Westview Baptist Church

www.westview-baptists.info

"people learning to live Jesus' way"
6th April 2014

We aim to be thankful, humble & enthusiastic disciples of Jesus in harmony with one another appreciating his ministry to enable us to be Christlike in serving others selflessly for his name's sake.

Define: harmony /ha:məni / 1.1 The quality of forming a pleasing and consistent whole: 1.2 The state of being in agreement or concord: Oxford Online Dictionary

Transformed by Enjoying Christ

Jesus has been shocking his disciples with his words and actions and today is no different. When admiring the beauty and permanence of the Temple, Jesus tells of a time when "Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down." When they ask Jesus when this will happen, a message is given that is applicable to believers of every generation.

Love and Service

Easter Services

Good Friday & Easter Sunday services will be held as normal at 9.30am. They will be shorter services with no Sunday school.

Family News and Prayers

If all goes as planned, Upendra should be home tomorrow. He is hoping that all the arrangements have been worked out to allow him to bring his brother to Sydney where he will receive a bone marrow transplant. When that is organised he can be admitted into St Vincent's Private Hospital. Upendra's return will be delayed if he needs to remain there to ensure the arrangements are in place.

Clarice was admitted to hospital during the week. She underwent test and they believe that she has future cancer of the lower bowel. It appears that the doctors are planning to perform surgery soon.

Michelle E. was scheduled to have a hip replacement Thursday. Keep her in your prayers while she recovers.

Sad news for Lin and Keith with the death of her brother Rev Arthur Cundall after a long sickness. In another branch of their family Heather Gourlay turned 100 last week.

Kath leaves for a holiday in the USA this week for 3 ½ weeks. She is going to San Francisco where she will be meeting up with family she has not seen for sometime before exploring other parts of the country. Our hope is that she will have a refreshing and happy time away.

JJ will be involved in SMBC Mission Outreach this Sunday and next. He will be working with Northbridge Anglican and preaching there today at 5pm. Pray that it will be more than just an experience but opportunity to further God's Kingdom.

Future Thinking

The Elders are preparing a recommendation for a WRAP meeting along these lines: That Westview support JJ and Soona at the conclusion of JJ's college course up until the end of 2015 to provide an opportunity for practical experience in pastoral leadership. Comment is invited and sought from the church community before a final recommendation comes to the WRAP meeting.

Snapshot of Westview

For at least 15 years every Tuesday afternoon all year round, hundreds of men and women have come through the doors of the Doonside property, anonymously known only by their first name from all walks of life with one thing in common: alcoholism. We have made available a place for people to meet to come and encourage others to avoid drinking because they cannot do so with any moderation. They come from every walk of life, every profession, even 'ministers of religion'. If you came you would hear of the pain and suffering their drinking has caused, the broken relationships and families. We make the building available for a nominal donation so that this brokenness does not continue. "Kevin" faithfully opens up and later locks up, and whether it is one person or a dozen, alcoholics anywhere in the world can know that if they are near Doonside on a Tuesday afternoon, there is a place here where they can come.

Living Faithfully in Our World

Ministry in the Community

Last week Tony was called to attend the death of an elderly resident of the Doonside Aged Care Home. As he could not attend, JJ went in his place to pray with the family and read scripture. During the week, Tony and JJ met with the family and the arrangements were made and the funeral happened last Wednesday. At one point, JJ was asked about our charges for our service to the family and he had the opportunity to say that there was no cost, that the church saw this as a service to the wider community. The family often spoke of their appreciation of JJ meeting them in their presence of their deceased mother and grandmother that afternoon, and expressed their appreciation to the church for the care they experienced. This is a part of the ministry of all who support Westview and each one should view themselves as partners in the gospel at such times. So thank you Westview!

Mission Project 2014

We are going to partner with MAF to provide Android based tablets for the Christian Aboriginal leaders in remote areas. With the Word of God and other digital teaching resources loaded (including material in their indigenous language) onto the tablets our home is that it might better equip Christian leaders. Each tablet costs \$160.

Praying for the Persecuted

From the Open Doors' <u>World Watch List</u> we seek to pray for the persecuted church from rated most severe.

#17 Persecuted Country: Ethiopia

Compared with 2013, the position of Christians appears to have slightly deteriorated. Although 34% of the population is Muslim, Christians feel the increasing prominence of Islam on local, regional and national level. Moreover, for many years, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church (EOC) has been seriously persecuting believers who left their ranks to join (mostly) non-traditional Protestant churches, or believers who joined the renewal movements within the EOC. Next, it appears that the government is ideologically developing towards a Chinese governance model, thereby creating a new persecution

dynamic. Lastly, a traditional belief system called 'Wakefeta' is becoming more prominent in certain parts of Ethiopia causing some Christians to distance themselves of Christianity, while former 'wakefeta' believers turning to Christ, become actively isolated and marginalised from social activities within tribal communities. New laws to ban religious messages in the public domain could be very well only made applicable to non-traditional churches. It needs to be seen how the church in Ethiopia perceives is able to respond in a fruitful way.

Doonside Men's Group - Around the Fire

The first meeting of the Doonside Men's Group happens tomorrow night from 6-8pm at Doonside Cottage. Anyone is welcome and it is a good opportunity to meet with local men from Doonside. For more information please talk to Tony.

Teaching - Mk 13:1–37 Prepare for the return of the King 13:1 – 4 When will these things happen? Is this the right question?

13:5, 9, 23, 33, 35, 37 Be alert, not alarmed.

13:5 - 8 The big picture.

False teachers, social and political upheaval, natural disasters – chaos versus truth.

13:59 - 13 The local picture.

Persecution, family frailties, hatred ...

... gift of the Spirit, staying the course.

13:14 - 23 Jesus has gone before us in all these things.

13:24 – 31 "... my words will never pass away."

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

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www.whereisgodinmylife.com ... because life sometimes gets out of control.