

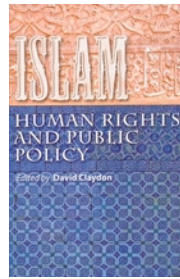
Book of the Month

Cost: \$ 39.95

Islam - Human Rights and Public Policy (ed David Claydon)

As a result of immigration, high birth rates and access to huge petrodollars, Islam's presence in the West will be increasingly felt, and our children and grandchildren will encounter its social and political aspects far more than we do. This book addresses issues that are both 'live' now, and will be increasingly encountered in Australia. If you wish to improve your understanding of topics such as Muhammad's Life - the Fundamental Example, Human Rights and Sharia Law, Women in Islam, the World of the Fatwa, and Islamic Finance (amongst others) this book is very helpful. With contributions from 14 writers, it is intended to alert people to a religion that for the great part, runs counter to human rights, tolerance and democracy. It is a very stimulating, and, awareness raising publication.

Review by John Barrett, 10 am



Matt's Matters

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

August
2010



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 Public School
Sunday 11.15am	Asian Congregation; Cherrybrook Public School
Sunday 5pm	Contemporary Service
Sunday 7pm	Contemporary Service
Wednesday 10.30am	Traditional Anglican Service

Ministers - All members of the Congregation

Minister	Steve Abbott	Mobile 0417 410 596	9479 3700
Assistants	Shane Dirks	Associate Minister	9479 3700
	Nerida Peart	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 Co-ordinator Tues & Fri	9479 3700
	Tina Piccione	Communications Co-ordinator	9479 3700
Administrator	Kat Butler	Monday-Friday, 9am - 5pm	9479 3700
Organist	David Parsons		9871 8007

St Matthews Anglican Church

T: 02 9479 3700 F: 02 9479 3777

E: office@stmatts.org.au www.stmatts.org.au

August 2010 Preaching Calendar

1 August	The LORD of Salvation	Exodus 3:1-17
8 August	The LORD's Outstretched Arm	Exodus 5:22 - 6:13
15 August	The One True God	Exodus 11:1-10. 12:31-51
22 August	The Warrior God	Exodus 15:1-18
29 August	The Patient God	Exodus 15:22- 16:12



If you are feeling new to St Matthews, please fill out a Communication Card found in the church or hall or at the back of the school 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.



Reflecting the generosity of Christ

St Matthews
Anglican Church

www.stmatts.org.au

Pastoral Letter—Steve Abbott

Dear sisters and brothers,

Well, our **Parish Camp** will be upon us before we know it (20-22 August) and if you have still not made your mind up about attending can I urge you to do so ASAP so you don't miss out. The camp will be a splendid time of fellowship and include outstanding times of corporate worship and fantastic teaching from Michael Raiter. In regard to Sunday services @ St Matt's on the weekend of the camp, it has been decided to combine the 8am, 9am St Matt's @ School and 10am Services. This decision was taken in consultation with all the staff and the Wardens and Parish Council with the decision being unanimous. It will be a Holy Communion Service, which Reg Tidball will lead and Andrew Lewis has kindly agreed to return and preach on our current Exodus series. I'm sure this will not suit everyone but we ask all those unable to attend the Parish Camp to be understanding and participate in this special opportunity to fellowship with Christians from other services. This means that none of the staff will have to race back and therefore will be able to fully participate in this extraordinary and wonderful opportunity to spend a weekend with Michael Raiter and representatives of each congregation.

Our ministry to families has become very complex with there now being a number of babies and children at five of our services: 9am, Chinese (9.45am), 10am, Asian (11.15am) and 5pm. Our ministries to families at 9am & 9.45am appear to be doing quite well with a good critical mass to create a positive environment for new families to join because there is a good spread of ages among the children. However, there are some physical limitations to growth caused by the two schools providing limited space for children's ministry while the service is meeting in the School Halls.

On the other hand our 10 and 11.15am children's ministry would be enhanced considerably with an injection of some additional families especially those with younger children so we could re-establish a critical mass. Understandably parents like to see their little ones engaging with a good number of peers and currently our Creche and younger Sunday School are low on numbers making it less appealing for new people to stay. Of course the reason for the loss of numbers at 10am was the May 2009 establishment of the congregational plant St Matts @ School. I know this is a painful issue for some families for while it's right to celebrate the growth (spiritually & numerically) of this one-year-old ministry its also reality that many grieve the departure of friends and the fact there is now less than a critical mass, making it harder to grow. If our attendance was less sporadic this would help, but we also need to be praying and working hard at building positive relationships with unchurched families so that we can naturally invite them to come to church and bring their children to Sunday School. In fact every one needs to be doing this to fulfill our gospel ambassador role (2 Corinthians 5:20-21).

Finally, our 5pm Service continues to grow biologically as many of the young couples are having babies and so we have an increasing number of toddlers. We currently run a crèche for them and the crying room also gets regular use. The time of this particular service raises some significant questions: What are the expectations of parents? Do they feel we should provide another Sunday School as the toddlers transition into pre-school and school age? Is this really feasible given limited resources? If 5pm becomes unworkable for their growing children will they plan to transition into another service @ St Matt's? Which Service will it be, 9am or 10am? Will the decision be made on the basis of style of service or ministry need or where their children feel most comfortable?

