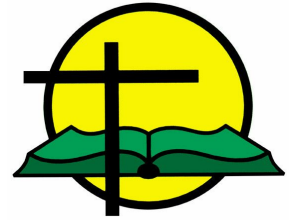


Westview Baptist Church

2nd August 2015



Our purpose is to bring glory to God.

We will do this as we: *Are transformed by enjoying Christ; Love by serving others; And proclaim Jesus by faithfully living in a fallen world*

Westview's 37th Year Anniversary!



37 Years Young!

Our church anniversary is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the year just passed or even reflect on our time at Westview whether as a recent arrival or as one of those people who met in a Kings Langley home thirty seven years ago.. Our reflections will focus on events in our own lives, our community and our society. Some we will recall with a great sense of joy and happiness, others will cause us to remember grief, sadness, even pain. In the last year alone we have seen significant change and meaningful events at Westview with sabbaticals starting and ending, dedications, baptisms, people arriving and some, sadly, moving on, and even today the joyful occasion of a wedding.

When we consider our community and the Australian society as a whole we will perhaps not look at things with the same satisfaction what with the seemingly imminent legalisation of same sex marriage, the threat of limiting or even abolishing the teaching of scripture in our schools and the diminishing influence of churches in our society as further evidence of abuse within churches is uncovered and revealed. But these events are not a surprise to us and they do not deter us since we know from the scriptures that these things will happen. 'Be careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.' (Eph 5:15–16).

As followers of Jesus and as members of His church we press on because we know that our call as His children is to continue in our faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out to us in the gospel (Col 1:23). And so our reflections will turn from the temporary things that sometimes make us smile or sometimes cause us to cry and we will again focus on our eternal hope, secure in the promises of God's Word, our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. So let us look forward to the thirty eighth year and beyond with the confidence that comes from putting our faith in our God and Heavenly Father and may the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance (2 Thes 3:2). – Lee and JJ

Family news and what's coming up

Church Membership – please sign

During the week Lee and JJ met with the Co family and Trish regarding their desire for membership. It was wonderful to meet with them and to hear something of story, and God's leading to bring them along to Westview. After the service there will be the opportunity to read and sign to affirm this process so that in the next few weeks we can welcome them into the membership of our church. If you have any questions please speak to Lee or JJ.

Men's community group – This Tuesday 4th August

The next men's community group night is this Tuesday 4th August from 6pm for dinner. It is a good opportunity to meet some other men from the community. Please let JJ know if you are interested in coming along.

August birthdays!

Happy birthday to all those in the month of August! Peter Grima on the 1st, JJ on 8th, Bob Muir on the 9th, David Simpson on the 11th, Alex Kenyi on the 12th, and Corwell Misra on the 31st! We are thankful to God for each of you, and we celebrate God's goodness to each of you.

Using Coveny Street and no longer Crawford Road

Just a reminder that if from now on we could just use the entrance on Coveny Street to the church and no longer come in or leave through Crawford Road entrance. Thank you.

Maintenance questions or concerns?

If you have any questions or concerns about anything to do with the church building maintenance please speak to Tony Kenning.

Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters

Country: Myanmar

Leader: President Thein Sein

Population: 54.2 million

Main Religion: Buddhism

Government: Parliamentary Government

Main Source of Persecution: Religious Nationalism/Dictatorial Paranoia

The situation in Myanmar

The majority of Myanmar's people are of Burmese ethnicity, also called 'Bama'. Being Bama is equated with being Buddhist - anyone who differs him or herself is labelled as being potentially dangerous. For Christians in Myanmar, pressure comes from two sides: society (including the movement of radical Buddhist monks called '969'), and the government (which tacitly supports such movements and their agendas).

Though the government is still nominally communist, it does everything necessary to keep control. Buddhism is used as the main tool by the regime to 'unite' the nation, as Myanmar has strong ethnic minorities and Bama make up roughly two thirds of the people. Some larger minorities are predominantly Christian (like the Chin) while others include a strong Christian presence (like Kachin and Shan). The army continues to clash with the largest ethnic groups despite several ceasefire agreements with them, including some Christian majority groups. Rape and the selling of child brides are used as a tactic of war. Despite talks, at least 20 Kachin Christians have reportedly been killed and church buildings and homes destroyed.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Myanmar

For more information visit: <http://www.worldwatchlist.org.au/>



www.westviewbaptistchurch.com.au



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