



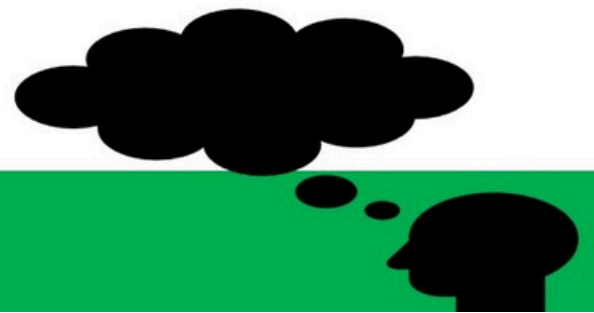
ILLAWARRA
CHURCH OF CHRIST

**A CHURCH ANYONE
CAN COME TO**

www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au

March 2025

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH



In response to a question about the greatest commandment, Jesus says in Mark 12:30-31: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Lately, I have heard people express their appreciation for how this church family has loved them. Di Kavanagh specifically asked that the church be thanked for caring for and loving her during her recent time in the hospital.

When we love, are patient, are kind, not envying, not boasting, not proud, not dishonoring, not self-seeking, not easily angered, don't keep a record of wrongs, don't delight in evil, when we rejoice in truth, when we protect, trust, hope, and persevere (1 Cor 13:4-7), we are living out God's command. Well done, church, for being who God has called us to be.

Pastor Peter Watson

To subscribe to monthly email or get past copies of newsletter go to www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/newsletter/ or scan QR code





Soup Sunday 1st Sunday of Month

Free but any
donations go to
support Mercy
Ministries



A CHURCH ANYONE CAN COME TO
VALUES: WELCOME, WORSHIP, WONDER, WORD, WORKS

**Donations to support the work of Mercy Ministries
can be made:**

Using the donations box (see below)

**Via Online Giving (in details put 'Mercy'). See online giving
details at the end of this newsletter.**

Or via Offerings Bag using envelope labelled 'Mercy'



UPCOMING Events

3rd April: Workshop on 'How to talk to your adult kids'

7.30-9.30 at Balgownie Community Centre. Lead by Peter & Linda Watson

20th April: Easter Sunday Baptisms & BBQ

@ Linda & Peter's place after Sunday Service. Talk to Peter if you'd like to find out more about getting Baptised.

Trivia Night (date to be confirmed)

Being organised by Wednesday night Bible Study

14th June: Combined Churches of Christ Women's Event

Venue: NewDay Church. More details to come. Being organised by Linda Watson & Loani Falconer (Southern Church)

**YOU ARE INVITED TO
A FREE WORKSHOP ON**

**HOW TO TALK TO
YOUR
ADULT KIDS**

**THURSDAY 3RD APRIL
7.30PM - 9.30PM**

Balgownie Community Centre
CWA Hall (at the back)
Let us know you are coming by
commenting Yes on this post.



Who its for:

Your children have grown up. They have their own lives and are making their own choices. Your relationship with them is different.

How it works:

This workshop will examine various methods of communicating with adult children to maintain a constructive relationship. You will receive tools and frameworks to assist you in making changes in your communication.

Who by:

Facilitators Peter and Linda Watson. The workshop is backed by Illawarra Church of Christ to support the community.

How to support:

- Invite people (invite on resources table)
- Like and share the Facebook post

Volunteering Service Opportunities

Let us know what you can help with around the church by completing the Task Survey.
It only takes 5 minutes.

Complete a **Church Task Survey** to indicate areas you would be willing to serve in.

