

## Book of the Month

Review written by Dave MacDonald

### OUT OF THE BLACK SHADOWS – Stephen Lungu with Anne Coombs

Is God really there? Is He still active in our world? Does God care about me? If ever these questions have been answered, it is in the life of black African evangelist Stephen Lungu.

Life began as the unloved, eldest son of a teenage mother in what is now Zimbabwe. Abandoned at the age of 7, scavenging for food and sleeping under a bridge, Stephen's only home was found in the Black Shadows street gang. Then a night that began with petrol bombs, ended with a life changed forever by the love and power of Jesus.

Immediately an evangelist that couldn't stop sharing Jesus with anyone who would listen, Stephen's subsequent journey of mentoring, marriage, joys and sorrows makes compelling reading. Time after time God's work in his life was nothing short of breathtaking – right to last page! **Cost: \$ 20.00 each**



Your monthly update on what Matters at St Matt's, Reflecting the generosity of Christ in and to our community.

*'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'*

Matthew 22:37



## May Preaching Calendar

2 May	The Day of the LORD's Salvation	Zephaniah 3:8-20
9 May	How's Your Spiritual Vision?	John 9:1-41
16 May	Are you Listening to the Shepherd of Your Soul?	John 10:1-21
23 May	Jesus: Mere Man or God?	John 10:22-42
30 May	Is Death Really the End?	John 11:1-44

### St Matt's Services

Sunday 8am	Morning Prayer / Holy Communion
Sunday 9am	St Matts @ School; WPH Public School
Sunday 10am	Multi Generational Family Service
Sunday 9.45am	Chinese Service; Cherrybrook PS
Sunday 11.15am	Asian Congregation; Cherrybrook PS
Sunday 5pm	Contemporary Service
Sunday 7pm	Contemporary Service
Wednesday 10.30am	Traditional Anglican Service

### Ministers - All members of the Congregation

<b>Minister</b>	Steve Abbott	Mobile 0417 410 596	9479 3700
<b>Assistants</b>	Nerida Pearl	Young Adults	9479 3702
	Rob Conway	Youth Minister	9479 3704
	Wendy Estall	Pastoral Care/Seniors Minister Mon - Thurs	9479 3707
	Karen Braga	Pastoral Care/Young Women	0401 933 264
	Kenneth Leung	Chinese Minister	0433 766 211
	Kenny Liew	Minister of Asian Congregation	0448 515 408
	Jacki Hellstrom	Children's Ministry Coordinator Tues & Fri	9479 3700
<b>Administrator</b>	Tina Piccione	Monday-Friday, 9am - 2.30pm	9479 3700
<b>Finance</b>	Nicola Fynes - Clinton		9479 3710
<b>Organist</b>	David Parsons		9871 8007



If you are feeling new to St Matthew's, please fill out a Communication Card found in the church or hall. One of our ministry team will be in contact with you soon.

Stay for morning tea/supper after the service to meet others who have made St Matt's their spiritual home.

St Matthews Anglican Church  
**T:** 02 9479 3700 **F:** 02 9479 3777  
**E:** office@stmatts.org.au www.stmatts.org.au

**St Matthews Church**  
 West Pennant Hills

www.stmatts.org.au

## Minister's Pastoral Message – Matt's Matters March 2010



Dear sisters and brothers,

One of the constant refrains in the Scriptures is that Christians should love one another. This love (agape) is that quality of self-sacrifice given for the best interests of others and most spectacularly demonstrated by our Lord Jesus Christ on the cross. As is crystal clear from Christ's cross, such love is not just a nice warm feeling we might have towards another person but is to be practical in demonstration. One of the ways the New Testament actually commands this to be done is by way of '**hospitality**'. So we read for example in:

**Romans 12:9-13** '**Love must be sincere.** Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. **Practice hospitality.**'

**Hebrews 13:1-2** '**Keep on loving each other as brothers.** Do not forget to **entertain strangers, ...**'

And again

**1 Peter 4:8-9** '**Above all, love each other deeply,** because love covers over a multitude of sins. **Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.**'

So we see that love and hospitality are linked in all three passages. The Greek word translated as hospitality, literally means '**love of strangers**'. The implication is that our homes, meal tables, indeed all our resources should be openly extended to those outside of our own family. Hospitality in the first century was an essential responsibility for congregations who had no building of their own and where many Christians were slaves, widows and poor needing support and aid. Therefore, home meetings were a basic unit of their shared Christian community life. There were also traveling preachers, so it was important to be ready and willing to generously provide hospitality for these gospel ministers. John commends a dear Christian friend Gaius for such activity in 3 John 5-6 '*Dear friend, you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers, even though they are strangers to you. They have told the church about your love. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God.*' Also notice there is no gender attachment to this ministry, it's for all Christians.

