



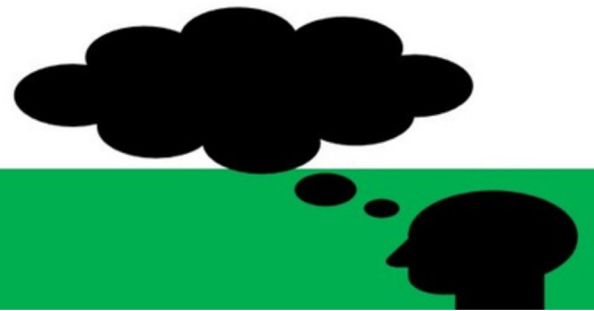
**ILLAWARRA**  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

**A CHURCH ANYONE  
CAN COME TO**

[www.IllawarraChurchOfChrist.com.au](http://www.IllawarraChurchOfChrist.com.au)

**May 2025**

# THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH



Worship is at the heart of the Christian life—a profound act that goes beyond songs or rituals. It is a deliberate choice to honour, glorify, and connect with God. Worship reminds us that He is at the center of all we do, guiding our hearts, thoughts, and actions. Over the next four weeks, we'll embark on a journey to uncover the transformative power of worship, diving deeply into how it shapes our faith, renews our spirit, and strengthens our relationship with God.

Worship is more than a response; it is an invitation to align ourselves with God's truth. Whether through prayer, song, scripture, or service, worship allows us to celebrate His goodness and draw near to His presence. It transforms ordinary moments into holy encounters, infusing our lives with purpose and peace.

Worship is not just a Sunday tradition; it is a daily rhythm that reshapes our lives for His glory.

Pastor Peter Watson

To subscribe to monthly email or get past copies of newsletter go to [www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/newsletter/](http://www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/newsletter/) or scan QR code



# COMING EVENTS

## Trivia Night



**Friday 23rd May**

**7pm - 9pm**

**Balgownie Community Centre**

Trivia Master Ben Charters has planned an interesting night of not-so-useful facts!

Put together a table of 8 people or just turn up and join a table.

**Let us know you are coming by adding your name to the sign up sheet at church, or scan the QR Code below and register. You can book as many free tickets as you like.**



**Suggested \$10 donation can be paid at the event.**

**Profits go to Mercy Ministry.**

# ignite

## Women's Retreat Day

**9.30am-4.30pm - 14 June 2025**

**at NewDay Church, 25 O'Briens Road, Figtree**

The Churches of Christ in the Illawarra region invite women of all ages to come together for a retreat day as we IGNITE fresh community, creativity and courage.

Cost \$30. RSVP 4<sup>th</sup> June

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/mtvswcct>

As we gather we will hear testimony of how God is at work in and through some of the creative women in our midst. We will be guided to explore creative paths that deepen, enrich and ignite our own faith and creativity as we listen and respond to the Spirit of God within us and around us. We will be championed to step out with courage. Refresh, strengthen, encourage, ignite.

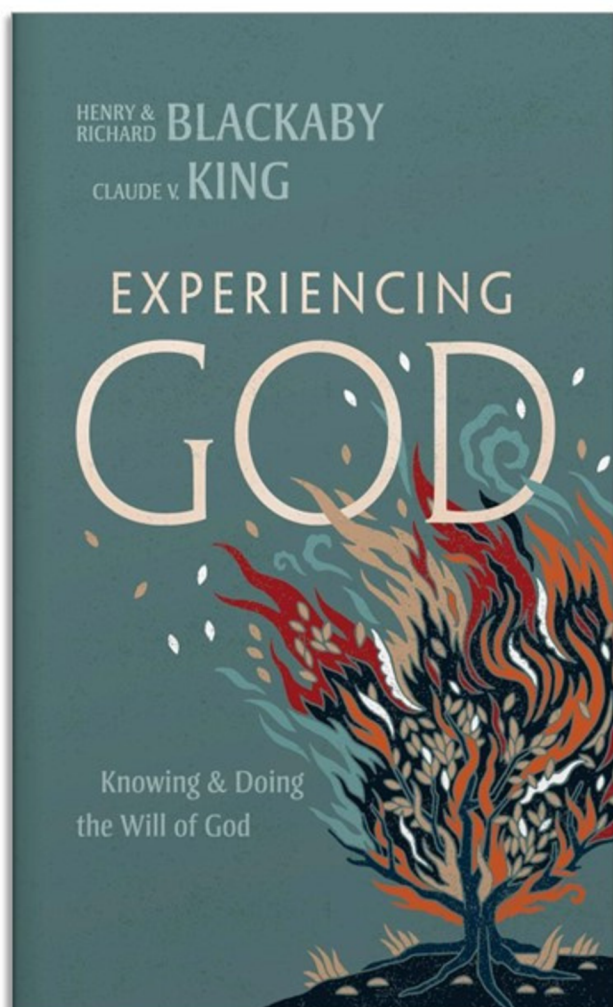
*But if I say I'll never mention the Lord or speak in his name, his word burns in my heart like a fire in my bones! I am worn out trying to hold it in! I can't do it. (Jeremiah 20:9 NLT*





