

Sunday 7 December 2025



SERMON TOPIC:	Christmas Carol Service
BIBLE TEXT:	Luke 2:8-15
PREACHER:	Chris Pretorius
ELDER ON DUTY:	Kasha Schubert
OFFERINGS:	
1st Collection:	The work of the Church
2nd Collection:	Missionaries 1: van der Wels

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## The Dark Shadow of the cross ~ Herman Linde

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A stable there in silence stood where Jesus Christ was born.  
On a starlit night when peace did reign before the crack of dawn.  
Though all seemed right, and angels sang their song that early morn.  
Yet above that stable their loomed large the dark shadow of the cross.

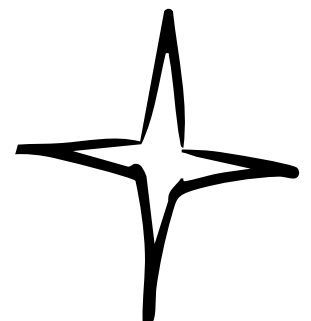
But Satan sought him to destroy so to Egypt he did flee.  
Returning when the danger passed to Nazareth in Galilee.  
There, mission divine for which he came, he was prepared to be.  
But o'er him always there loomed large the dark shadow of the cross.

In full obedience, he God's word extolled throughout the land.  
Proclaiming news of his salvation with wonders from God's hand.  
He healed the sick, he raised the dead, the evil spirits banned.  
Yet all the while there loomed large the dark shadow of the cross.

Then there it stood, that rough-hewn cross, no longer now in shadow.  
Where for mankind's souls, would God's dear Son to final battle go.  
Would evil triumph over good or receive its final blow?  
Would we be doomed to dwell beneath the dark shadow of the cross?

While on that hill the cross wept blood for death of Lord of all,  
And shout rang out throughout the earth that God himself did fall.  
There from the grave pure light shone forth, and God the Son strode tall.  
Death now conquered to light transformed that dark shadow of the cross.

It has become the light of life to those that cross embrace.  
For our conquering Lord with loving arms reaches out with grace.  
Crowned King of all enthroned on high now in his rightful place.  
For through his victory, he dispelled the dark shadow of the cross.



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## *The Dining Room Mission* **DECEMBER REQUEST**

16 December is the last serving opportunity for 2025.

As it is the season of giving, Joy have asked for some Christmas cheer that can be added to the usual serving.

If you would like to share the Joy of Christmas with the Dining Room Mission one last time please contact Joy van Veen.

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## *Wanted* **VOLUNTEERS FOR RTC WORKING BEE**

Reformed Theological College is on the move!

Next week RTC will be setting up new offices in part of Level 2, 221 Queen Street, Melbourne. We need a few able-bodied helpers to re-assemble flat-packed furniture and arrange the offices for use, and install frosted coatings to some glass partitions.

Tuesday 9/12 and Wednesday 10/12 approx.


6:00pm-9:00pm on each of the two evenings. Let Daniel Combridge (RTC Relocation Project Manager - 0402 096 249) or Kenrick van Kerkhof (RTC Business Manager - 0451 609 856) know if you are able-bodied. And willing. And available on either or both of those evenings.