However, the need for such ministry hasn't dissolved in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In the parable of the Sheep and the Goats (Matthew 25:31-46), a parable about the final judgement, Jesus condemns some and commends others on the basis of their care, visiting and hospitality towards fellow Christians, including the stranger, who is unknown to us (25:35, 43). The text asserts that such activity reflects the reality of our attitude towards Jesus. Nothing has changed. Hospitality is a command of God to all believers and our responses will mirror the genuineness or not of our faith in Christ. So let's be encouraged to open our homes and hearts to both members and visitors to our congregation as a practical expression of our love.

Yet some may ask, 'How can we do this? Where do we begin? How can we afford to do this? Let me give some suggestions. Start simple and organize an inexpensive morning or afternoon tea; remember it's not the food and drink which is important but the fellowship shared around it. Then again you could arrange a no fuss dessert and coffee evening for a small number for a relaxed time of conversation and sharing. Those with the resources and skills could organize a midweek or weekend meal at their home. Others with fewer resources could plan a bring-your-own BBQ or potluck meal. It has been our experience that most people are only too willing to contribute when someone else takes the initiative.

The next question is, 'Who should we invite?' It's certainly easy to open our homes to existing friends and there is of course nothing wrong with this. However, we need to remember hospitable people according to the New Testament, are '*lovers of strangers*'. All too often it is the newcomer, single parent, widowed, divorced, disabled, socially difficult, quiet, smokers, non-Christian, etc. who are left out of the hospitality circle in churches. Let's be lovingly bold and reach out with generosity, kindness and patience, opening our homes and hearts to those in our fellowship we don't know and to our unchurched neighbours. Let's not be concerned about what others might think about our cooking, dinnerware, etc, but simply extend the love of God to others, that we might build Christ's church by encouraging fellow believers and embracing unbelievers. How strategic this will be in the rest of April and May as we especially focus on evangelism during this period.

Those currently outside the orbit of our fellowship and church are less likely to accept a cold-turkey invite to an outreach event or guest service than one that is extended within the context of a friendship regardless of how new that friendship may be. So let's all get cracking and work out how we can most effectively exercise hospitality. Remember this ministry isn't a matter of personal choice but of practical obedience to our Lord and one which Hebrews 13:2 reminds us could lead to a situation of unusual blessing, '*Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.*' Food for thought, don't you think?

Till next time,

*Steve Abbott*



### **Prayer Points:**

- For the Lord to provide us with an excellent Office Administrator/Bookkeeper.
- For many people to accept invitations to attend our various gospel events and Sunday services in May and for them to respond positively to the message of Jesus Christ.
- For clear gospel messages to be prepared and preached by both staff and guest preachers (including Stephen Lungu and Archbishop Peter Jensen).
- For a great start into the ministry of St Matt's for our new Associate Minister Shane Dirks, his wife Rachel and children Levi and Mia, who officially commence on Monday 3 May.
- For my Home Group Training preparation and presentation on Saturday 15 May.
- For Sue as she continues to settle into her new role as Medical Receptionist at the SAN Medical Centre on Tues, Wed and Thurs. Pray that she will always commend Christ.

# St Matt's Diary and Notes



## SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCH

**9 MAY 12.30—2.30pm:**

If you usually eat alone on a Sunday and wish to join with others for lunch and fellowship, you are invited to our 'Second Sunday Potluck Lunch' in NewLine Cottage. Tea and coffee will be supplied and it would be appreciated if you could bring finger food to share.

Further details:

Pattie Mutton (9484 0174) or  
Pat Gould (9868 4630).

## "Bring something and share" meal

Hear Mike and Jo talk about their work and experiences. Learn about Christian life in a very different culture.

Sunday 2 May 12.00 pm – 2.30 pm  
St Matt's  
Everybody welcome

## ANNIVERSARY LUNCH—WEDNESDAY SERVICE

26 May, 12 noon,  
following Holy Communion at 10.30am.

The Guest speaker will be David Tyndall, Senior Chaplain of Anglican Retirement Villages, who will give a gospel talk encouraging people to follow Jesus. Please invite your friends and neighbours. Tickets on sale soon!

