

Sunday 26 October 2025



SERMON TOPIC: Walk in Love, Light and Wisdom
BIBLE TEXT: Ephesians 5:1-21
PREACHER: Chris Pretorius
ELDER ON DUTY: Kasha Schubert
OFFERINGS:
1st Collection: The work of the Church
2nd Collection: Reformed Theological College

Reformation day - Remembering our roots

On October 31st, we pause to remember one of the most defining moments in church history - the Reformation. Over 500 years ago, Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Wittenberg Church, sparking a movement that would reform and renew the Church's understanding of God's grace, truth and Word.

Reformation Day is not merely about history; it is about rediscovering what has always been true - that salvation is by Grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, according to Scripture alone, for the glory of God alone. These timeless truths continue to shape our worship, our faith and our daily walk with the Lord.

As we reflect on this day, may we give thanks for those who courageously stood for truth and for the living Word that still transforms hearts today.

Let us be reminded that reformation is not just an event of the past but an ongoing call for the church - and for each of us - to be continually renewed by the power of God's Word.

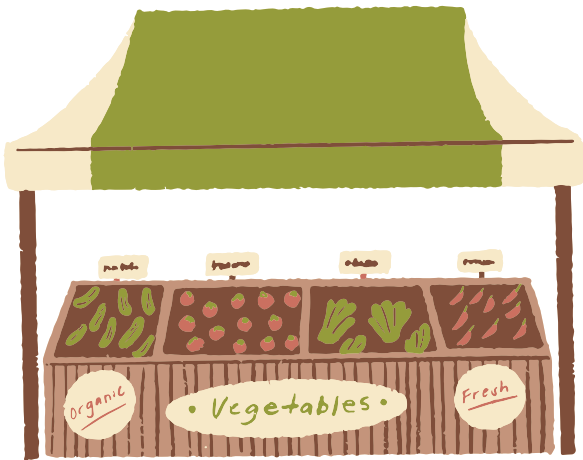
"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of God will stand forever." - Isaiah 40:8

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dining room mission **HOW TO HELP**

The next Dining room mission is Tuesday 28 October .

If you would like to contribute with a cooked meal or pantry staples
please contact Joy van Veen



An Organic Fruit and Veggie co op runs from
our church hall every second Thursday. You
are welcome to stop by to purchase fresh
fruits and veggies.

Next date: 6 November
9:30 - 12:30 & 16:00 - 18:00

Church Calender **WHAT IS HAPPENING**

Saturday 25 October Child Safety training
Sunday 26 October AGM after the service
Sunday 26 October 17:00 State Youth Service
Tuesday 4 November 19:30 Prayer meeting



Wonga Park CRC LIVE STREAMING

We are thrilled to announce that Wonga Park CRC is now officially LIVE STREAMING on YouTube!

Whether you are near or far, you can now join us online every week and be part of our worship services starting at 10 AM Sunday Mornings.

Subscribe and tune in here: <https://www.youtube.com/@wongaparkcrc>

Don't forget to subscribe to stay updated with all our latest worship services and sermons. We can't wait to connect with you online!




