

WONGA PARK & MERNDA REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

22 March 2026



ANNOUNCEMENTS

3 April: Good Friday Service 10:00am
Lord's Supper

5 April: Easter Sunday service 10:00am

7 April: Prayer meeting 7:30pm

2 May: Working Bee *
Please save this date!

Our church grounds and building need all willing hands.
More detail to follow soon.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dates for upcoming services:

- 29 March 4:00 pm
- 12 April 4:00pm
- 26 April 4:00pm
- 10 May 4:00pm
- 24 May: NO SERVICE
- 7 June: 4:00pm



Something special is forming on Sunday afternoons in Mernda.

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.

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.



Dandenong Reformed Church is extending their invitation to

Easter Choir Presentation
on
Easter Sunday 5 April
at 6:00pm



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS



I
Jesus is
condemned
to Death



II
Jesus
Carries His
Cross



III
Jesus Falls
the
First Time



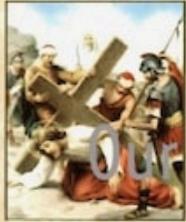
IV
Jesus Meets
His Blessed
Mother



V
Simon Helps
Jesus to
Carry His Cross



VI
Veronica
Wipes the
Face of Jesus



VII
Jesus
Falls the
Second Time



VIII
Jesus Speaks
to the Women
of Jerusalem



IX
Jesus
Falls the
Third Time



X
Jesus is
Stripped of
His Garments



XI
Jesus is
Nailed to
the Cross



XII
Jesus
Dies on the
Cross



XIII
Jesus is
Taken Down
from the Cross



XIV
Jesus is
Laid in the
Sepulchre

The Wise Women of Wonga invites you to:

Ladies Stations of the Cross

on

Thursday 2 April

10:00 - 12:00

Come and enjoy reflective readings of the death and resurrection of our Saviour.

Morning Tea will be provided

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Wendy or Jenna.

EVENT SCHEDULE



Date & Time:
25 January, 2026
AT 1:00PM

SOCIAL

MEET AT WONGA PARK
CHRISTIAN REFORMED
CHURCH

Date & Time:
4 February, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
18 February, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
4 March, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
18 March, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
1 April, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
15 April, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
24 April, 2026
AT 7:30PM

SOCIAL

OZ TENPIN CHIRNSIDE PARK



IF YOU'D LIKE TO JOIN OUR YOUNG ADULTS GROUP OR COME ALONG TO ONE OF OUR SOCIAL EVENTS, WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU! SIMPLY CHAT TO INGE, MICHAEL, OR CASSIE AT CHURCH, OR SEND US A DM VIA OUR INSTAGRAM PAGE.



EVENT SCHEDULE



Date & Time:
29 April, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
13 May, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
27 May, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
10 June, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
20 June, 2026
AT 6:00PM

**CONVENTION
FUNDRAISER**

@WONGA PARK CRC

Date & Time:
24 June, 2026
AT 7:30PM

BIBLESTUDY

70-72 ENNISMORE
CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS

Date & Time:
28 June, 2026
AT 1:00PM

SOCIAL

LOCATION TBC

TWO WEEK BREAK!!



IF YOU'D LIKE TO JOIN OUR YOUNG ADULTS GROUP OR COME ALONG TO ONE OF OUR SOCIAL EVENTS, WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU! SIMPLY CHAT TO INGE, MICHAEL, OR CASSIE AT CHURCH, OR SEND US A DM VIA OUR INSTAGRAM PAGE.



TERM 1

SUPERDASH

2026



SOCIAL NIGHT

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



STATE YOUTH SERVICE

4 PM @ Casey CRC

Sunday*



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



BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Testimony Writing

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO YOUR YOUTH LEADERS

PRAYER POINTS

Personal prayer points

Father, may you be honoured through our humble attitude in the prayers we bring.

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

For God's help to pursue the same goal that the apostle Paul pursued and gain the prize won for us by our Lord Jesus.

Forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead, I pursue as my goal the prize promised by God's heavenly call in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:13b-14 CSB)

Give praise and thanks to our gracious God for not only making the prize available but sending Jesus to win it on our behalf.

Congregational prayer points

Please pray for Martin van der Merwe's mum as she is very ill with heart problems and pray for his family at this difficult time.

Please pray for family members and others who are close to us but do not know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour that the Holy Spirit will open their eyes that they may see.

Please pray for our young people who have sought careers other than through places of higher learning, pray that they will achieve their goals while never losing sight of their Lord and Master.

Local & International prayer points

Please pray for our nation that the instability and turmoil currently experienced will cause many to seek comfort in the promises of God.

Please continue to pray for the world at large that the Lord will use for good what world leaders mean for ill.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in the Middle East.