## ST MATT'S ENCOURAGEMENT NIGHT

Monday 10 May, 7.30pm, St Matt's  
Topic: Dementia - its effect and how to Care for the Sufferer.  
Presenter: Wendy Estall.  
Everyone welcome to attend.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOOLS MINISTRY AT CTHS

Are you interested in becoming involved in schools ministry? There are opportunities at Cherrybrook Technology High School: You might want to lead a small discussion group in a Year 10 class

OR

Lead a lunchtime Christian group or Bible Study group.

Please contact the School's Christian Studies teacher, Mr Peter Murphy if you are interested:

Ph 02 9484 2144 or email  
peter.murphy44@det.nsw.edu.au

Due to many requests, the CWCI Hills committee is again extending an invitation to women to attend a

**"Teach-in"** on the topic of  
**"Knowing God's Will"**

at the peaceful retreat called  
**MARY MOUNT**

36 David Road, Cherrybrook  
(follow signs for parking at end of driveway)

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2010  
9.30am - 12.30 pm

Speaker: **Sarah Plummer**  
Cost \$9.00 (sorry no crèche)  
Registration not required  
*Book stall & Morning Tea provided*

## MEN@STMATTS BREAKFAST

Date: 29 MAY,  
TIME: 7.30AM

**Tickets will be on sale soon,  
so diarise the date!**





Thank you to all the leaders, volunteers and sandwich/slice providers.

We had 80 children attend Matts4Kids on 19 April, a HUGE success.

Thank you to everyone who committed time to make this outreach all run so well!

### Children's Ministry Vacancies

We are in need of someone who would like to teach **Scripture** to 14 Kindy kids on Fridays at Cherrybrook Public School @ 11.20am. Jacki is currently teaching this group but would be delighted to hand over to someone else.

**Tuesday Cubby Club** is still keen to find a co-ordinator. It is a group of young mums who are enthusiastic to take part and all with young babies. If you have time to run this day please see Karen Braga.

**Children are the future of the youth groups and our church family. Let's get involved with them and their families.**

### HELP NEEDED

*Anyone interested in helping with the Colin Buchanan Concert on 19 June 2010 or beforehand?*

We need help: setting up, packing up; manning stalls, directing traffic, ticket sales, registration, promotion and afternoon tea.

Please email [office@stmatts.org.au](mailto:office@stmatts.org.au) or phone 9479 3700 if you can help out with these tasks.

**St Matthew's Anglican Church**

**Presents**

**Colin Buchanan**

In Concert

**1.30pm Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June**

**Tickets \$15 (Children under 1yr free)**

**At West Pennant Hills Primary School**

Tickets on sale at St Matthews Church Office

Cnr New Line & Castle Hill Rds

West Pennant Hills

Ph. 9479 3700

AFTERNOON TEA INCLUDED



**Colin will be signing autographs so stay  
& meet the star of Playschool & Playhouse Disney**

# MISSION: Beach

A fun night raising funds for  
Chris Ekins at Coast Evangelical Church, Forster  
and Jack Packham at Sydney Uni  
Saturday 15th May at 7pm at St Matts

Supper  
Included!

Single : \$15  
Couples & Families : \$25

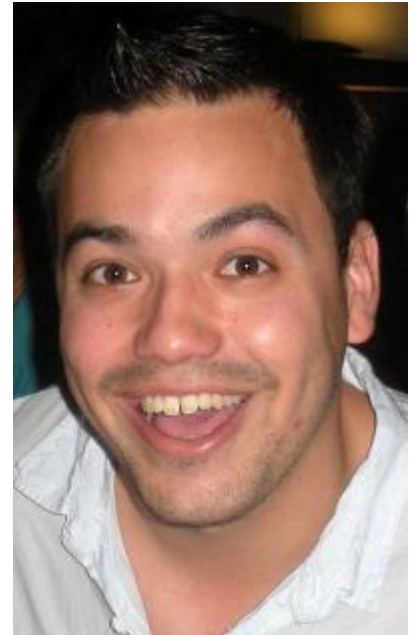
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Beach"



## ***St Matt's Young Adults Community Update,***

*by Chris*

In the 10 years that I have been involved in Young Adults Ministry at St Matts, never have I felt such a buzz of energy and excitement. Many years of prayer and hard work by previous ministers responsible for YA, and their leadership teams, have brought us to this point. We have just had the best attended YA camp in memory and launched the year of YA Home groups with near to 120 young adults meeting weekly to open the word together. The YA community is excited and chomping at the bit to answer the call from Nerida to be an engaged and involved community, eager to serve God, to serve each other, and to serve and reach out to the world around us.