I hope you can see something of the complexity of ministry to our families as well as some of the dilemmas and challenges before us. Therefore, in order to chart a way forward it seems very appropriate to have a meeting with as many families as possible, from all congregations. The plan is to do this after the next 10am Family Service and BBQ fellowship lunch on 15 August. I expect we'd be able to move back into the church for the meeting around 12.45pm or earlier. I and/or Jacki Hellstrom, our Children's Minister, would make a brief statement of the issues as the staff see them and this would be followed by a '*Comment, Q & A Discussion*' time together. This will be open for everyone but I hope that all those with children or grandchildren will make a special effort to attend and participate. I look forward to seeing you there as we seek to establish an effective pattern for children's and families' ministry into the future. Please be praying for this meeting, that God will show us the best way forward and that we'll all have humble and servant hearts, ready to continue to contribute in whatever way will most effectively build Christ's church.

In fellowship,
Steve Abbott



Prayer Points:

- Thank God for the terrific Christianity Explored Group Sue and I continue to be involved with at our homes on Thursday nights.
- On the four Wednesday lunchtimes of August (4.11, 18 & 25) I will be teaching the four biblical passages related to Everyday Evangelism at St John's Parramatta's Bible Talks – pray that many attend and that people become enthusiastic about sharing their faith.
- Pray for all the preachers as we commence a new series on Exodus this month, that the messages will grow our understanding of the LORD God's character and person.
- Pray for Sue and I as we assist our youngest daughter Kellie and fiancé Marcus prepare for their marriage on 18 September.
- We thank God that Sue continues to enjoy her new role as a Medical Receptionist for Cathy Lee, an Obstetrician & Gynecologist at the SAN Medical Clinic, three days a week. Pray that she will commend the gospel to all the patients.

St Matt's Diary and Notes



Matt's Men's Dinner

Monday August 9th
7.00 for 7.30pm
Pennant Hills Bowling Club

Topic "The Bottom Line"
Speaker - Peter Achterstraat,
NSW Auditor General

Cost \$35

Tickets on sale this week

SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCH

8 August 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).

Celebrating 200th Anniversary of Governor Macquarie

*The Anglican Parish of Hunters Hill in
association with the Vienna National Trust
Committee.*

Sunday 15 August at 2.30pm

Guest Speaker:

Paul Brunton, Senior Curator,
Mitchell Library

Organ Recital by own Kerrie Keene on the
historic Bevington organ.

The program will include organ pieces by
Ireland, Bach and Mendelssohn.

BOOKINGS: 9817 2167

Church Camp, 20-22 August

Register today!

Registrations close 8 August.

If you are attending the church camp you can vote before the 21 August by doing a postal vote or attending a pre-polling station. Postal voting applications are available in the foyer today.

Pre polling starts Monday, 2 August 2010
Divisional offices pre poll - hours 8.30 am to 5.30 pm at:

Chatswood - 12/67 Albert Ave, Chatswood
NSW 2067

Castle Hill - 2-4 Old Castle Hill Rd, Castle Hill
NSW 2154 (building across crossing on the DJ's
cafeteria side)

Then after that from 9 to 20 August:

continuing at Castle Hill and also at the
War Memorial Hall, 2 High St, Hornsby,
Epping Baptist Church, 1-5 Ray Rd, Epping and
Sydney Adventist Hospital, Opal Room, Fox
Valley Community Centre, 185 Fox Valley Rd,
Wahroonga

More details on the Australian Electoral
website or call Kay in the Australian Electoral
Office on 9779 1002

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION—KEITH NISBET

A service of celebration of the life of Keith William was held recently, and was attended by many family and friends. Keith passed away on 17 July 2010 after a long illness. He is sadly missed by his wife Mary, and by his children, Anne, Graham, Ian and their families, please pray for them.

MISSION AID GROUP (MAG)

Thank you for your donations for July.
A container is being packed for Tanzania on 19 August, so all gifts are very much appreciated.

Suggestions for August: new shoes, socks, underwear or raincoats for children or adults. In fact any new item of clothing is always needed and any stationery items are great. Thank you for your interest.
Roslyn



July 2010 FEEDBACK

Once again we had a great roll up to Matts4kids. The kids came early to get to know their leaders and we started the program of canvas painting, meeting some Australian Wildlife, making a large fish that swallowed Jonah amongst other things, played games and heard all about Jonah's encounters with God and singing some very catchy tunes with our very enthusiastic band. We fed these 80+ children as well as using your contributions to feed close to 40 adult helpers. Thank you to everyone for your prayers on the day. It went without a hitch.

As you may have already heard we are considering running a matts4kids Christmas event on 11 Dec. This is likely to draw a greater number of children so we need to be sure to have the "leader/ person-power" to cover safely each of the groups. Please consider in which way you may be able to contribute before, or on the day, and let me know either by writing your name on the clipboard at church or by sending me an email.

