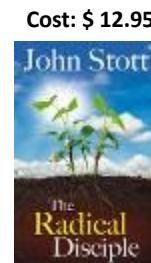


Book of the Month

"The Radical Disciple" by John Stott

John Stott died at the age of 90 on 27 July, 2011. This is his farewell book written when he was 88. This book teaches us with clarity, wisdom, insight and warmth, so typical of Stott's style. It challenges in a way that encourages a response. On the back cover we read: "Penetrative biblical wisdom on what discipleship means in today's world" and "A rare and personal glimpse of the sacrificial discipleship that has marked John Stott's life so deeply". He gives us that glimpse by considering eight characteristics of Christian discipleship. He argues that we often avoid "radical discipleship" by being selective and choosing those areas in which commitment suits us and staying away from those areas in which it will be costly". His great desire is to show his readers that because Jesus Christ is Lord being selective in our discipleship cannot be on the 'agenda' of our walk with Jesus, rather our 'agenda' must centre on a joyful obedience to our Lord's authority. "The Radical Disciple" has helped me and I have no hesitation in recommending it. The last three words in the book are: "Once again, farewell!". For John Stott the well-run race is over, but for us: we can now learn so much from how that race was run!



Review by Keith Watson

St Matt's Services

Sunday 8am	Morning Prayer / Holy Communion
Sunday 9am	St Matts @ School; WPH Public School
Sunday 10am	Family Service for all Generations
Sunday 9.30am	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

Senior Minister	Steve Abbott	0417 410 596/9479 3700
Associate Minister	Jon Phua	9479 3700
Young Adults Minister	Nerida Peart	9479 3702
Youth Minister	Geoff Everett	9479 3700
Chinese Minister	Ken Wong	0425 272 755/9479 3700
Asian Minister	Kenny Liew	0448 515 408
Children's Minister	Jacki Hellstrom	9479 3700
Pastoral Care/Young Women	Karen Braga	0401 933 264
Pastoral Care Wed/Thurs	Bill France	9479 3700
Church Administrator	Kat Butler	9479 3700
Communications Co Ord	Tina Piccione	9479 3700

St Matthews Anglican Church

T: 02 9479 3700 F: 02 9479 3777

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



Matt's Matters

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

June
2012



June 2012 Preaching Calendar

3 The LORD loved; You Despised	Malachi 1—2:1-9
10 You Broke Covenant; the LORD is Weary	Malachi 2:10—3:5
17 You Robbed God; The LORD Calls You to Test Him	Malachi 3:6—15
24 The LORD Will Come; You Will...?	Malachi 3:16—4:1-6



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.



www.stmatts.org.au

Senior Ministers June 2012 Pastoral Letter

The Importance of Remembering

Dear sisters and brothers,

I'd like to begin by thanking everyone who took up the challenge to pray for people to come to Christ during the May month of outreach. We can join the angels in glory in praising God that a small number expressed commitment to Christ. Many others expressed a serious recommitment to Christ and some have indicated they'd like to learn more. This is a wonderful answer to our prayers and I would encourage you to keep remembering in your prayers all those who responded, but especially the 'baby' believers that they will be 'fruit that lasts' (John 15:16).

The other day Sue and I were puzzling about how we got to June so quickly, which is probably a sign that we are both getting older and that it's been a busy year. This got me thinking about St Matt's and a phrase keeps coming to mind we are in 'a season of transition'. Let me explain. Several new staff commenced ministry: Jon Phua, Ken Wong, Geoff Everett, Bill France, and John Carr (Ministry Trainee) and while they have all made great starts they and the ministries they oversee are still in 'a season of transition'. First, they are endeavouring to get their heads around their new ministry role, learn names and understand the existing culture. Second, people at St Matt's are getting to know them.

Naturally everyone's ministry approach will be nuanced according to their own personality and priorities. Therefore it will always take some time for those interacting with the new minister to adjust to those aspects which are different from what, and even who, existed before. Changes in staff also impact the staff team, so here too we are going through 'a season of transition'. Please be praying for these transitions, that we will as staff and Christian community proceed through them with good grace, patience and transparent communication, avoiding unhelpful and damaging reactions to changes which are bound to come with fresh eyes. Pray, that God will keep growing us all into that radical discipleship reflected in our Lord Jesus Christ.

But it's not just the staff and the ministries they exercise which are travelling through this 'season of transition'. Several of our congregations are in a state of flux as regular members have chosen to move for a whole variety of reasons: the Chinese congregation has seen several key leaders return to Hong Kong; 5pm have seen the majority of the young families make the inevitable decision to attend their local churches and the majority of the remaining families have decided to move to the 10am Service | July; some 7pm young adults have decided to transition into the 5pm Service and others are considering joining them and there are a small number of 10am senior members who have moved to 8am. Such movements are of course a very natural element in the life cycle of multi-generational churches and can be extremely constructive if approached with Christian grace, love and an attitude of mutual service.

People leaving for good reasons can intensify the need to ensure we keep evangelism and outreach as one of the core of our reason for being. Members leaving because of disillusionment can cause us to critically reflect on our ministry and ensure we are serving God and the world as our Lord intended. If we are eccentric to the will of God such reflection may helpfully put us back on track. New people transferring, either from another congregation or another church can bring fresh eyes through which to look at who and why we are? However, I want to suggest that if we are to travel through this current intense 'season of transition' in a positive and constructive way we will need to embrace the following principles/attitudes:

- Exercise Christian love, by extending a warm welcome to the new people, and then everyone, old and new members embracing a commitment to mutually support one another reflecting the generosity of Christ in their fellowship and service.
- We all ought to relate to each other with the humility of Christ. Therefore, we give ourselves to listening to and learning from each other, rather than projecting our personal preferences onto others. The ultimate concern is to make those changes that will ensure we are doing the best God desires, not what we personally desire.
- Finally, both established members and transferring members need to perceive themselves not as consumers and critics, but as contributors and constructors of the Church of Jesus Christ. The church that exists for God's glory not their gratification.

I ask all of us at St Matt's to pray that God will protect us from any sinful divisive behaviour, and, by his Spirit, direct us in a godly way through this 'season of transition'. Pray, that we will continue to grow deeper and stronger in living out the gospel graces, so that our life together reflects the radical discipleship, which is the generosity of Christ.

Your partner in transition,
Steve Abbott



Prayer Points

- Praise God for those God called to faith in May, and pray that they will become radical disciples, who go deeper and grow stronger in the months ahead.
- Pray that God will, by his Spirit, guide both congregations and staff through this intense season of transition for his glory and the growth of his church.
- Pray for Staff and Parish Council as we commence working thought the 'Radical Together' feedback.
- Pray for the Staff Retreat/Planning days June 4-5, as we seek to discuss important issues for St Matt's, deepen our sense of team, pray and plan for the rest of 2012 and into 2013. Pray also as we then seek to implement any decisions in the weeks and months ahead.
- Pray for the new series of sermons based on the prophet Malachi, that the messages will be clear, challenging and life transforming – pray we'll increasingly all become the 'Radical Disciples' Jesus calls us to be.
- Pray for my preparation and leadership of the Annual REFRESH retreat I'll be leading in Melbourne June 25-29. This is a special time for going deeper spiritually and we'll be reflecting on four key issues from C J Mahaney's The Cross Centred Life. REFRESH is one of many mentoring communities that are part of the Leighton Ford Network, which largely funds these retreats.