As I look back over my time in YA, I am greatly encouraged to see the change that has occurred. St Matt's has long had a very strong youth ministry, but previously, once people finished school, they left St Matt's, either for other churches or walking away from faith all together. We now have a thriving Young Adult community, one which year 12 students look forward to becoming a part of once they finish school. Young adulthood is a major time of change and a time of great temptation. For me, being a part of YA has been crucially important to my faith and has held me steadfast as I moved into uni, then into the workplace. It kept me focused on Christ through career changes, through relationships and relationship breakdown. It has been where my theological knowledge has been stretched and where my heart has been taught to serve. This has all be done through the love of God being shared amongst peers to support, encourage, teach and rebuke one another. For this I am immeasurably thankful to God.

The arrival of Nerida has resulted in heightened enthusiasm and anticipation for the future, sharing with us her vision for the future of YA. Looking inward: to Pastorally care for one another, building a strong sense of community and fellowship, and a strong focus on growing our knowledge and understanding of the scriptures and their application to our lives. Looking outward: outreach to our friends and family, being active in mission, both locally and overseas through getting involved in beach missions, supporting link missionaries and going on short term mission trips; caring for those in less fortunate circumstances and being aware and involved in matters of social justice. And it is from this vision and ownership of it that the excitement stems. The YA community is looking to grow in fellowship with one another, spend time getting to know other people better and be open to talk about our faith. There has been great excitement about the start of HOME groups, as people talk about their new groups and how they are going. People are volunteering, eager to serve as YA strives to grow in depth and number, and to reflect the generosity of Christ in and to our community.

### **Young Adults Prayer Points:**

- Pray for YA community, that this energy and enthusiasm will continue and the vision for the future can become a reality.
- Pray for the new HOME groups which have been meeting for about a month. Pray that people will have genuine fellowship in their groups and quality learning from God's word.
- Pray for more leaders to be raised up for HOME groups, particular older leaders.





*Stephen Lungu has served as International Team Leader of African Enterprise since 2006.*

# St Matt's Outreach Dinner

*From Bomber to Believer*  
*Speaker: Stephen Lungu*

8 May 2010  
7.30pm  
Dural Country Club

Diarise the date so you don't miss out.

**Tickets Selling Fast, so get yours soon!**

## **"Out of the Black Shadows" – the Story of Stephen Lungu**

**Book Review by John Reed,**

**Available from our book store \$20**

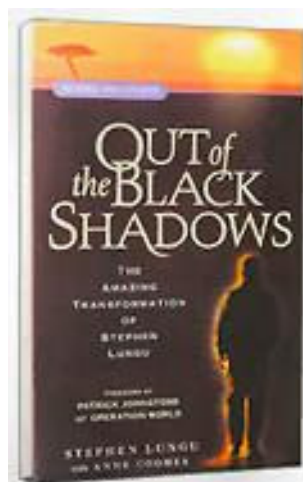
I first met Stephen Lungu in Harare in January 2010. The forum was a series of important meetings for the African Enterprise leadership team, the organisation that Stephen leads as CEO. It was my privilege to get to know Stephen, someone I had heard about and was looking forward to meeting.

It is impossible to spend time with Stephen without being impressed by the obvious impact of the gospel on his heart and character. My subsequent reading of 'Out of the Black Shadows' gave me a deepened appreciation of Stephen's background and of the wonderful transformation that God brought about in his life.

'Out of the Black Shadows' is the story of Stephen Lungu's life from birth, up until 2006 when Stephen became the CEO of African Enterprise. It is a human drama, an African drama and a God drama. It is a human drama in that it deals with the devastating impact of a dysfunctional family on a young life, an African drama in that the setting is the impoverished urban communities that characterise Africa, and a God drama in that the book gives account of the life-changing impact of the gospel on a young life.

The narrative of the early years of Stephen's life helps the reader to enter into Stephen's life struggles. The reader gets a real sense of what it is like for a child to be rejected, unwanted, and alone. This part of Stephen's story is intensely sad. The scene is set for the love of God to reach down into Stephen's ruined life and bring about a wonderful change in his heart and life. Stephen's conversion is remarkable in its timing and its effect. The balance of the book gives a simple account of the immediate and ongoing transformation of Stephen's heart and life. We see how the call on Stephen's heart to share the good news of Christ finds expression in his work with the Dorothea Mission initially, and thereafter with his work with African Enterprise. The reader is taken on Stephen's personal journey of life, marriage, family and work with a refreshingly honest insight into Stephen's challenges and struggles. We gain a sense of a broken man with a humble heart whom God loves without reservation.

I commend 'Out of the Black Shadows' to you. The book will enrich your life.