Paper surveys on Resources Table
or online here <https://tinyurl.com/5n94t43z>



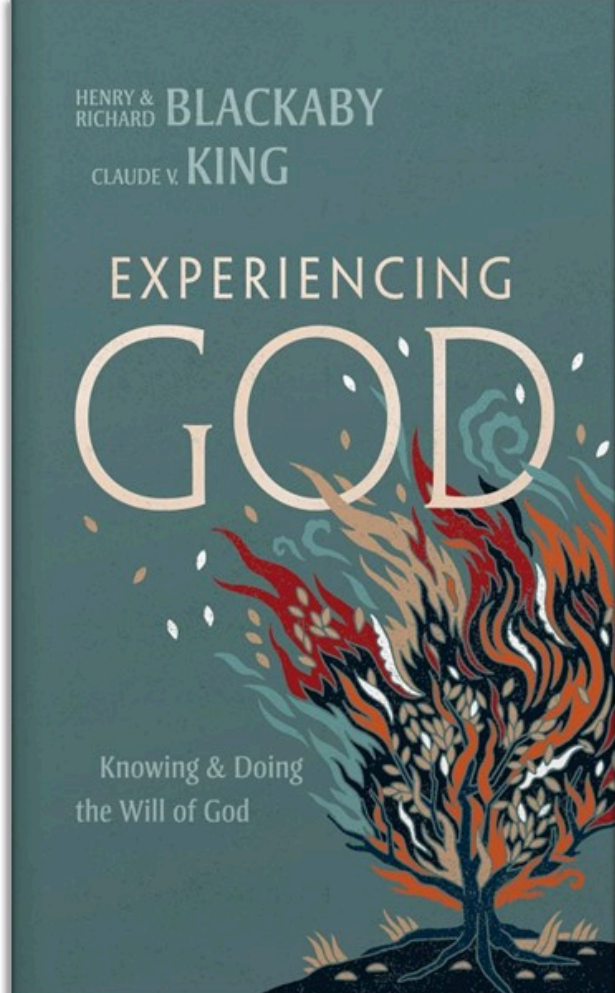
Following are a couple of roles that we require help

- **Monthly Newsletter:** Requires computer literacy
- **Rosters Coordinator:** Requires creating the roster involving some phone calls and/or emails.
- **Sunday School Helper:** Involves being on a roster every 6-8 weeks and helping out with the kids during church. Requires getting a 'Working with Children' check.
- **Social Media Coordinator:** Requires having or learning how to develop and publish regular social media representing the church.

CHURCH SONGS PLAYLIST

<https://tinyurl.com/34vrapxy>





Want to have a deeply personal and impactful relationship with God?

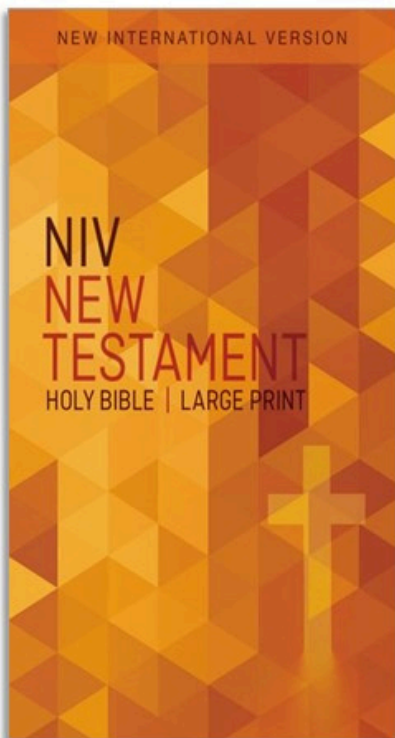
- Learn to hear from God
- Discover your purpose in life
- Know God more intimately

For more details about this course talk with Pastor Pete

0407-278-175

peter.watson@illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au

Devotions Pack @ Resources Table



Devotions Guide
Watch short (5 min) video on using the following 5W's for developing a personal devotional life.
<https://youtu.be/CPEkm00ZGhc>

Welcome
Spend time accepting that you are being welcomed by God to spend time with him.

Worship
Spend time turning your heart in worship to God. You might make use of the playlist at <https://tinyurl.com/4wusyv6p>

Wonder
Spend time in gratitude for what God has done or is doing in your life and the lives of those around you.
You might use this framework: I am thankful for ... because ... (It is helpful to keep a record in your spiritual journal.)

5x5x5
Navigators Discipleship Tool

New Testament Bible Reading Plan
Read through the New Testament in 5 days a week, 5 minutes a day.

5 MINUTES A DAY
If you're not used to reading the Bible daily, start with this easy to use tool to read a chapter of the New Testament in 5 minutes a day. This reading plan will take you through all 260 chapters of the New Testament, one chapter per day. The Gospels are read throughout the year to weave in the story of Christ all year long.

5 DAYS A WEEK
Determine a time and location to spend 5 minutes a day for 5 days a week. It is best to have a consistent time and a quiet place where you can regularly meet with the Lord.

5 WAYS TO DIG DEEPER
Pause in your reading to dig into the Bible. Below are 5 different ways to dig deeper each day. These exercises will encourage meditation. Try a single idea for a week to find what works best for you. Remember to keep a pen and paper ready to capture God's insights.

