# **Westview Baptist Church**

Sunday May 24th 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

## **Questions about prayer**

Prayer can be one of the sources of great delight in our lives and it can also be one of the great challenges we face in our journey of faith. One day we find it easy to come before our heavenly Father in prayer, the next we are questioning our minds as to why we are praying at all.

Christians have struggled with questions about praying, the communication action of our love relationship with God, ever since Jesus gave us his pattern for establishing that communication with our Father in heaven.

Questions about prayer and praying are good, particularly when they help develop our understanding of the scriptures, clarify our thinking on matters of faith and transform our minds to deepen our knowledge of God.

Because that is the purpose of praying: to develop, deepen, build up and strengthen our relationship with our Creator God to the praise of his glory and grace.

## **Family News**

## **Bob in Hospital**

Our beloved Bob Stock is in hospital at Westmead, following severe pain he was experiencing this week. Bob will probably be in hospital for a week it appears. He has been diagnosed with a slight case of pneumonia. Please pray for him and his family at this time. If

### **Tony & Wendy's Sabbatical from 1st June**

Tony and Wendy's one year Sabbatical will be starting on the 1st of June, in only a couple of days now. For Tony and Wendy and us as a church this year is aimed to allow time for refreshment and reflection for them, and discernment for all of us as a church about God's leading for the future. This will be a time where they will be involved in intentional interim ministry and discern further if this might be something that Westview will send them out to do in the future. Please keep them and all these things in your prayers and thinking.

### **Bible League Persecuted church**

Bible League is running a 21 day "Bibles for the Persecuted" where Christians are encouraged to pray and support the giving of Bibles to the persecuted church. This is a good opportunity to pray together for our brothers & sisters in very tough situations. To support them through prayer. If you would like to be involved in praying and or giving please speak to Lee today so we can order in the booklets to help with our prayers for them.

## What's happening at Westview?

#### **New Short Series on 'What is the Church'**

Starting next Sunday we will spend 5 Sunday's looking at some important subjects to do with the Church. We will be looking at 'What is the Church' 'What is an Elder' 'What is a Deacon' 'What

is a Member' 'What is a church family member' 'What is Worship'. This will be a time for us to think, re-think, and consider what the Scriptures have to teach us about who we are as the body of Christ.

### **Evan's High Scripture Seminar Tomorrow (25th)**

Please pray for JJ and Steve tomorrow who will be teaching at least 4 classes in a row at Evans High School. It is a wonderful opportunity to make Jesus known to the kids but it is draining to do it over just one day in the term. Please pray for strength for them and that God would open the hearts of the kids to place their trust in Jesus. If you would like to be involved in Scripture (Primary or High School) please speak to JJ.

## **Community Prayer Night Tonight (24th May)**

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

## Something extra special for a morning tea?

Anyone who would like to bring something extra special for morning tea please tear off one of the dates from the Morning tea sheet on the notice board as you enter the building. Thanks to all those who do serve us with something extra delicious!

## Soccer in the Park this afternoon (24th May)

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: Central African Republic

Leader: Interim President Catherine Samba-Panza

**Population:** 4.8 million

Main Religion: Christianity (Protestant and Roman Catholic)

**Government:** Republic

Main Source of Persecution: Communist Oppression

#### The situation in the Central African Republic

The Central African Republic (CAR) is a Christian majority country that in 2013 witnessed brutal violence against Christians by the Séléka movement. The Séléka movement is responsible for the high degree of pressure and violence against Christians. While the rebel group has no apparent Islamic agenda, it is composed in majority of (foreign) Muslims, and they have ravaged the country, specifically targeting Christians and non-Muslims. They have desecrated Christian churches and attacked Christians with rape, robbery, kidnapping, torture and murder. The levels of violence in CAR are unprecedented. There are even 'anti-Balaka' groups enacting violence mainly upon Muslims as a method of self-defense, and have stated they they are fighting to preserve and protect Christians. The Christian majority and Christian leaders in CAR strongly distance themselves from this group. The Central African Republic (CAR) is a Christian majority country that in 2013 witnessed brutal violence against Christians by the Séléka movement.

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Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Central African Republic

For more info see: <a href="http://www.worldwatchlist.org.au/">http://www.worldwatchlist.org.au/</a>

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