

STAFF TEAM		
Pastor Sandro + Susan Schietroma		sandro@wonthaggibaptist.org.au
Jenny Alder: Families+Childrens Coordinator		jenny.alder@wonthaggibaptist.org.au
CHURCH OFFICE	1300 175 816	office@wonthaggibaptist.org.au

LEADERSHIP TEAM		
Kim Cadman	Russell Harbour	Burt Loenen
Jenny Alder	Ross Bramley - Secretary	
Verity Nicholson	Peter Clark	
Letitia Condon - Secretary	Cathy Lazarus	

PROGRAM LEADERS		
Prayer	Hilary Searle	Please connect with the church office
Connect Groups	Verity Nicholson	on 1300 175 816
Music/Worship Coordinator	Phil Alder Emma Burfitt	or office@wonthaggibaptist.org.au
Wildfire (kids church)	Jenny Alder	To contact the Leaders
Youth Connect	Emma Burfitt	
Newsletter	Sue Williams	

DEADLINE to place articles in the newsletter for February 2026 is 15th January.

Send all items for inclusion to office@wonthaggibaptist.org.au

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A Word at the Beginning of the Year

As we begin a new year together, I want to take this opportunity to share that **Sunday, 11 January will be my final service as Pastor of Wonthaggi Baptist Church**, concluding my season of ministry among you.

Susan and I are deeply grateful for the privilege of walking with this church community through seasons of worship, growth, challenge, and faithfulness. It has been an honour to serve, to teach the Scriptures, to pray alongside you, and to witness God's work in and through this congregation. We give thanks for the relationships formed, the stories shared, and the grace of God that has sustained us all.

While this marks the end of one chapter for us, it is also the beginning of a new season for Wonthaggi Baptist Church. God remains faithful, His purposes unchanging, and His presence steadfast among His people. My prayer is that this church will continue to be a place where Christ is proclaimed, love is practiced, and the gospel is lived out with humility and courage.

Thank you for your prayers, your trust, and your partnership in the work of the Kingdom. We step forward with gratitude for what has been and confidence in all that God is yet to do.

With sincere thanks and every blessing,

Sandro

Our Mission

To connect the unconnected to Christ and together grow in full devotion to Him.

Regular Church Activities

(Having a break over holiday period)

Prayer Meetings - see More Info re holiday times on Prayer page

Sunday 9.30 - 9.45 before the Sunday Morning Service.
Thursday 7.30am - 8.15am at the church.

The WBC MONTHLY prayer meeting at the church occurs each Third Sunday 2.30 - 3.30pm.

Wildfire Kids Church

Fortnightly during school terms. Children can be dropped off at the rear hall from 10am and must be signed in and out by a parent or guardian. Contact Jenny Alder 0491 101 474.

Playgroups

Wonthaggi - Monday and Wednesday mornings 9:30am - 11am
Inverloch - Tuesday morning 9.30 - 11am.

Youth Connect

Emma Burfitt: 0432 688 153

Men's Lunch

1pm on the first Tuesday each month. Corner Store in Inverloch.
(Cnr Cuttriss St and The Esplanade—Near Big 4)

Welcome-In Seniors Social Group - Recommences 8th January

Meets every Thursday 1pm to 3pm except for the 1st Thursday of the month which is at 12.30pm for a BYO lunch. Contact

Live For Christ, Love Like Christ, Lead to Christ

Connect Groups are the Heartbeat of Church Life



Connect groups are a great way for you to meet others, grow in God's word and build authentic relationships.

If you would like to join a Connect Group or would consider facilitating in some way, please contact the church office on 1300 175 816 or office@wonthaggiabaptist.org.au

Connect Groups

Tuesdays 10am
Wonthaggi

Tuesday 7pm
Wonthaggi/Dalyston

Tuesday 7pm

Tuesday 7pm
Inverloch

Tuesday 7pm Fortnightly
San Remo

Wednesday 11.30am
Fortnightly Wonthaggi

Thursday 1 - 3pm
Wonthaggi

Mowing Roster January 2026

A big thank you to Mighty Mower Men this month.

