

Westview Baptist Church

www.westview-baptists.info

“people learning to live Jesus’ way”

2nd February 2014

Our purpose is to bring glory to God. We will do this as we:

1. are transformed by enjoying Christ;
 2. love by serving others; and
 3. proclaim Jesus by faithfully living in a fallen world
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Transformed by Enjoying Christ

Teaching Sessions

When the Elders met for an annual retreat at the start of the year, we had no idea that God would reveal to us such a clear focus for the church in 2014. We later presented the outcome to the deacons who confirmed the thinking of the Elders. From five passages of scripture which were individually brought by the Eldership and JJ (Heb 8:7-13; 1 Peter 5:1-11; Ps 23; 1 John 4:7-12; 1 Thes 5:12-24), we believe that there is a clear direction for the whole church and today you will be invited to take it on as your own. All these passages will be represented in the service today with the hope that you will discern what we believe God has shown the church leadership. Our desire is that this will be helpful to the life of the church and each individual that calls Westview ‘home’.

Love and Service

Homegroups in 2014

Meeting together for support and encouragement is a very important part of Christian living. The burdens that threaten to overwhelm us when trying to go it alone are always with us. Certainly the most crucial time to meet together is the Sunday morning gathering as we open the Bible together (remember that

all sermons are recorded and available online or from Bill if required), but that does not always allow for opportunity for close support. Homegroups is where that happens as we come together, around the Word of God, to remind ourselves of the Truth that frees us, so that we can live more effectively in this fallen world. The Elders and Deacons would like to encourage everyone to consider joining a homegroup. If new groups need to form, all the better. We presently have the following groups. If interested in joining a group, please talk to the homegroup leader:

- Monday 10:30am - Tony & Lynne Kenning
- Tuesday 7.30 pm (1st & 3rd of month) - Allan & Jan Smith
- Wednesday 7pm - Lee and Michelle Arundel
- Thursday fortnightly 7pm - JJ & Soona Bomford (this group primarily for young people)
- Other possibilities, please talk to Tony

The Wednesday Friendship Group has recommenced and does fulfil many functions of a homegroup. Each Wednesday at 9.45am - Kath Johnson

Prayer groups happen each week on Thursday morning at 6am for half an hour and “Community Prayer” generally on the fourth Sunday night of the month. This month it is being changed to 16th.

Lawn mowing

One of the often overlooked services David has quietly performed for many years has been the mowing of the property. Now that David has moved, an opportunity is available for anyone who might like to serve the community in this way. There is a mower on the property. Generally in summer the property might need to be mowed every 3-4 weeks, and winter every 5-7 weeks. If you are available to do this necessary service, please talk to Lee.

WRAP Meeting

The **W**estview **R**eview **A**nd **P**lanning Meeting (WRAP) was scheduled for 16th February but because of some critical absences we are suggesting that it be held off until 23rd February. Please see Lee for more information or if you would like something included.

Family News and Prayers

Bethany has now completed her course in Strasbourg and is now in Paris. By the end of the week she will be visiting friends in Switzerland. She is enjoying her time and very well, thanks for your continued prayers.

Remember Matt and Becky in your prayers as they await the arrival of their first baby. Continue to pray for Matt's health and restoration from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

Keep the Sunday School in your prayers as Spike takes up the role of teaching the young people in our community. Pray that it will be a time of growth for all involved.

Living Faithfully in Our World

Footy in the Park

JJ and Tony have been involved with a local initiative to meet local kids through football and other activities in a local park. Through the encouragement of local police, Dept Sport and Recreation and a local aboriginal elder, the program will continue on Tuesday afternoon from 4pm at Gollan Park. The flyer is now available [online](#). It is proving to be a good initiative to meet and talk with locals and the other agencies involved.

Praying for the Persecuted

From the Open Doors' [World Watch List](#) we have so far prayed for North Korea; Saudi Arabia; Afghanistan; Iraq; Somalia; Maldives; Mali; Iraq; Syria.

#8 Persecuted Country in 2014: Pakistan

Christians suffer from 'Islamic extremism' and to a lesser extent 'organised corruption'. Pakistan's Christians face both Islamic militant organisations and mobs that routinely and violently target Christians, and an Islamising culture that results in Christians being isolated from the rest of the population. Many Christians who can afford to leave the country are leaving. Some observers are talking about the 'Talibanisation' of the Pakistani society. The notorious blasphemy laws continue to have devastating

consequences for minorities, including Christians. 'Church' in Pakistan is not just a place of worship for the average Christian there; it is also a place for social activities. Women and girls are experiencing violence every day. Women and girls from minority groups especially are vulnerable and easy targets for rape and sexual abuse. They are easy prey and considered to be inferior people. Sexual assaults against underage Christian girls by Muslim men continue to be reported. Catholic NGOs estimate at least 700 Christian girls are kidnapped and forced to convert to Islam every year.

Teaching

Hopes for a Year under God: Reflections from the Elders' Retreat

Heb 8:7-13; 1 Peter 5:1-11; Ps 23; 1 John 4:7-12; 1 Thes 5:12-24

1 Peter 5:1-11 – A Call to Arms!

- A Word to the Leaders...1-4
- A Word to Everyone...5-6a
- Live in the Truth! 7-9

1 Thes 5:12-24

- Attitude to church leaders 12-13;
- Community discipleship 14-15,
- God's will for you 16-18,
- Being open to God's Spirit 19-22, and
- God will bring us wholly to himself 23-24.

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Electronic Giving: 'Westview Baptist Church' BSB: 704 922 Acc't:100003291

iGive from Westview [website](http://www.whereisgodinmylife.com)

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