# Are you needing prayer?



Is your need related to health, a relationship issue, exam worries or teen troubles. Maybe it concerns financial problems, retirement worries or any number of other issues. Is it someone you love who is needing prayer?

St Matts Intercessory Prayer Network (IPN) is ready to help. This network of Intercessors, chosen by the Senior Minister, will pray for you.

Your request will be kept in the strictest confidence and not discussed with anyone, unless it concerns someone at risk.

To access the IPN, you send your prayer request by email to [prayer@stmatts.org.au](mailto:prayer@stmatts.org.au). If you do not have email, you are invited to phone your request to Wendy Estall on 9479 3707 or if the request is urgent, please phone 0437 885 848.

As your need is met, or as changes take place, you are requested to keep the team updated so that prayer remains appropriate and accurate.

At no time will you be approached by team members over prayer issues, other than the Co-ordinator who may contact you to ask for progress reports, or Pastoral staff who may care for you.

“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective” (James 5:16 NIV).

## ORANA SENIORS' FELLOWSHIP

### May and June Meetings

We extend a very warm welcome for all to join us at these  
Orana meetings.

**5th May:** This month is one of the two months of the year when we go 'off site' for lunch. On this occasion we will be having lunch at the Dural Country Club. We will be meeting at church at 11.30am to arrange transport to the club.

**2nd June:** We will be welcoming Maurice and Helen Boxwell as our speakers on this occasion. Maurice and Helen have fairly recently become members of the 10am congregation and will share with us their missionary experiences of many years in Papua/New Guinea. Book the date! We are sure this will be a special time of learning and fellowship.

## Pray for those with special needs:

Kia , Jan , Damon , Eileen ,  
Dudley , Brian ,  
Moby (Grandson of Keith) ,  
Caroline (Betty daughter); Jeannine ,  
Jane , Kevin , Cliff ,  
Geoff & Margaret ,  
Stan , Bev ;  
Esther ; Rob (Kim father).



# **Pastoral Care and Seniors' Ministry**

**May 2010**

It is time once again for our Anniversary Luncheon. This year it will be held on 26 May at 12 noon, following Holy Communion at 10.30am.

The Guest speaker will be David Tyndall, Senior Chaplain of Anglican Retirement Villages who will give a talk with an evangelical focus. We are hoping to see many new faces at the Luncheon, therefore we ask that our members invite their friends. It will be a great time for fellowship as we catch up with each other and enjoy a hot lunch that will be catered.

## **Orana**

The next meeting of Orana will be held on 5 May when members will be treated to an outing for lunch and fellowship. The meeting will follow the Service which commences after morning tea at 10.00am in the Foyer. All are welcome to attend. Please come along and bring a friend.

## **Lay Pastors/Pastoral Carers**

An encouragement night will be held on 10 May at 7.30pm for all Lay Pastors and Pastoral Carers. The topic to be presented will cover Dementia, its effect and care for those suffering from this debilitating illness. Anyone interested in this topic is also most welcome to attend.

## **Meals Ministry**

Presently the meals ministry is very low on reserves of cooked meals in the freezer. If you feel that you could contribute to this ministry please contact Fiona who will answer any questions that you might have.

Wendy's Prayer Requests:

- please pray for our seniors as we enter the cooler months of the year. This is the time when seasonal flu can be a serious issue for those who are older and less able to cope with the flu symptoms.
- please pray for our Lay Pastors, Pastoral Carers, Advisors and Team Leaders, that God will bless their ministry among us.
- Please pray for the various ministries of Pastoral Care, including Orana, Meals Ministry, Hesed, Intercessory Prayer Network, the Church Missionary Society's Mission Aid Group (MAG).



## WARDEN'S UPDATE: Matts Matters - April /May 2010

Thank you to everyone who attended the Annual Church Meeting on Tuesday 16 March and for your valued contribution. Please pray for a spirit of unity and co-operation for those elected to various positions, so they can serve with enthusiasm and humility.

Auditor: David  
 Wardens: Sue , John , John  
 Parish Council: Kerrie , Megan , Joseph , Bob , John , Jo , Andrew , Paul .  
 Parish Representatives: Jeremy , Steve , Pat , Mark , James .  
 Safe Ministry Reps: Linda , Steve , Betty .

### Web Site - Addition

Did you know the Bible Studies based on the weekly sermons will soon be available on line? Thank you to those authors who produce such a valuable resource for us all.