St Matt's Diary and Notes



SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCH

10 June 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:

Colleen Cummings 0403 239 321

SAFE MINISTRY TRAINING

Part B Safe Ministry, for those who did the first part in February will be held at St Matt's on 18th June from 7.30-9.30pm in Hall 3. More courses will be run at a later date.

ADDRESS CHANGE FOR THE LAIS

The new address for our link missionaries, Daniel and Dominica Lai,: 10 Lexcen Place, Marsfield, NSW 2122, Australia.

BOB MENDELSON @ ST MATT'S

10 June at the 8am & 10am Services Come hear from Bob Mendelsohn, Director of Jews for Jesus Australia, as he shares from Scriptures and the richness of his Jewish heritage about Y'shua, the Messiah and Saviour of the world. There will be a 'Thank Offering for 'Jews for Jesus' after both services.

MAG

Thank you for your continuing support for Tanzania. It is very encouraging for us as a group to receive the donations you give us. Any items from the green MAG brochure are wonderful, but if you would like suggestions the following would be great: Any colour 8 ply wool, 4ply wool for baby knitting, bandaids, cotton wool rolls, toothpaste, toothbrushes, black shoe polish and brushes, black men's and boy's socks. Of course, any stationery items are always welcome too. Thank you once again.



Roslyn

BATEYS RECOMMISSIONING

"Thank you to everyone who helped last Sunday with the many bits and pieces which need to happen to ensure a successful event. Thanks to those who came to show your support to Ian and Ruth and the children and to those who brought food for a wonderful afternoon tea."

Mission Resource Group

SIMWORLD 2012—28 July 2012

Don't miss Phil and Carol Short's compelling story of church planting amongst nomadic desert tribes in West Africa.

Morling College, 120 Herring Rd

Macquarie Park NSW

Registration \$15 pp Lunch \$10pp

02 9580 1422 or www.sim.org.au



AFRICAN ENTERPRISE ANNUAL DINNER

THURSDAY 5TH JULY 2012 AT 7.00 PM

THE EPPING CLUB, RAWSON ST EPPING.

“INTO THE FUTURE – THE NEXT 50 YEARS”

SPECIAL GUEST: DR MICHAEL CASSIDY – FOUNDER

Bookings: AE Office Tel. 9889 1799

Enquires: David Hewetson Tel 9894 0916

WE'RE UPDATING OUR DATABASE, SO, PLEASE HELP BY UPDATING YOUR DETAILS

St Matt's is in the process of updating its database to ensure all the details in the Parish Directory are accurate. Over the next 2 weeks, printed copies of the database will be in the foyer or back of the school hall. Please could you check your details and confirm they are correct by initialling after your surname, or making the necessary changes.

We would really appreciate your support with this project, which will help us with all communications in the church.



TWO ST MATT'S MISSIONS PLANNED FOR AUSTRALIA THIS YEAR

- 1 Forster – Coast Evangelical Church (Chris and Sharon Ekins). This will be from 1st to 4th July. Please contact Geoff Everett for details.
- 2 Hillston – (Lindsay and Lyn Whybrow). This is being planned for later in the year. Please contact Nerida Peart for more information.

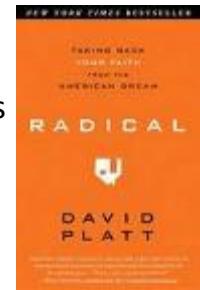
Women with Purpose



On Wednesday 9th May over 60 women from St Matt's and their friends, worked together to assemble Mother's day hampers. These hampers were for the women who are part of two separate programs run by Anglicare Australia; the Carramar Early Intervention Program that supports young single mothers with children 0-5 yrs of age, and the Southern Sudanese Project that is teaching Sudanese refugee women sewing skills to enable them to create their own income stream. The evening was not only informative and fun, but really gave us a chance to show the generosity of Christ to our community. Judith Minty from Anglicare reported the delight of the young mothers at Carramar on receiving their hampers and the following day a small group of us witnessed the joy and gratitude of the Sudanese ladies at their sewing group. Praise God for the generosity of the women @St Matts!!



Radical Together Feedback



It may surprise you but we are still receiving feedback from our first term studies based on David Platt's two books 'Radical' and 'Radical Together'. Some of our HOME Groups meet less frequently and so are only now coming to the end. Let me say how grateful I am that many groups have provided feedback but the consequence of this is that there are many pages to work through to come up with a composite document and also key elements of feedback that staff and parish council will now want to address as we look to the future.

I asked a member of the parish council to review the feedback and initially seek to isolate key recurring themes, which the leadership team of St Matt's could begin to discuss and process with a view to informing future planning decisions. This person's initial report follows:

"A significant amount of feedback has been received that is necessarily taking some time to work through. It is encouraging to see a strong underlying commitment to faith and service, a desire for St Matthews to reflect the generosity of Christ in our community, and a willingness to be challenged in thinking about how we live out our faith by the grace of God.

A few of the key themes emerging from the feedback include:

- Many comments express the view that there are too many church events or activities, leading to fatigue or a sense of guilt for not attending. Several suggest the need to identify and concentrate on what are our key areas of focus.
- At the same time, many people express support for a leadership approach where members of our church community are encouraged to identify their gifts, provided with appropriate training and mobilised in ministry and outreach. Several responses, identify opportunities for HOME Groups to be an integral part of such an approach through being deliberate in offering hospitality and undertaking community outreach activities together (as well as providing a place for personal growth). A number of groups identify particular ministries and community activities they will be exploring further.
- In recognition of the importance of meeting together, many suggestions have been made in relation to our services. Several key areas include the need to encourage an active, participatory approach rather than passive attendance; the importance of thoughtful preparation and leadership of up-the-front aspects of services; and the value of having opportunities for pastoral care and support at or after services.

A more detailed discussion of the feedback will be made available once the review is complete."

At first glance, the three key 'feedback' themes appear to reflect a diversity of opinion. On the one hand some believe that St Matt's is too busy, on the other some want to organize their own activities as part of the St Matt's family and/or they want to see more people involved in public worship. This sounds like people aren't busy enough. Of course these are not necessarily inconsistent or diverse reflections as they may suggest a desire for more congregational based ministry, rather than staff driven programs. No doubt there will be some fruitful and stimulating discussions both for staff and parish council as the year proceeds. Keep watching for the next instalment of feedback and/or outcomes as discussions begin and recommendations are made.

Steve Abbott



PUPIL FREE DAY—APRIL 2012

On 23 April St Matt's ran another of our Pupil Free Day programs. This time we had a speaker from Youthworks who is training to be a children's minister. She did her talks by using pictures and the children learned about the cross and Jesus' love for us.

