

HELPING PEOPLE EXPERIENCE GOD



www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au

June 2025

Thankfulness is a superpower—it has the potential to radically transform your life experience and the lives of those around you.

I'm thankful that on June 1st, my friend Elwyn Grigg will be bringing the sermon. Elwyn and his wife, Raewyn (my former manager when I worked for The Salvation Army), are retired Salvation Army officers who previously led the Wollongong Salvation Army.

Throughout June, we will focus on the theme of thankfulness as explored in the book of Colossians. This week, you will find a card on your church seat outlining the upcoming messages. You can use this to invite your family and friends to discover how to cultivate a more thankful life.

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



Developing Your SUPERPOWER of Thankfulness

Come join us for lessons from the book
of Colossians



8 June: You have the power to live a life of thankfulness. (Col 1:3)

15 June: You have a reason for a thankful attitude. (Col 1:9)

22 June: You can be thankful even when the going gets tough. (Col 1:24)

29 June: Christ in you superpowers your ability to live a life full of thankfulness. (Col 1:27)



Sunday 10am Service: 113 Balgownie Road, Balgownie
www.IllawarraChurchOfChrist.com.au



Church Music Playlist on YouTube

<https://tinyurl.com/yxr8skmm>

The playlist that was previously available on a different YouTube Channel has now been moved to the church YouTube Channel.

A promotional poster for 'Drastic 2025'. The background is a collage of photos showing young people at a camp, with some images overlaid in a vibrant pink color. The text 'DRASTIC' is in large white letters on the left, and '2025' is in large black letters on the right. Below 'DRASTIC' is '6-10 OCTOBER' in white. In the bottom left is a circular logo with 'DRASTIC YOUTH CAMP'. In the bottom right, it says 'THE TOPS CONFERENCE CENTRE' in white. A white star graphic is also visible on the right side.

DRASTIC
6-10 OCTOBER

2025

DRASTIC
YOUTH CAMP

THE TOPS
CONFERENCE
CENTRE

Support YOUTH

Drastic Youth Camp for Yrs 7-12 happens in October & costs \$470 per attendee. If you'd like to support someone to attend you can make a donation to the church account and put in description 'youth'. More info on the camp can be found at

<https://ccnswact.org.au/events/drastic-2025/>

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.

ROSTERS

www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/about-rosters



Date	Speaker	Bible Reader	Communion	Prayer	Morning Tea	SUNDAY SCHOOL
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	Anne and Linda
15/06/2025	Peter Watson	Lisa White/ Robyn James	Iwan Jones	Brian Healy	Linda Watson	Kids in service
22/06/2025	Peter Watson	Shirley Magispoc	Graham Barker	Steve Caskey	Graham and Wilma Barker	Bron and Narelle
29/06/2025	Peter Watson	Beth Robinson	John Piper	Graham Barker	Robyn and Linda	Kids in service
06/07/2025	Youth led service				Soup Sunday	No SS - in service

Increase Church Profile

You can help increase our church profile by taking a few minutes to give a review on our Google Profile in Google. Positive reviews rank us higher in Google searches for a local church. You can do this by going to <https://g.page/r/Ce6WB6vsY0RPECA/review>

Pastoral Contact

Because I also work in my own business here are my normal contact hours for the church.

- I'm available anytime to visit in hospital, just let me know if someone is in hospital and I'll drop in.
- Coffee/tea catchup - Tuesday mornings and evenings - call me to arrange a time and convenient venue.
- Tuesday bible study 2pm
- Wednesday bible study 7.30pm
- Sunday lunch
- Other times as mutually suitable. Please don't hesitate to ask to catch-up for any reason.