Jan 3rd
Jan 12 - 17th
Jan 26th - 31st

Russell Harbout
Neil Press
Bill Juncho



Leadership Update January 2026

As many of you know, Pastor Sandro will soon be finishing his time with us. His farewell service will be held on **Sunday, January 11th**, when we will come together as a church family to celebrate his ministry at WBC and to bless Sandro and Susan as they begin their next chapter.

With Sandro's blessing, and with the guidance and support of BUV, we have begun the process of seeking an Interim Pastor. This person will serve beyond January 11, helping to bridge the season ahead as we begin the journey toward calling a new Pastor. In due course, we will invite nominations from WBC members to serve on the Pastoral Search Committee, and we look forward to sharing more details as plans take shape.

Please continue to hold our church family in prayer during this important time of transition, trusting God's faithfulness as He leads us forward together.

In Luke's gospel we read the Shepherds encounter with God's Angel - God's glory shone all around! *It would have been terrifying. And the message they were given – not terror – I bring you **good news** of **great joy** that will be for **all people**.* Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Then - Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel – *a whole army of angels! All Praising God with joy and exalting Him.* The future can sometimes look intimidating, but we can hold on to God's truth that He has us in His hands.

We pray that you know God's wonderful love for you as we celebrate Jesus this Christmas.

Letitia,
On behalf of the WBC Leadership Team



If you would like prayer anonymously please put your request in the box in the foyer and the Team will pray for your request confidentially.

Prayer During The Holidays

Some of our usual prayer activities will pause for a short time but of course we continue to pray. Please persevere in prayer for those on our list. **For any further need for prayer in that time, please contact Hilary Searle on 0408 388 854 and it will be circulated as a note.**

We know that our Loving Father never sleeps and is always listening to our needs and answering our prayers.

Prayer Meetings

- **Thursdays 7.30am at WBC - Ceased for a few weeks.**
- **Saturdays - the 24/7 Prayer in the Heritage Chapel** will not be booked but the Heritage Chapel is available for anyone who wants to spend that special time in God's presence. If there is someone there use another quiet area. If you need access to the Church contact a member of the Prayer Team who will be able to help you .
- **Sundays before the service** - prayer in the right side back of the hall 9.30am-9.45am.
- **Third Sunday of every month** 2.30pm-3.30pm at WBC in the Hall.

The Muslim Holy Week, Ramadan commences this year on February 18th. **If you would like a copy of the book thousands of Christians are using to pray each day contact Hilary** on 0408 388 854. They will be available soon for \$6. Since this prayer movement commenced 30 yrs+ ago more Muslims have come to faith in Jesus than in all the years before.

Church Finances

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9 v 7 (NIV)

Offerings for November were a total of \$15,535 with a weekly average of \$3,107

Budgeted weekly average: \$4,615

Actual Nov weekly average: \$3,107

Deficit: (\$1,508)

Direct Deposits can be made to the WBC General account.
BSB 033 265 Account number 287 757

Food Rescue

In conjunction with the Anglican Church, our Grey Food Tubs are in the foyer for needy families. Please place items such as tinned fruit and veggies or packets of pasta, cereal, long-life milk in the tubs. Bathroom items such as nappies, soap, toothpaste etc, are to be delivered to Food Rescue at the Anglican Church each Wednesday and Friday. Thank you for helping needy families in our community.



The Gold Coin Club

By putting your loose gold coins in the offering each week, you are contributing to helping someone with a real need. Please keep giving those gold coins.



You need two doses of the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine to protect yourself and others.

If you were born between 1966 and 1992, you may have only had 1 dose of the MMR vaccine.

If you haven't had two doses, or you don't know, visit your GP or pharmacy.

No Medicare card is required to get a free state-funded MMR vaccine.

Gippsland
Region Public
Health Unit
Part of Latrobe Regional Health

VICTORIA
State Government
Department
of Health

Scan here to find out
where to get vaccinated ✓



lrh.com.au/gippsland-region-public-health-unit/free-measles-vaccines/

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Inverloch Christmas Carols. You are the reason we can hold these events. Sadly, the Wonthaggi Carols needed to be cancelled because of the weather and safety concerns.