JESUS GOOD FOR ME?

SATURDAY 8 FEB 7PM:
WHAT DOES JESUS SAY ABOUT HYPOCRISY?
AM I CRAZY TO BELIEVE IN GOD?

SUNDAY 9 FEB 7PM:
THE CHALLENGE OF BEING A CHRISTIAN IN MODERN SOCIETY
QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION AFTER EACH TALK

**DANDENONG CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**

255 OUTLOOK DRIVE,
DANDENONG NORTH
3175

**CHILDCARE HELPERS
AVAILABLE**

RZIM
RAVI ZACHARIAS INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

 **CREDOLOGOS**
Religious Organization

For more information please contact:
Daniel - 0426 559 434



CRCA WOMEN'S CONVENTION 2020

May 29th - June 1st 2020

come and join us on
Queensland's beautiful
Sunshine Coast

visit tivolicrc.org.au
wendy 0408 073 680



A big thank you!

We wish to give a big thank you to Bart and Adri van Leeuwen and to Wendy Harrison. Bart and Adri faithfully organised our cleaning rosters, and Wendy organised our coffee rosters over the last several years. Thank you for your faithful service in this area, we really appreciate it! Thank you also to Michelle Organtzoglou who has now taken over managing these rosters through the

DIARY

Sunday 2nd February

10:00am Worship Service

Friday 7th February

6:30pm GEMS



2/2 Gerry & Maria Smedes

9/2 Adri Van Leeuwen



27/1/ - 2/2	Jack & Michelle Organtzoglou	Isaac Organtzoglou
3/2—9/2	Hennie & Mia Van Wyk	Neil & Nicolette Bester



Jacinta Oakley
Rhodè-Mari Cilliers
Jan Van der Merwe
Hugo Pretorius
Danika van der Merwe

3 February
4 February
6 February
7 February
8 February

BUDGET UPDATE

Budgeted Weekly Offering	\$4035
Last Week's Offering	\$ TBC
Year To Date:	\$ TBC

PRAYER POINTS

The great thing in prayer is to feel that we are putting our supplications into the bosom of omnipotent love.

Andrew Murray

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

That no matter what this year throws at us, we will trust in God for all our needs and cast all our cares on him as we seek to walk with him.

"So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." (Matthew 6:31-33 NLT)

- Give praise and thanks to God for all the mundane, common, everyday needs that God fulfils for us day after day without ceasing just like he gave the manna in the desert every day whether the people were faithful or not.
- Please pray for all the children starting a new year of school and for the staff of the schools as they begin to teach them. Pray that children will not be subject to teaching that goes against the word of God.
- Please pray for Jack Organtzoglou and his family as they mourn the passing of their mother and grandmother. Pray especially for the members of his family who don't know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.
- Please pray for Suzanne Nel as she is now in care, pray for Phillip as he is faced with making important decisions that will have long term implications for them both.
- Please continue to pray for Martie Schachtner, Martin Hanscamp, Gretchen Fourie and Veronica Fernando as each continues to fight against cancer. Pray that the Lord will grant healing and restoration.
- Give praise and thanks to our God for all those involved in the music ministry within our church. Pray for God's blessing upon their ministry.
- Please pray for the Casey congregation. Pray that the Lord will encourage them in their ministry and that he will use them mightily for his glory and the furtherance of his kingdom here on earth.
- Please pray for the church throughout our nation, pray that there will be a mighty revival amongst us so that we can be used greatly by the Holy Spirit for the health of our nation.
- Please continue to pray for all those affected by drought and bushfires. Pray that this may be a catalyst for many to turn back to the only real source of comfort.

Open Doors has just released the 2020 World Watch List, showing the 50 most dangerous countries to follow Jesus. This is a chance to be informed of the extent of persecution, to be confronted by its nature, and to ultimately be encouraged by those who have truly counted the cost of following Jesus. The 2020 World Watch List revealed that 1 in 8 Christians worldwide are persecuted for their faith, a figure that has risen from recent years. Christians in 34 countries experienced a very high to extreme level of persecution, compared to 29 countries last year. Both violent and non-violent persecution are on the rise.

Hundreds of Christians lost their lives in Sri Lanka when a series of bombs exploded, including 3 at churches during Easter Sunday services. Islamic extremism continued to spread across Sub-Saharan Africa, South and South-east Asia, where violent attacks at the hands of extremist groups increased. In Burkina Faso, this rise in extremist activity saw it ranked #28 this year, despite not appearing on the List last year. As technology advances, Christians also face persecution as governments more easily monitor and target them through surveillance cameras and facial recognition software. In China, at least one church requires members to queue for facial recognition checks to enter.

In the most dangerous places to follow Jesus, Christians can face persecution from all angles; from their family, neighbours, colleagues, communities, police and government. Despite the risks, they continue to follow Jesus, no matter the cost. Please pray for Christians as they follow Jesus in the most dangerous places to do so.

* Praise God that in the face of rising persecution, the Church is showing resilience and strength

* Pray that believers who experience persecution will remain steadfast in the truth, finding strength and hope in God's promises.

* Pray that those who persecute Christians will come to know the love of Christ.

Source: *Open Doors*

CONNECT CARD

If you want someone from church to connect with you, please fill in this card, tear it off and put it in the offering bags.

Your name:

Contact number:

Contact email:

Notes:

KEY CONTACT DETAILS

ELDERS

Pastor
Chris Pretorius
0423 889 913
pastor@wpcrc.org.au

Youth Pastor
Tim Gray
0448 660 291
youth@wpcrc.org.au

Chairman and Worship Services

Peter Williams
0431 500 006

Finance
Lourens Geldenhuys
0409 990 398

Grounds and Maintenance

Jack Organtzoglou
0403 377 559

Youth and Children

Ryan Weston
0430 465 125

Growth Groups

Peter Day
0404 227 776

DEACONS

Margreet Day
0491 117 900

Joy Van Veen
0409 199 840

Gerry Smedes
0432 559 725

ADMINISTRATION

Session Clerk
clerk@wpcrc.org.au
Yvonne De Reus
0430 219 858

Newsletter Editors
newsletter@wpcrc.org.au
Neil Bester
0429 569 149
Enè Crous
0450 211 133

Treasurer
Nelleke Arnold
treasurer@wpcrc.org.au
0448 469 569

Child Safe Coordinator

Lynette Pretorius
0423 889 913

MINISTRY LEADERS

Prayer Ministry
Herman Linde
0411 069 808

Music Ministry
Mia Van Wyk
0420 817 800

Sunday School Coordinator

Nikky Bester
0439 084 987

Audio Visual
Cassie Van Veen
0499 230 872

Crèche ministry
Abigail Remminga
0497 370 820

Creative Space
Elmie Schachtner
0416 805 656

GEMS
(primary aged girls group)
Lynette Pretorius
0423 889 913

Kids Hope Coordinator

Enè Crous
0450 211 133

GIVING

In our church we have 2 offerings every Sunday. The first offering goes toward the ministry of this congregation. The second offering goes toward various ministry organisations we support. If you would like to support this work you can do so in a few different ways:

In church giving: Simply add your offering to the offering bag.

Bank Transfer: BSB: 063 167 Acc: 1015 8356. For the Deacons BSB: 063167 Acc. 1015 8372

Via Church App: Download it here <https://wpcrc.org.au/app/>