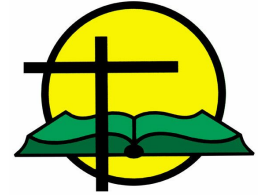


Westview Baptist Church



Sunday 3rd July 2016

Partnerships



We are intensifying our efforts towards our mission to make passionate disciples of Jesus. Our passion is not of our own making, but the consequence of treasuring Jesus Christ our Lord. The Spirit of Life which has been given to us brings us into the family of God, and it is the Spirit who will continue his work in us to the very end. The making of passionate disciples of Jesus would be an impossible task for us if we did not see that it is the Spirit's work in and through us.

Today we continue the series which helps shape our endeavor to be a church with such a mission, so that we might pursue our purpose of bringing glory to God in Western Sydney. Our vision is to be a healthy church where the truth gives birth to worship and fruitful living. The five specific areas we will focus on is prayer, gospel transformation, gifts, raising leaders and partnerships with people. Today we are focusing on partnerships.

Through the example of the church at Antioch, we will see that partnerships are a consequence of gospel work, the means by which the gospel was spread. Support for gospel workers depended upon remaining true to the common purpose, enabling a safeguard for both the church and those sent. Today we will consider our partnerships as we move forward into the future.

Family News

Doonside Festival Saturday 23rd July

The Doonside Festival is an opportunity to be involved in our community festival, to make known our presence, to invite people to come, to go “fishing for Jesus” as we seek to make passionate disciples of Jesus. Please speak to Tony, Lee or JJ today if you are able to spend some time on that Saturday morning.

Our 2016 Mission Project

Our 2016 Mission Project aims to raise the \$5000 annual cost of visas to allow the Beeck family – Cam and Kath and children Jack, Matilda and Sydney – to continue their work through Global Interaction among the Yao people in Mozambique. There is always up to date information about them and their mission on their blog (Beeckbrief.com) and their Facebook page (Facebook.com/thebeeckbrief).

Sunday School

The room where Sunday School is taught has been experiencing positive improvements. The unused spare chairs were sold to a “church plant” in Taree. They were happy to receive the chairs, and with the chairs we donated a lounge, old fold up tables, our old audio mixer and amplifier, the speakers we no longer planned to use, and various other items. The result is that the Sunday School room has become much more pleasant and will be a better resource for the church as a whole. Please note, this week will be the last week for Sunday School before the holidays. The children will be given a worksheet during the main teaching program during the holiday weeks.

Council Footpath

As you arrive this Sunday morning you will notice the work done by the council on the footpath. Although it is not quite what we expected, we will take some time to evaluate how it helps our access to the church building.

Deacon Target Group for the Kennings – 3rd July 7pm

It is our practice to carefully consider the recognition of deacons at Westview. We believe that this is a biblical principle and great wisdom. A 'Target Group' has been called to consider Tony and Lynne as deacons. The first meeting will be tonight at 7pm. A Target Group (TG) considers those nominated as Deacons and makes recommendations to the church's members' (WRAP) meeting. Feedback from any and all of the congregation is encouraged throughout this process. There is no timeframe regarding the length a TG will take. The aim is to address any concerns people might raise and bring some type of recommendation to the church. Although anyone is able to join the TG, we ask that those who do join see the process through till the end. If you can't attend tonight but would like to be a part of the TG, please pass your apologies onto one of the Elders.

Westview Online Footprint

The Facebook video of the sermon from last week reached 327 people and 110 people viewed it. We are looking to find ways to improve the sound quality. Thanks for all from Westview who "liked" it or "shared" it with their friends.

What's Coming Up?

This Sunday – Time of Prayer – 3rd July 8:15am

All are welcome for a time of prayer together this Sunday 3rd July at the church property from 8:15am in the Sunday School room.

Mobile Phone Tower

A meeting will be held on Monday night, 18th July at 7.30pm at the Doonside property with the company asking us to consider the building of the tower. We hope that it will be a meeting where our questions will be answered. Please keep the time free.

Pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters

Country: Iran **Leader:** Supreme Leader Ali Hoseini-Khameni

Population: 82 million **Main Religion:** Islam

Government: Theocratic Islamic Republic

Main Source of Persecution: Islamic Extremism

Islamic Revolution in Iran

In the Islamic Revolution of 1979, the Shah (King) was removed and Iran became an Islamic Republic. Shia Islamic clerics took political control, which continues today. Christians in the country are facing persecution from government officials, non-Christian religious leaders, fanatical movements and revolutionaries.

One of the most ancient nations

Iran is one of the most ancient nations of the world. Previously known as Persia and before as Elam, it also features in the Bible; Daniel was the advisor of several Persian Kings; and in the New Testament, Iranians (Parthians, Medes and Elamites) were among the first Christians. After the arrival of Islam in the seventh century, Christianity declined.

100 Christians imprisoned or arrested

Muslim Background Believers (MBBs) are considered apostate. They have no legal protection under Iranian law and are subject to the death penalty under Sharia law. MBBs rely on Christian radio, satellite television, the internet and books in Farsi to grow spiritually. Christians are forbidden to share their faith with non-Christians. Muslims, who generally speak Farsi (official language of Iran), are not supposed to visit church services. Evangelism in Farsi can lead to church buildings closing and worse. In the reporting period for the 2016 World Watch List, over 100 Christians were imprisoned and/or arrested for their faith in Jesus.

Please Pray

> For the many Christians who are imprisoned. Pray for their release, and that they would be unwavering in their faith. Praise God that He is using imprisoned Christians to bring the gospel in Iran's prisons.

> That many more will come to the Lord through satellite television and other channels.

> Pray for MBBs, that they would take delight in their new faith in Christ, despite pressure from family and friends.



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