- Underline or highlight key words or phrases in the Bible passage. Use a pen or highlighter to mark new discoveries from the text.
- Put it in your own words. Read the passage or verse slowly, then rewrite each phrase or sentence using your own words.
- Ask and answer questions. Questions unlock new discoveries and meanings. Ask questions about the passage using these words: who, what, why, when, where, or how. Jot down your answers to these questions.
- Capture the big idea. God's Word communicates big ideas. Periodically ask: What's the big idea in this sentence, paragraph, or chapter?
- Personalize the meaning. Respond as God speaks to you through the Scriptures. Ask: How could my life be different today as I respond to what I'm reading?

navigators THIS TOOL IS MEANT TO BE SHARED. Download the detailed 5x5x5 plan at navlink.org/newtestament

Church Songs
Song playlist based at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...> or use the QR code

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)
A Thousand Hallelujahs
Amazing Grace (Traditional)
Amazing Grace (By Chaires Are Gone)
Ancient of Days
And Can It Be
Are You Washed in the Blood
Awesome God (Chorus Only Version)
Better Is One Day
Blessed Be Your Name
Build Your Kingdom Here
Chain Breaker
Christ Is Enough
Comemtion
Everlasting God
Forever
Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Graves Into Gardens
Good Good Father
God Of Wonders

©2018 Camp Participation Manual, January 2017 - Developed by Peter Watson, Page 7

New Testament – Devotions Guide – Bible Reading Plan – Church Songs on YouTube

GROUPS

DISCUSSION & GATHERING

www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/activities



- **Experiencing God:** This is a one-to-one foundational course working Pastor Peter Watson, 0407278175.
- **Conversations.** Venues and times vary. Catherine Green 0427038640.
- **Monday 5pm:** Online women's study. Beth Robinson 0412047146.
- **Tuesday 2.00pm:** Bible Study. 9 Pendleton Close, Tarrawanna. Peter Watson 0407278175.
- **Tuesday 5pm:** Book discussion. Online. Beth Robinson 0412047146.
- **Wednesday:** Monthly Social Event. Venue and times vary. Brian Healy 0417296983
- **Wednesday 10am:** 'Knit & Knatter' fortnightly at Balgownie Village Community Centre, 113 Balgownie Rd. Robyn James 0402460795.
- **Wednesday 7.30pm:** Bible Study. 9 Pendleton Close, Tarrawanna. Peter Watson 0407278175.
- **Thursday 10am:** Women's Bible Study. Venue varies. Narelle Blue 0402032547.
- **Friday evenings:** Youth Group. Times and venue varies. Contact: Catherine Green 0427038640.
- **Friday / Saturday Evenings:** Visiting Tribute Bands in the area. Stephen Corry 0402892552
- **Sunday 10am:** Sunday Service. Venue: Balgownie Village Community Centre, 113 Balgownie Rd, Balgownie.
- **Sunday 12pm:** Sunday lunch at Corrimal Bowling Club, 43-47 Francis St, Corrimal.
- **Sunday 12pm:** Monthly Youth Pizza & Bible Study. Catherine Green 0427038640.

Groups may not meet every week or may change venues so check with the designated contact for current details. (Many have a break over Christmas.)

ROSTERS



Date	Speaker	Bible Reader	Communion	Prayer	Morning Tea	SUNDAY SCHOOL	Service Packup Team
02/03/2025	Peter Watson	Gillian Morgan	Robyn James		Margaret & John Bilboe	Helen & Linda	Oldies
09/03/2025	Linda Watson	Iwan Jones	John Bilboe	Catherine Green	Dianne Kavanagh / Lorraine Graham	Sue & Bronwyn	Youth
16/03/2025	Peter Watson		Anne Trezise	John Piper	Robyn James	Robyn & Raka	Oldies
23/03/2025	Peter Watson	Dave Morton	Iwan Jones	John Bilboe	Sue & John Piper	Sue & Anne	Youth
30/03/2025	Peter Watson	Pat Langlands	Stephen Corry	Brian Healy	Raka / Tully	Narelle & TBC	Oldies
06/04/2025	Linda Watson	Rebecca Young	John Piper	Iwan Jones	Wilma Barker and Linda Watson	Sue & Helen	Youth
13/04/2025	Missions: Anthony Halley	Stephen Corry	Catherine Green	Anne Trezise	Gillian Morgan & Joyce Jones	John & Bronwyn	Oldies
20/04/2025	Peter Watson	Brian Healy	Beth Robinson	Iwan Jones	Margaret & John Bilboe	Sue & Robyn	Youth

