

HELPING PEOPLE EXPERIENCE GOD



www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au

February 2026

Have you ever heard people discuss the “Word of the Year”? The Oxford Dictionaries’ word of the year for 2025 was ‘rage bait’.

I’ve been thinking about what would be a good word to describe my hope for our church in 2026.

My word is ‘health’. Health, because my desire is that as followers of Jesus we grow in spiritual health—health that influences our families, communities, and world toward healthier ways of interacting with one another and with the beautiful world God has given us.

I hope you’ll join me this year as we grow the health of our relationship with God in ways that positively impact our world. *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



Coming Events

Sunday
1 February
5-7pm

Baptism / Membership class begins.
(3 sessions over 3 months)

Starting
Wednesday
11 Feb
7.30-9pm

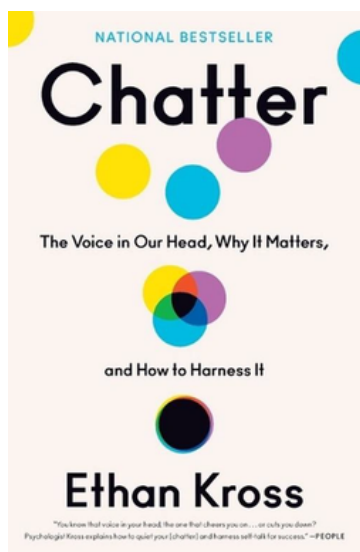
Book Discussion Group

Chatter: The Voice in Our Head and How to Harness It by Ethan Kross

- Combined Face-to-face and Online
- Wednesday 7.30-9.00pm
- 4 Sessions: 11 Feb; 11 Mar, 8 April, 6 May.

Use the following zoom link for Wednesday Bible Study and Book Discussion Group or email peter.watson@illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au for the link via email.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86359594142?pwd=DJ3dPVaLwqyJsOztAXN4RVQxYUFGYyR.1>



Chatter: The Voice in Our Head, Why It Matters, and How to Harness It by Ethan Kross

Chatter explores one of the most universal human experiences: the constant internal dialogue running through our minds. Kross, a neuroscientist and psychologist, explains why this inner voice can be both a powerful tool and a destructive force—and how to shift it from enemy to ally.

Baptism / New Member Class

Starts Sunday 1st February 2026, 5-7pm including a meal.

If you'd like to find out more about baptism and/or membership join our membership/baptism class. We meet for a meal and discussion on the first Sunday of the month. There are 3 sessions which you can join at any time.

RSVP: Peter Watson (0407-278-175) for the next session.

- Session 1: Review our church 'Commitment Prayer' and what it means.
- Session 2: Review the bible's teaching on Baptism. Resources can be accessed at www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/believer-baptism/ or by scanning the following QR code.



- Session 3: Reflect on our 5W values of Welcome, Worship, Wonder, Word & Works and how they help you in your discipleship journey.

**RECENT
SERMONS**



Messages are available at

www.illawarrachurchofchrist.com.au/sermons.

They are now available via Podbean Podcast OR YouTube at
<https://www.youtube.com/@IllawarraChurchofChrist>

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.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES



**FREE Copies on
the resources
table**

Experiencing God by Henry Blackaby

Experiencing God is a devotional and discipleship classic built around one central conviction: God is always at work around you, and the Christian life is about joining Him in what He is already doing.

Blackaby doesn't present a program; he presents a relational way of living that reshapes how believers see God, themselves, and their daily decisions.



The Bible Recap

Search your podcast player for 'The Bible Recap' for a series that takes you through the bible in a year.

Check out the great resources found at thebiblerecap.com

BIBLE IN A YEAR: February

A Navigators Bible Reading Plan: Each month has 25 readings so you have a few 'free days' in case you get behind. If you read all four readings each day you will read the whole bible in a year. Video summaries of each book can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/@bibleproject/playlists> and look for Old Testament or New Testament.

