

Next Week's Bible Talks

8:30am Bexley

Vincent Chan on "The Narrow Road"
(Matthew 7:13-20)

9:00am Carlton

Kevin Yeung on "The Narrow Road"
(Matthew 7:13-20)

10:30am Carlton

Vincent Chan on "The Narrow Road"
(Matthew 7:13-20)

10:30am Bexley North

Kevin Yeung on "The Narrow Road"
(Matthew 7:13-20)

6.30pm Church

Vincent Chan on "The Narrow Road"
(Matthew 7:13-20)

Events

Prayer Meetings

First Saturday of every month, 8am
Email office@snac.org.au for location.

English for Life

Every Friday during school terms,
9:30-11:30am at St James

Turner's Commissioning

Saturday 13th May, 2.30pm at St James

SNAC Men's Night

Saturday 3rd June (more details to come)

Kids Holiday Club

11-14 July

Contact Us

General Enquiries

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Sunday Locations

8:30am Bexley (Contact Jason)

Corner of Albyn St & Dunmore St, Bexley

9:00am Carlton (Contact Kevin)

St James' Carlton, entry via Henry St

10:30am Carlton (Contact Phil)

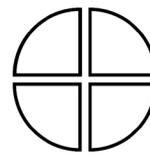
Carlton Public School, entry via Cameron St

10:30am Bexley North (Contact Jason)

Holy Trinity, entry via Carrisbrook Ave

6.30pm Church (Contact Troy)

St James' Carlton, entry via Henry St



St George North
Anglican Church

Glorifying God by
Proclaiming Jesus | Growing Disciples | Serving Together

Weekly SNAC

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16 April 2017

I believe in the Resurrection

While I generally love my work as a minister, there are some very difficult tasks and perhaps the most difficult of all is standing at the graveside, sprinkling soil into the grave and saying those words from Psalm 103 –

As for man, his days are like grass, he flourishes like a flower of the field; the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.

They are sobering words aren't they? Our lives are brief. In the scheme of the universe we are here today and gone tomorrow.

Which is what makes the message of Easter Sunday so powerful. On Easter Sunday we celebrate the fact that Jesus has risen from the grave and defeated death. On that first Easter Sunday over 2000 years ago Mary Magdalene and another lady also called Mary went to the tomb expecting to find the body of Jesus. However, when they arrived the tomb was empty.

Sometimes people think that the ancients were gullible, unlike us rational modern people. However, death was just as permanent then as it is now. They knew the truth of Psalm 103 even better than we do.

These women did not believe that Jesus had risen, they assumed all sorts of unlikely events must have happened, because dead people just don't rise. It was not until an angel appeared to them and said:

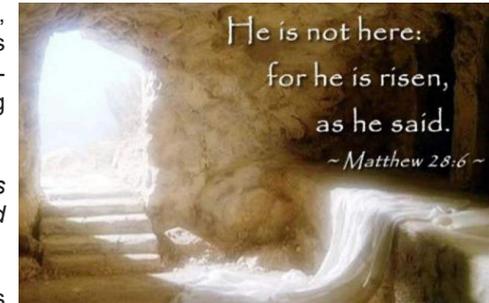
"Don't be afraid, because I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here! For He has been resurrected, just as He said."

Even then they did not believe until they were shown the empty tomb and eventually met the risen Jesus.

That fact of history, namely that the tomb was empty, has confounded critics for 2000 years. The Jewish religious establishment had to deal with that fact, which they did by bribing the soldiers and spreading the story that the disciples had stolen the body. They could not argue with the fact that the tomb was empty. Otherwise they would have just taken people to the tomb and Christianity would have died then and there!

Of course, they could never produce the stolen body. Again, if they had, Christianity would have died like most other Jewish offshoot religions did. More than that, people kept coming out and saying that they had seen Jesus alive. Then those eyewitnesses refused to recant, even when they were put to death. They died saying, "Jesus has risen and I have seen him and I would rather die than say otherwise."

(cont. page 2.....)



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It's interesting how often I talk to people who say, "I wish I had your faith. I wish I could believe". My answer is always, "You can, if you will just look at the evidence".

No one can ever prove 100% that an event has happened in history. That's why there are people who refuse to believe that the Holocaust happened. That's why there are people who refuse to believe that man walked on the moon. If you weren't there and if you didn't see it, then you can't 100% prove it.

However, normally we rely on others who were there and we rely on the trustworthiness of their evidence.

So I can't prove to someone that Jesus rose from the dead. However, I can say – there is so much evidence available to you to make a rational decision if you would just look at it. If this is an issue for you – there are great books where historians and lawyers and the like present the evidence for the resurrection.

As one of America's great early legal minds said, "According to the laws of legal evidence used in courts of law, there is more evidence for the historical fact of the resurrection than for just about any other event in history."
Dr Simon Greenleaf – Harvard University.

This Easter, if you are a doubter, then why not take some time to truly investigate the evidence for yourself?

Phil Colgan

Safe Ministry Training

There have been some recent changes to the Diocesan Safe Ministry Requirements. Because of these changes SNAC is running a second Safe Ministry Refresher course this year. This course is for anyone who is involved in or would like to be involved in ANY ministry with kids or youth.

Sunday May 28th
2–5pm at St James Carlton

PLEASE NOTE: from now on if you let your Safe Ministry training lapse and do not update you will have to complete the full Essentials course. This is a new Diocesan Requirement.

If you have any questions or would like to attend one of the courses please contact Sarah Munns (sarah@snac.org) or 0403 686 284.

Church Finances

6 Remember this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7



For those wishing to give electronically the church's Bank account details are:

Bank: Westpac
BSB: 032 158

Account Name: Parish of St George North General A/C
Account No.: 268126

Commissioning Service for the Turners

Please join us at the Commissioning Service for Glen and Dominique Turner, with Judah, Ezra, and Hosea. We will be praying for the Turner family as we send them back to Musoma, Tanzania.



When: 2:30pm, Saturday, 13th May 2017

Where: St James Anglican Church,
Cnr Henry & Percival Sts Carlton

What's coming up after Easter?

After Easter we will have a couple more weeks finishing our look through Jesus' **Sermon on the Mount**.

After that, we will be having a special sermon series to commemorate the fact that this year is 500 years since **the Reformation** began, when Martin Luther rediscovered the wonderful truths of God's word that we are saved not by what we do, but by the work of Jesus on our behalf. In the light of that, we will spend five weeks thinking about 5 key aspects of what we believe:

1. We are saved through **Faith Alone**
2. We are saved by **Grace Alone**
3. We are saved by **Christ Alone**
4. Our authority in all things is the **Bible Alone**
5. What are we doing when we share **the Lord's Supper**?

After this series, we will be thinking about the **Wisdom of God** in the books of **Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs** and **Lamentations**.

Phil Colgan

Christianity Explained

Our Christianity Explained course is available again in Term 2. This free course provides a great opportunity to hear a clear explanation of the Christian faith.

We have a number of courses available:

Daytime for women (with creche): * 10am Tuesdays at Bexley North.
* 10am Thursdays at Carlton.

Evenings for men and women: * 7.45pm Tuesdays, starting 16th May.
* 5pm Sundays, starting 21st May.

Please speak to your congregational leader or contact Kevin Stepniewski (0421 286 835 or kevin@snac.org.au) if you would like to come along or for more information.