### Maintenance and Minor Projects

New line Cottage: A new air conditioning system has been installed. This installation will provide comfortable working conditions within the Assistant Minister's office and adjoining consulting rooms. Some difficulty has been experienced in attracting tradesman to undertake the installation of the access ramp. We envisage having this resolved shortly.

**3a Newline:** Some handy people and the property committee have been working hard to prepare the property for the arrival of the The Dirk Family. Some selected internal repainting has been completed along with some minor electrical and carpentry repairs. Thank you to all those people who have given their time to this project.

### Office Administrator

St Matt's is seeking a full time Office Administrator. Do you know someone who would be interested? Perhaps you are suited to the role? Job descriptions are available on the church web site or from the office.

The table below compares last year to this year and budget.  
 As you can see we are behind budget.

	2010	2009	2010 Budget
Offerings + Rectorry	55,388	62,300	59,200
Weeks	4	5	4
AWG – Current Month	13,847	12,460	14,800
AWG - YTD	13,604	13,739	14,800



## **St Matthews Chinese Congregation**

It was a wonderful opportunity for us to join the EE3 (Evangelism Explosion III) combined churches street evangelism on 27/3. There were all together about 70 people in our group – one of the seven groups comprised of many different Chinese churches. We started at 11 am and had an hour of worship together before we divided into teams of three and went to different areas, such as Castle Mall, Cherrybrook Shopping Village, Pennant Hills Station, Carlingford Village, and Eastwood, giving out gospel tracts and sharing the gospel with people there.

We representing St Matt's also gave out the Easter postcards to people. Some of us met some of our St Matt's people on the streets and they gave us their encouragement for which we have to give thanks to them. We finished at 4pm and then we had our report and sharing of experience during evangelising to people on the streets.

Most people had their chance of sharing the gospel to people on the streets. Though there were only four people from our group who made their commitment to Christ, it was indeed a good experience for us in giving testimonies to strangers on the streets and seeing that it is “not by might nor by power, but by God's Spirit” that people were willing to repent and believe the gospel.

這是一個非常好的機會讓我們可以參加在三日升日舉行的全雪梨的三福街頭佈道大行動。我們西北區的教會總共約有七十人參加。我們是七個不同區域的其中一個區，而每區都由不同的中文教會組成。我們在上午十一時在聖馬太總堂先有一小時的敬拜，然後就分成三人一小組到各個地方派發福音單張和分享福音。

我們亦有派發聖馬太的復活節明信片，途中遇到一些聖馬太英文堂的弟兄姊妹，他們都給予我們鼓勵。我們在約下午四時完結，然後再一起匯報和分享在街頭佈道的經歷。

大多數弟兄姊妹都有機會與人分享福音。雖然我們的西北組只有四人信主，但能夠向街上的陌生人作見證傳福音，對我們是一個好經歷，亦讓我們見到人的悔改和信福音，完全“不是倚靠勢力，不是倚靠才能，乃是倚靠神的靈方能成事。”

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### **Kenneth's Prayer Requests:**

- Pray for our church camp at Stanwell Tops from 9/4 -11/4
- Pray for our Mandarin Bible Study group which has already started last week
- Pray for our welcoming dinner for the newcomers on 17/4

# St Matt's Mission Update

*Please pray for link missionaries each week.*

## **25 April – IAN AND RUTH BATEY - CMS Spain**

- Praise God for a much-needed break, allowing Ruth and Ian the chance to catch up on things at home while the kids were at school and for the family to enjoy some fun and relaxing time together at the beach and shopping.
- Praise for the surprise offer of local builders wanting to help develop the church's block of land. Pray for the planning and negotiations in providing a suitable meeting place for the church.
- Give thanks and pray for 'God's Big Picture' bible studies that have been very helpful so far for those involved
- Praise for annual youth group retreat – for everyone to grow in fellowship, love and knowledge of God.
- Pray for Ruth's parents visiting – praise for this blessing and time to spend together as a family.
- Pray for Spain as it's suffered from GFC and many are unemployed, including church members. Pray for provision of jobs and for wise government.
- Pray that the church's Easter celebrations and 'Semana Santa' (Holy Week) celebrations in Seville will have impacted many with the news of the gospel.

## **9 May – Grace & William Eyika, Dagoretti Corner, Kenya**

- Give thanks for the Eyikas' ministry to local children and young people and providing the opportunity to register them in schools and also for vocational training, ie. Sewing, mechanics etc. Pray for provision of funding.
- Give thanks for the provision of food and security for boarding school girls brought in by grandmothers, whose parents were killed in post-election violence, 2007. The church is a hiding place from the perpetrators who want to find the witnesses of their crimes.
- In the slums recently there has been a spate of ritual killings of young girls. Pray that this horrid practice will stop and that God will have his hand over all the students and that the Eyikas will help protect them.
- Praise for the recent successful crusade to Maasai villagers for 7 days. Over 300 people were saved! Praise for the success of faithful preaching and showing of films.

