



TOGETHER IN FAITH

We extend a warm welcome to everyone to worship today

'We are God's people: unconditionally loved by God. Following our calling, we seek to reflect God's love everywhere, in all that we are and in all that we do'

Lectionary Readings for Pentecost 13A, 2026 Aug 23

Theme: "I will build my church"

Exodus 1:8-2:10 "for God sent me before you to preserve life."(v.5)

Psalms 124 "We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the hunters;"(v.7)

Romans 12:1-8 "be transformed by the renewing of the minds,,"(v.2)

Matthew 16:13-20 "you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church."(v.13)

Today's gospel reading tells us the well known story of Peter and how Jesus changed his name from 'Simon' to 'Peter' which means 'Rock.' Jesus said, "on this rock, I will build my church"(v.18) and gave keys to open in heaven and on earth. Because of this message some churches believe Peter himself is the foundation of Christian churches.

Such a promising gift is, however, not based on Peter's own faith nor ability but it is Jesus himself who said, "I will build my church" on this rock.

Our church is not what Peter and disciples built, nor our selves, but God himself has been building. As we know, Peter wasn't faithful at all. Right after Jesus changed his name, Peter rebuked Jesus because Jesus mentioned about great suffering on the cross to die. (In the next Sunday's gospel reading.)

Peter may misunderstood that he could protect his teacher and the most important disciple for God's church. However, it wasn't his personal faith but Jesus builds God's church.

We hear from Exodus, Moses was saved by Pharaoh's daughter from the river and the named Moses which means "drawn out of the water." Psalm 124 also sang, "we have escaped like a bird from the hunter."(v.7)

Romans 12 encourage followers because we are saved by God and therefore "we should be transformed by the renewing of the minds so that you may discern what is the will of God."(v.2)

This is what we must work together in order to build God's church, the body of Christ. Paul continue to encourage not to confirm to this age nor to think ourselves more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement according to faith that God has assigned (v.3)

Here in verse 4-5, Paul explains how our church functions as one body of Christ. With different roles and gifts, we may be different by grace, but one body in Christ. God is building this church with many members of one body in Christ. Therefore do not be afraid, it is Jesus who continues to build our churches.



Questions

1. In the church, the body of Christ, what is the most important member?
2. How do we participate or contribute in building God's church?

Next week: Pentecost 14A, 2026 August 30

Exodus 3:1-15, Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b

Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28

Worship Services Today

Wangaratta 9.30am
Colin Thomson

Wangaratta 5.00pm
Helen van Riet

Greta / Moyhu 10.00am
Rev. Hoon You - HC

Minister

Rev. Hoon You

✉ hoonyou@gmail.com

☎ 0403 369 781

Sunday to Thursday

Pastoral Care Worker

Wendy Toppin

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☎ 0407 165 973

Leave a message

Cluster Office

Christina Pizzini
Administration Officer

10 Rowan Street, Wangaratta

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🏠 **Tuesday and Thursday**
9.30am to 4pm

✉ wangaratta@victas.uca.org.au

Online Giving

The Uniting Church Parish of Wangaratta
BSB: 083 945
Account No: 5160 84153

**Short Notices for the weekly
bulletin can be emailed to Christina
by 4pm Wednesday**

Church Council News

Last Tuesday church council (CC) met for our monthly meeting. We commenced with a devotion led by Ruth Maxwell. We thanked Ruth for all her work with the CC in the past three years. Rev Hoon reported on the churches Mission Priority Survey. See Rev Hoon You, for more details.

Pastoral Care reported that there are several church members that are unwell.

The next Safe Church Training Day will be 3rd October 26 in Wangaratta.

The treasurer's report was received with no outstanding bills.

Property and Finance reported that planning work to replace the church roof and paint the spire has been started.

The church phone and internet problems have nearly been completed, Phone and Internet are up and running. Thank you Christina for your help.

Report from Synod re - Eldorado property sale - it has been sold to an undisclosed buyer for \$325,000 + GST. Thank you to all those involved in this process.

CC nominations close on Sunday 23rd Aug with elections held in conjunction with the Church Cluster service on 30th Aug 26.

- Bill Gerritsen Chairperson, Wangaratta Cluster CC.

Other News

Bible Study "Walking the Bible" will begin from 2nd September for 6 sessions. This study will summarise the whole Bible and help us to understand the Scripture so that we can journey our life with guidance of the Word of God.

"Hopeful Lament" - NE Presbytery Retreat with Dr Julian Hamilton - Thursday 3rd September 2026, 10am -3pm (lunch provided) @ Euroa Uniting Church - See flyers on table in Foyer.

Messy Church - a Training Day for Congregations interested in starting a Messy Church, will be held in our Church Hall on Saturday 5 September, from 10am to 2pm. All welcome. What is Messy Church? Messy Church is church for families who may not find other forms of church appealing and who don't yet belong to a church. It is typically held once a month, includes hands-on creative experiences, a celebration and a meal. It does not prioritise either the needs of children or adults, but intentionally welcomes and provides for all ages.

Spring Concert – Sunday 6th September

The Wangaratta Concert Band will present their Spring Concert in the Church Hall at 2pm on Sunday 6th September. This afternoon of wonderful music is free and includes free afternoon tea.

Wangaratta Cluster Calendar

Monday 24 August
Mainly Music

Saturday 29 August
Church Knitting Group - 9am

Sunday 30 August
Church Council Elections

Wednesday 2 September
Singing Group at Illoura - 10.30am

Wednesday 2 September
PALS - 2pm

Wednesday 2 September
Bible Study "Walking the Bible"

Saturday 5 September
"Messy Church" Training in Church Hall - 10am to 2pm

Wednesday 9 September
Rangeview Service - 11am

Rosters for Sunday Worship

Wangaratta 9.30am	23 August	30 August	6 September
Worship Leader	Colin Thomson	Rev. Hoon You	Rev. Hoon You HC
Musician	J & H van Reit	Band	R McLay
Vestry	C Thomson	L Hammond	A Turnbull
Welcome and Offering	R & D Chapman	B Sheppard & J Poole	K Martin
Bible Reader	R Barnard	J Kerr	E Dinning
Morning Tea	J McGregor & S don Leonard	D & K Fleet	R & D Steele
5 pm	Helen van Riet	No Service	G Miles
Eldorado 10am	No Service	No Service	C Thomson
Greta/Moyhu 10am	Rev. Hoon You HC	No Service	No Service

*Also helps with Vestry for HC

If you are unable to fulfil your rostered duty, please arrange to swap with someone else. A heartfelt thanks to you all - our priceless volunteers!