The Middle East has entered a deeply volatile and painful phase, with the conflict that began on 28 February touching almost every country in the region. Countless lives and communities are affected. Amidst this turmoil, the Church in the Middle East continues to witness of Christ, offering hope, care and faithful presence to the displaced and traumatised across the region.

On Saturday 28 February the United States and Israel launched widespread strikes targeting Iran's missile infrastructure, military sites and senior leaders. Among those killed was Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who had led the country since 1989. He was killed when his compound in Tehran was flattened during the first wave of strikes. Dozens of senior Iranian political figures and leaders within the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) were also killed. The IRGC has since appointed a new commander-in-chief, Ahmad Vahidi. More than 700 civilians may have also lost their lives.

The Christians of Iran lived for decades under intense pressure under the government of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, facing legal restrictions, close surveillance, arrests and the constant weight of uncertainty. Many faithful believers endured suffering simply because they chose to carry their cross and follow Christ every day. Farsi (Persian)-speaking Christians are converts from Islam, treated with hostility as apostates from Islam and criminalised as supposed threats to national security. Worship in Farsi has long been forbidden, and converts must meet in underground "house churches" or in other secretive ways in order to avoid detection. Many of our brothers and sisters are still in prison.

Believers in Iran are cautiously optimistic that the country may move to a place where there is greater freedom for them to live out their faith, worship without fear, and share the Gospel with their neighbours. Yet there is also concern that if the current uncertainty leads to long-term chaos and instability, extremist elements supportive of the Islamic Republic may end up in a position to make life even more difficult for Christians than it was before.

In the early hours of 2 March, strikes from terrorist group Hezbollah on Israel dragged Lebanon further into the widening regional conflict. In Lebanon, dozens of Israeli airstrikes have hit Beirut's southern suburbs, while many more have struck the country's south. In the pre-dawn hours of Monday, mass evacuation orders were issued for more than 50 villages in southern Lebanon. Tens of thousands of people are now displaced, seeking refuge in schools, public buildings and any available shelter. The needs are immense and expected to grow as the conflict intensifies, with no immediate end in sight. "Just when we thought we could breathe again, images of people fleeing from the south towards Beirut are a reality once more," said a Barnabas Aid contact in Lebanon. "How much more can our region take?"

Lebanon has long had a significant Christian presence within the Middle East. Around 32% of the population identify as Christian. The number of Muslim-background believers (MBBs) is estimated to have grown from around 2,500 in 2010 to approximately 10,000 in 2025. Followers of Christ live amid significant political, economic and sectarian pressures.

How you can pray:

Ask that the tentative hopes of our brothers and sisters in Iran for greater freedom to worship, live out their faith and share the Gospel will be granted.