Once again we had a great number of kids attending, in total 65; clearly offering a service to many families who need to work on that particular day. 25 of these children had never attended before with many of the parents saying it was a great day to be running for this very purpose.

In light of the Radical series and considering the programs/groups we run and their effectiveness, I think this is one of the programs that serve a real purpose in our community and further afield.

Many thanks go out to the people who work in administration, kitchen and leaders on the day. It is a great way to be witnesses of what Christ has done for us, and the outworking of our faith.

Our next Pupil Free Day is on 16 July. Please consider helping out with one of the many jobs that are needed, either face to face during the day or by making food, cleaning up afterwards, taking photos, praying. For many of these jobs, safe ministry training is essential. If you are interested in attending one of these courses or updating your training please let me know. We will be running the Refresher and the Full Course before the next Pupil Free Day.,

Jacki Hellstrom

Scripture in our Community

About 35 volunteers from St Matthews and Cherrybrook Anglican Church teach the Bible to approximately 570 children in 26 classes each week at West Pennant Hills, Cherrybrook and John Purchase Public Schools.

It is a wonderful opportunity to reach children who may have no other involvement with the church.

In 2012 it is anticipated that all teachers will have completed the ten hours of modules to become fully Accredited SRE teachers.

This year Christian Education Publications who produce the teaching material used – Connect –has launched a website full of great teaching ideas and resources.

ORANA SENIORS FELLOWSHIP

June and July Meetings

Wednesdays at 11.30am



6 June

Lunch Fellowship

This meeting will follow the general pattern of our Lunch Fellowships of last year. As then, there will be no formal address but various activities during the meal to help strengthen our fellowship and provide interest and enjoyment to all. Everybody is welcome, so come with your friends and enjoy both food and fellowship with us. **Book the date!**

4 July

'Lunch out' at Dural Country Club

At our April meeting we asked those present to state their preference regarding where we should enjoy our July 'lunch out'. Dural Country Club was the preferred choice by a large majority. Detailed arrangements for the lunch will appear in Matts Weekly issues later in June. Again, everybody is welcome, so we encourage you once more to: **Book the date!**

Pray for those with special needs:

Jan , Damon , Es and Laurie ,
Margaret , Dudley ,
Brian , Carolyn (Betty daughter),
Betty , Colleen , Jeannine , Jane , Cliff ,
Geoff & Margaret Simpson, Bev Snow,
Janet (mother of Sally), Irene .



Job Seekers @ St Matt's

Within the St Matthews community there are currently people who are seeking employment. If you are able to assist please contact Malcolm North on 0439 866 447.



Finance Manager/Controller - an accountant with over 30 years experience in industry is seeking a Finance Manager/Financial Controller role. Interested in considering opportunities for permanent/contract in both the Corporate and Not-for-Profit Sectors.

Treasury / Finance Manager - Over 25 years experience in the corporate, large project financing and treasury management in large corporates and multinationals, with Asia Pacific experience. Interested in considering opportunities in treasury and financing risk management in the Corporate Sector.

Consultant Information Technology professional - with over 15 yrs experience in Finance industry with core experience in Information Management. Interested in full time/contract role in corporations or consulting firms.

Senior Business Analyst / Project Manager (Process focus) - MBA qualified, Strategic Management professional, with 8 years consulting in Business Process Analysis, 5 years in IT management, 10 years as a Systems Analyst, is seeking contract or permanent role.

Industrial Design/Production Management - 30 years experience in Commercial fit out design and installation. Design experience in sheet metal, sand and pressure casting (3D INVENTOR). Design & implementation of new product into production. Mine lighting DIP approvals.

*For anyone interested in meeting for support a
St Matthews group meets each
Tuesday 8.00am - 9.30am in NewLine Cottage.*

st matt's youth update

Four months and counting...

St Matt's is a busy place... And that'd be an apt description of the car park! If you were to use time-lapse photography to capture images of the many people and groups that come and go each week (using the church building alone) you would witness a vibrant, active and growing community of God's people.

Many of you may be surprised to hear that the busiest night of the week isn't Sunday, but in fact Friday! Around 180 kids descend upon the church along with their 50 or so leaders (not to forget the Sunday 78 leaders) to run an effective program that puts the Word of God at the centre, whilst also having a great time. What makes it tick? What keeps the wheels turning? Here's a closer look...

After four months, I'm still relatively new, although I think the secret to running a great youth program isn't much of a secret at all. The key is relationships! Leaders connecting with youth, who are in the business of connecting youth with God. As youth come and have a great time, they invite their friends.

Our greatest need is to be rightly connected with God in and through Christ. As youth are connected with one another and their leaders, they are also connected with God.

Youth leaders make a huge commitment. They journey with their year groups right through high school. Most meet with their groups twice a week, not including Sundays. They disciple and mentor youth, sharing not just wisdom and knowledge but their whole lives. Youth leaders model a life of discipleship and collectively they model the life of the church. Being an active member of the body of the church is about being a disciple, making disciples.

The highlights for myself thus far have been the privilege of working alongside a great staff team, along with a remarkable team of youth leaders. I have been greatly impressed by the output of their combined creative talents. "Too Much Fun" was a great window into the potential of this team to aim high and accomplish great things for the Lord.

If the first four months is any indication of things to come, I look forward with anticipation and excitement to all that the next four months and the many months that I trust will follow, are yet to hold.

In Christ,

Geoff

ESL (English as a Second Language) Ministry @ St Matt's

St. Matthew's is one of many parishes throughout the Anglican Diocese of Sydney offering E.S.L (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes to migrants from diverse cultural backgrounds. Our E.S.L. activity is registered with Anglicare E.S.L. Ministry, which provides a large range of resources as well as training opportunities and consultancy services.

Our classes are held every Tuesday morning during school terms from 9.30am to 11.30am. At present we have about 10 students, all from Asian countries (China, Taiwan, Korea and Thailand). The teachers are Frances Boland (co-ordinator) and John Hain; and teachers' helpers are Gwynne Rothwell and Mary Coles. We would be grateful for extra helpers who could assist when anyone on our team is absent; so those interested in exploring this possibility are very welcome to "sit in" on a class at any time. A warm invitation is also extended to anyone who would just like to come and meet our students during morning tea (from just after 11.00am until about 11.30am).

We are thankful to have enough on the teaching team for separate "Elementary" and "Intermediate" level classes for the major part of lesson time. There are also activities for students to do in a combined group. Our aim is to help students improve their reading, writing, listening and speaking skills; gain confidence in interaction with people and understand Australian culture so that they feel they belong in the community. Recently we were thankful that we could assist a student to find work as a volunteer in an aged care facility.

An important part of each lesson is given to explaining the Word of God through simplified Bible narrative. Some students are Christian and those who do not yet appear to be are offered free Bibles. A former student from Iran gladly accepted Bibles in Farsi and English though has not continued attending a Farsi/English Bible Study.

