Westview Baptist Church

Sunday May 17th 2015



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;
- 3. And proclaim Jesus by faithfully living in a fallen world

Prayer: the cry for the kingdom

If one of the greatest challenges facing the church of Jesus Christ today is motivating the people of God to pray, how can we encourage and spur each other on in our prayers? Prayer is perhaps one of the few activities in the church every believer can be involved in.

It does not require special status or position in the church, it does not require special gifts or abilities and it requires few if any resources. Any Christian can set aside some time and pray. And Jesus gives us a valuable pattern to use for our own prayers and our corporate praying.

In his pattern Jesus teaches us how to pray and what to pray for, the priorities of worship and adoration, thanksgiving for who he is and prayer for the kingdom and for his will to be done. Requests for our daily needs and protection from the evil one and confession of our sin and need for his forgiveness and his Spirit of forgiveness for others.

Prayer is our duty, but more so it is our delight and so it is a challenge for us to encourage each other to delight more and more in our prayers together.

Family News

Significant things for the forefront of your consideration

We have three quite significant things in the life of our church at the moment that are important for each of us to be prayerfully considering.

Firstly, the accommodation for Matt and Becky. The church is being asked for feedback considering Matt and Becky accommodation in the flat being extended under a tenancy arrangement (see online or on the back table for more details).

Secondly, the question before the church as to recognising JJ as an elder (The minutes from the last meeting are available <u>online</u> or see Tony or Lee for a physical copy).

Thirdly the Westview 2020 vision presented by the elders and deacons which can also be found <u>online</u> or sought from Tony or Lee.

Please take the time to continue to think, reflect and pray regarding these matters and to offer any feedback or questions to the elders. Thank you.

Giving relief to those in Nepal through MAF

Many of you would have heard about the second earthquake in Nepal that has taken more lives. MAF has put a team in Nepal to bring aid and relief to the isolated communities. You can give to the relief effort <u>online</u> or by calling 1800 650 169.

Record Government Aid Cuts - Baptist World Aid

On the back table and <u>online</u> there is a joint response from Baptist World Aid and Australian Baptist Ministries to this weeks Federal budget, which includes

What's happening at Westview?

May day(s)! Happy Birthday!

A big month of significant birthdays. Happy birthday to Tim and Clark, who both turned 30 on the 7th! And to Beth who turned 21 on thursday! Also to Martha who's birthday was on the 5th. We are thankful for each of you and the gift you are to our lives.

Brand New Westview Flyers from GWFC!

A big thanks to Greater West for Christ who have designed and printed for free 5000 flyers for us and are continuing to offer that service to us and the churches of Western Sydney. Please take 150-200 for yourself and drop them off around your local area if you are able to do so. We letterbox dropped a few hundred in the new Bungarribee area as well as other parts of Doonside this week. Please ask the Lord to use this to bring people along and to create an interest and ultimately a trust in Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. If you would like to be involved in letterbox dropping around the Doonside area with these new flyers please speak to Tony or JJ.

Community Prayer Night 24th May

All welcome to join us from 7pm in the church building.

Soccer in the Park 24th May

Put it in your diary! All welcome. 2pm, Charlie Bali Reserve

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: Vietnam

Leader: President Truong Tan Sang

Population: 93.4 million

Main Religion: None/Buddhism **Government:** Communist State

Main Source of Persecution: Communist Oppression

The situation in Vietnam

Vietnam is one of the few remaining countries in the world following a communist ideology. Consequently, authorities still perceive Christianity as a foreign influence and see Christians as Western agents.

An estimated two thirds of all Christians come from a tribal background, including 80% of all Protestant Christians, many of them being Hmong. Pressure to return to traditional and ritualistic faith is very high, especially in rural areas. Some Christians are denied government benefits because the local authorities choose not to allow it.

Churches, which must be registered, are closely monitored and occasionally meetings are hindered or disturbed. The publication and distribution of Christian materials is difficult and highly restricted. Work among children and youth is not officially restricted, but is monitored and can be disturbed.

Over the last year, violence has increased, with several church buildings and Christian houses destroyed and more than ten Christians sentenced to jail.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Vietnam.

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

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