This is a great opportunity to reach many families that would otherwise have no experience of Christian things as well as providing an exciting place to share the goodness of God. Who knows, some may start coming on Sundays.

Over the next couple of months we will be revamping our BC and FISH groups and perhaps running a kids club to start in Term 4, mid October. Keep your eyes on this space.

Always endeavouring to build God's kingdom!!

Jacki Hellstrom



ST MATT'S FINANCIAL UPDATE

OFFERINGS FOR JUNE AND JULY 2010:

Set out below are the offering figures for June and July 2010:

JUNE 2010

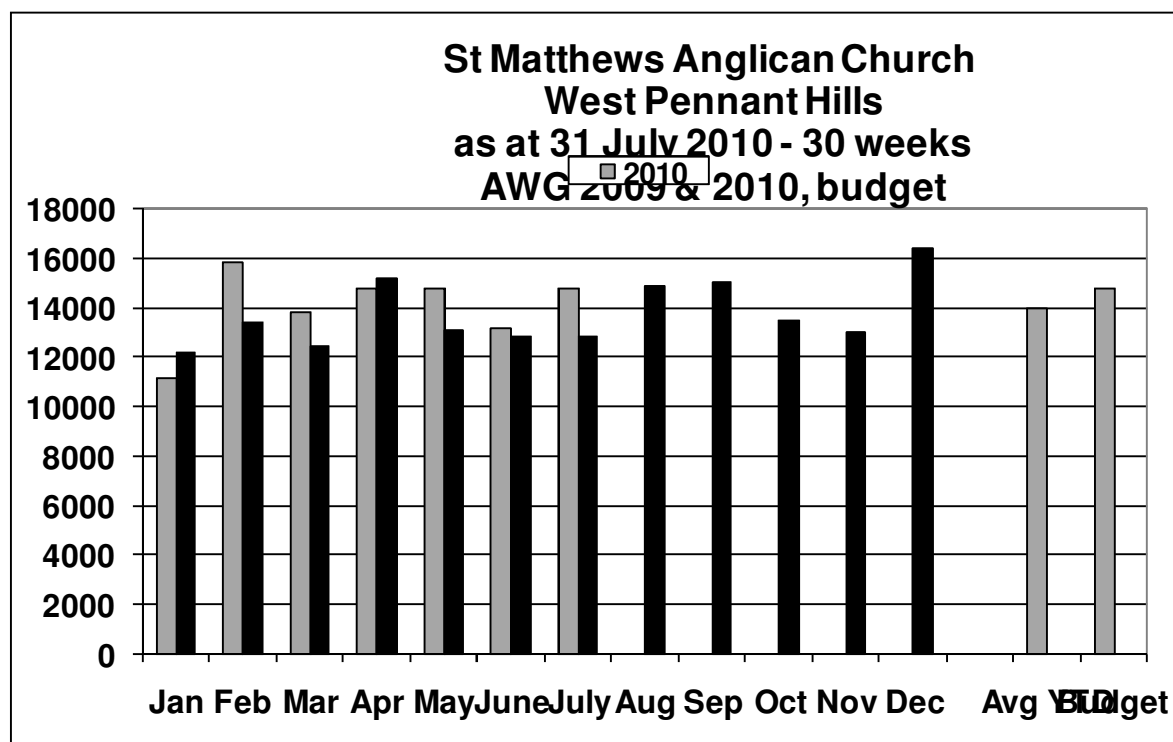
	Actual 2010	Actual 2009	2010 Budget
Offerings + Rectory	52,815	51,293	59,200
Weeks	4	4	4
AWG - June 2010	13,204	12,823	14,800
AWG - YTD	13,861	13,205	14,800

JULY 2010

	Actual 2010	Actual 2009	2010 Budget
Offerings + Rectory	59,287	51,549	59,200
Weeks	4	4	4
AWG - July 2010	14,822	12,887	14,800
AWG - YTD	13,989	13,160	14,800

Our total giving for June was a disappointing \$6,385 (10.8%) behind budget, however July was a better month and we achieved budget. After 7 months our total giving is now \$24,330 (5.5%) behind budget.

The following graph shows a comparison of our average weekly giving for each month for 2009 and 2010, as well as our average weekly giving year to date compared to budget.



Use page from Chris

SMAC

St Matt's Asian Congregation Update

SMAC, had a very insightful seminar by a guest from England in July, talking about the busyness in Christian lives. Kenneth writes about issues that stood out for him which apply to most of us:

Busyness in a Christian Life

[Share](#)

Yesterday at 1:22pm

Had a very insightful seminar by a guest from England last night talking about busyness in Christian lives.

Issues that stood out

- How pressure reveals our selfishness and what really are our priorities.

When exams, assignments, and other deadlines come along, we drop our commitments to others and to God and focus on ourselves and our priorities.