We greatly value your prayers for this important ministry, especially for the points given in the St.Matthew's quarterly prayer diary.

Frances Boland



WEDNESDAY CHURCH, SENIORS AND PASTORAL CARE UPDATE



One of the members of Midweek Church commented to me recently, as she pushed her walker up the slope, that the tilt on the ramp from the chapel door up to the foyer had been increased lately and would I mind having it lowered again - she didn't need that much exercise!!!! A great sense of humour and for a 92 year old she is quite an inspiration - if you don't use it you lose it she believes.

If you know of folk who would appreciate a shorter more traditional service with good bible teaching at a convenient time, do encourage them to give our Midweek service a try. Or why not make it a regular feature of your own week, an opportunity for further reflection and ministry?

Since I last reported, Orana has had two very successful lunches at which challenging and inspiring presentations were given. April 4th, Ian and Ruth Batey spoke of their experiences in Spain: as many of you will have heard in other forums, they face considerable difficulties in a society that considers itself Christian and yet where people have little grasp of what it is to know a personal Saviour and Lord - ritual is dominant over relationship and there is scant understanding of what Ian and Ruth are on about! May 2nd was the Midweek Service Eighth Anniversary lunch at which its founder under God, Jill McGilvray, spoke on God's Kaleidoscope: the amazing way in which the experiences of life, both the brightly coloured and the dark and sombre, blend into ever-changing patterns that serve God's purposes in growing us in the likeness of Christ and reaching through us into the lives of those around us - at once both challenging and inspiring!! May 7th saw 16 people from the pastoral care team turn out for an "Encouragement Night" where we talked about "Sowing Seeds of Hope": exploring and discussing, in pairs and triplets, ways to use the bible in a pastoral context, both as God's word to people in the need of the moment and as a springboard for praying with that person and for that need.

A small group of the pastoral care team has been working on a series of sermons and practical lessons for the coming July and August. The three part sermon series will be take place July 1, 8, and 15 and is aimed at providing the biblical basis for every-member pastoral care throughout the church. The four practical lessons will be offered as part of the parish teach-in month in August and are designed to encourage and better equip every member of the church to engage in caring for one another - it's not intended for "specialist" carers, but for every person who just wants to be better able to support those around them.

Bill France

9am Church

Our 9am Easter Sunday Service in the school, was a joyous celebration with adults and children all in together, and regular 9am families were joined by lots of visitors, including families from Matts4Minis. Highlights being: kid's songs, family prayers, lots of Easter buns, eggs, poppers, all focused on the Risen Lord who died in our place, and gives us eternal life!

May, as our St Matt's month of evangelism, has seen some visitors, challenging preaching, and hearing some encouraging testimonies from 9am regulars. We are thankful to God for what he has done and is doing in the lives of people.

As part of strengthening our 9am Ministry, we have established a Sunday Ministries Team, which focuses on logistics, in addition to our existing Congregational Life Leaders Team, which focuses on pastoral care. We are aiming to also create a Evangelism Team, to assist each of us in our personal evangelism, and to continually reach out to those in the school. We are keen to strengthen its fellowship by spending more time together: e.g. monthly Sunday lunches. Also, for more of our busy working men to connect into HOME groups or small groups for prayer and support.

Prayer Points:

- Praise God for what he has done, and is doing in the lives of 9am people, as they have come to Christ and are growing in Him. Pray that following May, those who come to Christ or recommit to Him, might be faithfully nurtured in their new or renewed lives.
- Pray that the Lord will grow 9am to love and serve him deeply, to grow closer as a family, and be continually welcoming so visitors they join us. That He would keep opening doors for outreach into the school community.
- Pray that more 9am people who aren't in HOME groups, especially men, might join existing and new groups, for fellowship and growth in Christ.

In Christ,
Jon Phua
Associate Minister & 9am Pastor



60 Seconds with Bill France, Seniors & Pastoral Care

Name – Bill (William Michael) France

Nick Name – Used to be “Red-Beard” in my School Chaplaincy days - nowadays both hue and facial covering are gone, so “baldhead” might suffice, but be wary of the bears (2 Kings 2:23-24).

Married - To Jackie, for 45 years this year - what a blessing (check with her).

Pets - used to have a lovely Labrador, Oscar - wouldn’t mind another but our peripatetic lifestyle at the moment rules it out.

Residence- Wesson Road, WPH - we have a great garden surrounded by trees - apart from the traffic noise wouldn’t know we were in the suburbs.

Work – it is a blessing doing the part-time Seniors and Pastoral Care role - I receive far more than I give from some great saints.

Food - Atlantic salmon with spices, and roasted veggies.

Social Activities – baby-sitting our eldest son’s two-year old twins every Monday takes some beating (would enjoy our other 5 g’kids too but they live out of Sydney). Meals with friends. The occasional movie and gallery.

Found Jesus – at the 1959 Billy Graham Crusade.

Fellowship – meet regularly with a long-time friend with whom I can share most things - keeps me accountable! (so does Jackie with whom I meet daily!!!). Home group is encouraging too.

Currently Reading – Just finished “Desiring God” by John Piper - some really good stuff, but I found his underlying theme of “Christian Hedonism” unhelpful. Just started “Gunning for God” by John Lennox - is the third of his books I have read - really excellent stuff for refuting the Atheist evolutionist work of Richard Dawkins and Stephen Hawking, et al.

Words of Encouragement – With the Lord there are no mistakes only opportunities - no stumbling blocks, only stepping stones.

Link Missionary Update

Link Missionary and Ministry Update

“I urge you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me” – Romans 15:30

How can we support our Link Missionaries and Ministers?

- Attend Missionary Prayer Night first Wednesday of each month – New Line Cottage 7.30 pm
- Attend the Mission Course at St Matt’s in August
- Receive prayer letters from Link Missionaries, and
- Use St Matts Prayer Diaries regularly.

Who are our Link Missionaries and Ministers?

As a church family at St Matthews we provide prayer and financial support to a number of missionaries whom we call our ‘Link Missionaries’. Some are overseas and others are here in Australia. We also support Christian Studies in local high schools and several members are involved in Kairos Prison Ministry:

International Missionaries

Ian and Ruth Batey – serving in the Church of the Ascension, an Anglican parish in Seville, Spain. See an article on the Bateys work in Spain on the Christian Mission Society (CMS) website
<http://www.cms.org.au/globalvision/summer2010>

Mike and Jo Gibbs – serving in a large city in South Asia by equipping local men and women in leadership.

Morgan and Anna Powell – serving in a Bible Institute in Arequipa, in the south west of Peru where Morgan is teaching at a Bible College and working in the Theological Education by Extension (TEE) course with churches and pastors around the city.

William and Grace Eyika – serving in Dagoretti Corner Baptist Church, located in Nairobi, Kenya. Newsletter. For breaking news, subscribe to the Dagoretti Corner Self-Help Group Email News
<http://dagoretticorner.org/>.

