

## 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 fortnightly on Thurs evenings
PAC Youth Group	Meets Friday eve, 7:30-9:30 pm
U-ni'd Jesus	Meets each Sun. of term, 1pm in library

### 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 & Michelle Lee (in basement of hall)
- Years 1-3 Coordinator: Nancy Feng (in upper hall classroom 1)
- Years 4-6 Coordinator: Naomi Zrno (in upper hall classroom 2)
- Years 7-8 Coordinator: John Oakes (in library)



## 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 services in English and Mandarin  
(7pm) 'The Quiet Place'

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Penshurst Anglican Parish St Johns  
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**Website:** www.penshurstanglican.org

# 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.

### Isaiah 58



**<sup>6</sup> "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?"**

**<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"**

**<sup>8</sup> Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.**



Sunday, January 20, 2013

## Preaching program

Current Sermon Series: <i>Isaiah's Visions Fulfilled in Christ</i>		
Jan 20	<b><i>The Perfect Fast</i></b>	Isaiah 58:1-8 Luke 4:1-13
Jan 27	<b><i>Salvation Has Come</i></b>	Isaiah 61:1-3 Luke 4:14-21

A new sermon series will start on Sunday, February 3 entitled "**The Bible: Our true story**". In this series, we will attempt to give an overview of the entire Bible while also attempting to show its relevancy by putting ourselves into the story.

## 10:30 Combined Worship Roster

Date	Welcome	Keys	Guitar	Drums	Vocals	Bible	Chairs	Tech	Count
Jan-20	Naomi, Merilyn	Terence	Bart, Michelle	Joshua	Kelsey, Karen, Sarah, Cici	Kim		Cara	Cliff, Steve
Jan-27	Andrew, Selina	Brian	Bart, Gordon	Sam	Michelle, Tina, Jimmy, Sarah	Michelle		Doris	Steve, Cara
Feb-03	Steve, Kim	Joy	Bart, Bing	Aisen	Lucy, Mina, Sun-Jae, Selina	Millie	Kim, Michelle	Geoff	Merilyn, Cliff

### Sunday School Teacher Training

This afternoon, January 20, we will be running an intensive training session for all Sunday School teachers. The focus will be on classroom management and child protection.

**All Sunday School teachers: Please make sure you are there!**

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sun, Jan 20	<b><i>Sunday School Training (1pm)</i></b>
Sun, Jan 27	<b><i>Youth Group 2013 Planning Meeting (1pm)</i></b>
Sat, Feb 2	<b><i>Men's Breakfast (7am)</i></b>
Sat, Feb 2	<b><i>Music Team sign-up and rehearsal (4pm)</i></b>
Sat, Feb 2	<b><i>Chinese New Year Dinner (6pm)</i></b>
Sun, Feb 3	<b><i>Sunday School Starts</i></b>

## Pray for PAC Cell Groups

**If the depths of relationships and our commitment to one another are so important to God, then small groups must also be important as it is only in small groups that close relationships can develop.**

During the first two centuries of the Christian era church buildings did not exist, so it was necessary that people met in their homes. In these early "house churches", pictured vividly by Paul in Romans 16, fellowship would, no doubt, often be over a meal. There are few things more effective for building fellowship than sharing meals. It is no doubt partly due to this natural creating of close relationships that the early church grew so fast, even in times of persecution. We are seeing this today in the success of the Alpha programme worldwide, a programme that focuses on the building of relationships in small groups, in homes and over meals, as a means of sharing the gospel.

It is also apparent in the remarkable success of the "Group of Twelve" approach in Colombia which has grown from 600 cell groups to something like 50,000 in four years. In Cuba, where new church construction is still forbidden, the Assemblies of God has grown from 9,000 to over 100,000 in ten years and has more than 2,000 house churches. The Hosanna World Outreach Centre in Taita has been identified as the fastest growing church in New Zealand. It has grown from scratch to 500 members in five years. Their pastor, Joshua Avia says, "We are a cell church where everybody does everything." They work on a cell principle of twelve members. It has been said that Methodism began to lose its fire when it built its first church building. Eddie Gibbs, in *I Believe in Church Growth*, says: ***In all my eleven years of itinerant ministry I cannot recall any growing church which does not encourage small groups.***

Small groups, where all the members participate as directly as possible, are more effective for changing attitudes and behaviour than is the lecture method. This has been shown by "a whole series of studies", according to Paul Hore in the *Handbook of Small Group Studies*. One lady told how she took her granddaughter to church for the first time. As they knelt in the tall-sided pew, the little girl whispered, "Who are we hiding from?" It is harder to hide from ourselves or from one another in the smaller group, than in the crowd. John Stott wrote in *One People: Clergy and Laity in God's Church*: ***"I do not think it is an exaggeration to say that small groups, Christian family or fellowship groups, are indispensable for our growth into spiritual maturity."***

**Are you in a cell group? Are you planning to join a cell group this year? Bart and Aisen are hoping to initiate several new groups. Please let them know of your interest!**