- How our generation doesn't keep highly to our words anymore

We tend to say things we don't mean and agree to things we don't necessary care to keep our words on. GenY likes the Facebook Maybe button, and we like keeping our options open in case something better comes along. We can be sorry that something else came up, but don't often say sorry that we aren't keeping our words and commitments. We need to learn to let our Yes be Yes and No be No and be apologetic to all those we are accountable to if we can't keep to our commitments.

- Pizza man analogy

Picture a simple stick figure diagram with the body being a round circle of how we allocate our time into slices. We can have a preconceived idea that being Christian can mean how much time we spend doing "Christian" things. But its not matter of how little or much time we do "Christian" things. We should actually do everything for the glory of God, whether it's teaching the bible to Sunday school kids or brushing your teeth with a toothbrush =P and being thankful to God for it.

- We should treat others better than they deserve, just as we are treated better than we deserve by Jesus who ultimately gave his life for our sins.

- Avoid binging with our time

Related to having periods of massive cramming for exams/assignments, periods of huge procrastination, partying, studying, and what not. We can be more intentional of how we use our time by somewhat having a routine. This may mean budgeting it out. Remembering that my life was bought by Jesus' blood, and so it is no longer mine but His.

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. 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 August Meeting

Date: 4th August Time: 11.30am

Speakers: Bob and Janet Cole

Theme: “He who calls you is faithful”

Bob is the recently-appointed NSW Ministry Director of SIM Australia. He and Janet lived and worked overseas in a cross-cultural context for many years followed by Bob's leadership of the Bible League work in USA. We are sure this will be a special time of learning and fellowship and of particular interest due to our current and long-term links with SIM ministries.

Pray for those with special needs:

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





St Matt's Confirmation, Sunday 8 August 2010

Please pray for the 22 Confirmees below who will be attending the Camp on the 6 & 7 August and who will then be confirmed on the 8 August. Praise God!

Grace Elizabeth
Jacqueline Ruth
Elizabeth
Emily Claire
Jonathan James
Madeleine Simone
Jackson Timothy
Jack Andrew Clark
Adele Maree
Nicholas William Peter
James Ross William

Samuel David
Lauren Jane
Xavier Colin John
Rachael Seu
Anne Grace Dorothy
Caitlin Marie
Amy Renee
Ryan Lachlan
Dan Isaac
Stewart John

YOUNG ADULTS UPDATE

One of the biggest challenges as a Christian, especially when you are young, is working out what the shape of the Christian life is, what it looks like to do good. How does one live in a way that honours Christ in our every action, where you stand out from the crowd. To help us in this journey, YA at St Matt's are having an August teaching series on Ethics - both personal and social. We will be looking at how to think and live and love as God's people. The topics will include foundations of ethics, marriage and sexuality, consumerism and poverty, and addiction.



Please pray for YA - that this will be a wonderful time of growing as a community, being built up and matured in faith and life, as we learn about the shape of how to live well.

Pastoral Care and Seniors' Ministry

August 2010



Pastoral
Care
Ministry

We all need to be secure in the sense of who we are, that is, our identity, otherwise we will be plagued with insecurity, striving and approval seeking. The origin of identity is in God himself and in order to be secure and stable in our identity we must be rightly related to Him. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come". 2 Corinthians 5:17

If you would like to know more about 'identity', please watch this page in future editions of Matt's Matters.

Orana

Around forty members attended the July meeting of Orana and heard our Associate Minister, Shane Dirks speak on 'From Pride to Peace'. Shane shared with us how God turned his life around at conversion and how following Jesus has been a totally life-changing experience which has lead to a deep inner Peace.

Lay Pastors/Pastoral Carers

There will be an encouragement night for Lay Pastors. Please phone Marilyn on 9876 4376, for details. Helen recently met with Pastoral Carers to look at the way forward in caring. Helen may be contacted on 9980 7561. Should you be interested in caring for others in either a long-term care relationship or through short-term visitation, please phone either Marilyn, Helen or Wendy Estall.

Skills for Caring

An encouragement night will be held on 23 August at 7.30pm, for anyone interested in improving skills in caring for others. The topic for the evening will be, 'Listening but Never Hearing'.

Meal Ministry

There is currently a shortage of prepared meals in our freezer. If you would like to prepare a meal, please first phone Fiona on 9875 3069, to see whether the meal is still required. All meals need to be labelled with the date and ingredients. Please bring the prepared meal to the Meals Ministry freezer which you will find just past the copier in the Church Office. Those who provide for this ministry are sincerely appreciated, thank you.

Wendy Estall's Prayer Requests:

Please pray for our senior folk who live in hostel accommodation in retirement villages. There have been several incidents recently of need for 'lock-down' for periods of up to three weeks due to some residents having contagious illness such as the flu. During this time, all residents must remain in their rooms at all times with no visitors. This causes considerable stress and isolation. Pray for our senior members who are grieving or isolated and lonely. Pray for pastoral care ministries including Orana, Lay Pastors and Carers, Meals Ministry, Hesed, Intercessory Prayer Network and the Church Missionary Society's Mission Aid Group (MAG)

60 Seconds with a Warden

Name – Sue

Family – Greg and I have been married for 30 years (celebrated in May), and have two adult children: Alan, married to Kristen in 2008, who together attend Castle Hill

Baptist Church; and Megan, currently attending St Matts, and engaged to Frankie.