WPCRC-YA TERM 4

A look at Luke

15
Oct

Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,
Park Orchards

7:30-9:30PM

29
Oct

Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,
Park Orchards

7:30-9:30PM

12
Nov

Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,
Park Orchards

7:30-9:30PM

26
Nov


Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,
Park Orchards

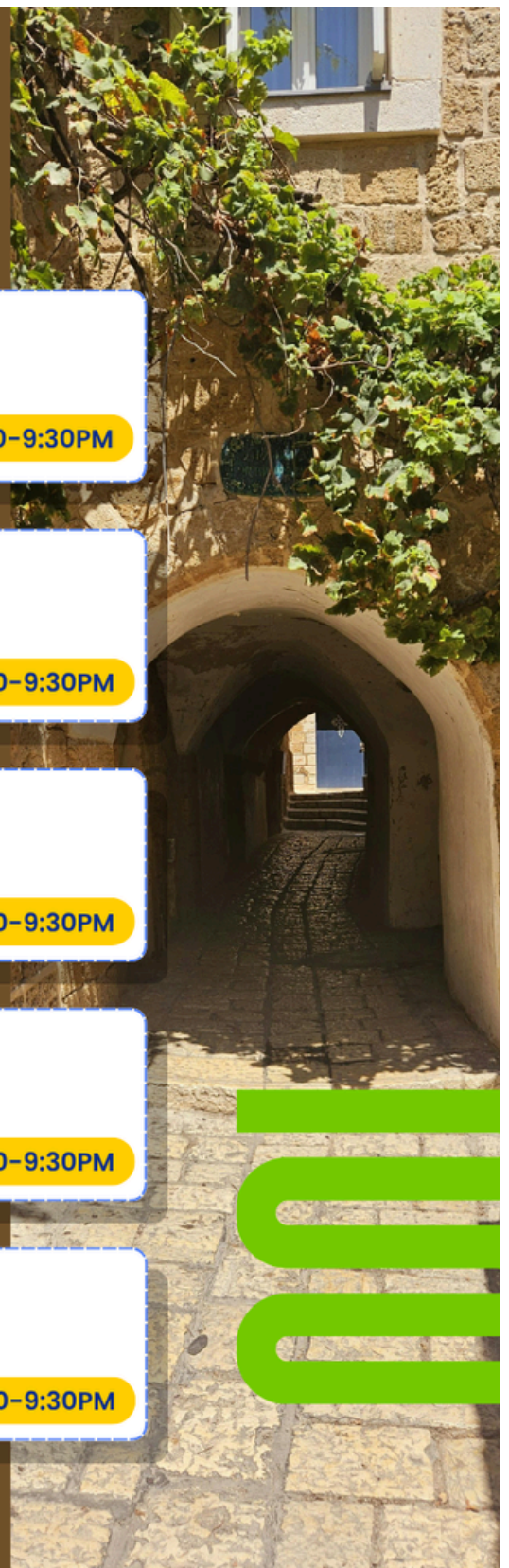
7:30-9:30PM

10
Dec

Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,
Park Orchards

7:30-9:30PM



TERM 4 **2025**

SUPERDASH

17 OCT	Q&A NIGHT 7: 30 PM @ PRETORIUS HOME
26 OCT	STATE YOUTH SERVICE 5 PM @ ONE HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
31 OCT	NO SUPERDASH DUE TO MELBOURNE CUP HOLIDAY (4 TH OF NOV)
7 NOV	BIBLE STUDY: MARK 7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC
21 NOV	BIBLE STUDY: MARK 7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC
5 DEC	SOCIAL: CHURCH SLEEPOVER 7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC TIL 6 TH 12 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO YOUR YOUTH LEADERS

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 Theological College.

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>

This week's **PRAYER POINTS**

O Lord, grant that I may do Thy will as if it were my will, so that Thou mayest do my will as if it were Thy will. Saint Augustine

Personal **PRAYER POINTS**

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

That the Lord will help us to live a life of love especially in difficult circumstances, so that he will be honoured.

Live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. (Ephesians 5:2 NRSV)

Give praise and thanks to God for the gift of his dear Son who, through his life, death and resurrection has shown us the depth of his love.

Congregational **PRAYER POINTS**

Please continue to pray for Ben Palmer as he has been going through a harder time than usual, pray that the Lord will grant him healing and be his comfort and peace.

Please pray for those of us who are far from elderly parents and other family members, pray that the Lord will give them peace knowing that he has them in the palm of his hand.

Please continue to pray for our year twelve students as they start their exams, pray for clarity of mind and calmness of spirit knowing that whatever the result it does not define who they are.

Local & Global **PRAYER POINTS**

Please pray for the church throughout our nation that the Lord will shine through it and that many will be attracted to his light.

Please pray for the governments of our nation, pray that those involved will seek the good of all and not just their own ambitions.

Continue to pray for the situation in Gaza, pray that peace will reign and that all fighting will stop. Pray also for Ukraine that Russia will cease its aggression and support peace in the region.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in China.

Dozens of pastors from one of the largest underground churches in China have been detained. It is reportedly the biggest crackdown on Christians by the communist regime since 2018. Chinese police have detained Pastor Ezra Jin Mingri, the founder of Zion Church, at his home in the southern city of Beihai last Friday evening, his daughter Grace Jin told the media, from the U.S.

The long-time pastor has been under surveillance for years, and he is barred from leaving China. The house church was started in 2007 and was previously shut down but has still managed to grow into one of the largest congregations in China. Current estimates have the membership at about 5,000 regular worshippers across nearly 50 cities.

"What just happened is part of a new wave of religious persecution this year," church spokesperson Sean Long told Reuters, from the U.S. Ms. Jin told the Wall Street Journal that dozens of other Zion Church pastors and workers were also taken into custody or are missing in cities around the country. Long later confirmed that account, saying about 20 pastors and church leaders remain in detention.

This is not the first time Chinese officials have cracked down on Jin's church. Jin said that in August 2018, he refused a government order to install closed-circuit surveillance cameras in the sanctuary. "A lot of our flock are terrified by the pressure that the government is putting on them," Jin said. "It's painful to think that in our own country's capital, we must pay so dearly just to practice our faith." Weeks later, authorities outlawed the 1,500-member church and banned him from preaching. "It's probably the largest incident of the government using public power to apply pressure on a house church in the past ten years, and it is still going on today," warned Jin. There are two main types of churches in China: registered and unregistered. Registered congregations, also known as Three-Self Churches, are government-approved because they've agreed to obey communist rules. The other is the underground church. That group of churches isn't necessarily hidden or secret under the police state of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) but operates outside government control. For decades, the house churches have faced intense persecution.