Pastor Peter Watson

peter.watson@illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au

0407 278 175

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 4th June

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

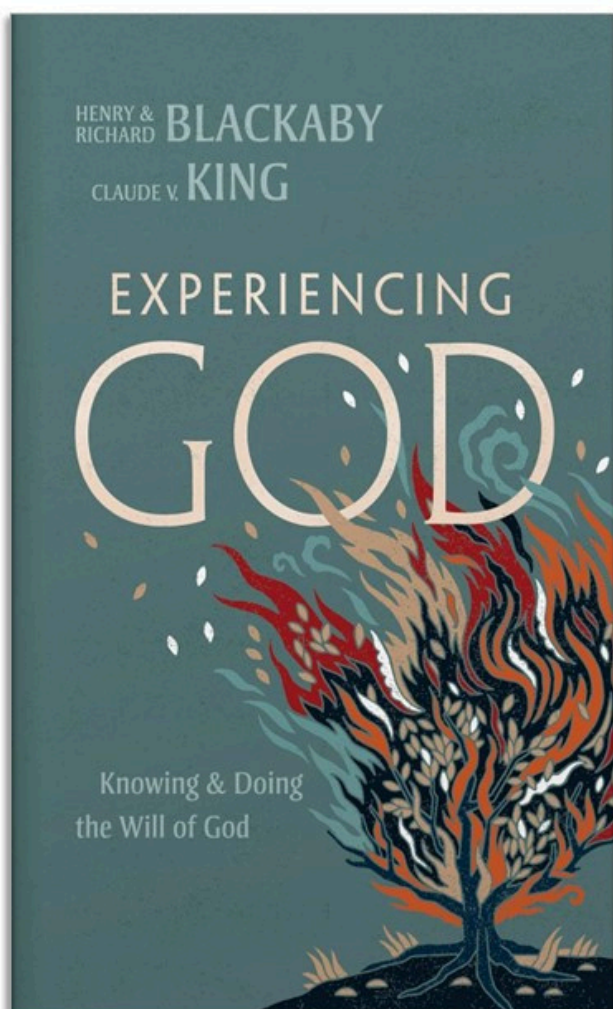
As we gather we will hear testimony of how God is at work in and through some of the creative women in our midst. We will be guided to explore creative paths that deepen, enrich and ignite our own faith and creativity as we listen and respond to the Spirit of God within us and around us. We will be championed 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 1st 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

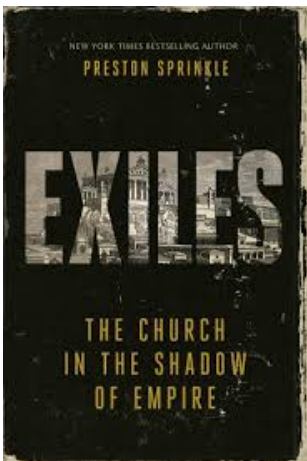
peter.watson@illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au

Recommended books from my recent reading



Tiny Habits by BJ Fogg explores how small, simple changes can lead to lasting behavior transformation. Tiny Habits Method, which focuses on three key principles:

- Start Small – Shrink habits to their simplest form (e.g., one push-up instead of a full workout).
- Anchor to Existing Routines – Attach new habits to established behaviors (e.g., flossing one tooth after brushing).
- Celebrate Success – Reinforce habits with positive emotions to make them stick. results.



Exiles: The Church in the Shadow of Empire by Preston Sprinkle explores the intersection of faith and politics, urging Christians to shape their values based on Scripture rather than political ideologies. Sprinkle challenges believers to see themselves as exiles in Babylon, living as foreigners in their own nations while remaining faithful to Christ.

You can borrow a copy from Peter Watson or if buying support Christian Book shops by buying from:

reformers.com.au koorong.com word.com.au

LAUGHTER



This month we have some Hospital jokes:

- An 88-year-old woman is rushed to the hospital with a possible concussion. The doctor asks her a series of questions: "Do you know where you are?" "I'm at County General." "What city are you in?" "Portland." "Do you know who I am?" "Dr. Greene." Satisfied, the doctor walks away... but then the elderly woman turns to the nurse and says, "Phew! I'm glad he didn't ask me any further questions." "Why?" "Because all of those answers were on his badge."
- A woman calls her mother. "Mom? Don't freak out, but I'm in the hospital..." "Stephanie, you've been a doctor for over eight years. Stop starting every phone conversation we have like that."
- A harried man runs into an emergency room. "Nurse! Nurse! My wife's in labor! But she keeps screaming, 'Shouldn't, couldn't, wouldn't, can't!'" "Oh, that's okay," says the nurse. "She's just having contractions."
- A man calls the psychiatric hospital and asks the receptionist if he can talk to the patient in room 42. They go to check, then return to report that room 42 is empty. The man sighs, relieved, "So I really did escape!"
- Hospitals would be a lot more popular if they rebranded themselves as really, really intense spas.
- Never understood why so many hospitals are named after saints. If I need a serious surgery, I want to go somewhere named after a person who's famous for not dying.
- Doing rounds, a new nurse kept overhearing a surgeon yelling, "Typhoid! Tetanus! Measles!" Confused, they asked a colleague, "Why does he keep doing that?" They explained, "Oh, he likes to call the shots around here."