Interesting trivia: we share our wedding anniversary with Alan and Sandra McGuigan who were married in Dubbo at the exact day and time as we were married in Sydney!



Found Jesus – I came from a non-Christian family but my parents were happy to drive me to Sunday School and church regularly as a child and teenager. In my early 20's, the witness of Christian friends at work compelled me to seek God with my heart as well as my head, and I accepted Jesus as my personal saviour.

Work – Macquarie University for 25 years, teaching accounting and finance.

Social Activities – I enjoy travel, walking, music, drinking coffee and keeping up with a wide circle of friends. I don't watch television or follow any sporting teams, which tends to limit the topics of my conversations. Although I did watch the last few weeks of Masterchef.

Residence- We have attended St Matt's as a family since moving to West Pennant Hills in 1984, and have continued to attend through our moves to Kellyville (1991), Castle Hill (1998) and most recently Epping (2008).

Fellowship – We are currently part of the 7pm church community and are also part of a bible study group that meets on Monday nights. Over the years, I have been involved with children's ministry (Matt's For Kids and Sunday School) and women's ministry, and currently organize the rosters for the 7pm service.

Why so long at St Matts? – We enjoy being part of a church family. We enjoy the way that it changes a little (or a lot) each and every year – just like our own family - and yet the essentials remain: a sincere commitment to loving God, loving each other, helping each other to grow spiritually, and reaching out to our community.

Words of Encouragement –

1. Isaiah 40: 28 – 31 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2. Proverbs 31: 10-12 and 30- 31 A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

ST MATT'S CHINESE CONGREGATION UPDATE

Morning tea! This is the time we enjoy being together every Sunday when we finish the service. First, thank you to the group of ladies who dedicate their time to serving morning tea every Sunday. There is a variety of food, such as biscuits, sandwiches, homemade cakes, donuts, various snacks and desserts. We even had “red shell” eggs to celebrate the one month since the birth day of baby Ryan – a Chinese tradition.

Why is morning tea so welcomed by people? Delicious food is one of the reasons. However, the major reason is that we can have a good time of fellowship together when people can get to know each other better. We not only share the food and chat together, but sometimes we also pray for each other during tea time. You can feel the warmth and joy among brothers and sisters.

Aside from the food that fills our stomachs we also have good spiritual food to nourish our souls. You can visit the mobile library next to the morning tea area where you can choose your favourite sermon series, special talks, and testimonies, etc., from a number of speakers.

Brothers and sisters, you are welcome to join us for morning tea at 11 am every Sunday at Cherrybrook Public School!

茶点！這個是我們星期日崇拜之後所享受一起的時間。首先當然要多謝一班忠心擺上她們時間預備茶点的姊妹。當中有各種不同的小食，如各款餅乾，三文治，蛋糕，甜圈，各式各樣的小點和甜品。而且我們更有傳統的紅雞蛋來慶祝Ryan的滿月。

為什麼茶点受人歡迎？美食是其中一個原因。但最主要原因是我們有好的團契時間，讓大家多些互相認識。在茶点的時候，我們不但分享食物和互相交談，間中亦互相代禱。你可以感受到弟兄姊妹之間的溫暖及喜樂！

除了食物飽滿我們的肚腹，我們亦有美好的靈糧滋潤我們的靈魂。你可以參觀在茶點處的流動圖書館，選擇自己喜歡的講道系列，特別講座，和見證等。

弟兄姊妹，歡迎你來參加我們每星期日早上十一點在櫻溪小學的茶点！

ST MATTS MISSION UPDATE

AUGUST 2010

Please pray for link missionaries each week. For more information on all of our link missionaries please see the missions page at www.stmatts.org.au
Pray for organising ongoing mission opportunities in St Matthews now and in the future!

1st August - Grace & William Eyika, Dagoretti Corner, Kenya

- Pray urgently for the car accident victims, especially the Eyika's daughter Lydia and Lawrence who were more seriously injured in an accident. Pray it does not stop Grace and William's upcoming trip to Australia.
- Pray for William and Grace and their trip to link churches in Australia, including a brief visit to St Matthews, God-willing.
- Give thanks for God's healing hand on Patrick who had undefined pain in his abdomen; praise God that he has resumed work.



8th August - PENNANT HILLS CHERRYBROOK CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION Peter Murphy (Cherrybrook Tech), Graham Castle & Grant Howard (Pennant Hills High)

- Give thanks that there are faithful, godly partners in this ministry, pray for protection and blessings.
- Praise God for the readiness of students to take on leadership roles and for the good calibre of student leadership and ask God for wisdom as the teachers contemplate invitations for guests to participate in small groups.
- Thanks for God's faithfulness in blessing youth work in the surrounding churches.
- Pray for wisdom and boldness in addressing false teaching and opposition.
- Pray that many teenagers will come to Christ and connect with a Christian family.

