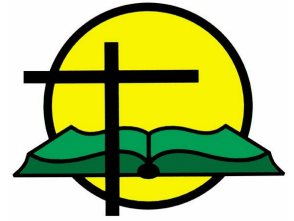


Westview Baptist Church



30th 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*

In light of who Jesus is...

How then shall those united to Him live?

With the underpinning work of the first 2 chapters of Paul's letter to the Colossians firmly establishing the supremacy of Jesus in all things, Paul now moves into the practical side of how the Colossians, and Westview, are to live in the light of this knowledge.

What are we to aim for, what should our attitude be towards living kingdom style, what should we abandon from our old self, our old way of thinking? What does the new culture we are striving for look like in our own lives and collectively as the church of God in 2015?

The danger is to moralise this into things we should "do" rather than remember what and who we are in Christ. The need for us to consider these issues is evidenced by the strong language Paul uses to emphasise his teaching – *"put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature"*. And embrace the culture of the kingdom and immerse yourself in the King.

Family News

Timothy Matthew Preece

Little Timothy was born August 25th 4:10am at Blacktown Hospital after only two hours of active labour. He weighs 4.04 kg's, and is 50.5 cm's long. Becky, Baby, Matt and big brother Jonathan are all doing well.



June Davies at Home

June has an infection in her foot and is still recovering from a bad chest bug. She is undergoing some anti-biotics, but of course would love to be back with us all soon. It would be great to keep her in our prayers during this difficult time of sickness.

Hazel at Mt Druitt

Hazel's ankle is on the mend, and she is hopefully being transferred out of the Mt Druitt Rehabilitation unit and into Our Lady of Consolation in the next few days. It would be great to keep her in our prayers.

MAF – Gifts of life for Father's day

MAF are providing a way that this Father's day you can give gifts to help those in need. For example, \$50 to fill a jerrycan. *'Each jerrycan holds about 20 litres of fuel. That's enough for 20 minutes of flying. In many of the remote places where we serve, short life-saving flights are a regular occurrence.'* There are flyers on the back table that allow you to purchase an item and receive a card for a father or father figure in your life or you can do this through the MAF website: www.mafgifts.org.au

What's Coming Up @ Westview

Community Men's Group This Tuesday

This Tuesday night (1st September) will be another community men's group night. If you are interested in coming along and meeting and getting to know some of the men from the community please let JJ know. It goes from 6-8pm.

Quick WRAP Meeting – 13th September

There will be a quick WRAP meeting on Sunday 13th September after the service to ratify the motion regarding JJ's eldership. If you have any questions please speak to Lee.

Soccer in the Park – 13th September

The next soccer in the Park will be on the 13th September. As Usual from 2pm at Charlie Bali Reserve, Doonside. All welcome!

Question Box Sunday – 20th September

Have a question that you have been thinking through? Something you would like to hear a biblical response on? Please write it down and drop it into the church giving box and on the 20th September we will seek to address it. Thank you.

No longer using Crawford Road, but only Coveny Street

Just a reminder to only use the entrance on Coveny St to enter and to leave the church and no longer Crawford Rd. Thanks.

Building or Maintenance questions or concerns?

Please speak to Tony Kenning.

Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters

Country: China **Leader:** President Xi Jinping **Population:** 1.41 billion

Main Religion: Atheism **Government:** Communist State

Main Source of Persecution: Communist Oppression

Under the new president, Xi Jinping, the Communist government aims at controlling religious activities. While in most regions in China Christian activities have been watched rather than controlled, unregistered house churches especially could be affected by a new program to eradicate so-called 'evil cults' – some of which have (contorted) Christian roots. Observers note three kinds of churches amongst the ethnic Han: the 'black' ones which are illegal and which the state is fighting against (for example, Roman Catholics loyal to the Vatican), the 'red' ones which are state-approved and controlled, and the 'grey' ones, which are not registered but tolerated and which form the majority of the Christian population.

In most cases, police refrain from violence, but invite pastors to 'have tea' to clarify rules and limits. The situation in the Muslim-minority state of Xinjiang, where the Uyghur minority lives, deteriorated rapidly compared to last year and life for the small number of Christian converts (most likely a few thousand) has become more complicated and even more limited than before. They suffer from increased general pressure from the government as well as their own families, friends and neighbours. A similar situation is faced by an even smaller group of Christian converts (numbering a few hundred) from a Tibetan Buddhist background, in the Chinese region of Tibet. Whereas pressure and violence are not as high as in Xinjiang at the moment, it still is on a comparable level. Virtually all reports of regular violence were limited to the Southern province of Zhejiang, also known as the 'Jerusalem of China', where local authorities started a campaign against religious structures. Some were completely destroyed and more than 300 crosses on church buildings were allegedly dismantled. While these events do not seem to be the beginning of a wider campaign, they appear to serve as a 'suggestion' that churches should not become too visible.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in China.



www.westviewbaptistchurch.com.au



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Eldership Contact: Lee Arundel 02 9621 6907; leearundel@yahoo.com

Electronic Giving: 'Westview Baptist Church' BSB: 704 922 Account: 100003291

Address: Cnr Crawford Road & Coveny St, Doonside NSW 2767

Post: PO Box 965 Kings Langley NSW 2147