# 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

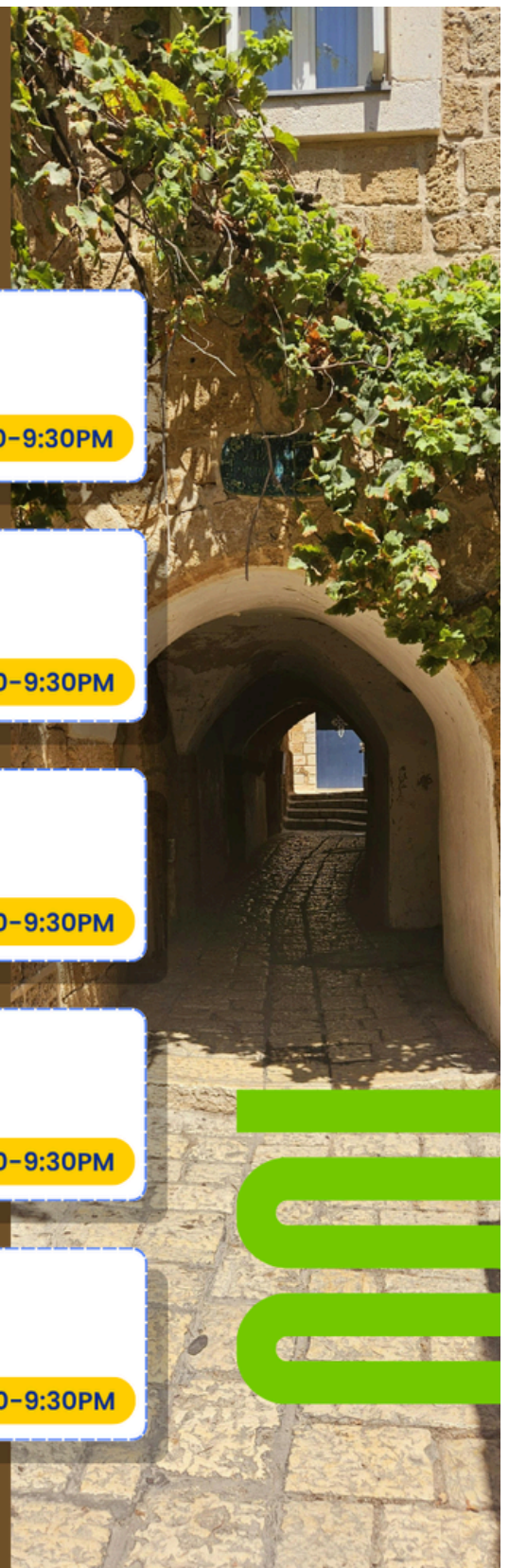
7:30-9:30PM

**10**  
Dec

### Biblestudy

 70-72 Ennismore Crescent,  
Park Orchards

7:30-9:30PM



# TERM 4 **2025**

# SUPERDASH

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO YOUR YOUTH LEADERS



ROGER &  
JANETTE  
FERNANDO

invite you to join them in  
celebrating their  
70<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAYS  
and their

50<sup>th</sup> WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY

on

Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

from 12 noon till 2.30 pm

(speeches at 12.45 pm)

WONGA PARK CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

251 Yarra Rd (enter from Gatters Rd) Wonga Park

Please don't give us presents –we're already so blessed!

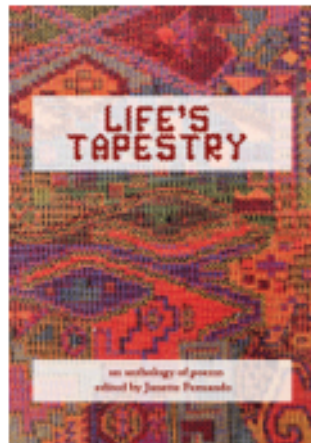
If you're desperate to give something, consider giving a  
donation to TEAR Fund.

RSVP by December 18<sup>th</sup> to: 0422 887 228 or by email to  
[janettefernando@iprimus.com.au](mailto:janettefernando@iprimus.com.au)





**POETICA CHRISTI PRESS**  
invites you to the launch of



## **LIFE'S TAPESTRY**

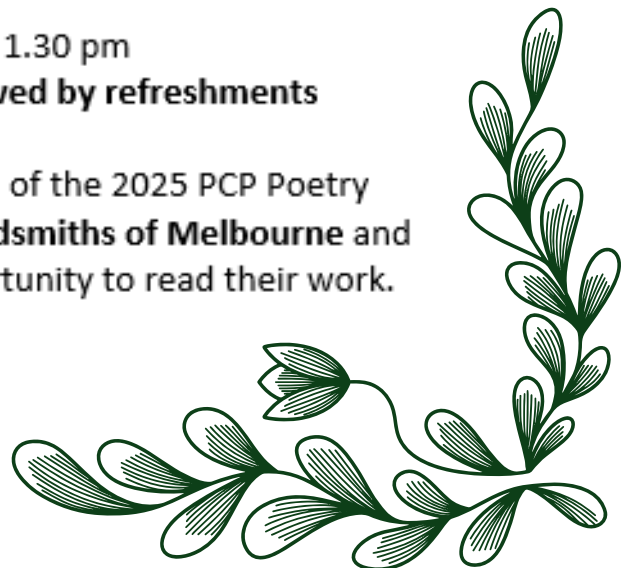
an anthology of poetry  
edited by Janette Fernando

to be launched  
on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>  
at Ashburton Baptist Church

Enter through rear entrance – see Melway map 60 D9 – via the car park located off Marquis St, which has a ramp access and no steps.

Books available from 1.30 pm  
**Official launch at 2.00 pm, followed by refreshments**

***Life's Tapestry*** includes poems by the winners of the 2025 PCP Poetry competition with contributions from the **Wordsmiths of Melbourne** and others. A number of poets will have the opportunity to read their work.



## Our Giving, an Act of Worship

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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 Missionaries: van der Wels.

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>

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### *This week's* **PRAYER POINTS**

The more you pray, the less you'll panic. The more you worship, the less you worry. You'll feel more patient and less pressured.

Rick Warren

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### *Personal* **PRAYER POINTS**

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

Giving thanks to the Lord our God for the incredible gift given us through the birth of his dear Son our Lord Jesus.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.  
(Micah 5:2 NRSV)

Give praise and thanks, honour and worship to the one and only Almighty God for his great love for us demonstrated through the coming of Jesus.