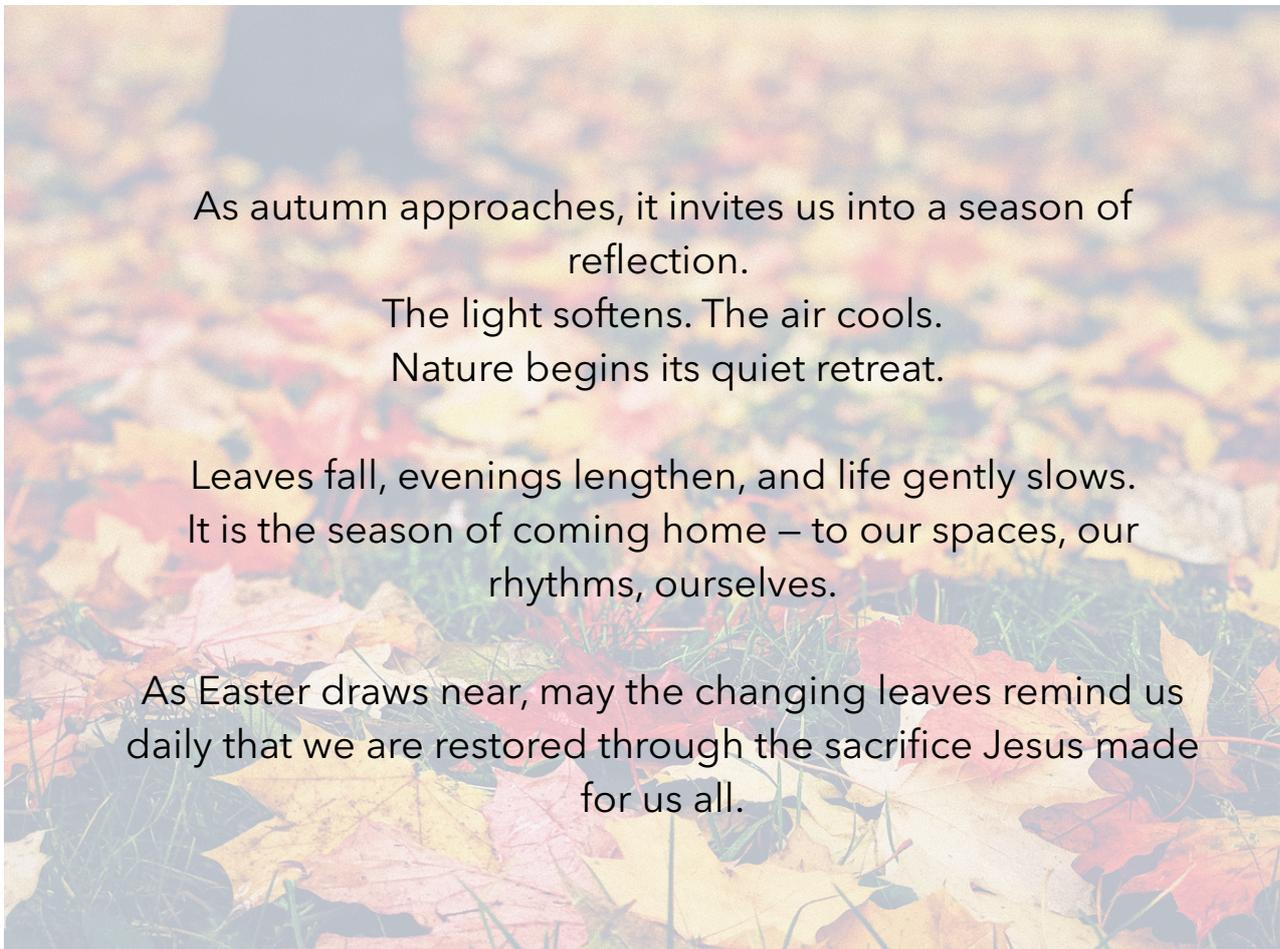
Please pray for comfort for those who are displaced and seeking refuge. Ask the Lord to surround them with His presence, provide safety, shelter and sustenance, and reassure them that they are not forgotten or abandoned in their time of need.

Please remember children traumatised by violence and instability. Pray that God will bring healing to their hearts and minds. Pray for nurturing communities around them, for protection, and for seeds of hope to take root, so that fear and despair do not define their futures.

Intercede for the Church, that it will continue to open its doors wide to the needy, becoming a place of shelter and hope. Ask that congregations will embody Christ's love in practical and spiritual ways, offering care, protection and encouragement to those who are hurting and vulnerable.

Praise the Lord that no matter the events of this world, His Word "is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens" (Psalm 119:89).

The next prayer meeting will be held on Tuesday the 7th of April at 7.30pm.



As autumn approaches, it invites us into a season of reflection.

The light softens. The air cools.
Nature begins its quiet retreat.

Leaves fall, evenings lengthen, and life gently slows.
It is the season of coming home – to our spaces, our rhythms, ourselves.

As Easter draws near, may the changing leaves remind us daily that we are restored through the sacrifice Jesus made for us all.

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 Reformed Children's & Youth Committee.

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>

SERMON DETAIL

22 March 2026

SERMON TOPIC:	From Death to Life
BIBLE TEXT:	Ephesians 2:1-10
PREACHER:	Lukas Edwards
ELDER ON DUTY:	Kasha Schubert

OFFERINGS:	
1ST COLLECTION:	The work of the Church
2ND COLLECTION:	Reformed Children's & Youth Committee

HELPING HANDS

	22 March	29 March	3 April
Preacher	Luke Edwards	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius
Elder on Duty	Kasha	Peter	Martin
Prayer Leader	Kasha	Herman L	Martin
Music Leader	Brendina	Neil	Mia
Children's Talk	Inge	Jeanette	Joseph
Bible Reader	Conrad	Adri	Stephen
Sound	Michael	Nicolas	James
Visuals	Salme	Isaac	Salme
Broadcasting	Christo	James	Christo
Sunday School	Lynette, Ilze, Lise S	Brendina, Ilze, Lise S	No Sunday School
Coffee	Roger & Jeanette Fernando	Michael Hayes & Ka-men Kam	Herman & Lynette Dyer



BIRTHDAYS

Marius Strydom	23 March
Leonie Stork	24 March
Pieter Kellerman	25 March
Betsie de Bruyn	27 March
Francios Bezuidenhout	27 March
Joy van Veen	1 April
Harry Berends	4 April



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	
Sound & Visuals:	Michael van der Merwe	vdmichael02@gmail.com
Children's Talk:	Janette Fernando	
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:	Riaan Bergh	deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Newsletter:	Leana van Gent	newsletter@wpcrc.org.au

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