## **2 May – Morgan & Anna Powell, SIM, Ecuador**

- Pray for Morgan on the SIM Ecuador council that is involved in decision making and correspondence
- Pray for Anna undertaking bookkeeping role for Ecuador field – pray for wisdom and clarity
- Praise for newly opened resource centre – pray that it will faithfully assist pastors and other Christians for personal growth, study and ministry preparation
- Thank God for the encouragement of visits from friends such as Ed Scott. Pray God will continue to provide encouragement and support for the Powells
- Praise for baby Anika's healthy growth and development and pray that this continues as Morgan and Anna care for her in the coming months and years.

## **16 May – Grant Howard, Graham Castle & Peter Murphy, PHCCEA**

- Give thanks for 3 qualified teachers to start the year with. Pray for Graham Castle who began at PHHS in 2010. Pray for him to settle in and be impacting the students by his teaching alongside Grant Howard.
- Give thanks for Jackie Patten who has served for many years with the association and used to teach at PHHS
- Pray for the recently revised Christian Studies syllabus for CTHS and PHHS to be effective and challenging.
- Praise for TLT group that meets at lunch at PHHS that many students come together to grow in faith
- Pray for the Social Justice Students group initiative at CTHS, knitting beanies for orphans in Afghanistan. Although this is not a Christian group, pray that this practical act of love will connect people in Australia and Afghanistan to the love of God for all people.
- Thanks for volunteers who help run activities at both schools – pray for the continuation of these ministries

### 23 May – Jenny Fallon, SIM Sydney

- Give thanks for Jenny's job with various relationships all around. Give thanks for Jenny's opportunity to travel Australia to visit and support SIM workers.
- Jenny has become 'honorary grandmother' to Eliana Lompo, daughter of Mathieu & Josephine, born 12 January in Ouaga. Pray for this little family.

Regarding various SIM ministries:

- Give thanks for Mel Walker (SIM staff) - pray for ongoing good collaboration and care in the Personnel Dept.
- Pray SIM's orientation course (Hazelbrook 21 Apr-1 May)
- Praise for those from St Matt's committed to the pastoral visit to SIMers in South America in September. Pray for a couple to join Jenny in Peru and one for Chile.
- Praise the Diabris (from HOPE for AIDS, Burkina Faso) have time in the USA to learn, improve English, fund-raise. Pray this will be of great benefit to their ministry.
- Praise Elspeth Slater's successful January visit to Burkina. Pray for ongoing growth in Equipping Women program.

### 30 May – Rob & Leanna Haynes, CMS, Northern Territory, Nungalinga College

- Thanks for a good start to the year, especially with the new staff; a deputy principal at Nungalinga college, CEO at Anglicare NT and full time Catholic teacher.
- Praise God for the provision of recent rain and for dried up rivers now being filled!
- Thank God for the progress of the college - being given RTO status, Introduction to Literacy Program, pursuing Certificate 3 through conversations with the DET (Department of Education and Training).
- Pray for finances – for Rob to visit remote communities and for visiting teachers which has been recently limited
- Pray for students of the various courses
- Ask God for comfort to families and friends of people who have died recently, especially church members.
- Pray for healing for those who are sick, especially Rev Carol Robertson, deacon of Ngukurr recovering from TB.

## MISSION EVENTS IN AND AROUND ST MATT'S :

MISSION PRAYER MEETING Wednesday 5 May, 7.30.

Please come along and join us in the important ministry of praying for mission throughout the world.

(Mission prayer nights are held the first Wednesday of every month in NewLine Cottage.

### ZIMBABWE TRIP

There is the opportunity for people to visit Zimbabwe and support 'Living Word's' community ministries. These include activities such as community evangelism, orphan visits, skills training course with locals, and involvement with local vocational training and self-empowerment projects. There will also be the option to visit a safari National Park. Proposed (approximate) dates: 29 Oct – 4 Nov 2010. Costs will involve flights, accommodation (approx \$ 2,500). and park tour If you are interested in finding out more please email Steve Abbott at [sabbott@stmatts.org.au](mailto:sabbott@stmatts.org.au) . An information night will be arranged in the near future.