National Missionaries

Jenny Fallon – serving as personnel director for Serving in Mission (SIM) Australia, Penshurst, Sydney. Find out more about SIM at www.sim.org.au

Chris and Sharon Ekins – serving in the Coast Evangelical Church (CoastEC) in Forster, NSW. Find out what is happening at Coast EC at www.coastec.net.au.

Rob and Leanna Haynes – serving in the Northern Territory. Rob is working at Nungalinya College, a Christian residential training college for Indigenous people. Find out more about Nungalinya at <http://www.nungalinya.edu.au/College/TheCollege.htm>

Daniel and Dominica Lai – serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia in Sydney after working in East Africa for 12 years. Find out more about Wycliffe at <http://www.wycliffe.org.au/about-us/>

Steve and Melinda McKerney – serving with Murdoch Christians United (MCU) on Murdoch University campus, Perth, WA. Check out the funky MCU website <http://mcu.org.au/>.

Lindsay and Lyn Whybrow – serving with BCA in the Anglican church at Hillston, NSW. Find out more on the Bush Church Aid website at <http://bushchurchaid.com.au/missionlocations/hillston>

Link Ministries

Christian Studies at Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook Technology Schools - Graham Castle and Peter Murphy teach Christian Studies and encourage student volunteers who lead lunchtime groups in our local high schools.

Kairos Prison Ministry - A number of people from St Matthews are involved with the Kairos prison ministry at Dillwynia women's prison, South Windsor, and Emu Plains women's prison. Find out more at <http://www.kairos.org.au/>

Link Missionary Prayer Focus

As prayer points and news arrives from our Link Missionaries, and as mission events are coming up on the calendar, the Mission Resource Group will pass these on to you via the quarterly Prayer Diary, the St Mathews Mission website and here in Matt's Matters (see below). If you have missionary news or events to share, please contact Wendy Noble wendyj.noble@gmail.com.

This issue we focus on recent news from the McKerneys, the Haynes, and Jenny Fallon. Please support our link missionaries financially and in prayer.

Also by the time you read this we will have had the re-commissioning service for Ian and Ruth Batey (Samuel, Emma and William). Please pray for them as they return to Spain to spread the gospel in Seville, and keep praying for the church and people of Mairena del Aljarafe, They write: "Dear Friends, The past few months have been very tiring, but also tremendously encouraging, as we have visited our link churches and seen so many of you in person. We have felt particularly uplifted to witness your commitment to the spread of the gospel in Seville, and we have appreciated your genuine care and concern for our family..."

From Steve and Melinda McKerney in Perth.

To our brothers and sisters at St. Matt's!

Thank you SO much for your partnership from the beginning of our ministry until now. It's hard to believe that we left St. Matt's to come here just over 10 years ago! Our 5 years involved in Youth ministry at St Matt's were some of the best years of our lives. Under God's gracious hand, we saw some tremendous fruit from evangelism and much growth among the young people. In fact, I've lost count of how many of the Youth group kids and leaders from those years have gone into Christian ministry or are currently studying at Bible College! (There's a challenge there for someone to find out)



Ministry on the other side of the country is so very different! It's like we live in a parallel universe! On a visit to WA (many years ago now), Dudley Foord said to us that Perth was the driest place spiritually that he knew of. The census results reveal that WA has the lowest number of people as a percentage who tick the 'Christian' box compared to any other state in the country. There is hardly any primary school 'Scripture' and ISCF in High Schools is non-existent. The generation I work with (17-22 year olds) know little, if anything, of basic Christian concepts, and it is highly unlikely that they would a) know a genuine Christian or b) have been told the gospel by that Christian. The soil is very hard in Perth.

Even though the ground is hard to plough, we have seen fruit. Four MCU students from my early years here have just graduated from Trinity Theological College in Perth and are now serving in full-time Christian ministry in WA – one of whom is now working with me (Celeste) at Murdoch. I am praying that another former student, Bec, will join us next year as a ministry apprentice. Most of our fruit is seen in the growth in the hearts and minds of the young Christians God brings to us each year – which is terrific! It's not what we thought we'd be doing when we moved here, but this is what we must do.

Please be assured, your support over the past 10 years has borne fruit. In God's sovereignty, this work is extremely strategic for the Kingdom of God to grow in Perth. I honestly believe that all this would not be possible without the ongoing partnership of St. Matt's with us. May it long continue.

On the home front, in God's goodness, we all currently enjoy good health, our four boys receive a great education and are all doing well at school and uni. Jaidon [17] is in his 1st year at Curtin University doing Medical Imaging Science, Lewis [15] is at John Curtin College of the Arts (a selective government high school) where he was accepted as a drummer/percussionist, Ezra [12] is in year 7 at the local primary school with Sheamus [almost 11] (NB high school still starts in year 8 in Perth). Melinda has a 1 day per week job teaching Art at a small Christian high school, and she continues to help with the ministry at Murdoch. We struggle at times with four boys in the house – 2 of them teenagers! – so we would appreciate your prayers for Melinda and me as parents.

Thanks for reading and thanks for praying!

May God continue to do great things through you and in you all.

Steve & Melinda, Jaidon, Lewis, Ezra and Sheamus :)

from Rob and Leanna Haynes, with Nungalinya College and Anglicare in Darwin

Dear Friends,

Transition time

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel of Christ. We covet your prayers as we head into a time of major transition and need to complete a multitude of tasks as we draw closer to leaving our respective ministries at the end of September. Please pray that we are able to complete our work, handover well to those taking over our roles and pack up our home and offices for the move to Adelaide. We "can't wait" to be closer to our family. (Actually we can wait, and we have a very patient and understanding family, by God's grace.)

Please pray for continued healing for Leanna's mother who has recently had a cancerous breast lump removed and for safe travel at the end of June when we drive with her from Adelaide to Darwin.

Trust

Leanna and I would like you to know that all through the 24 years that you have partnered with us and CMS, we have never thought that CMS has played easily with the money donated by St Matt's, and other Christian individuals and churches. We trust CMS ourselves. Leanna and I give from our income to CMS because we know that wise and godly decisions are being made by the Society for the work of the gospel of Christ in strategic locations here and around the world. When we leave North Australia and eventually retire, we hope that you will find ways of continuing to support CMS work generally, and if possible CMS work in Aboriginal Australia.

Having said this, we want to urge you to continue, and perhaps increase your financial support to CMS through these tough economic times. Research the depth and the extent of Gospel ministry to which CMS is committed throughout the world today from their magazine and website. Our giving is not keeping up with the needs of the "harvest". Please pray.



Gospel and Culture

We praise God for excellent numbers of Indigenous students attending courses at Nungalinya. In particular, I (Rob) have taught and watched as 4 students in my class this week have grappled with the hugely important subject of Gospel & Culture, together with the Book of Galatians. They comprised two Anglicans, one Catholic and one Uniting Church student.

