

## 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.

Group name/leader	Day/time/frequency
Trinity Forum	Meets monthly, last Monday of the month
Dorcas Fellowship	Meets 2nd & 4th Thurs at 9:45am
Gaye Bishop	Meets fortnightly on Tues evenings
Cliff Seeto	Meets fortnightly on Weds evenings
Megan & Jeff Powys	Meets weekly on Thurs evenings
Bart & Kim VandenHengel	Meets weekly on Thurs evenings
PAC Youth Group	Meets Friday eve, 7:45-9:45 pm
ReCharge! (University+ group)	Meets weekly on Tues. evenings, 7:30pm

### Sunday School:

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

- Ages 3-5 Coordinators: Karen Fu (in upper hall classroom 1)
- Years 1-3 Coordinator: Hua (Nancy) Feng (in basement of hall)
- Years 4-6 Coordinator: Naomi Zrno (in library)
- Years 7-8 Coordinator: George Chan (in upper hall classroom 2)



## Penshurst Anglican Church

2 Carrington St, Penshurst, NSW 2222

Pastors: Bart VandenHengel (English speaking congregations)  
Aisen Ju (Mandarin speaking congregation)

Sunday Services: (8am) Prayer Book Service w/ Holy Communion  
(10:30am) Celebration service in English and Mandarin  
(7pm) 'The Quiet Place'

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# The Voice

## Penshurst Anglican Church

We welcome you to our celebrations this morning! If you are a visitor here today, we pray that the Triune God of grace will richly meet you where you are, in the fellowship of His people here at PAC. We also invite you to make yourself known to us through the visitor forms found in the pew holders.

## The **Uncomfortable** Sayings of Jesus

Today:

"I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings."



Sunday, September 22, 2013

## Preaching program

Sermon Series: "The Uncomfortable Sayings of Jesus"

22 Sept	<i>"I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves..."</i>	1 Timothy 6:17-19 Luke 16:1-13
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In this Sermon Series, we are exploring passages from the latter chapters of Luke's Gospel in which Jesus tackles difficult subjects that we would do well to understand. Jesus was certainly a controversial figure and he said things that continue to be controversial today!

**PAC Missions Month** will begin next Sunday, Sept. 29th.

Each Sunday, we will have one of our link missionaries come to give us an update on their work.

Next Sermon Series: "Missionary Madness?"

29 Sept	<i>Aren't people OK the way they are?</i>	Ecclesiastes 12:1-7
6 Oct	<i>Does Christian development work really make a difference?</i>	Ecclesiastes 11:1-10

Our annual

## Mega Missions Market

will be held on Saturday, October 26.

Please begin to collect your second-hand goods and bring them to the church any time in October.

## 10:30 Combined Worship Roster

Date	Welcome	Keys	Guitar	Drums	Vocals	Bible	Count
Sep-22	Peter, Andrew	Kat	Michelle, Gordon	Michael	Amy, Karen, Tony, Hua	Naomi	Cliff
Sep-29	Naomi, Millie	Brian	Bart, Phillip	Joshua	Louise, Kat, George, Jennifer	Margaret	Geoff, Amy
Oct-6	Kim, Tam	Joy	Bart, Bing	Sam	Millie, Selina, Sarah, Helen	Michelle	Cliff

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Aug 18– Sept 22	Sermon Series– "The Uncomfortable Sayings of Jesus"
Sun., Sept 22	Mission's Sub-Committee Meeting (9:30am)
Sept 29 to Oct 27	Missions Month Guest Speakers
Sept 29	Andrew & Julie Friend (Lombok, Indonesia)
Oct 6	Alfred & Alsie Ng (China)
Oct 13	Kian Holik (UTS international student ministry)
Oct 20	Michael Duckett (Macarthur Indigenous Church)
Oct 27	Virginia Thomson (Penshurst Girls High School Christian Ed.)
October 26	Mega Mission Market

## Pray for Syria's Christians

Compared to Christians in other countries in the Middle East, Christians in Syria have fared well under the protection of President Bashar al-Assad. But now more than 450,000 Christians have fled their homes during more than two years of war. Observers are generally united in thinking that an American attack on Syria would lead to increased persecution for Christians in the country, who make up 8 to 10 percent of the population. As one Lebanese bishop told Al-Monitor, "Hear my words and take notes; the US strike on Syria has no guaranteed results whatsoever, neither on the military level nor on the political level or any other. The only certain and inevitable result is that the launch of the first rocket on Syria by NATO will be the end of Christians in this country. They will either be slaughtered or displaced."

So how should the world's Christians weigh the possible decimation of Syria's Christians? Is it enough to argue for supporting a regime that has allegedly used chemical weapons to kill tens of thousands? Eric Metaxas argued in a Breakpoint radio commentary this week that American Christian opposition to intervention is driven by concern for Syrian Christians. He approvingly quoted the Catholic Patriarch of Syria saying that "Salafist fundamentalist armed gangs of thugs ... are far more dangerous even than destructive chemical weapons." The plight of local Christians "is one of the toughest issues in the Syrian situation," said Peter Feaver, professor of political science and public policy at Duke. "Ironically, over the last two decades the U.S. has gone to war most often in defense of oppressed Muslim groups—sometimes attacking regimes that had treated their Christian minorities comparatively better. The Muslims we came to the aid of were indeed victims, and helping them defend themselves was a noble and moral act. But one of the unintended consequences (for instance in Iraq) has been greater suffering by Christian groups in that area. This is a great tragedy and we, as a country, should be disturbed by it and moved to do more on behalf of suffering Christians around the world."

Indeed, exactly what outcome would benefit the common good is a matter of strong debate among Christian experts outside Syria. "If America does nothing, it's quite possible that the civil war will spill over into Lebanon and Iraq—not to mention that thousands more will die," said Bryan McGraw, associate professor of politics at Wheaton College. "If we aid the rebels, it seems likely that we'll end up helping people who might be worse than Assad."