15th August - Jenny Fallon, SIM Sydney

- Pray for the annual Reachout Missions weekend on 13-15 August. Pray that many people will come and be inspired and challenged to a deeper involvement in reaching the nations for Jesus.
- Pray for the final preparations for Jenny's pastoral care trip in September to visit SIM Australia missionaries working in South America.
- Jenny will first spend 10 days in the USA (departing end of August), visiting the International and US offices. Pray for helpful times of connection with people, as well as reunions with colleagues from Burkina Faso.



22nd August - Rob & Leanna Haynes, CMS Nungalinga College, NT

- Pray that Rob and Leanna will be successful, under God, in building trust in the teams they lead.
- Rob will be flying and driving around to many of the remote locations to follow up theology students in the second half of the year. This will possibly include interstate travel again as there are so few options for Aboriginal Christians to get suitable biblical and theological and ministry training in their own locations.
- Every now and again the staff at Nungalinga is astounded and humbled at the level of trust and love that Aboriginal Christians around the country express towards the College and its work.
- Pray for the Lord to raise up the very best people for the challenges of theological education among Indigenous Australians for the decade ahead.

29th August – Steve & Melinda McKerney, AFES Perth

- Pray for the MCU Committee as Semester 2 begins—pray for energy and enthusiasm for ministry motivated by love.
- Pray that more students will join in with MCU, especially new students and first years.
- Give thanks for the move to a new venue which is larger and better suited for the AFES team. Pray it will serve the students better than the old room.
- Pray for Steve as he preaches each week, leads bible studies, meets with blokes 1-1, trains students in the 'EQUIP' time, and does



ST MATT'S MISSION UPDATE

MISSION EVENTS IN AND AROUND ST MATT'S :

MISSION PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 4th August, 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)

MISSION WEEK 2010 September 12-19

- Mission BBQ Dinner —Saturday 18th September, details TBC, but put it in your diary! For a great cross-congregational, relaxed and challenging mission-focus night, with Greg Anderson, a former CMS Missionary.
- Mission-focus sermons at all services Wednesday and both Sundays 12 & 16 September.

REACHOUT 2010 MISSION CONFERENCE

ReachOut 2010 is on 14-15 August @ KCC, Katoomba. The theme is Lost and Found—Find out about your role in God's plan to tell all nations about the One who FINDS.

Speakers include David Cook (Principal of Sydney Missionary and Bible College) and Femi Adeleye (IFES Associate General Secretary for Partnership and Collaboration).



SMBC Mission Conference 2010:

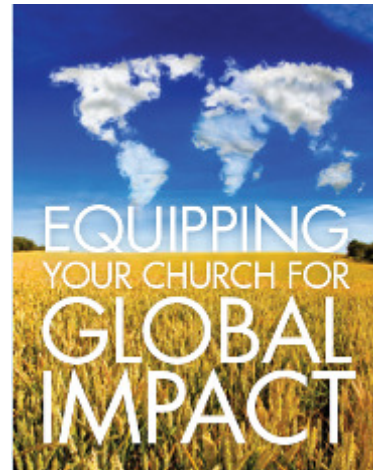
Saturday 18th September

EQUIPPING YOUR CHURCH FOR GLOBAL IMPACT

This one day conference has a wonderful selection of presenters and involves seminars and discussion groups for you to consider how to use mission effectively in and around your church. Please consider coming along. It is coming up soon. See the website for more information and registration details:

<http://www.smbc.com.au/resource/EquippingChurchConf.pdf>

If you decide to attend this conference, please also book and come to our Missions Dinner that night.



*** If you are interested in missions but are not able to attend any conferences this year, keep your eyes on their websites and lock in dates for upcoming conferences in 2011. We will give you details for 2011 dates as soon as possible.

*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!
Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. (Philippians 4:4-5)*

Moses and the Plagues Find-a-Word

These words are all about the plagues of Egypt. When you've found all the words in the grid, the leftover 7 letters spell out who sent the plagues whenever the pharaoh said "No!" to Moses' request "Let my people go!".

S	P	H	A	R	A	O	H	T	N
E	L	H	S	H	A	I	L	R	S
T	A	E	S	B	L	O	O	D	E
I	G	S	E	D	S	B	C	E	I
L	U	L	N	I	T	O	U	A	L
E	E	A	K	S	A	I	S	T	F
A	S	M	R	E	N	L	T	H	R
R	L	I	A	A	G	S	S	O	O
S	F	N	D	S	E	S	O	M	G
I	R	A	D	E	X	O	D	U	S

Blood
Exodus
Frogs
Gnats
Israelites
Animals
Boils
Darkness
Death

Disease
Firstborn
Flies
Hail
Locusts
Moses
Pharaoh
Plagues



Style With A Purpose



On 10th June the women of St Matt's brought their friends along to try, for the first time for many, a clothes swap evening. While considering the significant needs of our local and global community, we were challenged to think about the impact of our buying choices and how we might make a difference.

