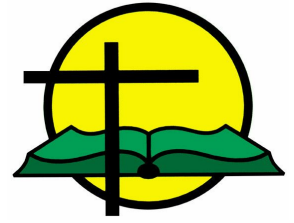


# Westview Baptist Church

9th August 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*

## **Jit & Jan this Sunday**

Jit and Jan, who we are supporting for our mission project this year, will be joining us this Sunday morning to share about their ministry in Thailand. "[Their] focus is on evangelism among the Pwo Karen people group, and church development work with other Karen groups. They give some assistance to various wholistic ministries that seek to care for the sick, disabled and marginalised, and provide education and self-help for the local people. The Karen people are an ethnic minority (despite numbering up to eight million) in both Thailand and Burma. Many of the Sgaw Karen are Christians. The Pwo Karen, with a quite different dialect, have mostly adopted Buddhism, fusing it with their animistic spirit beliefs. They have been resistant to the Gospel yet ancient traditional stories can form bridges to understanding the message of Jesus. Jit has raised awareness of Pwo Karen traditions, stirring interest in culture and language and demonstrating that Christ seeks to work through culture, not destroy it. 30 congregations, mostly Sgaw Karen, that are scattered along the border between Thailand and Burma, have also valued Jit's assistance. Refugees from Burma and the little publicised conflict in that country are on the Yawans' doorstep. Jit and Jan help where possible."



## **Family News**

### **Thank you card from Maria**

There is a lovely thank you card on the back table from Maria, Sammy's sister in law, who wanted to thank our church for the flowers that were sent to her on behalf of our church with the passing of Nicola (Nick), her late husband and Sammy's brother. Please continue to keep Sammy, Amie and the rest of the family in your prayers during this difficult time.

### **Hazel in hospital**

Hazel has gone into Blacktown hospital this week with a broken left ankle and still a bad right knee. It would be good to keep her in our prayers as her body seeks to heal and recover from this. For any further information please speak to Kath.

### **Church Membership – Please Sign**

Lee and JJ have recently met with the Co family and Trish regarding their desire for membership. It was wonderful to meet with them and to hear something of their 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.

### **Target Group Recommendation for Eldership**

The special target group called to consider recognising JJ as an elder has put forward a recommendation to the church, this will be available up the front after the service for the next two Sundays. Please take some time to read and sign this in order to affirm it. A meeting to ratify the recommendation will take place sometime in the next few weeks. At this stage a special recognition service will be held on Sunday 27th September. Please put this in your calendar.

## **The Singh Wedding**

It was a wonderful day last Sunday to celebrate and remember 37 years of God's goodness to us as a church. It was also wonderful to celebrate the newly formed union between Mr. and Mrs. Upendra and Devika Singh!



Thanks so much to all who were apart of making that day so special, for all the food, organisation and energy that went into making that day so special. Thankyou!

## **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.

## **What's Coming Up @ Westview**

### **Soccer Next Sunday 16th @ 2pm.**

It's Soccer Time! All welcome! Next Sunday...  
Charlie Bali Reserve Doonside. 2pm.

### **No longer using Crawford Road, but only Coveny Street**

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.

### **Building or Maintenance questions or concerns?**

Please speak to Tony Kenning.

# **Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters**

**Country:** Palestinian Territories

**Leader:** President Mahmoud Abbas

**Population:** 4.5 million

**Main Religion:** Islam

**Government:** Interim Administration

**Main Source of Persecution:** Islamic Extremism

## **The situation in the Palestinian Territories**

The number of Christians is diminishing and the influence of radical Islam is growing. Partly as a result of their influence, Hamas takes Islamizing measures from time to time. Dynamics of Christian persecution in the Palestinian Territories are complex. Christians are squeezed in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; their ethnicity entailing many restrictions from the Israeli side and their religion putting them in a minority position within the Palestinian community. Of all types of Christianity present in the Palestinian Territories, Christian converts from a Muslim background are persecuted the most, followed by all local Christian background believers (historical Christians and non-traditional Protestants) in Gaza.

Please pray:

- For the many women in Israeli and Palestinian areas who suffer trauma from violence because of war and persecution because of their gender
- For students at the Bethlehem Bible College preparing for Christian ministry and leadership
- For the church in Gaza, as many are still suffering from the war in 2014

**Please pray for our brothers and sisters in the Palestinian Territories**

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



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