



Property Update



Our Future Auditorium

Last time we told you about the facilities to which ICBC plans to move. Since that time, the purchase has been finalised. Our family is in the process of moving into the house next door. The surveyor has completed his work and the engineer is designing the concept drainage plan. We hope to make our development application to Wollongong City Council in early April.

Please pray with us specifically that the Council will approve a sign large enough to be read by commuters on the train. This would be a distance of about 45 metres. If He answers this prayer we will plan to put a fresh Bible verse on the board each week. This will give the Spirit of God a weapon with which to convict the lost. Doesn't He say His Word is "quick [alive], and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12)?

NEW ADDRESS:
24 Bong Bong Road,
Dapto, NSW 2530
AUSTRALIA

Financial Update

We want to thank you for your prayers and financial gifts. As 3 John 8 says, you are "fellowhelpers to the truth." Together, we seek to win the lost who dwell in this city.

As you know, sometime ago we suffered a setback while partway through a move to self-support. Several tithing families, whom we thought were as committed to the church as we are, abruptly stopped attending. This was nearly two years ago. Prior to their departure, we had written to several supporting churches indicating that ICBC had voted to replace their monthly gifts, and asking them to find another church planter to support instead of us. We were excited as the church took on this big responsibility. We are confident that the Lord in His wisdom permitted this trial for His own glory.

At this time the church family has an average attendance of 20 each Sunday, and we love every one of them. Many are pensioners (seniors) and children, resulting in the church's salary to us being significantly reduced. As we stated at that time, we have sought a few hours of employment each week to supplement the gifts of God's people. We thank the Lord for providing for us during this time. He has been faithful.

Would you please join with us in praying that the Illawarra Community Baptist Church might soon grow back to the level of self-support it had reached two years ago, and then beyond? Our church family doesn't want to lean on you for financial "life support" a day longer than it is necessary.



World Evangelism Weekend



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

- The church is looking to celebrate 10 years later this month. As we look back, we must admit that the Lord has been kinder to us than we deserve. Pray that the Illawarra Community Baptist Church will do more to the glory of our Lord in our eleventh year.
- We praise the Lord for the wonderful Junior Camp that He gave to us this past January. One young lady received counsel for salvation. Our theme focused on being like the Lord Jesus Christ.
- In early March we held our annual World Evangelism Weekend. We were able to add two more families to our missionary family!
- A week later, twenty-five pastors and wives met for the Pastors Couples Retreat that we host each year. It was a relaxing time of fellowship where couples in ministry were able to recharge batteries and cement friendships. One attendee remarked that this annual retreat is the highlight of her year. Praise the Lord!
- We continue to distribute tracts on Saturdays. Thank the Lord for Stephen, who visited on a Sunday morning after Bro. Jim Cook, Susanna and Elisa placed a Chick tract in his letterbox.
- Please pray for the Lord to raise up "faithful men" to whom I can commit the things that I have learned (2 Timothy 2:2).