We experienced the fashion parade of the year and many ladies went home with a new piece of clothing to add to their wardrobe!



"Short Term Zimbabwe Trip with Steve Abbott"

I am still praying that between 4-9 people from our number might be willing to join me for a week-long Mission Trip to minister alongside Living Word Ministries and its director Reuben Zivagwe. The week will run from Monday 25 October through Sunday 1 November. If you are interested in simply learning a little more or exploring more seriously participating you can do two things:

1. Email me on sabbott@stmatts.org.au and I will send you some general information about travelling to Zimbabwe and also about Living Word ministries.
2. Attend a meeting at my home on 10th August @ 7.45pm (supper provided) for an information and Q & A evening of relaxed fellowship.

Please note doing either or both of these things will not be taken as a commitment to come on the trip. I reiterate what I said earlier that I have been assured Zimbabwe is as safe if not safer than travelling to South Africa and Reuben as also assured me they will look after us and we'll probably be staying in a Holiday Inn Hotel in Harare. I also realise time is drawing close but it certainly isn't too late to make a decision and come along. If people want to come earlier or stay longer and do a Safari near Victoria Falls you could certainly choose to do so. Hope to see some of you there.

Colin Comes to St Matthew's

On Saturday 19 June over 400 adults and children enjoyed the fun and excitement of seeing Colin Buchanan perform live at West Pennant Hills Public School. Those of all ages bopped and clapped the time away as Colin sang his well known songs about Jesus, our Super Saviour!!

Colin generously talked with and autographed things for his committed fans, and a great afternoon was had by all!

A big THANK YOU to all who made this event possible!



LETTER FROM CMS..... Praise God!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We are all rejoicing that we have fully met the financial needs of all of our CMS NSW & ACT missionaries. We thank God for all who have prayed and given faithfully throughout the year and especially during our recent appeal.

You will be pleased to know that giving during the final few days of the appeal was so generous that CMS-NSW finished the year with a small surplus. This will be used to help cover a shortfall from other states – as they have done for us in previous years.

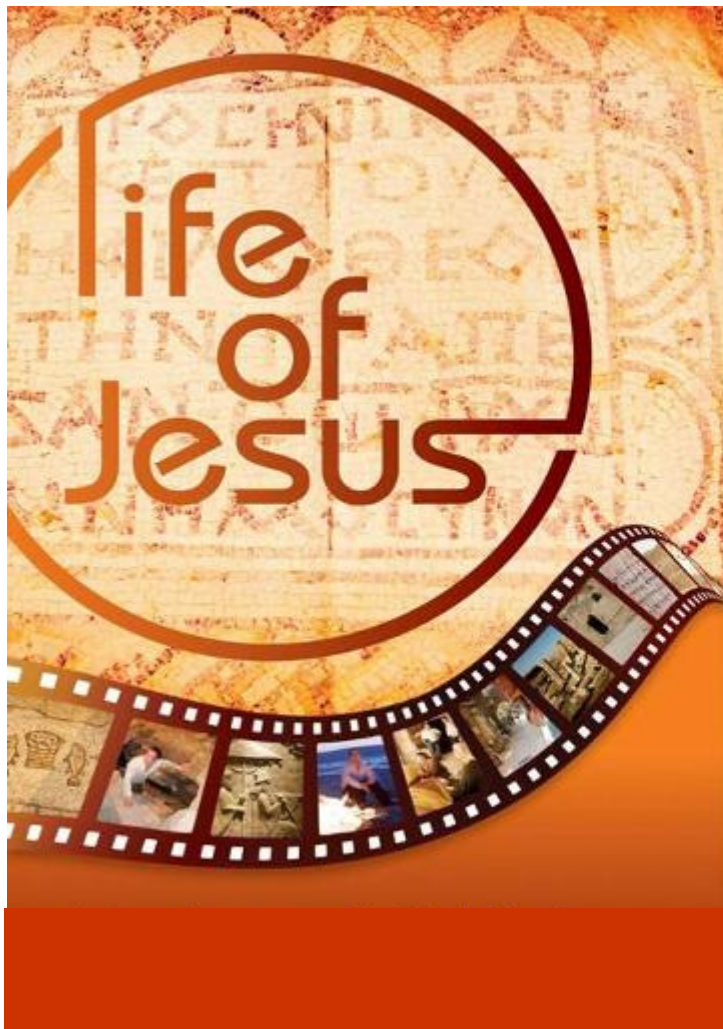
Please continue to partner with us as we move into this new year. Our missionary costs will rise significantly. These include, increasing on-field costs; a large number of missionaries will be returning on home assignment which involves additional travel and deputation costs; this year, for the first time, CMS will introduce a superannuation scheme for all missionaries.

Praise God for his great faithfulness and we pray that he will provide again through his people in the year to come.

Please pass this news on to your church members, and thank them for their prayer and generosity.

Yours in the service of the gospel,

John L Bales
General Secretary, CMS-NSW



Whether you are looking for some answers to life's big questions or just interested in the history, the Life of Jesus DVD course will intrigue, entertain and challenge.