# **Soup Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Month**

**Free but any  
donations go to  
support Mercy  
Ministries**



**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](mailto:peter.watson@illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au)



# 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:

**Figtree Anglican Church** which meets at 4-10 Gibsons Rd, Figtree, under the leadership of Senior Minister, Robin Kinstead. They have three services on Sundays, at 8am (traditional prayer book), 10am (family focused with accompanying children's programs) and 6pm (youth and young adult focused).

**Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church** is at 48 Manning St, Kiama.

Services are held on Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

## PRAYING FOR THE WORLD

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

**Operation World** at <https://operationworld.org/prayer-calendar>

**Open Doors** at [www.opendoors.org.au](http://www.opendoors.org.au)

**The Voice of the Martyrs** at [www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)

**Global Mission Partners** at [www.gmp.org.au/](http://www.gmp.org.au/)

# ROSTERS



[www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/about-rosters](http://www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/about-rosters)

Date	Speaker	Bible Reader	Communion	Prayer	Morning Tea	SUNDAY SCHOOL
04/05/2025	Peter Watson	Pat Langlands	Brian Healy	John Piper	Soup Sunday	Narelle & Linda
11/05/2025	Peter Watson	Iwan Jones	Linda Watson	Graham Barker	Linda Watson	Kids in service
18/05/2025	Peter Watson	James Magispoc	Shimmer	Iwan Jones	Catherine Green	John & Robyn
25/05/2025	Peter Watson	Allie Clark	Robyn James	Beth Robinson	Graham and Wilma Barker	Sue & Bronwyn
01/06/2025	Elwyn & Raewyn Grigg	Di Kavanagh	Anne Tresize	Peter Watson	Soup Sunday	Linda & Raka
08/06/2025	Peter Watson	Bron Halpin	James Magispoc	Linda Watson	Dianne Kavanagh / Lorraine Graham	Sue & Anne
15/06/2025	Peter Watson	Lisa White/ Robyn James	Iwan Jones	Brian Healy	Linda Watson	Narelle & Linda
22/06/2025	Peter Watson	Shirley Magispoc	Graham Barker	Steve Caskey	Graham and Wilma Barker	Sue & John
29/06/2025	Peter Watson	Beth Robinson	John Piper	Graham Barker	John and Sue Piper	Bron &

# CHURCH SONGS PLAYLIST

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



## BE BRAVE INVITE SOMEONE



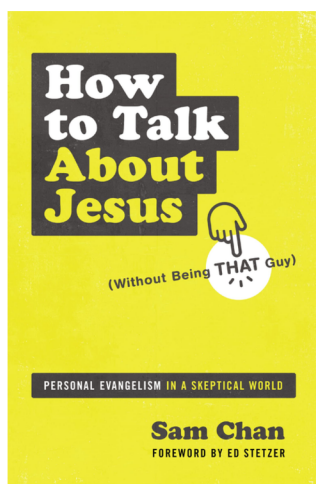
Could you be brave enough to invite someone to church on Sunday, your Bible Study, a social event, or for a meal in your home?

Ask God for the courage to ask and wisdom about who to invite.

Make an invite by asking in a conversation, writing an email or letter, giving them a call or a text, or giving them an invite brochure. (See resources table.)

Don't be afraid of asking multiple times. (Most people who end up coming to church were asked a number of times but a number of people before they said yes.)

***You could ask:*** Someone you haven't seen at church for a while. A friend, workmate, neighbour or family member. A grandchild.