### REACHOUT 2010 MISSION CONFERENCE

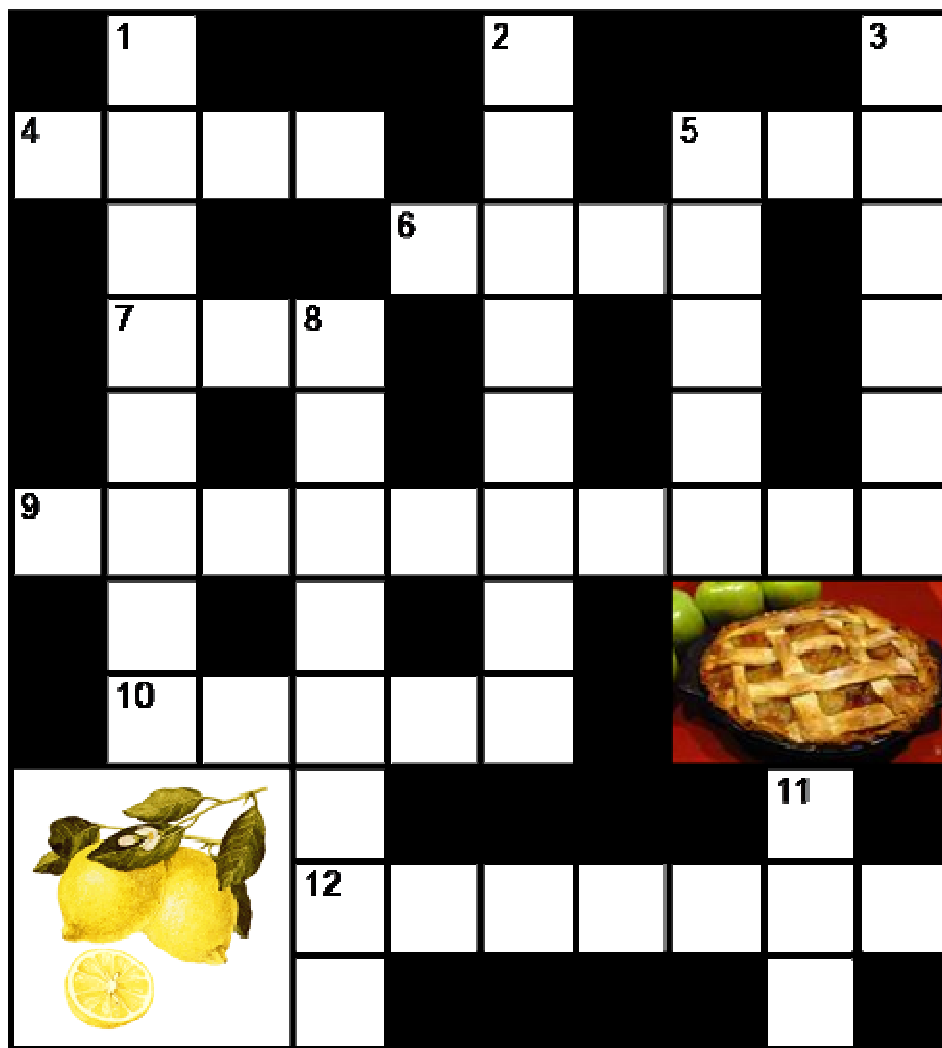
Put it in your diaries!!! 14-15 August @ KCC, Katoomba.

This year at ReachOut 2010: Lost and Found: David Cook (Principal of Sydney Missionary and Bible College) and Femi Adeleye (IFES Associate General Secretary for Partnership and Collaboration) will share about your role in God's plan to tell all nations about the One who FINDS.

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8*



# Fruit of the Spirit puzzle



Use this Bible verse to help you with some of the answers.

## **Galatians 5:22**

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

### **Across**

- 4 Word describing fruit that is ready to eat (4)
- 5 This fruity dish is in the picture on the right (3)
- 6 This is the first fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22 (4)
- 7 Soft mixture that you eat with crackers or carrot sticks (3)
- 9 This fruit means someone is very soft and tender (10)
- 10 Parts of fruit that you sow in the ground to grow new ones (5)
- 12 The last fruit listed in Galatians 5:22 is self-\_\_\_\_ (7)

### **Down**

- 1 This fruit of the Spirit starts with "k" (8)
- 2 This fruit of the Spirit is a word jumble of "God noses" (8)
- 3 These fruit are shown in the picture on the left (6)
- 5 This fruit of the Spirit means calmness (5)
- 8 This fruit of the Spirit is useful if you have to wait a lot (8)
- 11 This short fruit of the Spirit means great happiness (3)