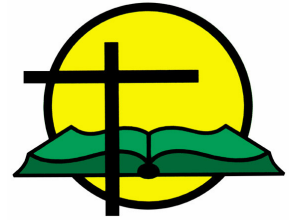


Westview Baptist Church

Easter Holiday Bulletin



Good Friday? Huh?

How can the death of a good and innocence man be a good thing? How can we celebrate such an event... It is GOOD not because Jesus died but because of what his death brings. Jesus' mission was to die. His death brings restoration. His death brings us forgiveness and peace with God.



The punishment that we deserve, each one of us, for our wrong against God in word, thought and deed was paid for. Jesus died in our place for our wrongdoing. Romans 5:6-10 says:

"You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!"

God shows his love for us in Jesus' death. Jesus' death was not for good people but for us who had made ourselves God's enemies through our wrongdoing. At the cross God's love is poured out to an undeserving world, to you and me, understanding people. Jesus death was **SO GOOD** because his death (and resurrection) bring us forgiveness, peace with God and eternal life. And all this is God's free gift to undeserving people. Have you experienced this grace? The offer is for you.

Family News

Preece Family Returns!

Matt, Becky and Jonathan return this week and are expected to return to the church flat on Saturday. It is wonderful that they could have some time visiting Becky's family and friends in US but it is great to have them back with us! For anything regarded to the flat please speak to Kath.

The door to the deck.

At this stage it is expected that the door will be put in on Wednesday 8th of April. For further details speak to Tony K.

Preparing for Tony and Wendy's Sabbatical

June 1st seems to be coming quickly and the Elders and Deacons are seeking to prepare for Tony's absence. This includes equipping JJ to do many tasks that Tony presently does in planning for Sundays, scripture teaching, bulletins, planning and preparing the teaching. As Tony is the presiding Elder, in his absence Lee will be fulfilling that role. Any building and property related issues should be directed to Tony K who has taken on the Property Care Co-ordinator. Kath J will be looking after issues to do with those who rent the property.

Alex, Fran & Mark Niedbalski

Fran and little Mark will be flying back to Chile Monday 6th April. Fran will be staying with her mum in Chile with Mark until Alex joins her. Please keep them in your prayers. Alex will be continuing to seek to raise support for them over the next two months. They will need to raise much more support partners in order to serve in a full time capacity in Chile. He is aiming to visit with us a few times. If you would like to support them they would value any support you can offer, financially or prayerfully. Please contact them here alexfrank@gmail.com or speak to JJ.

What's happening at Westview?

The Next Special Target Group Meeting

The next meeting of the Special Target Group will be meeting on Sunday night on the 19th April 7pm at the Doonside Centre. The notes from the last one have been available ([online](#) or from the back table) for comment. Please feel free to make any comments before the next meeting to any of the TG members.

Men's Group

The next Men's group will be held on Tuesday 7th of April from 6pm at the Doonside Cottage.

Daylight Savings Change

A reminder that as of Sunday 5th of April, clocks go back one hour.

Morling Mission Team

From 3rd - 7th May, a Morling Mission Team will be with us. They will be involved in the Sunday service, scripture, homegroups, and other activities. It is a good opportunity for them to be with us and see some of the ministries we are involved in. Hopefully we will be an encouragement to them, and they to us.

Any Maintenance/Property Issues?

For any questions or issues related to the church property please speak to our property care co-ordinator Tony Kenning.

Pray for our Persecuted brothers and sisters

Country: Maldives

Leader: President Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom

Population: 358,000

Main Religion: Sunni Muslim (official religion)

Government: Republic

Main Source of Persecution: Islamic Extremism

The situation

The Maldives is run by a government who sees itself as the protector of Islam, governing with laws that basically prohibit a Maldivian to convert to any religion other than Islam. The consequences of doing so includes losing citizenship. To be Maldivian is equated with being Muslim, so officially there are no Maldivian Christians, only ex-pat Christians. In February 2014, the Ministry of Islamic Affairs revealed key objectives to include blocking all religions except Islam and ensuring that all laws and regulations adhere to Islamic principles.

There are no church buildings and so the few Maldivian Christians, without room to meet, have to take all precautionary measures possible to avoid being discovered. Even tourists have reported getting into trouble having a personal copy of the Bible with them. Christians are deeply underground as they know about the consequences once they are discovered, though fortunately the level of violence is not very high.

Christians are portrayed negatively in media and do not have any place in the public square. Given the sternness of the government and the support it has from Maldivian citizens, the situation for the Christian minority is likely to remain the same.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters, and the nation of the Maldives.

For more info see: <http://www.worldwatchlist.org.au/>

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