

Grapevine

St Mary's Anglican Church
December 2013



Christmas Service Times at St Mary's

Sunday 22nd December

4:00pm Family Christmas
Celebration in the Hall

7:00pm Carols and Lessons

Tuesday 24th December

7:00pm Family Christmas
Eve celebration

11:00pm Christmas Eve
Communion

Wednesday 25th December

9:30am Christmas Day
Communion

From Gavin's Desk

by Rev. Gavin Ward



Gavin Ward

1 Vision

I met recently with Ken Morgan, Kim Beales and Mark Armstrong to review where we got up to in our visioning process. As a result of that meeting I have put together a summary which will be discussed by Parish Council at its January meeting, at which time we will also be discussing the next steps as we head towards a launch after Easter next year. This will be an exciting year for us as we begin to take these next steps in our Parish life towards where God is calling us to serve Him.

Continued on page 2...

Youth & Young Adults Camp, 2014

With Kim Beales

GO Camp is back!

Where:

Rowallan Adventure Camp
Riddells Creek

When:

**Friday 14th February 7pm -
Sunday 16th, 2pm.**

Hi everyone, we will be returning for our Youth and Young Adults camp in February next year. This is for all youth and young adults. We've got a very exciting camp lined up! More details coming soon. Please save the date, and think of some friends to invite.

Invitation for helpers: We also would like to invite some parents/helpers/mentors to consider being involved in camp. Please speak to Kim if you are able to help out.

Look out for the flyer (to be released soon), and please contact Kim for more details.

kimbeales@stmarysanglican.org.au

From Gavin's desk continued ...

2 Christmas 2013

To say the weather over the past couple of months has been unpredictable, would be a complete understatement. One day we are sweating through 30+ heat only to wake up the next day to 10 degrees and horizontal rain. The National Servicemen and I even experienced a snow shower in November up on Mt Macedon. The old saying that "if you don't like Melbourne's weather, just wait 5 minutes," was never truer than through recent times. The regular rain and sun has certainly kept us all busy mowing lawns, weeding and pruning.

The ever changing weather, draws me to love God all the more. When I compare the weather with a God who never changes, I am drawn to love and trust him all the more.

Each Christmas I am reminded again and again of His promises, detailed in the Old Testament which come true in the birth and life of Jesus Christ. His constant character of love, justice and mercy are revealed in His son, Jesus. I therefore trust in Him for all the issues I face today and for those I will face in the future.

My prayer is that, at this Christmas time, each of you will similarly be drawn into a deeper relationship with the constant God we worship through His son Jesus and that 2014 will be an exciting year of seeing His hand working in your lives.

May "the Word who became flesh" inspire and delight you this Christmas and in 2014.

Discovering Jesus an Adults discussion group with Childcare

This year we started a new Adults discussion group, held on Tuesday mornings from 9.30am - 10.30am in the Parish House. The group will be continuing next year and we invite you to join us! Whilst the adults meet, chat, learn and discover who Jesus is, childcare is provided for children on site. Following the discussion group, everyone is invited to move into the Parish Hall for our Tuesday playgroup.

In 2014 the Tuesday playgroup time is changing and will be 10.30 - 12 noon. For more information speak to Klara Hahne or Kim Beales.



Discipleship & Ministry Training Coordinator – What is it?

By Ros Armstrong

Last year, Gavin and I began a conversation about me taking on a new role. Cath Fisher had been doing some great training and teaching and there was a desire for this to continue after she left. I remember clearly the excitement I felt as Gavin described the very early thoughts of what would be involved. Here were things that I love doing, and that I and others believe God has gifted me for.

So I now have the grand title of Discipleship and Ministry Training Coordinator. But what will it entail?

There are several parts of the role, here outlined in no particular order.

Firstly, I have taken on the role of Home Group Coordinator, involving helping people find a suitable home group, raising up more home group leaders, and providing training and support for existing leaders. I have already visited several groups to see how they are going and will visit the rest in the new year. This is intentionally temporary, so I will be looking at finding someone else for this role for 2015.

Next, I will be involved in discipleship training, that is, helping people to know God more. This is coordinating programs such as Introducing God for those exploring the Christian faith, through to helping people have a greater understanding of the bible. An exciting part of this will be facilitating the Ridley Certificate (see separate article over the page for more information).

I will also be involved in ministry training, that is, helping people serve God better, both within the church and in their daily lives, such as evangelism / sharing one's faith. There will also be training for preachers, as we desire to continually improve in the way we share God's word.

As well, I will be preaching more regularly, and coordinating parish wide bible studies.

It is a role with different elements; in some I will be involved directly, in others acting more as a facilitator. I am very excited about it and looking forward to seeing how it will all come together, and its development in the years to come.

