

# WONGA PARK & MERNDA REFORMED CHURCH NEWSLETTER

*3 May 2026*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

2 May: Working Bee 8:30am

5 May: Payer meeting at 7:30pm

17 May: Lord's Supper

20 June: Convention Fundraiser: Movie night



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dates for upcoming services:

10 May 4:00pm

24 May: NO SERVICE

7 June: 4:00pm

21 June: 4:00pm

---

## VISITING OR NEW TO WONGA PARK OR MERENDA 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.



# TERM 2 2026 SUPERDASH



## SOCIAL NIGHT

7: 30 PM @ Oz Tenpin Chirnside Park



## BIBLE STUDY

Juniors: Bible Timeline

Seniors: Book of Acts

7:30 PM @ Wonga Park CRC



## STATE YOUTH SERVICE

4 PM @ Grace CRC (Langwarrin)



## 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



## CONVENTION FUNDRAISER

## MOVIE NIGHT

6 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

WONGA PARK CRC PRESENTS

# MOVIE NIGHT

## FUNDRAISER



**SATURDAY**  
**20 JUNE**

**6 PM**

**AT WONGA PARK CRC**

**REGISTER HERE**



**PURPOSE**



All funds raised will help support our youth and young adults attending the upcoming CRCA Convention in WA (Jan 2027).



# EVENT SCHEDULE



<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>29 April, 2026</b> AT 7:30PM</p> <p><b>BIBLESTUDY</b></p> <p>70-72 ENNISMORE CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS</p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>13 May, 2026</b> AT 7:30PM</p> <p><b>BIBLESTUDY</b></p> <p>70-72 ENNISMORE CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS</p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>27 May, 2026</b> AT 7:30PM</p> <p><b>BIBLESTUDY</b></p> <p>70-72 ENNISMORE CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS</p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>10 June, 2026</b> AT 7:30PM</p> <p><b>BIBLESTUDY</b></p> <p>70-72 ENNISMORE CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS</p>
<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>20 June, 2026</b> AT 6:00PM</p> <p><b>CONVENTION FUNDRAISER</b></p> <p>@WONGA PARK CRC</p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>24 June, 2026</b> AT 7:30PM</p> <p><b>BIBLESTUDY</b></p> <p>70-72 ENNISMORE CRESCENT, PARK ORHCARDS</p>	<p><b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>28 June, 2026</b> AT 1:00PM</p> <p><b>SOCIAL</b></p> <p>LOCATION TBC</p>	<p><b>TWO WEEK BREAK!!</b></p>

 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. 

Casey Christian Reformed Church of Casey is pleased to invite you to join us for our Ascension Thursday service. It would be a blessing to have you with us as we gather to worship, pray, and fellowship.

## Event Details:

- **Date: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026**
- **Time: 7.30pm start**
- **Location: 350-352 Pound Road, Narre Warren South 3805**

Please feel free to bring family and friends. We look forward to sharing this special time together. Light refreshments will be available after the service

Blessings

# PRAYER POINTS

## *Personal prayer points*

Lord, please accept the prayers we bring in spite of their many flaws and though tainted by sin.

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

That in the very lives we live we will show our rebirth to all we meet in every sphere of life that we may be true witnesses for the God who lives within us.

Because you have been born again—not of perishable seed but of imperishable—through the living and enduring word of God. (1Peter 1:23 CSB)

Give praise and thanks to the Lord our God for entrusting us with his holy name.

---

## *Congregational prayer points*

Please continue to pray for Marie Nikolauo, pray that she will be well enough to be able to go back to her own home.

Please continue to pray for Phillip and Suzanne Nel and Johann and Hana vander Walt and their families as both Hanna and Suzanne suffer from Alzheimer's disease. Pray that they will know the comforting arm of their Lord and Saviour around them.

Please continue to pray for the Mernda church, pray that the Lord will continue to guide and direct so that his holy name will be honoured.

Please pray for Anne Keegal. She has had some tests done and more testing is required to find out what the problem is

Please continue to pray for the Mernda church, pray that the Lord will continue to guide and direct so that his holy name will be honoured.

---

## *Local prayer points*

Please pray for our nation that the Lord will move mightily so that great revival will be ignited right throughout our land.

---

## *International prayer points*

Pray that the Lord will look upon his creation with compassion and hasten his return so that all things will be made right and restored unto himself whatever the cost.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in India.

Christians in India are asking you to urgently pray over the next several days as some tribal believers are under tremendous pressure to go back to their previous faith. If they don't do so at a "Ghar Wapsi" (an event meaning "homecoming," where converts return to their former beliefs) on Thursday, 30 April, they are being threatened with significant consequences.