Please pray that with a deeper and more mature understanding of the growth of the Word of God in their own 'country', they will be faithful bearers of the one and only Gospel of Christ that sets us free and gives us unshakeable hope in God our Redeemer. They also need to be able to show their understanding to satisfy the assessments. Pray that as they return home they will stay focussed and will be able to encourage people in their home communities in what they have recently learnt.

Media studies

Nungalinya is currently building a media centre so students can be trained in media skills. Please pray for a suitable teacher to be found for this program. (Cert IV TAE, with theology and media qualifications and skills. Not much to ask for is it?) The college is also seeking a retired couple willing to live on site and act as hosts to welcome and care for students staying in college accommodation.

"We Grow Them Up" Festival

In June, Leanna's team at Anglicare will be particularly busy. Please pray for the Aboriginal women from remote communities who run playgroups and also do family support work, who are doing a course on Safeguarding Children on 1 June. Then Leanna's team will be putting on a major event in Darwin 4-5 June. It's the "We Grow Them Up" Festival and Good Practice Forum. The focus of the Forum is on Indigenous child rearing practices and implications for service providers. This is a great program, with the majority of speakers being Indigenous leaders from a range of remote communities. 70% of the 180 delegates are Aboriginal men and women concerned for the safety and healthy growth of their little ones.

Handing over

We give thanks that replacements have been appointed to take over our respective roles. Please pray that Leanna can complete a major report in July and has a good handover process with Wendy Scarlett who will become the new Team Leader for the Communities for Children Program. Pray for the right appointments be made to Leanna's team of local Aboriginal staff in Numbulwar. Also pray for Liz and Terry McCoy who begin at Nungalinya College after 5 months on Groote Eylandt gaining cultural and language experience. Pray for Rob as he begins the handover of his training and assessing resources to Liz McCoy.

We thank God for all that he is doing in our lives and yours to make Christ known throughout the world.

You at St Matt's are very dear to our hearts, and have been very faithful in love and support over the 24 years that we have been in the NT. Thanks so much for your encouragement.

With love,

Rob and Leanna



From Jenny Fallon with SIM in Sydney

Dear St Matt's friends,

I'm so thankful to God for your partnership over so many years (more than 25 now!) Thank you so much for your continuing commitment to God's kingdom work, as well as your support of me and SIM generally.

We're having an exciting period at SIM, as we see a slow increase in the number of people applying for service around the world. We've moved to holding 2 live-in orientation courses (called 'SIMCO') twice a year for longer term candidates, and I'm responsible for these happening. We've gradually worked out what really needs to be included in this face-to-face training and what can be accomplished as well or better in other ways. We also organise four 2-day orientation courses each year for short-term Associates, who go out to serve for periods of several weeks up to 2 years. I have other colleagues who mainly work with Associates, so there's a sharing of that responsibility.



We've had a number of changes of staff in the Personnel department, and there may still be more changes coming as we look at improving the way SIM operates generally. We're also working on moving much of our application process and tracking online, which will increase efficiency, reduce double handling of paperwork and make it easier for anyone to follow where each person is up to. We need good administrative support for this, and we're praying for someone who'll be capable of taking over much of the administrative side of my role. This will free me up to concentrate on my real interest and passion which is the care of our missionaries. We want each one to thrive in every area of their lives, not just survive! At the moment SIM Australia has about 90 long term adult missionaries, and about 40 Associates go out each year. So it's a full time job caring for them! We're looking at how we can give greater responsibility in this to the Sending churches, so SIM is more of a trainer and facilitator in the process.

SIM Australia has decided to try to make sure someone from our National leadership makes a pastoral visit to each of our long-term missionaries at least every 4 years. So far I've made 2 of these visits, firstly to the 4 countries in South America where we have Australian missionaries; more recently to Burkina Faso and Niger in West Africa. My next trip will possibly be in 2013 to a couple of the Asian countries where we have missionaries working. Part of the vision is to take along a few people from a sending or supporting church of some of the missionaries, in order to increase the understanding and involvement of the church. This has proved to be of mutual benefit and we plan to continue that pattern.

I really appreciate your prayers for us all, especially that we'll be courageous, wise and careful in all our planning and decisions. We want to keep in step with God's Spirit and open to the ways he wants to direct us, in Australia and around the world.

Together for his glory and Kingdom!

Jenny

COMMUNITY ISSUES NIGHT MEETS A REAL NEED

St Matt's continues to create points of contact with our community and to show them the relevance of Christ to their lives. This month's **Community Issues night** on '***Hear the Cry***'- Suicide Prevention and Intervention successfully achieved this. ***With more people dying by suicide than by car accidents in Australia***, many people's lives are touched by the struggles, difficulties and pain that come with attempted and completed suicide. Margaret Appleby OAM shared from her wealth of experience, encouraging everyone to consider any talk of suicide as something to be taken seriously. Up to 80% of people with suicidal intention give significant warning signs. Helping someone is as easy as:

- A Ask** the person directly how they are feeling and if they intend to harm themselves. This will not put the idea into their head but create an opportunity for them to communicate their feelings.
- B Believe** them if they say they have considered suicide
- C Contact** someone who can help
- D Do** something! Don't assume that someone else will or the person can help themselves.

If you would like to receive a copy of Margaret's CD and the power point slides for a nominal cost of \$5, please contact:
office@stmatts.org.au or call 9479 3700.



Upcoming Mission Events

MISSION TO MUSLIMS CONFERENCE @ MOORE SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE

When? June 30th, 2-9pm

Where?

DBK Lecture Theatre Moore College, 1 King St, Newtown

Who? Women and men working among Muslims in Sydney.

Seminars include:- Building trust; What Muslim women need; mentoring for Muslim ministry.

Why? To pray more informatively, give more intentionally and connect more effectively with your Muslim neighbours.

Cost? \$45 (incl afternoon tea and dinner)

Bookings: visit <http://forms.moore.edu.au/mtm> to register and pay. See you there!



ReachOut Conference 2012 'Y-Mission. Taking the Message to a Changing World'

At ReachOut 2012 we will explore the theme of 'Y-Mission', what does mission look like in the Y-Generation and how can we take part?

This August 11-12, we will have two great speakers with us. **Mark Young**, president of Denver Seminary, and **Steve Maina**, Director of CMS in New Zealand, will be joining us. We will also have heaps of mission agencies, great workshops, awesome worship and loads of people to chat to about global mission

Register: <http://www.reachoutmissions.com.au/conference.aspx>

Christian Studies Update

Changes at Pennant Hills

During term 1 it was evident that student numbers at Pennant Hills High had dropped and the school needed to consolidate classes in years 7, 8 and 9 from the beginning of term 2. This meant that only one full-time teacher was required to cover all Christian Studies classes.

The current situation is that Mr Graham Castle is employed full-time at Pennant Hills and Mr Peter Murphy is full-time at Cherrybrook Technology High School. They are assisted by volunteers who take lunch groups and assist with Year 10 classes.

The program

This program is vital as it gives us all an opportunity to support mission in our local community. Each week teachers are reaching almost 2000 students who hear God's word faithfully taught. It is a way of reaching the children of the many non-Christians, agnostics, atheists and the increasing numbers from other faiths in our local community.