If you would like to know more about my role, or are interested in some particular training please feel free to contact me by email rosarmstrong@stmarysanglican.org.au



Ridley Certificate

By Ros Armstrong

Ridley Melbourne has been training people for ministry for over 100 years. They are now offering a course for people who either do not wish or are unable to undertake a full diploma/degree but would like to do some in depth bible and ministry study.

The Ridley Certificate involves excellent quality video lectures by expert presenters (who lecture at Ridley and elsewhere). These are supplemented by reflection questions and quizzes, all available online. It can be done by individuals in their own time, or in a group setting.

To complete the certificate, there are four core subjects and eight electives, which you can do at your own pace. Subjects include: Bible Overview, Understanding your bible, Psalms, Ministry Skills, 1 Corinthians.

There is a cost involved – each unit costs \$95 – which Ridley has tried to keep to a minimum. This may sound a lot, but to put it in perspective, you can complete the twelve units for less than a single degree/diploma subject run by Ridley. Payment also enables Ridley to offer a larger range of subjects. Remember, too, that as there is no time limit to complete the certificate you could do it at just one or two units per year if you wish!

St Mary's is going to run groups for the certificate, beginning in February 2014, with the Bible Overview (all participants will be expected to have paid and enrolled online). As well, for those who wish to do the course on their own, I would love to meet with you periodically as you study.

If you are interested, please fill out an "Expression of Interest" form, and leave it in my pigeon hole, or email me on rosarmstrong@stmarysanglican.org.au

More details and enrolments are available from Ridley Melbourne:
www.certificate.ridley.edu.au



"Serving God effectively in whatever setting he has placed us is one of life's greatest challenges. It is our prayer that the Ridley Certificate will equip you to meet that challenge"

Brian Rosner, Principal, Ridley Melbourne

2014 Preaching Planner

** Subject to change*

5th January- Decisions. Decisions
12th January To Fear the Lord - what does that mean?
19th January- Looking to Jesus
26th January Australia Day

What is the Church?

2nd February What is the Church? Looking Up
9th February What is the Church? Looking In
16th February What is the Church? Looking In
23rd February What is the Church? Looking Out

2nd March Stewardship

Lenten Series- Leviticus

9th March Leviticus- Sacrifice

16th March Hero of the Faith

23rd March Leviticus- Priesthood

30th March Leviticus- Clean & Unclean

6th April Leviticus- Day of Atonement

13th April Leviticus- Holy Living

20th April Easter Day

27th April- Ken & Ally Thompson
4th May Vision Launch

Mark 12- The Jerusalem Showdown

11th May Jerusalem showdown- Tenants

18th May- Jerusalem showdown - Taxes

25th May - Jerusalem showdown - Resurrection

1st June Jerusalem showdown –
 Greatest Commandment

8th June Holy Spirit - Pentecost
15th June Question Sunday

The Holy Spirit

22nd June Holy Spirit Part 1

29th June- Holy Spirit Part 2

6th July Holy Spirit Part 3

13th July Guest Preacher

2 Timothy

20th July- 2 Timothy Part 1

27th July 2 Timothy Part 2

3rd August Chibobo Trip Feedback

10th August 2 Timothy Part 3

Apocalyptic Daniel

7th August Visions from the Past- Four Beasts

24th August Visions from the Past- Ram & a goat

31st August - Model of Prayer

7th September The Real Battle

14th September Visions from the Past- Final Victory

21st September Question Sunday

Proverbs

28th September Proverbs Part 1 -

5th October Proverbs Part 2

12th October Proverbs Part 3

19th October Proverbs Part 4

26th October Proverbs Part 5

The Bible

2nd November How is the Bible put together

9th November How do we read the Bible

Mark's Gospel for Advent

16th November Mark 1:1 - 3:6

23rd November Mark 3:7 - 5:43

30th November Mark 6:1 - 8:29

7th December Mark 8:30 - 10: 52

14th December Mark 11:1 - 13:27

21st December Mark 14:1 - 16:8

And right through to Lent 2015.....

Philippians

28th December Confident In Christ - Philippians 1:1-11

4th January Living In Christ - Philippians 1:12-26

11th January: Standing Together In Christ -
 Philippians 1:27-2:1

18th January Transformed By Christ - Philippians 2:12-30

25th January Righteous In Christ - Philippians 3:1-9

1st February Knowing Christ - Philippians 3:10-4:1

8th February Rejoicing In Christ - Philippians 4:2-9

15th February Content In Christ - Philippians 4:10-23

St Mary's
is a
community...
Loving God,
Following
Jesus,
Sharing God's
love with all.

Contact St Mary's

7 O'Shanassy St, Sunbury
PO Box 2049
Sunbury VIC 3429

03 9744 1347

email:

admin@stmarysanglican.org.au
www.stmarysanglican.org.au

2013- 2014 Wardens



Mark Armstrong



Geoff Klouth



Noel Sprague

2013- 2014 Vestry



Katherine Burn



Don Cottell



Max Langshaw



Alan Phillips



Phillip Stacy



Steven Whittington



Michael Williams