

Upcoming Services

8.30am & 10.30am

Habakkuk 3
David Bassett

Upcoming Events

GAN Prayer Launch

February 3,
7pm at Grace Kensington

Equip Youth Multiply Conference

29-30th January at Bible College SA,
register at www.equipfac.org.au

Partner Churches

Grace Kensington

146 Kensington Rd, Marryatville

Grace Norwood

77 Beulah Rd Norwood

Grace Trinity Gardens

Trinity Gardens Bowling Club
Canterbury Ave Trinity Gardens

Grace Network Office

146 Kensington Rd Marryatville

Office Hours:
Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs 9am – 12pm

Giving Electronically to Grace Kensington

BSB: 105 073

Account No: 286 016 340

If you require a reference we recommend using
your surname.



St Matthew's
KENSINGTON

Soaking in God's Word in 2016

17th January 2016

At the start of each year, I revisit my personal Bible reading strategy. I have the kind of personality that prefers things to be planned and structured so I've found the best way for me to keep Bible reading on the agenda is to use some kind of formal reading plan during the year. But I know that for others, who prefer to keep things more spontaneous and flexible, Bible reading plans can feel a bit rigid or contrived. I have learned that there is room for a variety of approaches when it comes to personal Bible reading and other spiritual disciplines. By God's grace, we don't all think and process in the same way, so it's important to work out what's most helpful for us personally.

Some people begin every day with Bible reading - it's the first thing they do - while for others, the idea of reading anything before a piece of toast and a double espresso is inconceivable! Some people like to use devotional material alongside the Bible, or listen to an audio version of the Bible, or they find it helpful to read and discuss the Bible with another person. These are all great strategies that we can use to keep storing God's word up in our hearts (Ps. 119:11). We never want to become legalistic or so rigid in our approach that we lose sight of the fact that God's word is a precious gift for our benefit and blessing (Ps. 1:1-2). Bible reading is not meant to be a burden!

That being said, each one of us, in our own way, still has to come to terms with the fact that Bible reading is a *discipline*. It's a discipline because no matter what approach we end up taking it will require intentionality and effort. The blessing that God promises to those who commit to soaking in His word day and night is absolutely there for the taking, but it demands that we apply ourselves seriously to the task. So in 2016, let's not settle for the 'low-bar' when it comes to our Bible reading. Let's aim high (really high!) while still being gracious encouragers of each other as we grow together in our understanding of what it means to live the blessed life in Jesus Christ.

Note: You may wish to talk with your gathering pastor about strategies for personal Bible reading.

Shane Ellery (Associate Minister, Youth and Young Adults)



GAN Termly Prayer Launch 7pm February 3

Join us as at St Matt's as we come together as a network to pray for the upcoming term.

We will be praying for our sites, our network, our city and our world.

Doors will be open from 6.40pm for people to grab a cuppa before we begin.

Prayer Points

Special Needs: Joy Blanch & Daniel, Judy & Ian Black, Wendy and Daryl Teague in their bereavement

Praise God for:

- The gift of his eternal word which lays out for us the path of life
- A very encouraging start at Grace Norwood 10am and 5pm last Sunday
- People stepping into new leadership in our gatherings in 2016

Pray that we will:

- Grow as people who delight in and meditate on God's word
- Love each other well through this period of change across our network
- See many new people come to know Jesus through our ministries in 2016

Community Notices

Transition time at the GAN

As 2016 begins, there are plenty of changes for the Network, with staff and congregations moving and new staff coming on board.

Understandably there may be some teething issues during this time and we thank you for your grace and co-operation.

New staff at Kensington

We are excited to that Thomas Bassett (Kid's ministry coordinator) and Andrew Chan (10.30am music coordinator) have now started as a part of our team at the Kensington site. Please join us in welcoming them on their first Sunday in their new positions.

Afterschool babysitter

A family from our 10.30am gathering are looking for someone to pick up their children from school (Rose Park), take them home and look after them until around 5.30pm. This would be for two days a week. If interested and available please contact the office.

Accommodation

Becky Hams (our office administrator) is looking either for a new flat mate or a room to let. Please contact her via the office if you are interested or have a room available.

Thanksgiving for the life of Marie Mellor

A funeral service will be held for Marie (Wendy Teague's mother) 3:30pm Tuesday 19 January at Berry Funerals.



We are planning to hold some workshops in February to help ensure we get the most out of elvanto. If you would be interested in attending a workshop please email Becky in the office. Could you please review your profile to ensure that your contact details are current and to upload a profile picture (please no group photos).

SU KI Beach Mission

Pete and Julie Calvert would like to thank all who faithfully prayed for the Kangaroo Island Family Beach Mission. Your prayers protected, blessed and enabled a very successful mission. We are sincerely grateful for the care and support offered by the Grace Anglican Network family.

Magdalene Centre donations

We encourage people to regularly contribute nonperishable food items throughout the year. Donations can be left at both our Norwood and Kensington sites.

Equip Youth Multiply Conference

29th – 30th January at the Bible college of SA, for students Year 10 and older and Youth Leaders. Speaker is Pete Tong. To register visit www.equipfac.org.