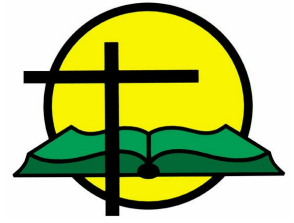


Westview Baptist Church



18th October 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*

Jonah 1-2

Can't we too be like Jonah...?

We continue our '5:2 diet series' this Sunday by looking at the book Jonah for the next 2 weeks. Jonah really is a book about more than just a great fish. In fact it is a story that tells of the incredible love of God for evil, undeserving sinners. Jonah knows the character of his merciful and loving God, and it is because of this that he is disobedient to Him because he does not believe in who God wants to show His mercy too – Jonah's (and Israel's) evil and brutal enemies. This does not fit his plan.

But can't we too be like Jonah? We too can write people off in our own hearts as being 'too far gone' and completely undeserving of God's grace – all the time forgetting how undeserving we ourselves are of God's grace and mercy. Our need is to remind ourselves of the underserved favour from God that we have received, to be awestruck by this grace, and to like God Himself, be overflowing with the offer of His love in the cross of Jesus Christ to all people – without distinction.

Family News

Sad week of passings

This week has been a sad one with Sandra's brother Ross passing away on Sunday and Ashok Upendra's brother passing away on Wednesday. It would be good to keep these guys and their families in our prayers during this difficult time, also with Devika who has not been able to make the trip to Singapore with Upendra because of Visa restrictions.

Treasurer and Administrator positions up

Next Sunday we have a WRAP meeting, and every 2 years the positions of Treasurer and Administrator are reset to be filled again. Allan and Lee have indicated they will be happy to fill these positions again, but we are always looking for those interested in being involved in these roles. Particularly we are looking for someone who might be interested in the Treasurer role in the future. Please speak to Lee or JJ if you are interested in hearing more about what is involved in these roles. Thanks.

COBIS Giving

For many years now, individuals have been supporting Cobis (Churches of Blacktown in Schools) through Westview's giving on a Sunday with the option to do so through prepared envelopes so that a tax deductible receipt can be given. After speaking to the new chair of cobis, he has asked us to encourage people to give directly to cobis. The information is found on their website: www.cobis.org.au From this point on, Westview will only pass on gifts that do not require a tax deductible receipt. We will arrange for those who have given already this financial year to receive a tax receipt. If that is not required by those individuals who have given, please send Tony an email asap. Thanks for all those who have supported Cobis in this way. Could we encourage people to continue in their support for the work of Cobis?



What's Coming Up @ Westview

Wednesday Community Prayer Night 21st October 7pm

We will be trialing another new once a month time to pray together for those who it might suit. This will be held at Lee and Michelle's house (90 Sarsfield Street Blacktown). This will go from roughly 7-8pm. If you have any questions about this or suggestions regarding pray time please speak to Lee or JJ. Thanks.



WRAP Meeting 25th October

Next Sunday is the Westview Review and Planning meeting. This will follow the service, from around 11-12. If you can stay back for this that would be great. If you have any items for the agenda please speak to Lee or JJ.

Sunday Community Prayer Night 25th October 7pm

There will be a time of prayer at the church building from 7pm for those who are able to come along. This usually goes for around an hour. If you have any questions please speak to Lee.



A stage play on the book of Esther!

Andrew Rollason has come up with an idea (and a draft Script!) for a stage play on the book of Esther. At the moment the idea is that we will have a night early in December where we will invite family, friends and anyone along to enjoy the play. If you are interested in being involved in play – please speak to Andrew or JJ. There are quite a few roles needed so the more who want to be involved the better! If you have any other ideas for the night or play as a whole or any questions please speak to Andrew or JJ.



Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters

Country: Algeria **Leader:** President Abdelaziz Bouteflika

Population: 40.6 million **Main Religion:** Islam **Government:** Republic

Main Source of Persecution: Islamic Extremism

As Islam is becoming increasingly visible in Algeria's government, freedom for Christians is becoming more and more restricted. Radical Islamic movements influence the government and society, and Algeria is increasingly the scene of more terror. This is having a real impact on the Christian population in the country.

Church leaders indicate that there is an increase in pressure on Christians, who mostly consist of Christian converts from a Muslim Background. The law prohibits public assembly for purposes of practicing a faith other than Islam. Individual churches are often denied registration.

Islamic extremism has an effect throughout the whole country, and causes pressure on Christians in all spheres of life; private, family, community, national and church. The number of reported incidents remained constant in comparison to last year. Although no Christians were killed or imprisoned, and there were some positive developments, threats to churches and Christian media organizations still occur, and newspapers report negatively about Christians.

Please Pray:

- Praise God for the continuing growth of the church in Algeria.
- That the new believers in Christ will grow in their walk with the Lord and receive training and teaching in the Word.
- That restrictions on Christians will be reversed and the government will allow more freedom to worship.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Algeria



www.westviewbaptistchurch.com.au



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