We thank God for his faithful, continued provision of teachers and the prayerful and financial support over the past 26 years. But we are urgently in need of financial support and we would ask all members of the St Matthews congregations to consider financially and prayerfully supporting this program, additional to your normal offertory to St Matthews.

Details to support this program are provided below: (Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible).

Direct deposit to PHCCEA inc Commonwealth Bank, Pennant Hills BSB 062 225 A/c No. 0090 3146 then email the treasurer at treasurer@phccea.org.au advising of your address so your receipt can be posted.

Credit card donations – see back of current PHCCEA newsletter for details or ring John Hain (9872 9965) for a form to be emailed to you.

Cheque posted to PHCCEA PO Box 346 Pennant Hills NSW 1715

Cash or cheque in an envelope with your contact details – for the receipt, clearly marked PHCCEA. Special envelopes are available on the table near the fire hose.

Association Dinner

A Supporters' Dinner will be held on Saturday 25th August at Thornleigh Baptist. This will give everyone an opportunity to hear about the work done by the PHCCEA (Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook Christian Education Association). Tickets will be on sale soon. Everyone is welcome and parents (and potential parents) of students at the schools will find it particularly informative. Mark the date in your diary now.

For more information contact Jenny Gibbs or John Hain

不一樣的禱告者

藉著上帝的引領本堂祈禱會已於三月二十一日順利舉行，並落實每月舉行兩次祈禱聚會，分別為第一及第三個週三晚上，時間是從八時正到九時十五分，聚會名稱為〈不一樣的禱告者〉。所謂“不一樣”有兩個含意，第一是在形式上，一種新的帶領祈禱會方式，特色是上帝的話語在整個祈禱會中佔上相當比重，所加進新的原素是牧者聖經短講和主禱帶領禱讀。記得當中有兩次聚會加入了靈修式禱讀，就是用上帝的話，按著經文本身的意思來禱告，這不僅符合上帝的旨意，並且豐盛有力。藉著這樣接觸上帝的言語，來接受祂的餵養，叫生命得飽足，就正如詩篇第119篇103節所言：祢的言語，在我上膛何等甘美，在我口中比蜜更甜。

“不一樣”的另一含意是以祈禱聚會去建立弟兄姊妹的禱告生活，懂得凡事禱告並能全情經歷上帝的安慰、引領、教導、祝福和應許。聚會當中牧者會用上帝的話語教導這方面的事情。這一階段我們一同學習操練的禱告課題是〈存喜樂的心禱告〉，一共有八個環節；就是存喜樂的心--盼望、播種、灌溉、等候、經歷、接受、收成、感恩。每一份向上帝的禱求就如同一粒種子，存盼望播種在上帝的地土裡，並恆切地、不住地灌溉，灌溉就是個人禱告及眾人代求，用上眼淚去灌溉地土裡那一粒種子。之後就是等候上帝、經歷上帝、接受上帝在我們的生命上所賜與的及在禱求上所成就的心意。藉著這樣經歷上帝的言語，來接受祂的引領，叫生命得方向，就正如詩篇第119篇105節所言：祢的話，是我腳前的燈，是我路上的光。

感謝神親自感動三位主禱(嚴偉儀弟兄、葉蘇碧霏姊妹、嚴盧佩珊姊妹)與牧者同心、同工、合一地去籌備及設計整個禱告事工、預備及主領每一次聚會、並付上不住的禱告，存喜樂的心作成上帝所交託的事！“不一樣的禱告者”是我們每一位同工在上帝面前一份真誠的禱求，就是祈求藉這祈禱聚會去建立每一位參與者的禱告生活、活出不一樣的生命、成為禱告勇士！

Prayer points:

- Give thanks for the prayer meeting on every 1st and 3rd Wednesday night. Pray that with the help of God we together pursue a life which is persistent, prayerful dependence on God.
- Give thanks for the commitment of the 3 prayer leaders (Joseph Yim, Winnie Yap and Stella Yim) and their willingness to support me in planning the prayer meeting. Pray that we will serve God faithfully, enjoy the ministry and be empowered by God himself.
- Pray that more and more our members will come to experience how God may use the prayer meetings to build their faith and transform their lives.

Ken Wong – Chinese Minister

CMSEnd of Financial
Year Appeal

HELP BRING LASTING HOPE ACROSS THE MUSLIM WORLD!

Through your support, you can help bring many to Christ!

Across the Muslim world, there is great unrest and a deepening sense of hopelessness. The reports from Syria, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Egypt show a greater uncertainty than ever before. That's why the work of our CMS missionaries is more important than ever, bringing the lasting hope of the gospel to those in great spiritual darkness. It's why, in regions like this, we're committed to a long term presence; to stand against the gravest of difficulties, so we can help ensure the lasting presence of the gospel.

But it's a presence that is dependent on the support of fellow-believers like you. So go now to lastinghope.cms.org.au to give a gift to bring lasting hope to the gospel-poor world!

**By June 30th, CMS must receive
\$1,400,000 to sustain and increase
our efforts in the Muslim World
and in our other ministries.**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade – kept in heaven for you. 1 Peter 1:3-5 (NIV)

 Mission in
Muslim Regions Student
Ministry Church-based
Ministry Leadership
Training Development
and Caring

Our CMS Sunday is:

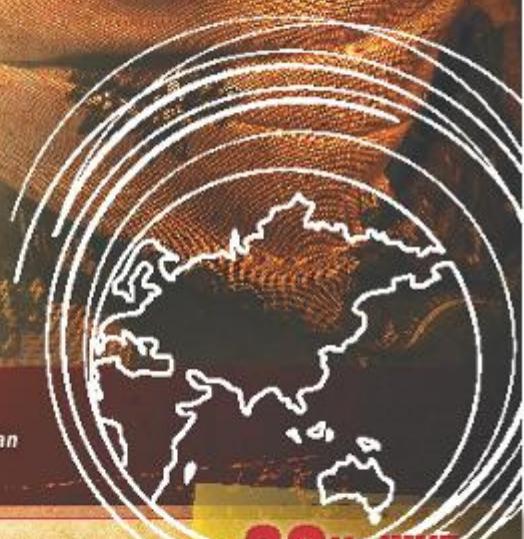
5pm & 7pm Service:

Sunday 17 June

Wednesday Service:

Wed 20 June

8am & 9am & 10am Services: Sunday 24 June



30th JUNE
DEADLINE!

Bible Questions for Next Week's Sermon (10/06/2012)

'You Broke Covenant; the Lord is Wearied'

Malachi 2:10 – 3:5

Starter What is our covenant with God and how might it be broken?