## Congregational PRAYER POINTS

Please continue to pray for Ben and Lauren Palmer, pray that the Lord will hear our petitions on their behalf and grant healing to Ben.

Please pray for our children as the school year draws to a close, pray that they and their teachers will have a safe and refreshing break before the next year begins.

Please pray for Suzanne and Phillip Nel, pray that the Lord will uphold them and that Suzanne's health will improve and Phillip will have the peace and comfort of his Lord.

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## Local & Global PRAYER POINTS

Pray for our nation as we draw closer to Christmas day, pray that through all the noise the message of the gospel will come through loud and clear.

Please continue to pray for all those caught up in conflict situations such as Ukraine, Gaza. Sudan among others, pray that there will be peace.

Worshippers kidnapped during a deadly attack on a church in Kwara State, western Nigeria, have been rescued.

Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Nigeria.

Thirty-eight Christians were abducted by Fulani Islamist extremists who attacked Christ Apostolic Church, Eruku, on 18 November, killing three of the congregation. Nigeria's President Bola Tinubu confirmed the rescue of the worshippers in a message posted on X (formerly Twitter) on Sunday 23 November.

"Thanks to the efforts of our security forces over the last few days, all the 38 worshippers abducted in Eruku, Kwara State have been rescued," he stated. Tinubu also expressed his joy that 51 of the more than 300 pupils abducted from a Christian school in Niger State on 23 November have been recovered.

The President, who has faced rising criticism over deteriorating security in Nigeria following the attack on St Mary's Papiri Private Secondary School, said he was closely monitoring the situation.

How you can pray

Give thanks for the rescue of the 38 worshippers and ask that they will recover swiftly from the trauma of their ordeal. Pray that the abducted Christian schoolchildren will also be reunited with their families soon.



**Jubilaté Choir presents**

**An evening of singing & celebrating**

**Christmas**



**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December**  
**6pm**

**Dandenong Christian Reformed Church**

**Cnr Outlook Dve & Gladstone Road**  
**Dandenong North**



**STRUGGLING  
WITH  
DARKNESS IN  
YOUR LIFE?**

**COME AND HEAR  
HOW JESUS  
BRINGS LIGHT TO  
THE WORLD**

**CHRISTMAS  
SERVICE**

**10 AM  
25 DECEMBER**

**WONGA PARK CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED CHURCH  
251-253 YARRA RD WONGA PARK**

Please take flyers for our Christmas service to share with your family, friends and neighbours.

Flyers are on the table in the Foyer

# Sermon NOTES

Bible passage:

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Date:

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Something  
that shines  
from the  
passage

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Anything  
hard to  
understand  
or any  
questions

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Personal  
application  
for your life

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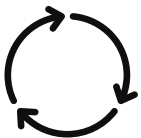


Theme of  
passage

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How does it  
fit with other  
passages in  
the Bible

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Who will you  
tell about  
what you have  
learnt?

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# Helping HANDS

	7 December	14 December	21 December
Preacher	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius
Elder on Duty	Kasha Schubert	Jacob du Toit	Jacob du Toit
Prayer Leader	Kasha Schubert	Jacob du Toit	Jacob du Toit
Music Leader	Mia	Mia	Inge
Children's Talk	-	Lize	Roger
Bible Reader	Steve	Janette	Brady
Sound	Nina	Cassie	Nic
Visuals	Salme	Isaac	Ene
Broadcasting	Christo	James	Pieter
Sunday School	Sunday School Presentation	No Sunday School	No Sunday school
Coffee	Ilze & Peter Kellerman	JD & Izelle Steenkamp	van Staden Family

# Upcoming BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY

Jo Reed 5 December  
Ludvik Kellerman 10 December  
Mariaane van der Merwe 15 December  
Hannah Lao 16 December  
Josiah Lao 19 December  
Sarah Pretorius 22 December  
Conrad du Toit 26 December

## Who Should I Contact?

Pastor:	Chris Pretorius	0423 889 913	<a href="mailto:pastor@wpcrc.org.au">pastor@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Chairman of Session:	Peter Williams	0431 500 006	<a href="mailto:session@wpcrc.org.au">session@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Community Engagement	Jenna Miller	0403 650 398	<a href="mailto:jenna@wpcrc.org.au">jenna@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Church Administrator:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	<a href="mailto:admin@wpcrc.org.au">admin@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Deacons:	Leana van Gent	0452 334 224	<a href="mailto:deacons@wpcrc.org.au">deacons@wpcrc.org.au</a>
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	<a href="mailto:youth@wpcrc.org.au">youth@wpcrc.org.au</a>
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:	Riaan Bergh	0452 578 665	<a href="mailto:deacons@wpcrc.org.au">deacons@wpcrc.org.au</a>
Newsletter:	Leana van Gent	0452 334 224	<a href="mailto:newsletter@wpcrc.org.au">newsletter@wpcrc.org.au</a>