

Services

Sunday 8.30am	Holy Communion (traditional)
Sunday 10.30am	All age worship (contemporary service with kids & junior youth programs)
Sunday 6pm	Sunday at Six (for the young and young at heart)
Wednesday 10.30am	Holy Communion and companion time

Next Week's Sermon

8.30am, 10.30am & SAS

Words of Paradise

continued

Shane Ellery

Upcoming Events

John Miller's Commissioning

November 18 at St Michael's Henley Beach, 7.30pm

Partner Churches

St Bartholomew's Norwood

77 Beulah Rd Norwood

Grace Church Trinity Gardens

Trinity Gardens Bowling Club
Canterbury Ave Trinity Gardens

Grace Anglican Network Office

146 Kensington Rd Marryatville

Office Hours:

Mon, Wed & Thurs 9am – 12pm

Tuesday 1-3pm

Giving Electronically to St Matt's

BSB: 105 073

Account No: 286 016 340

If you require a reference we recommend using your surname.



St Matthew's
KENSINGTON

More than we ask or imagine

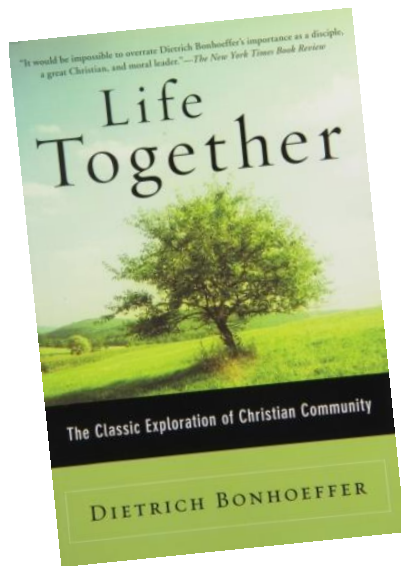
8 November 2015

It seems to me that in any change process there are two extreme and opposite reactions that can potentially be unhelpful. The first response is to reject change outright solely on the grounds that it will disturb what has become comfortable. For the Christian, our comfort is in the Lord, not in this world. In fact, Jesus has every believer on a radical program of change into greater Christ-likeness, so we should not expect to get too comfortable when we follow him. The second unhelpful reaction is to embrace change wholeheartedly, but uncritically. This can happen when we naively believe that just because something is shiny and new it's better and will be the answer to all our problems. Change may very well deal with some issues but it will inevitably create some others in the process. As we think about the proposed changes for the Grace Anglican Network in 2016, I imagine that most of us fall somewhere between these two extreme reactions (which is a good thing!).

There are two truths from the book of Ephesians that I am finding helpful in thinking through the GAN 2016 vision. The first is that God is able to do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine (Eph. 3:20). From this I think we have to conclude that, at least in one sense, our vision for next year and beyond is too small. Our minds cannot even fathom what God may choose to do in our humble church and city - surely this is an encouragement for us to dream big! But this should be balanced with another great truth in Ephesians: that our plans are not our own. Any changes we make will, under God, just be a small (though still significant) part of His eternal plan to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ (Eph. 1:9-10). I think the reminder here is to keep submitting every detail of our plans to God and His purposes. 2016 may be a year of new beginnings for GAN, but not for God, whose plans for this world extend back before time itself. I pray that it will be grand truths like these that continue to inspire and shape the direction for our wonderful church.

Shane Ellery (Associate Minister, SAS)

Book of the Term - A Classic



Copies are now available from your church center for \$25.

Prayer Points

Special Needs: Raymond Wong, Joy Blanch & Daniel, Judy & Ian Black, Di Boxall & Eve Shillito

Prayer focus: SAS

Praise God for:

- His great and merciful plan to bring unity to all things under Christ
- The ministry of Greg and Sum Lock over fifteen years at St Matt's - their farewell last Sunday was very sad but also a time of great celebration and thankfulness to God
- The faith and witness of the youth and young adults across our network

Pray that:

- We will be bold and wise as we think through the implications of the GAN 2016 vision for each gathering and that we will be driven by a desire to know Jesus more deeply and to make him known in our communities
 - The Lock's as they consider their next steps in life and ministry
 - Our year-twelve students who are currently sitting their final exams
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Community Notices

Vision Feedback

Any feedback for Joint Council needs to be received by tomorrow. Thank you.

St Bart's Special Vestry Meeting

A special vestry meeting will be held at 11:30am on Sunday 29 November to consider proposed changes to the church area. See the church notice board for details of the proposal.

Let's do lunch

Thursday 12 November at *Elbio's*, 134a The Parade. Topic: 'Calling a place home'. For more information contact Rowena Dunk 8362 6409.

Magdalene Centre dinner

St Matts is next rostered to cook at the Mag center on the 21 November. If you are able to help with the cooking, preparing the meal and also people to help on the night. If you are able to help or would like more information please contact Glenys (8364 1117) or Robyn (8331 1743).

Davis' prayer group

Will be meeting next on the 14 November at 4pm at Judy Ellyatt's. For more information contact Judy on: 8379 2694 or judithellyatt@optusnet.com.au.

BCA Boxes – St Matt's

We have had two unnamed counting boxes handed in to St Matt's office. If one of these boxes might be yours can you please ring the office.

The boxes have now been counted, thank you for your generous giving. Just over \$600 was raised to support Bush Church Aid at St Matts. Boxes can now be collected from your church center.

Compassion BBQ

The next compassion BBQ is next Sunday, 15 November after the 10.30am service at St Matt's. Come join us for lunch and a chat as we raise funds for compassion.

Magdalene Centre donations for Christmas hampers and gifts

As we are getting closer to Christmas we are hoping to increase our giving of food items to the Mag Centre and also donate gifts, the food and gifts will be given to disadvantaged individuals and families this Christmas. Food items include: tinned ham and tuna, canned veg, canned fruit, cordial, treats, Christmas cake, biscuits, long life milk, coffee, milo, tea, spreads and jams, pasta and pasta sauce. Gift ideas include: dolls, art and craft sets, tennis balls, Lego kits, tea sets, books, DVD's, stationery, jigsaws, jewellery, balls, board games. Please drop donations in the labelled red bin in the foyer of St Matt's church (for more suggestions of food or gift donations please contact the office).

Christmas Cards

In the hall there are Anglicare Christmas cards on display which can be ordered by filling in one of the order forms found next to the cards and placing it in the office door slot. For more information contact Glenys Gould 8364 1117.

Syrian Refugees

Do you knit? Squares measuring 25x25cm in plain knitting are required. 28 make one rug. Wool bank available. Progress report: 2 quilts, 2 rugs. For information contact Rowena Dunk (8362 6409).