www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/about-rosters

LAUGHTER

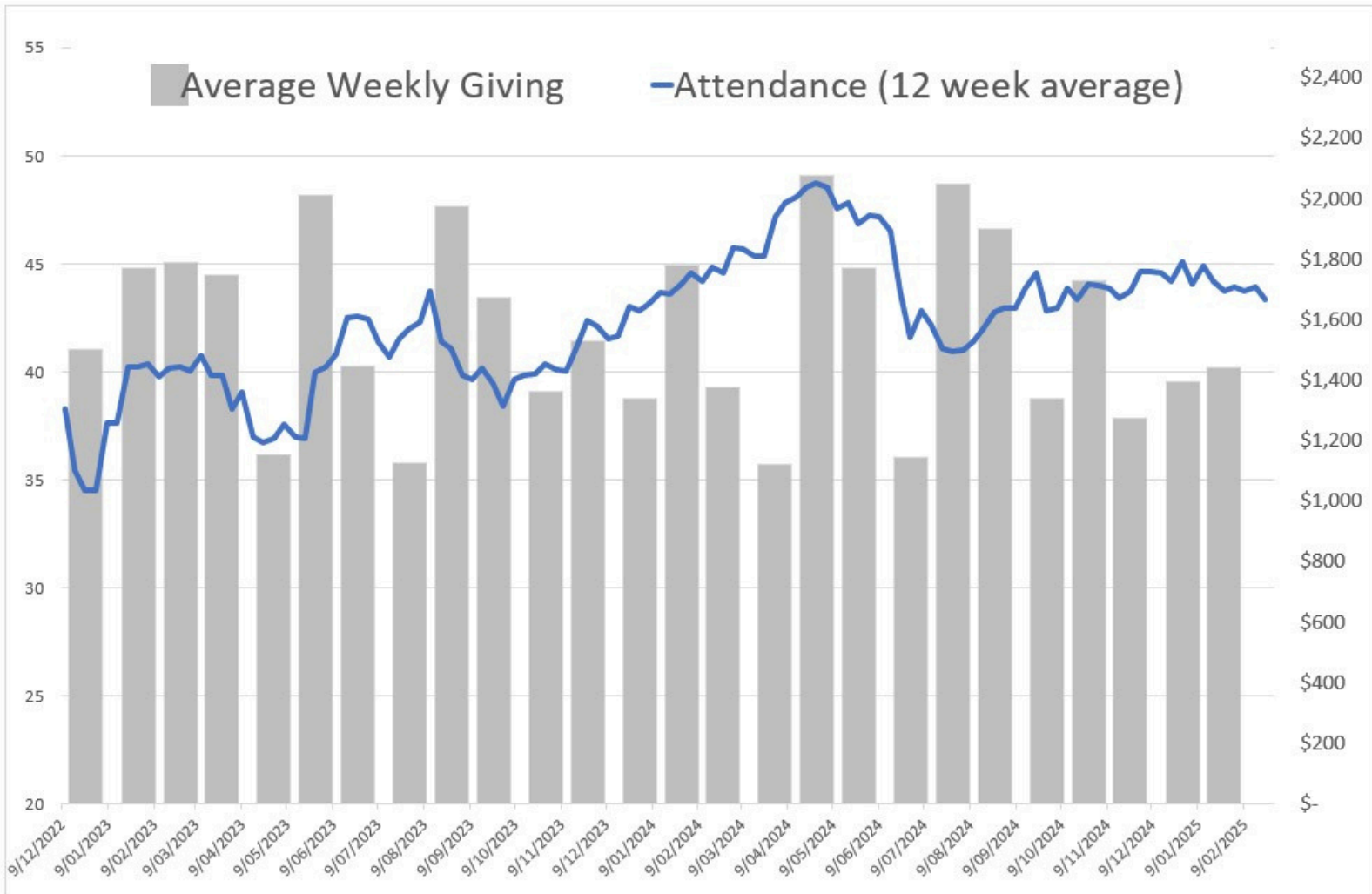


This month we have some Hospital jokes:

- One day in the pediatric clinic, a nurse handed a young patient a urine sample container and told him to fill it up in the bathroom. A few minutes later, he returned with an empty cup and said, "I didn't need this after all. There was a toilet."
- As I was admitted to the hospital prior to a procedure, the clerk asked for my wrist, saying, "I'm going to give you a bracelet." "Has it got rubies and diamonds?" I asked coyly. "No," he said, "But it costs just as much."