1. Mentioning 'Father' perhaps Malachi was thinking of the patriarchs, perhaps also of Deuteronomy 32:6, Isaiah 63:16). Why was disregarding promises and agreements of all kinds a 'profaning' of life (verse 10)? How does this work out in practice?
2. Why is intermarriage with those who do not share our belief in God a dangerous act (verse 11; 1 Kings 11: 1 to 8)? But, once married, what is our responsibility – see 1 Corinthians 7: 12-14?
3. Great emotional displays (verse 12) will not guarantee a good answer to our prayers if we are not right with God. What does Matthew 6: 5 – 8 teach us about praying?
4. Marriage is one of the most important covenants there is (verse 14) and for us it is one that the Lord 'witnesses' – Genesis 31:50; Proverbs 2:17. How do our marriage relationships affect our spiritual life – see 1 Peter 3: 7?
5. Why is divorce a 'violent' act (verse 16)? In what way does it also damage the person who does it – see perhaps Ephesians 5: 28 – 33
6. In what way could we 'weary' God with our words (verse 17)? Give some modern examples of this.
7. To those who think that God is absent he promises that he will come 'suddenly' (Chapter 3: verse 1). How does the Lord cleanse and refine his people (verses 2, 3 – see 1 Peter 1: 6 – 7)?
8. What religious and social evils are described in verse 5. How are these to be recognised and described to-day?

DEFINING MARRIAGE

DOES IT MATTER ANYMORE?



JOHN ANDERSON
FORMER DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER

PROF PATRICK PARKINSON
SPECIALIST IN FAMILY LAW

PATRICIA WEERAKOON
SEXOLOGIST

KARL FAASE
HOST

CHRISTOPHER PEARSON
COLUMNIST FOR
'THE AUSTRALIAN'

DR ALLAN MEYER
PASTOR & AUTHOR

HELEN MEYER
EDUCATOR &
COUNSELLOR

A Christian panel of experts will answer the big questions on marriage facing modern Australia in a live discussion in front of a studio audience

NATIONAL WEBCAST

TUESDAY 26TH JUNE 2012 7.30 - 8.45PM AEST

7.00 - 8.15PM CST AND 7.30 - 8.45PM WST (DELAYED)

Do Christian values and ideals for marriage still matter?

Should marriage remain between a man and a woman in today's world?

Can Christians continue to advocate for the biological meaning of marriage publicly?

What does research say about the benefit of man-woman marriage and the importance of children being raised where possible by their biological parents?

Ask a question to the panel about marriage and join this unique opportunity to hear about the biblical understanding of marriage and why it still matters.

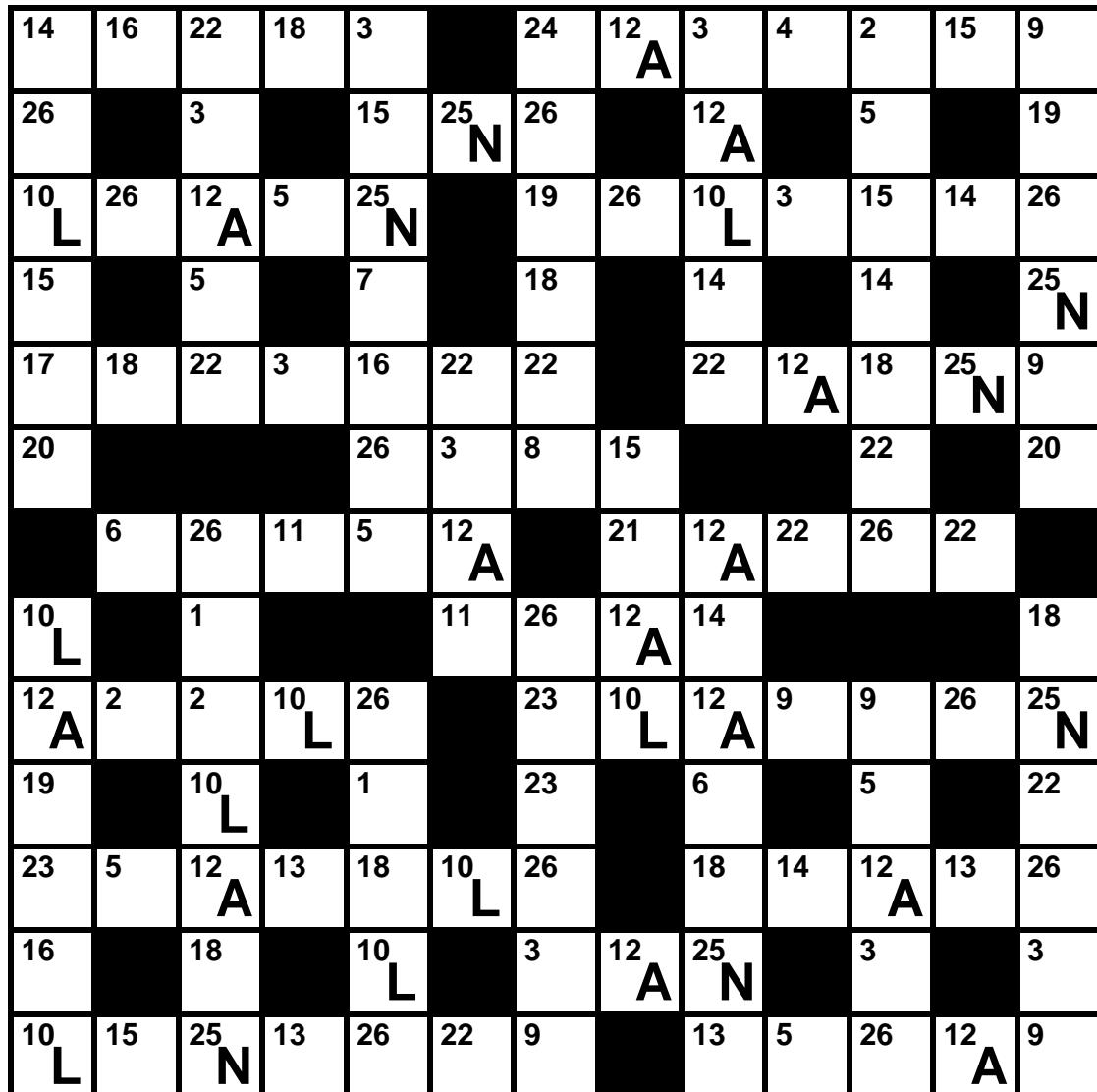
marriagewebscast.acl.org.au



**Webcast live at
St Matt's on
Tuesday 26 June
7.30—8.45pm.
Everyone
Welcome**

St Matt's Monthly - June Puzzle

This crossword has no clues! Instead, each letter of the alphabet is assigned a number, and a few letters are given to help you get started. In this puzzle, 10 = L, 12 = A and 25 = N. Write the letters in the number grid below as you go. Hint: start near the bottom left corner where the word A_L_ contains a double 2. What word might it be? It's a fruit!



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 L	11	12 A	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25 N	26

When you're finished, use the letter grid to solve this Bible verse:

5	26	24	15	18	3	26	18	25	9	8	26	10	15	5	17
---	----	----	----	----	---	----	----	----	---	---	----	----	----	---	----