GROUPS

DISCUSSION & GATHERING

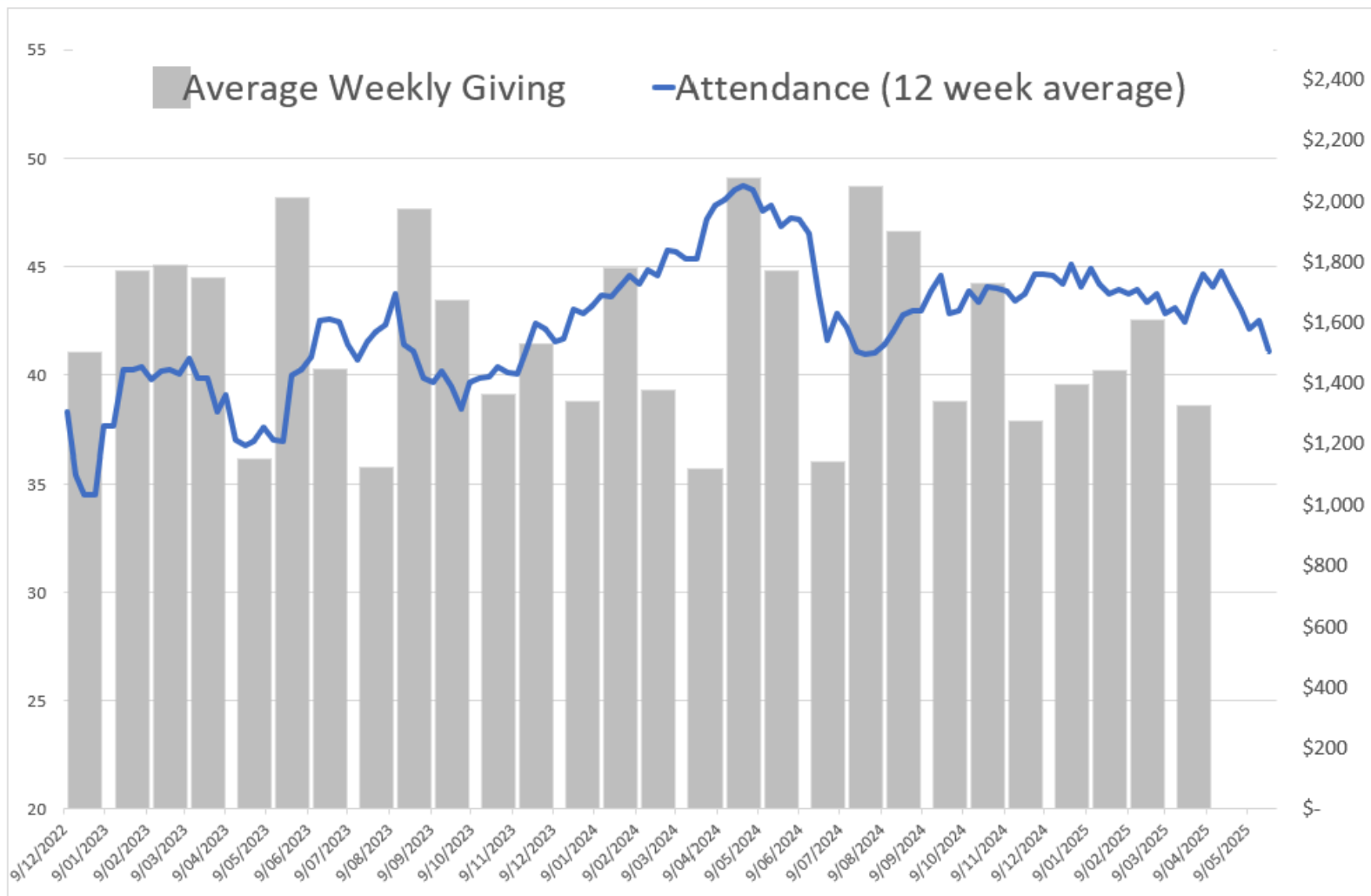
www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/activities



- **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.)

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.



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-qpPCl23gLrkPtnoDaQ24lhFZV--vMT7RLJV1Ws8GvQReaA/viewform>

Contact details or updating contact details



<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-qpPCl23gLrkPtnoDaQ24lhFZV--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



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

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.