

Next Week's Bible Talks

8:30am Bexley

Jason Veitch on

Celebrating the Reformation: Grace Alone

9:00am Carlton

Phil Colgan on

Celebrating the Reformation: Grace Alone

10:30am Carlton

Phil Colgan on

Celebrating the Reformation: Grace Alone

10:30am Bexley North

Jason Veitch on

Celebrating the Reformation: Grace Alone

6.30pm Church

Phil Colgan on

Celebrating the Reformation: Grace Alone

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

☎ 9553 1840 | ✉ office@snac.org.au
<http://www.snac.org.au>

Phil Colgan (Senior Minister)

☎ 9553 1840 | ✉ phil@snac.org.au

Jason Veitch (Associate Minister)

☎ 9502 1946 | ✉ jason@snac.org.au

Kevin Stepniewski (Associate Minister)

☎ 0421 286 835 | ✉ kevin@snac.org.au

Troy Munns (Associate Minister)

☎ 0406 371 009 | ✉ troy@snac.org.au

Brendan Moar (Youth Minister)

☎ 0409 525 365 | ✉ brendan@snac.org.au

Sarah Munns (Children's Minister)

☎ 0403 686 284 | ✉ sarah@snac.org.au

Colin Francis (Electronic Giving)

☎ 9588 7119 | ✉ finance@snac.org.au

Carmel Vincent (Admin)

☎ 0431 969 516 | ✉ carmel@snac.org.au

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)

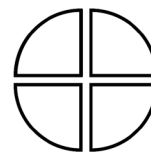
Carlton Public School, entry via Cameron St

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

Edition 667

7 May 2017

Giving thanks to God

Psalm 136 begins and ends with a call to give thanks to God!

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. *His love is eternal.*

2 Give thanks to the God of gods. *His love is eternal.*

3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords. *His love is eternal...*

...26 Give thanks to the God of heaven! *His love is eternal.*

Sandwiched between these verses are many reasons that Israel had to thank God. His love for them is eternal, he made the heavens, he brought them out of slavery in Egypt and into their own land, he protected them and went before them and provided for them.

This Psalm is dripping with joy-filled thankfulness for who God is and what he's done.

But, if I'm honest, this Psalm is not me. I struggle to be thankful. I know I shouldn't; I have more reasons than an Old Testament Israelite to thank God! But day-to-day I often forget to be thankful. And when I sit down to pray the part I struggle with the most is thanking God for things.

About a year ago I stumbled upon the Grateful app. The aim of the app is to provide you with a place where you can share what you're grateful for and keep a track of it. Basically, you plant what you're grateful for as a seed in a garden and it grows into a flower (see picture). You can then harvest the flowers whenever you like or continue to watch them sway soothingly in the garden.

At the end of each day, as I jump into bed, I think of three things I'm thankful for. Then I plant them as seeds in the garden and thank God for them. When I have planted 36 flowers I harvest them and start a new garden.

(cont. page 2.....)

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Now all this might sound a little forced or fluffy to you (it did to me originally to be honest). But I've noticed two things since making this app part of my daily routine. Firstly, I find it a LOT easier to think of things that I'm thankful for. Having to think of 3 things each day to be thankful for is helping me to see I have many more than 3 things to be thankful for. Secondly, I'm much more thankful throughout the day. I recognize things I can be thankful for as they come up during the day.

This is not a Christian app, the story behind it is a strange one about an old woman counting beans. But God is using it to create a habit in my life that is growing a thankful heart in me. And it's free! So why not try it?

Sarah Munns

Christianity Explained

Are you interested in finding out more about the central claims of the Christian faith? You might be investigating Jesus for the first time or you might like a refresher in the basics of the Bible.

Either way, our free Christianity Explained course is available again in Term 2 and provides a great opportunity to:

- * Hear a clear and simple explanation of the Christian faith
- * Ask questions or remain silent
- * Read one of the accounts of Jesus' life for yourself.



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.

Commissioning Service for the Turners



Please join us at the Commissioning Service for Glen and Dominique Turner, with Judah, Ezrah 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

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 – Strong start to the year

Praise God for the generosity of his people at St George North. In the first three months of the year our giving was very strong and has set us on a great start to the year. In March our giving almost matched our budget and it was only the slow start to the year over summer that leaves us a little behind at the end of the first quarter.



As you know from the recent AGM we are entering a period of building work around our Parish and so we continue to prayerfully depend on God for his provision not only to meet our budgeted expenses but also the upcoming property expenses. If you have not recently reviewed your giving then please prayerfully consider your giving so that we are able to do all the things under God we have planned to do.

March Offertories	\$69,507	Offertories YTD	\$202,785
Budgeted (March)	<u>\$69,893</u>	Budgeted YTD	<u>\$209,679</u>
Shortfall (March)	\$ 386	Shortfall YTD	\$ 6,894

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

Bank: Westpac
Account Name: Parish of St George North General A/C
BSB: 032 158
Account No.: 268126