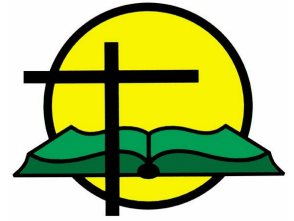


Westview Baptist Church



6th December 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*

Where is God in my life? (Esther Part 2)

I wonder if you have ever asked or at least thought the question to yourself, 'where is God in my life?' Maybe you are or will face a difficulty and you will find this question in your mind or on your lips, wondering, where is God in all this mess and suffering? The story of Esther speaks into this. God's name is never mentioned in the entire book. And yet as you read through it and see coincidence upon coincidence you realise that these are not coincidences at all, but the Sovereign and Powerful Hand of the Unnamed, Unmentioned Character in this story – Who is constantly working and weaving to bring about His purposes of good and deliverance for His people.

Isn't this our story as followers of Jesus? Sometimes we find ourselves in such difficulties or sufferings that we can just wonder why God would allow this, or where He is in all this grief... But this story reminds us that God is working for the good and deliverance of His people, and in what greater way have we seen Him do this, then in Him sending His One and Only Sinless Son to suffer and die for our wrongdoing... God has proven His love for you in sending His Son to deliver you from sin and death and hell. 'Where is God in my life?' Look to Jesus! Look to the cross, where Jesus gave Himself for you, to make you right with God so that you can enjoy what you were made for – 'to glorify God by enjoying Him forever'.

Family News

Janelle's mum in hospital

Janelle's mum has been taken to hospital this week with bleeding from the bowel. The outlook does not appear good. Please pray for her, for Janelle and the rest of the family at this difficult time.

Last day for stall!

Baptist World Aid Big Gifts!

Baptist World Aid has produced a *Little Book of Big Gift Ideas* through which you can contribute to a part of various community development projects and receive a card to tell someone you've made the gift on their behalf. After the service today, Jan & Allan Smith will run a stall for you to purchase such gifts and receive the cards there and then to give to your friends, and get a tax-deductible receipt as well. You can find out more about the range of gifts and purchase them online too at: www.biggifts.org.au

December Birthdays!

A big congratulations to our December birthdays. To Paul Burmon (3/12), Rita Grima (6/12), Jesse Tiko (7/12, turning 18!), Wendy Calman (12/12), Pudge Constance (15/12), Robyn Rowe (21/12), Sherry Horne (28/12), Colin Constance (28/12), and Scott Co (28/12). Happy birthday from your church family. Wishing you a wonderful day, we are thankful for each one of you!



What's Coming Up?

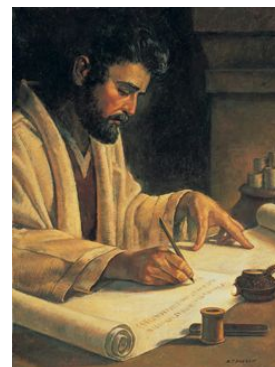
Community Prayer Sunday Morning 6th December 8:15am

This is held at the church building. All are welcome. This time usually goes until around 9am. Speak to Lee for any further details.



Our Next Series: The gospel of Luke

After our 5:2 diet series is over this week we make our way into our next series which will be in the gospel of Luke. This is a wonderfully helpful book, where Luke writes an "orderly account" to give his friend, and all people, "the certainty of the things" that have been taught about Jesus. (Luke 1:3-4). Please do take some time to start reading through Luke as we prepare to open it up together. This series will take us right up to Easter. Our hope and prayer is that it will be a great blessing as we continue to seek to know more about our Great God, as we see Him revealed in His Son the Lord Jesus through the pen of this disciple.



A new church Library!

Thanks to Pudge, we have a small library of books that all are welcome to borrow. There is a record for any borrowing. If you have books to add to the library please speak to Pudge.



Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters

Country: Turkey **Leader:** President Recep Tayyip Erdogan
Population: 76.7 million **Main Religion:** Islam **Government:** Republican Parliamentary Democracy **Main Source of Persecution:** Islamic Extremism/Religious Nationalism

A very remarkable feature in Turkey is the high level of nationalism. The general opinion is that a Turk is born a Muslim. Turkey lies on two continents: Europe and Asia. The country has many connections to both the western world but also to the Middle East. Turkey sees itself as the leading nation of the Turkic world (Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan), and wants to play a prominent role on the diplomatic scene in the Arab world.

Europe has severely criticized Turkey on the restrictions it imposed on the media, human rights and freedom of religion. This has led to a very negative reaction from the Turkish government. Christians in Turkey experience problems in every sphere of life: private, family, community, national and church spheres.

The level of violent incidents in Turkey is relatively low. Four churches have been attacked and damaged in Turkey over the past year. With President Erdoğan remaining at the helm of the Turkish government for the foreseeable future, Turkey is expected to continue on its current path of gradually enforcing Islamic influences, following an increasingly strongman ruler, and continued discrimination against its Christian and other religious minorities.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Turkey



www.westviewbaptistchurch.com.au



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www.instagram.com/westviewbaptist

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