Lately, the CCP has been cracking down on the spread of religion over the internet. In September, they issued a new Code of Conduct for Religious Clergy on the Internet. The code stipulates that preaching on the internet "may be done only through websites, applications, forums, etc. legally established by religious groups, religious schools, temples, monasteries, and churches that have obtained an 'Internet Religious Information Services License.'" Another article of the code says that pastors "must not self-promote or use religious topics and content to attract attention and traffic." Jin is being held on suspicion of "illegal use of information networks," a charge that carries the maximum prison sentence of seven years. Jin's supporters fear he and the other pastors could be indicted on charges of illegally using the internet to post religious information. "He's been hospitalized in the past for diabetes. We're worried since he requires medication," Grace Jin said. "I've also been notified that lawyers are not allowed to meet the pastors, so that is very concerning to us."

Last month, China's president Xi Jinping vowed to "implement strict law enforcement" and to advance the Sinicisation of religion in China. Sinicisation is a term, in this case, that means every facet of religious life incorporates the Chinese Communist Party's ideology. Secretary of State Marco Rubio issued a statement on Sunday calling for the release of Mr. Jin and other Zion Church leaders. "The United States condemns the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)'s recent detention of dozens of leaders of the unregistered house Zion Church in China, including prominent pastor Mingri 'Ezra' Jin," the statement said. "This crackdown further demonstrates how the CCP exercises hostility towards Christians who reject Party interference in their faith and choose to worship at unregistered house churches," it continued. "We call on the CCP to immediately release the detained church leaders and to allow all people of faith, including members of house churches, to engage in religious activities without fear of retribution."

Source: CBNNews

The next prayer meeting will be held on Tuesday the 4th of November at 7.30pm.

Sermon NOTES

Bible passage:

Date:



Something
that shines
from the
passage



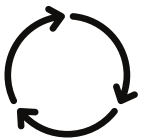
Anything
hard to
understand
or any
questions



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

- What does imitating God look like in practice in our world today?
- In what ways can we show “a life of love” (v.2) as Christ did, especially in relationships that are difficult or broken?
- Verses 3–7 warn against impurity, greed, and coarse talk. Do you think Paul’s warnings here are countercultural or even radical in today’s society? Why or why not?
- What does it mean to live as “children of light” (v.8)? How might this metaphor challenge both individual and communal behaviour in the church?
- Paul contrasts “fruit of the light” (v.9) with the “deeds of darkness” (v.11). How can we discern the difference between the two in everyday life?
- Verse 10 urges believers to “find out what pleases the Lord.” How do we do that in practice? What role does Scripture, prayer, and community play?
- “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead” (v.14) is a powerful image. What spiritual complacency might this be addressing in our own lives or churches today?
- How should we interpret Paul’s command to “make the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil” (v.16)? What might that look like in a modern Christian context?
- Verse 18 contrasts being “drunk with wine” with being “filled with the Spirit.” What does being filled with the Spirit look like – and how can we tell if we are?
- How can worship, gratitude, and mutual submission (vv.19–21) transform the way a church community functions? Are there barriers that make these difficult to live out together?

Helping HANDS

	26 October	2 November	9 November
Preacher	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius	KJ Tromp
Elder on Duty	Kasha	Jacob	Martin
Prayer Leader	Kasha	Herman L	Martin
Music Leader	Inge	Nelleke	Brendina
Children's Talk	Nicky	Sarah	Tash
Bible Reader	Sally	Jana	Karien
Sound	Nina	Cassie	Nic
Visuals	Salme	Isaac	Ene
Broadcasting	Christo	James	Pieter
Sunday School	Ilze, Lynette, Nici	No Sunday School	Lize B, Izelle, Ilze
Coffee	van der Merwe Family	Riaan & Lariza Bergh, Joy van Veen	Anke van Pinxteren & Anne Keegel

Upcoming BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

October:
26 - Retha van Staden

November:

1 - Armin van Wyk
4 - Steve Miller
7 - Mila van Wyk
7 - Joseph Ting
8 - James van Veen
9 - Amanda Strydom
11 - Cailynn van der Merwe
14 - Izelle Steenkamp
18 - Rob Miller
28 - Martin Ting

Who Should I Contact?

Pastor:	Chris Pretorius	0423 889 913	pastor@wpcrc.org.au
Chairman of Session:	Peter Williams	0431 500 006	session@wpcrc.org.au
Community Engagement	Jenna Miller	0403 650 398	jenna@wpcrc.org.au
Church Administrator:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	admin@wpcrc.org.au
Deacons:	Leana van Gent	0452 334 224	deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Music Ministry:	Mia Van Wyk	0420 817 800	
Sound & Visuals:	Cassie Van Veen	0499 230 872	
Children's Talk:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	
Sunday School:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	
Youth Group:	Kasha Schubert	0450 012 177	youth@wpcrc.org.au
Young Adults:	Michael van der Merwe	0456 960 424	
Growth Groups:	Chris Pretorius	0423 889 913	
Prayer Chain:	Herman Linde	0411 069 808	
Facilities & Maintenance:		0412 216 300	deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Newsletter:	Leana van Gent	0452 334 224	newsletter@wpcrc.org.au