New Testament		Old Testament	
MATTHEW	ACTS	PSALMS	EXODUS
1. <input type="checkbox"/> 10:21-42	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:22-41	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-3
2. <input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-19	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 25	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-6
3. <input type="checkbox"/> 11:20-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:16-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 26	<input type="checkbox"/> 7-9
4. <input type="checkbox"/> 12:1-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 27	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-12
5. <input type="checkbox"/> 12:22-37	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:16-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 28	<input type="checkbox"/> 13-15
6. <input type="checkbox"/> 12:38-50	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:1-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 29	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-18
7. <input type="checkbox"/> 13:1-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:18-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 30	<input type="checkbox"/> 19-20
8. <input type="checkbox"/> 13:24-43	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:1-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 31	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23
9. <input type="checkbox"/> 13:44-58	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:23-41	<input type="checkbox"/> 32	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-26
10. <input type="checkbox"/> 14:1-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 33	<input type="checkbox"/> 27-29
11. <input type="checkbox"/> 14:22-36	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:13-38	<input type="checkbox"/> 34	<input type="checkbox"/> 30-31
12. <input type="checkbox"/> 15:1-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:1-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 35	<input type="checkbox"/> 32-33
13. <input type="checkbox"/> 15:21-39	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:27-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 36	<input type="checkbox"/> 34
14. <input type="checkbox"/> 16:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 22	<input type="checkbox"/> 37:1-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 35-37
15. <input type="checkbox"/> 16:13-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 37:23-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 38-40
			LEVITICUS
16. <input type="checkbox"/> 17:1-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:12-35	<input type="checkbox"/> 38	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-4
17. <input type="checkbox"/> 17:14-27	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 39	<input type="checkbox"/> 5-7
18. <input type="checkbox"/> 18:1-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 40	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-10
19. <input type="checkbox"/> 18:15-35	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:13-27	<input type="checkbox"/> 41	<input type="checkbox"/> 11-13
20. <input type="checkbox"/> 19:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:1-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 42	<input type="checkbox"/> 14-15
21. <input type="checkbox"/> 19:16-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:19-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 43	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-17
22. <input type="checkbox"/> 20:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:1-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 44	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-20
23. <input type="checkbox"/> 20:17-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:27-44	<input type="checkbox"/> 45	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23
24. <input type="checkbox"/> 21:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 28:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 46	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-25
25. <input type="checkbox"/> 21:12-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 28:17-31	<input type="checkbox"/> 47	<input type="checkbox"/> 26-27

PRAYER



PRAYER CHAIN

To be added to the church prayer chain let Peter know at 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 praying local churches in the Illawarra. Here is a list of churches and their key details:

www.5icm.org.au/Attachments/Illawarra_Churches.pdf

PRAYING FOR THE WORLD

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

Open Doors at www.opendoors.org.au

The Voice of the Martyrs at www.persecution.com

Global Mission Partners at www.gmp.org.au/

COMMITTMENT PRAYER

This prayer is for everyone committed to following Jesus.

If this is your first time praying this commitment you are encouraged to take a next step by discussing with a trusted leader about getting baptised⁹ and/or making a public testimony⁵

Thank you, God, our Creator¹, for inviting me¹⁰ into your family.

I believe Jesus is who He said He is: the Son of God² from the beginning³.

I believe Jesus was crucified and died for my sin⁴. I believe You raised Him to life again to show he is your Son⁴. I commit to You as the Lord of my life⁵, seeking to live as the Spirit guides⁶ and empowers⁷ me.

Thank you, Heavenly Father, for making me your child⁸.

1) Colossians 1:16 (2) John 1:14 (3) 1 John 1:1 (4) 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (5) Romans 10:9-10 (6) John 14:26 (7) Acts 1:8; Romans 15:13 (8) 1 John 3:1 (9) Acts 2:38 (10) Matthew 11:28-30; Revelation 3:20

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
01/02/2026	Peter Watson	Anne Tresize	Graham Barker	Stephen Corry	Soup Sunday ???	Kids in service
08/02/2026	Peter Watson	Iwan Jones	John Piper	Linda Watson	Dianne Kavanagh / Lorraine Graham	Catherine and Linda
15/02/2026	Peter Watson	Catherine Green	Anne Tresize	Brian Healy	Wilma and Joyce	Kids in service
22/02/2026	Linda Watson	Dave Morton	James Magispoc	Youth	Linda and Robyn	Sue and John
01/03/2026	Peter Watson	Graham Barker	Robyn James	Iwan Jones	Soup Sunday	Kids in service
08/03/2026	Peter Watson	Bron Halpin	Peter Watson	John Piper	Catherine and Family	Bron and Narelle
15/03/2026	Peter Watson	Pat Langlands	Linda Watson	Graham Barker	Sue & John Piper	Kids in service
22/03/2026	TBA	Lee Pring	John Piper	James Magispoc	Dianne Kavanagh / Lorraine Graham	Catherine and Linda
29/03/2026	Peter Watson	Shirley Magipoc	Iwan Jones	Stephen Corry	Wilma and Joyce	Kids in service
05/04/2026	Peter Watson	Linda Watson	James Magispoc	Robyn James	Linda and Robyn	Kids in service
12/04/2026	Peter Watson	Anne Tresize	Catherine Green	Beth Robinson	Catherine and Family	Sue and John
19/04/2026	TBA	Iwan Jones	Linda Watson	Youth	Sue & John Piper	Kids in service
26/04/2026	Peter Watson	Catherine Green	Graham Barker	Linda Watson	Dianne Kavanagh / Lorraine Graham	Bron and Narelle

Pastoral Contact

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/Thursday 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

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.
- **Tuesday 2.00pm:** Bible Study. 9 Pendleton Close, Tarrawanna. Peter Watson 0407278175.
- **Tuesday 5pm:** Book discussion. Online. Beth Robinson 0412047146.
- Tuesday evening Fortnightly Youth Bible Study. Catherine Green 0427038640.
- **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.