In *How to Talk About Jesus (Without Being That Guy)*, author Sam Chan equips everyday Christians who are reluctant and nervous to tell their friends about Jesus with practical, tested ways of sharing their faith in the least awkward ways possible.



# 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?

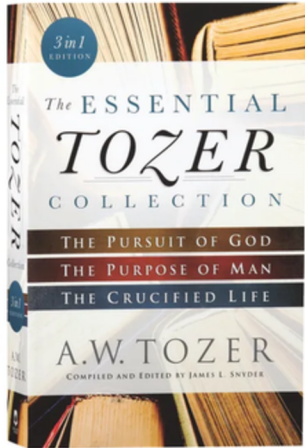
A close-up photograph of a document titled "LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT" in large, bold, serif capital letters. A black pen is resting diagonally across the document. Below the title, some text is visible but partially obscured, including "ng.", "ath, do", and "being of sound mind and".

LAST WILL  
AND TESTAMENT

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

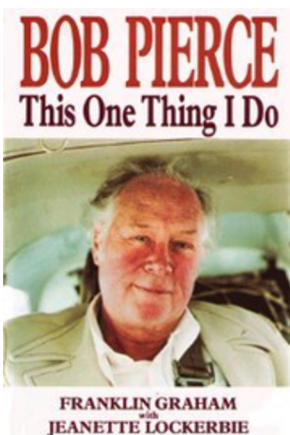
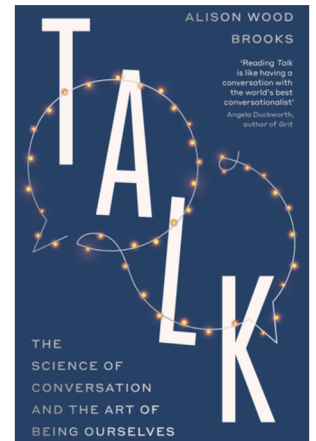
"I give \$ ... for the general work and activities of 'Illawarra Church of Christ'.

# Recommended books from my recent reading



A.W. Tozer's writings will stir your soul and change your life. To this day he remains one of the most quoted Christians around the world as he inspires readers young and old with his wisdom, insight, and call to holiness.

'Talk' is a groundbreaking book that reveals the hidden architecture of our conversations and how even small improvements can have a profound impact on our relationships in work and life--from a celebrated Harvard Business School professor and leading expert on the psychology of conversation.



Bob Pierce: This One Thing I Do Here is a larger-than-life portrait of a man who began with compassion for one child in China and ended up with a program to rescue countless thousands around the world. (Look at Amazon or WorldofBooks.com for 2<sup>nd</sup> hand copy.)

You can borrow a copy from Peter Watson or if buying support Christian Book shops by buying from:  
[reformers.com.au](http://reformers.com.au)   [koorong.com](http://koorong.com)   [word.com.au](http://word.com.au)



# GROUPS

## DISCUSSION & GATHERING

[www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/activities](http://www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/activities)

