# Westview Baptist Church

www.westview-baptists.info

"people learning to live Jesus' way"

10th August 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.

## Transformed by Enjoying Christ

Thanks to all who were involved in the church anniversary last week. It was a lovely time of celebration, eating, laughing, and friendship.

This week, continuing in 1 Corinthians, the church are a group of people who acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, therefore together are the Temple of God, they are those who are to be God's people in God's world. Today we explore the difficult issue of how to respond to those who do not live consistently with Jesus as Lord, what our response should be and the principles that underlie such actions.

#### **Love and Service**

#### Prayercare

Recently as a church community we identified prayer as one of the top five core values of our church. To encourage all of us to be more active in this area we are asking those who wish to be involved to be a part of a prayer partnership we're calling "Prayercare".

This would involve putting your name in over the next few weeks to be matched up with one other person of the same gender who also wishes to be involved, to commit to praying intentionally for each other over the following 12 months and

perhaps meeting to pray with each other if & when that suits both parties.

If you'd like to participate please put your name on the Prayercare slips next to the Giving Box and put them into the box or indicate <u>online</u>. They will be collected initially up until the end of August after which time you'll be notified of the identity of your partner and their contact details to begin intentionally praying in September!

At any time after this if you choose to be involved please put your name in the box and when there is a suitable partner you'll

be notified.

#### **Building**

At the last WRAP meeting we spoke of forming a group to set priorities and develop the property. It seemed natural for this to be the responsibility of the Deacons. Within our finances we have "provisions" set aside for specific purposes and money has been set aside for a building fund. This does not affect the budgeted spending of the church.



Over the last few weeks we have asked people to respond and give feedback. The Deacons and Elders are seeking comments regarding the proposed project and will be able to answer questions people might have regarding the construction of a deck accessible to our main building from the conversion of a window (the one closest to the kitchen) into a doorway, as well as adequate heating for winter.

## Family News and Prayers

The next community prayer will be held on the 24th August. Jan and Allan have greatly appreciated everyone's thought,

prayers, cards and flowers during Jan's recent operation. Please continue praying for her full recovery.

### **Baptist Union Matters**

If you are interested to attend the Baptist Union Assembly meeting at Padstow Baptist Community Church, 23 Cahors Rd, Padstow on Saturday, 13 September 2014, please talk to Tony.

#### Living Faithfully in Our World

## Praying for the Persecuted

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

#### **#31 Persecuted Country: Bhutan**

Bhutan shares borders with Nepal, India, and Tibet. A strict emphasis on Buddhism as the country's spiritual heritage makes it hard for the Christian minority. Another source of pressure comes from shamans following the traditional animistic Bön belief. Though most citizens are not exclusive adherents to this faith, in rural areas especially they will observe rites and traditions and pressure is put on Christians from a Buddhist or Hindu background who do not wish to participate. Christians are excluded from local decision-making, pressured to renounce their faith and Christians will try to send their children abroad for education if they have the financial means. Christians are able to meet in private homes regularly on Sundays without interference, but meetings continue to be monitored and disturbed. Registration of churches or owning or building a church is not possible and the government restricts the celebration of some non-Buddhist festivals. Another major issue for Christians is burials as they are not provided with burial sites or lots for cemeteries. Persecution in Bhutan never has been very violent. In May 2013, a Christian was released from prison after three years as he had shown the Jesus movie. Another pastor and two church members were detained for interrogations with

police for several days and occasionally Christians are beaten or otherwise physically harmed. But compared to the last reporting period, the level of violence has eased.

**Teaching** 

1 Corinthians: In Christ's Church - Sin (Ch 5&6)

Issue 1 - Incest 5.1

Response - Church discipline 5.2-8

Principle - Sinful living can't be Christian living 5.9-13

Issue 2 - Christians in Court 6.1

Response - Resolve differences among each other 6.2-6

The Principle - You have died to self 6.7-11

Issue 3 - The purpose of your body 6.12-13

Response - Flee from sexual immorality 6.14-18

Principle - You are not your own 6.19-20

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