

Next Week's Bible Talks

8:30am Bexley

Jason Veitch on "Water, wine and a sign"
(John 2:1-12)

9:00am Carlton

Phil Colgan on "Water, wine and a sign"
(John 2:1-12)

10:30am Carlton

Phil Colgan on "Water, wine and a sign"
(John 2:1-12)

10:30am Bexley North

Jason Veitch on "Water, wine and a sign"
(John 2:1-12)

4.30pm Bexley North

Phil Colgan on "Water, wine and a sign"
(John 2:1-12)

6.30pm Church

Phil Colgan on "Water, wine and a sign"
(John 2:1-12)

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

Big Day Out

Saturday 24th March 2018
Register at www.snac.org.au/bdo

AGM

Sunday 25th March 2018
2pm at St James

Good Friday

30th March 2018

Easter Sunday

1st April 2018

Contact Us

General Enquiries

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Sunday Locations

8:30am Bexley (Contact Jason)

Corner of Albany 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)

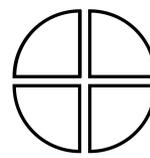
Holy Trinity, entry via Carrisbrook Ave

4:30pm 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 705

11 February 2018

What's in a name?

Most of us know what our name means. My name – 'Jason' – is a name boxed in time. When you meet a 'Jason' you can be fairly confident they were born between 1972 and 1978. You can be almost as confident that they are some sort of nerdy geek involved in IT - but that's a different story. The name 'Jason' is a Greek name meaning 'healer' but unless it means fixing broken computers then I don't think that trusting in the meaning of the name is a good idea.

Last week we began our series in John's Gospel and focussed upon the amazing incarnation of Jesus – the Word became flesh and took up his residence amongst us. Sadly, we also saw, that though God entered the world his own people largely did not receive Him. Yet some did and John 1:12 speaks about these people saying:

"...to all who did receive Him, He gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in His name"

Incredibly, and as we more fully discover by verse 18, believing in the name of Jesus is how God brings people into his family.

So, what does it mean to believe in Jesus' name? John wants us to discover that more fully as we read his Gospel. The name Jesus means 'saviour' – but given my name means 'healer' and Phil's name means 'lover of horses' we need more to go on. Fortunately John introduces us to many different names for Jesus in his gospel.

Just today in the rest of chapter 1 Jesus is given 7 names rich with meaning:

the Lamb of God [v25];	the Son of God [v34];	Rabbi / Teacher [v38];
the Messiah [v41];	Jesus of Nazareth [v45];	the King of Israel [v49];
the Son of Man [v51].		

Going beyond chapter 1 and further into the Gospel we come across more names and titles for Jesus that he himself introduces:

I am the bread of life [6:35];	I am the light of the world [8:12];
I am the gate for the sheep [10:7];	I am the good shepherd [10:11];
I am the resurrection and the life [11:25];	
I am the way, the truth, and the life [14:6];	I am the true vine [15:1].

All of these names help us to see more fully who Jesus really is. Over the coming weeks we will continue to think about each of them but it is also helpful to see them all together and to see the breadth of what is meant by believing in the name of Jesus. *(cont. page 2.....)*

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Finally, it is worth noting that each of Jesus' self-identifying names begins with the phrase "I am". This is exactly the same phrase God used when he revealed his name to Moses in Exodus 3:14: "I AM WHO I AM". It is no accident that the phrases Jesus uses to reveal himself actually hint to his true divinity. John made the very same point in John 1:1 - *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

Whilst shortcutting the phrase in v12 "believe in the name of Jesus" to simply meaning to "believe in the person Jesus" is perfectly fine, there is also a great richness in stopping to remember the breadth of who Jesus is as expressed in the names we find in John's Gospel.

You might like to reflect upon these names yourself and read through all of John's Gospel to remind yourself of the glory of our Saviour. Our hope, like John's hope in John 20:31, is that this series in John's Gospel will help us all to trust more and more in Jesus and to have the full life, as children of God, that comes by believing in His name.

Jason Veitch

Praise God for the generosity of his people

Giving in 2017

The Apostle Paul says in Philippians 1:3-5 – *I give thanks to my God for every remembrance of you, always praying with joy for all of you in my every prayer, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.*

As the letter goes on we see that a key aspect of that partnership was their financial generosity. On that note I want to invite you in joining me in praising God for the 'partnership in the gospel' of the members of St George North. Despite finishing behind budget for the year we must remember that we also raised over \$120,000 towards our building project last year.

	Monthly	Total
2017 Giving	\$67,161	\$805,927
2017 Budget required	<u>\$69,892</u>	<u>\$838,711</u>
2017 Shortfall	\$ 2,732	\$ 32,784

Budget for 2018

As we start the year it would be wonderful if we all were prayerfully considering our giving to support the ministry of our church. From January we require an increase against our budgeted and actual offertories in 2017 of 5% and 9% respectively.

2018 Budgeted monthly offertories required \$73,137

We often start the year slowly and then have to play catch up. It would be a great blessing if people considered adjusting their giving now in these first months of the year.

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

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

Christianity Explained

Our Christianity Explained course is starting again for the year. 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. Join any week in Term 1.

* 10am Thursdays at Carlton. Join any week in Term 1.

Evenings for men and women: * 5pm Sundays for 6 weeks starting on 25th February.

* 7.45pm Tuesdays for 6 weeks starting on 27th February.

* 7.45pm Wednesdays at Bexley North. Join any week in Term 1.

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.

McDowell's Commissioning



It is with great joy that we will commission Samuel and Kate McDowell and their family to serve the Lord in Paraguay.

Everyone is invited to their commissioning service, which will be held at St James' Carlton on **Saturday 17th February at 2pm**, followed by afternoon tea.

Major Changes to SAFE MINISTRY

Safe Ministry training is part of the Diocesan Safe Ministry Ordinance. It requires that everyone involved in ministry to children and young people must undertake Safe Ministry training **every three years** (this includes **all** ministries involving children including **Jitterbugz, Creche and Kids Holiday Club**).

Safe Ministry Essentials and Refresher **courses are now ONLINE**.

Here are a few things to note:

1. Online training consists of **self-paced modules and a live webinar**.
2. The content of the online courses is the same as the face-to-face versions and the time taken to complete the online training will be similar.
3. You must register online in order to gain access to the modules.
4. Live webinars are run at specific times during the month. You must register for these.
5. You must complete the Refresher course every 3 years. If you let your Safe Ministry training expire you will have to complete the Essentials course again.
6. SNAC is now no longer allowed to run the courses face-to-face. The Diocesan provider is offering limited face-to-face training. If you would prefer to do the training face-to-face head to www.safeministry.training to register.

For more information head to this address <https://safeministry.training/online-safe-ministry-training-registration/>