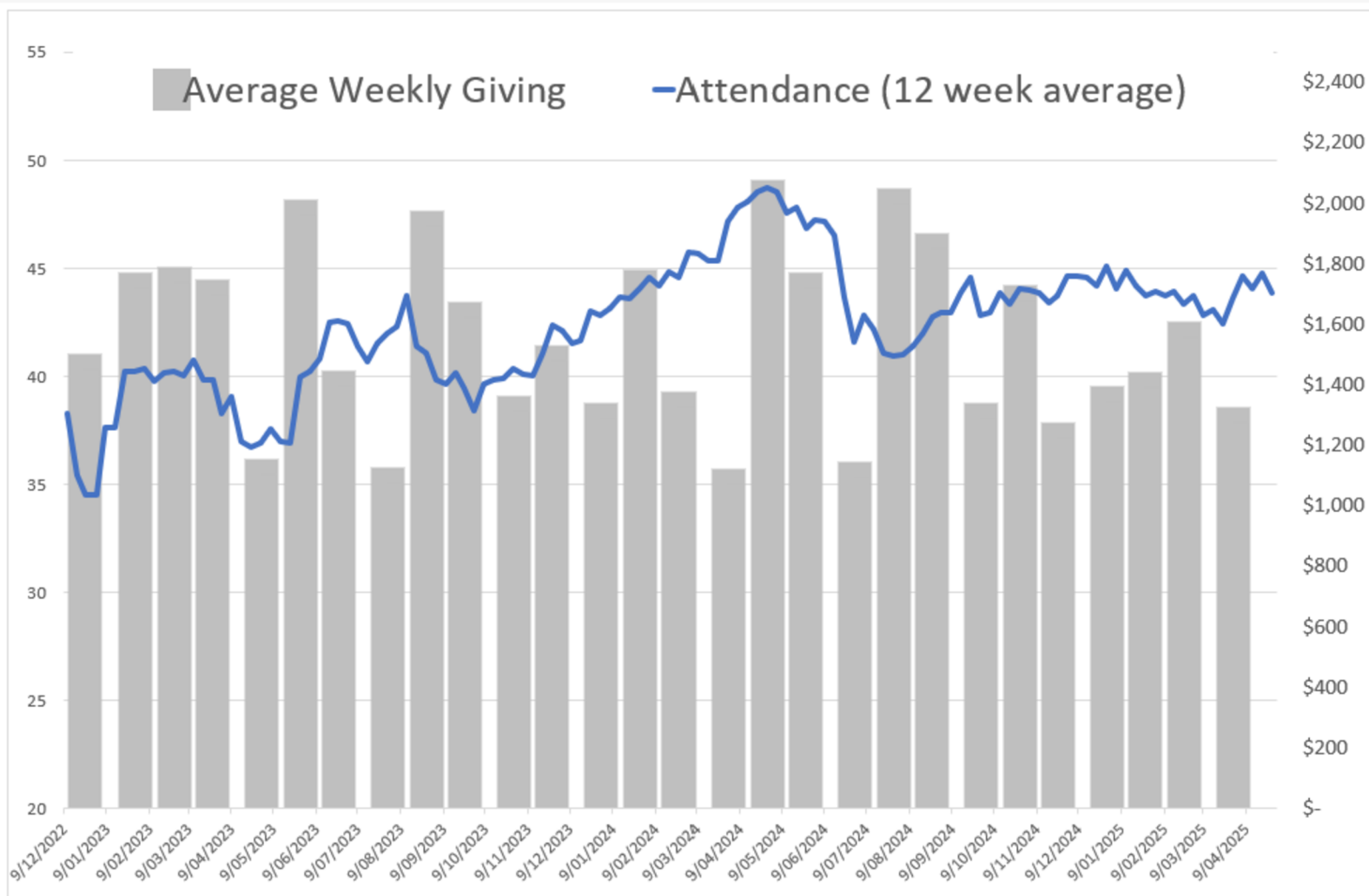


- **Experiencing God:** This is a one-to-one foundational course working Pastor Peter Watson, 0407278175.
- **Conversations.** Venues and times vary. Catherine Green 0427038640.
- **Monday 5pm:** Online women's study. Beth Robinson 0412047146.
- **Tuesday 2.00pm:** Bible Study. 9 Pendleton Close, Tarrawanna. 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.)



# CHURCH STATISTICS



## RECENT SERMONS



Messages are available at

[www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/sermons](http://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.



# 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/1FAIpQLSc-qpPCI23gLrkPtnoDaQ24lhFZV--vMT7RLJV1Ws8GvQReaA/viewform>

## Contact details or updating contact details



<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-qpPCI23gLrkPtnoDaQ24lhFZV--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.*

## Social Media Links

**YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/@IllawarraChurchofChrist](http://www.youtube.com/@IllawarraChurchofChrist)



## KEY CONTACTS:



**Pastor Peter Watson:** 0407-278-175,  
[peter.watson@illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au](mailto:peter.watson@illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au)

**Board Chairperson:** Anne Trezise, 0434-350-913, [anne@planningplus.net.au](mailto:anne@planningplus.net.au)

### Board Secretary & Treasurer:

John Piper, 0409-808-119, [john@piperpiper.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:shimmerc1@hotmail.com)

## Safer Kids

We are committed to ensuring the safety of everyone, especially our kids and youth. If you have any questions or concerns regarding keeping our kids and youth safe you can contact either John Piper (Board Secretary) , Anne Trezise (Board Chair) or Peter Watson (Pastor) at the numbers listed above.