

WELCOME TO PENSHURST ANGLICAN CHURCH

December 1, 2019

“Christmas Makes It Better!”



In speaking of the angels he says,
*“He makes his angels spirits,
and his servants flames of fire.”*
But about the Son he says,
*“Your throne, O God, will last for
ever and ever; a sceptre of justice
will be the sceptre of your kingdom.”*
(Hebrews 1:7-8)

A Better Presence



Preaching program



“Christmas Makes It Better!”

This year, our Advent Sermons will come from *the Book of Hebrews*. As we look forward to Jesus’ birth, we need to ask, “Why was His incarnation so important? What difference did His birth make to the Jews and to the world?”

1 Dec	2– A Better Presence	Hebrews 2:14-18
8 Dec.	3– A Better House	Hebrews 3:1-6
15 Dec	4– A Better Rest	Hebrews 4:8-11

A Prayer for the First Sunday in Advent— Almighty God, as we begin this season of Advent remind us again that in the midst of our darkness you are bringing us peace, to calm our anxious spirits and hectic lives. Turn our hearts again toward you. Make us ready to receive your Son our Saviour. Slow our pace, and give us the blessing of feeling your peace in our spirits. For we ask this in Jesus’ precious Name. Amen.

TEAR Christmas Gifts! TEAR is a non-denominational movement of Christians responding to God’s call to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly. TEAR partners with local Christian organisations across Africa, Asia, the Pacific and with Indigenous Australians to enable communities to overcome poverty and injustice. **The Useful Gifts campaign** provides the opportunity for us to invest in the lives of those suffering injustice and living in poverty and to give useful and meaningful gifts this Christmas.

Please see Gaye today if interested.

The building sub-committee hopes to present a final draft of the building plans, along with estimated costs, to the church family by the end of November.

Baptism Classes have been cancelled.

10:30 Combined Worship Roster

Date	Welcome	Music Team	Prayer	Bible Reader	Counters
1-Dec	Saw See, Geoff	Team 1- Brian, Stephen, Sam/Josh, Bart, Michelle H., Louise, Anna, Zoey	Holy Communion	Andrew	Doris, Michelle
8-Dec	Millie, Kim	Team 2- Kat, Bing, Michael, Joseph, Michelle L., Millie, Lucy, WeiWei	Geoff	Bing	Michelle, Kwame
15- Dec	Phil, Gavin	Team 3- Joy, Subash, Aisen, Lucy, Amy, John, Hua, Vivienne	Holy Communion	Joy	Kwame, Cliff

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Fri., Dec. 6, 13, 20	Choir rehearsals
Sat., Dec. 21	Rectory Christmas Drinks (from 5-8pm)
Sun., Dec. 22	Sunday School performance and party
Tues., Dec. 24	Christmas Eve service (9pm)
Weds., Dec 25	Christmas Day service (9am)

Pray for Central Asia

Last week marked the 30th anniversary of the demise of the Berlin Wall, and the fall of the Soviet Union. With this major political event, the indigenous Christian population in Central Asia began to grow.

In 1989, at the time the Berlin Wall fell, there were less than 1,000 Christians among the traditional Muslim population of Central Asia. Since then, the indigenous church has come to life across the region, with an estimated 320,000 new Christians coming from a Muslim background. It is a first-generation church.



Where there used to be no more than a gospel in the national language, believers now have access to New Testaments, and even complete Bibles.

After 1998, governments across the region once again began to tighten control in an attempt to stop the gospel from spreading. Christianity is seen as a threat. Yet the church continues to grow and thrive, even amidst extreme pressure.

Pray For Central Asia:

- Praise God for the way that He has been building His church in Central Asia.
- Pray that believers in Central Asia will keep their passion for following Jesus and ministering to others, despite threats.
- Pray that children in Central Asia will hear the gospel and come to have a personal relationship with Christ.

Cell Groups at Penshurst Anglican Church

Our church calls itself a 'cell church', built upon the Biblical idea that the primary way that God's people can truly live out the Gospel is through small, intentional communities (called 'cells'). It is here where Jesus is given a far more intimate opportunity to do His work of transformation.

English-Speaking Cell Groups/	Day/time/frequency
Bart & Kim VandenHengel	Tuesday/ 7:30pm/weekly
Gaye Bishop	Tuesday/ 7:30pm/ fortnightly
Megan & Jeff Powys	Thursday/ 7:30pm/ weekly
ReCharge! (University+ group)	Thursday/ 8:00pm/ weekly
PAC Youth Group	Friday/7:30-9:30pm/ weekly
'The Quiet Place' prayer meeting	Sunday/7pm/weekly

If you are interested in joining one of these cells, you can either talk directly to one of the group leaders or to Bart for more guidance on which cell will fit you best. You may even want to start your own!

Sunday School:

Our Sunday School program runs during the 10:30am service, and only during school term. There are four classes available, based roughly on a child's age and year at school:

- Ages 3-4 Coordinator: Tiny Tse (in upper classroom 2)
- Kindergarten Coordinator: Naomi Zmo (in basement of hall)
- Primary Coordinator: Andrew Ung (in upper classroom 1)
- Secondary Coordinator: John Oakes (in Library)



Penshurst Anglican Church

2 Carrington St, Penshurst, NSW 2222. Website: www.penshurstanglican.org

Sunday Services: 8am Prayer Book Service in English and Mandarin
10:30am Bi-lingual Celebration Service in English and Mandarin
6pm Celebration Service in English

Senior Pastor, Bart VandenHengel:
9580 1217 or 0400 282 848

Assistant Pastor, Aisen Ju:
0433 315 745

Family Pastor, Tiny Tse:
0439 022 877

Internet Banking details:
Westpac Bank, Mortdale
St Johns General Fund
Account BSB: 032167
Account No: 870821