<https://www.rd.com/article/doctor-jokes/>

CHURCH STATISTICS



RECENT SERMONS



Messages are available at

www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/sermons.

If you'd like to listen on your phone then the
Podbean app by the QR code.

In the app search for 'Illawarra Church of Christ'
in the player.



PRAYER



PRAYER CHAIN

To be added to the church prayer chain send your name and mobile to Peter on 0407-278-175. The prayer chain is a list of people willing to be sent a text about important prayer issues.

LOCAL PRAYER

We are committed to working with and praying for other churches and ministries in the Illawarra:

This month we are praying for **“C3 Church Thirroul at Level 1, 345 Lawrence Hargrave Drive Thirroul is a location of C3 Camden Picton Thirroul, a multisite C3 Church and the Lead Pastors are Rohan and Jill Bell.**

PRAYING FOR THE WORLD

This month we are praying for Europe, The Pacific, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, American Samoa. Andorra, Angola, Anquilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Aruba, Curacuaao, Sin Maarten, Australia, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Norfolk Island, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, The Bahamas.

From <https://operationworld.org/prayer-calendar>

To learn and pray about the needs of Christians in persecution around the world you might like to check out:

Open Doors at www.opendoors.org.au

The Voice of the Martyrs at www.persecution.com

Financial Support



One of the ways that regular church attendees support the work of the church is through their financial contributions. You can do this by:

- Giving cash during the offering time in the Worship Service.
- Giving online contributions via our bank account. The details are as follows: Bank Account Name: 'Northern Beaches Church of Christ'*; BSB: 112879; Account Number: 477353233

* Our bank account is still under our old church name.

Like to
leave a
legacy
in your
Will?

A close-up photograph of a document titled "LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT" in large, bold, serif capital letters. A black pen is resting diagonally across the document. Below the title, some text is visible, including "being of sound mind and" and "this instrument to be".

LAST WILL
AND TESTAMENT

We recommend you contact your solicitor to add appropriate wording such as follows to your will.

"I give \$... for the general work and activities of 'Illawarra Church of Christ'.

Meaning of our logo



ILLAWARRA

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our logo represents key ideas behind what we believe and are committed to as a church.

The colours represent that we are 'a church anyone can come to' because we are not all the same and accept people with different backgrounds, experiences and ideas.

Each triangle represents one of the 5 key practices we invite everyone into.

*Grace-filled **Welcome*** (Romans 15:7)

*Awe-struck **Worship*** (Psalm 95:6)

*Joy-filled **Wonder*** (Psalm 145:5-7)

*Life-transforming **Word*** (Romans 12:2)

*Kingdom-building **Works*** (Matthew 16:18)



Watch the 5W Explanation Video by scanning QR code or going to <https://youtu.be/WaqBI3QLiF4>

Becoming a Church Member



Membership is open to all who have openly confessed their faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord (Romans 10:9), and who support the church and regularly attend. We recommend that all follow the Bible's teaching and follow Christ in the waters of Believer's Baptism by immersion. (Information below.) Membership requires that you indicate you wish to be a member which can be done by completing the paper or electronic contact details form.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScqpPCI23gLrkPtnoDaQ24IhfZV--vMT7RLJV1Ws8GvQReaA/viewform>

Contact details or updating contact details



<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScqpPCI23gLrkPtnoDaQ24IhfZV--vMT7RLJV1Ws8GvQReaA/viewform>

There is also a paper version on the resources table. If you complete the paper version please give it to Pastor Peter Watson or John Piper.

Suicide & Mental Health Support Services



www.suicidepreventioncollaborative.org.au/assets/Suicide-Prevention/Where-to-go-for-Support-resource-portrait-2024-v1.jpg

KEY CONTACTS:



Pastor Peter Watson: 0407-278-175,

peter.watson@illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au

Board Chairperson: Anne Trezise, 0434-350-913, anne@planningplus.net.au

Board Secretary & Treasurer:

John Piper, 0409-808-119, john@piperpiper.com.au

Board Members: Robyn James, 0402-460-795; Bronwyn Halpin, 0402-460-795

Mercy Ministries Coordinator: Catherine Green, 0427-038-640,
shimmerc1@hotmail.com