Join us for this unique opportunity to discover the fascinating figure at the heart of the Christian faith.

Beginning: 7.15 – 7.30pm Monday, 16 August

Venue: Castle Towers Megaplex Cinemas

Contact us: Register by Clipboard or call 9479 3700

www.lifeofjesus.tv



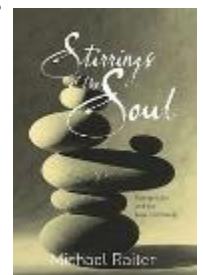
BOOK OF THE MONTH Plus

Our book of the month is ***Islam Human Rights and Public Policy***, edited by our own past minister, David Claydon. The publisher writes, "In this ground-breaking book, a diverse group of international writers, scholars and commentators shed light on some of the most pressing human rights and public policy challenges of our time. Individual essays deal with the human rights of Muslims and non-Muslims alike, in areas ranging from women's rights to freedom of religion." (\$39).

We will also continue to offer our highly commended July book of the month Stirrings of the Soul, written by our Church camp speaker, Michael Raiter, (\$16.95). Recommended reading as preparation for the Parish Camp!

In addition, we want to draw your attention to two other books, which are at 50% discounted prices but in very limited supply:

- ***Iraq: People of Promise, Land of Despair*** by Canon Andrew White of Coventry Cathedral. Lord George Carey writes: "In this beautiful but sad book, Canon Andrew White tenderly narrates the story of the suffering and dignity of the people of Iraq caught up in a nightmare of pain and agony beyond our understanding." (limited copies @ \$6). Steve Abbott writes, 'I recently read this short book and although it recounts events prior to the US invasion of Iraq it provides significant insights into the impacts of political embargos on the life of ordinary citizens and how Christians can make a significant impact. An easy and edifying read.'
- ***Written for Us*** by Peter Adam. This book is sub-titled "Receiving God's Words in the Bible." Peter Adam is a past Principal of Ridley College in Melbourne, an author of note, and a popular speaker at Christian conventions in Australia and overseas. In "Written For Us," Peter Adam continues a long-term interest in the nature of the Scriptures and the difference they can make in people's lives. He tells of the claims the Bible makes about itself, and of how God wants us to use the Bible. Peter's own summary of the book is – "Receiving God's words written for his people by his Spirit about his Son." (limited copies @ \$15).



GET TO KNOW THE STAFF AT ST MATT'S

PROFILE—KATHERINE BUTLER, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Nick Name – Kat

Married - To Dan,

Pets – none

Residence- Mt Kuring-gai, in what we affectionately call our cave.



Work – Office administration and finance. I find it a great privilege to meet and serve so many people in such a myriad of ways.

Food- My weakness is definitely a good gourmet pizza. More a savory than sweet tooth.

Social Activities – I love music and movies, reading and computer games, watching soccer and a good coffee with friends. You will often find me on a Saturday afternoon in winter at an oval somewhere with my sister-in-law watching our husbands try to be Socceroos.

Found Jesus – through the faithful teaching of Scripture in my primary school I came to understand that Christ was my Saviour. Then in high school at the fellowship group at St John's, Asquith, I came to truly understand what it was for him to be my Lord.

Fellowship – I attend St John's Anglican, Asquith where my husband is a Youth Ministry Student minister. We grew up through the youth group together and now both have been leading since our teens.

Currently Reading – God is Enough by Ray Galea – It's a new book that was promoted at Equip conference in May. It's about his reflections on Psalms and how God really is sufficient. He says his longing is that all of us can say with full conviction *"Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you."* (Psalm 73:25). Also, I'm re-reading all the Sherlock Holmes stories. Dan and others tell me I have an amazing ability to observe and remember things, however reading these show me how little I really do notice.

Words of Encouragement – One verse I have come to love is Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." It's a joy to know that while we can't see the rhyme or reason we know that God can and is using it in some great way.

Archbishop of Sydney's Appeals Unit

Did you know that there is an Archbishop of Sydney's Appeals Unit (ASAU)? Its director is David Mansfield, who spoke at various St Matt's services in late July.

The ASAU has four strategic development and ministry funds. Basically there is an aid and a mission fund both in Australia and overseas.

The ASAU raises money for each fund, which it then distributes to individuals, churches and projects, to support their purposes.

Examples of current projects are a literacy program in Rwanda and a school computer project in Tanzania (aid overseas), theological scholarships in Uganda and a women's training conference in Myanmar (Burma) (mission overseas), a youth program in Redfern and community support for refugees in Georges River area (aid in Australia).

The unit depends on donations to raise funds for worthy causes such as these. If you are interested in supporting their work, you can contribute through the offertory at St Matt's, or directly by phoning 1800 653 903, or by clicking on one of the links at <http://www.archbishopsappeals.asn.au/donations>.

Perhaps your HOME group could enquire about one of their projects (eg. Sponsor a trainee minister at Uganda Christian University) and make it your goal to donate or raise the necessary funds by working together. If too bigger a challenge for one HOME group why not partner with another?