The threats are being made by a prominent organisation that represents tribal communities in Chhattisgarh state, one of the places in India with the most restrictive anti-conversion laws, laws that make it very difficult to leave your previous faith if you follow Jesus.

On 7 April, the organisation, Sarva Adivasi Samaj (an umbrella organisation of tribal groups, most prominent in Chhattisgarh), assembled around 800 people demanding the reconversion of any Christian converts. At that meeting, village representatives from several villages alleged that attempts to convert people away from traditional customs and faith in tribal deities are increasing in the area. They stated that such conversions will not be tolerated within the community.

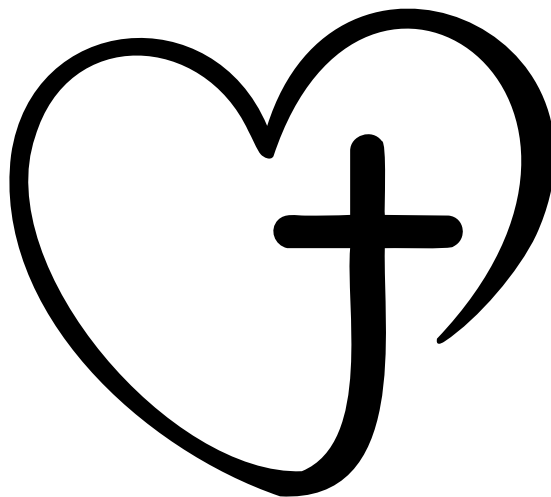
Although no specific individuals were named, they demanded strict action against those who have converted. The main speaker emphasised that this is not only a religious issue but also a matter of social existence. At the event, it was clear that conversion to Christianity was viewed as a threat to cultural and ethnic identity, rather than "only" religious conversion. Representatives of the Sarva Adivasi Samaj have appealed to the administration to intervene immediately to maintain peace and preserve traditions in the area. Such meetings are being held regularly to formulate strategies to reconvert those who have embraced Christianity. The invitation was also extended to the converted families, but none of them attended.

Sarva Adivasi Samaj threatened mass protests and legal action against those who do not comply, citing the new Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Bill 2026, which places significant restrictions on the freedom to convert. Due to increasing social pressure, some families have expressed their willingness to undergo the Ghar Wapsi ceremony, while several other Christians are reportedly living in fear of a large-scale protests and forced reconversions. Tribal Christians in Chhattisgarh need your prayers as they are being threatened and pressured to reconvert.

Please pray  
for the tribal Christians, especially new converts, who are undergoing immense pressure to reconvert to their ancestral religion. Pray they remain steadfast in their faith.  
for the authorities as they make decisions, that they make act fairly and justly without bias or political influence. Pray they will be able to keep the peace and protect people of all faiths.  
for the churches in this region and for religious freedom. Ask that they will continue to grow in the Lord, gather freely for worship, and to stand with the converts and support them spiritually.

Open Doors

Our next prayer meeting will be held on Tuesday the 5th of May 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 Ministry Formation .

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.

---

## SERMON DETAIL

*3 May 2026*

SERMON TOPIC: James 1:13-15 Facing the trial of temptation  
BIBLE TEXT: 2 Samuel 11:1-17, James 1:13-15  
PREACHER: Colin Pretorius  
ELDER ON DUTY: Peter Williams

OFFERINGS:  
1ST COLLECTION: The work of the Church  
2ND COLLECTION: Ministry Formation



# HELPING HANDS

	3 May	10 May	17 May
Preacher	Colin Pretorius	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius
Elder on Duty	Peter W	Peter W	Martin
Prayer Leader	Herman	Peter W	Martin
Music Leader	Brendina	Inge	Brendina
Children's Talk	Inge	TBC	Janette
Bible Reader	–	Armin	Lynette
Welcoming	Ina	Marlene	Anne
Sound	Nina	Michael	Nicolas
Visuals	Michael	James	Ene
Broadcasting	Michael	Christo	James
Sunday School	Izelle & Lynette	Ilze & Nicky	Ilse, Lize S, Sarah
Coffee	Rob & Jenna Miller	Steve & Brendina Saul	Colin, Maggie & Lynette



# BIRTHDAYS

Kylie Yau	2 May
Lucy Pretorius	3 May
Sandra Stork	3 May
Corrie van der Walt	8 May
Rebekah Viljoen	9 May
Gerry Smedes	9 May
Caleb Viljoen	12 May
Mackenzie Miller	12 May



## Who Should I Contact?

---

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

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