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 Music Playlist on YouTube

<https://tinyurl.com/yxr8skmm>

Meaning of our logo

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)

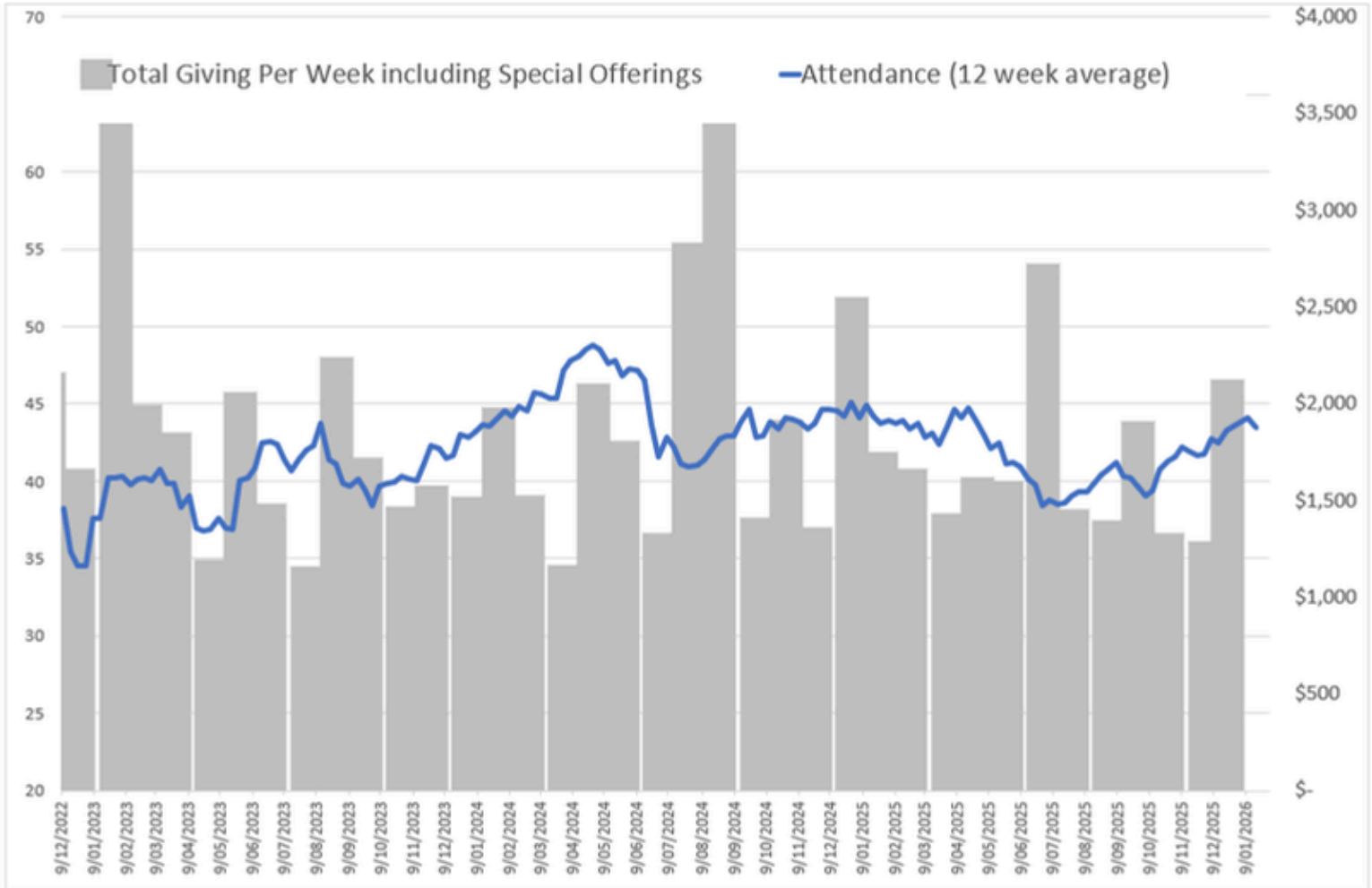
Life-transforming **Word** (Romans 12:2)

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



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

CHURCH STATISTICS



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>

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 this 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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/IllawarraChurchOfChristWollongong

Facebook Group:

www.facebook.com/groups/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.