

# GLENBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

# Explore Life



**January 2018**

***January 7: 9am***

***January 14: 9am***

***January 21: 9am***

***January 28: 9am***

***February 4: 9am, 11am and 5pm***

# A Note from the Pastor

Happy New Year! I know that 2017 was a really 'mixed bag' for many. Some really loved 2017; some really struggled. Here is what I am confident of: God is the Lord of yesterday, today and forever. This means that last year didn't take Him by surprise, and this year is not a mystery to Him. You may be facing 2018 with a sense of excitement. You may be facing 2018 with a sense of trepidation. You maybe be facing 2018 with a mixture of both. Either way, although we don't know what the future holds, we can have confidence in the one who holds the future in His hands!

*For we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him. (Romans 8:28)*

Just a reminder that we are currently seeking Elder nominations. Nominations should be in writing and emailed to the Interim Leadership Team ([elders@glenbrookbaptistchurch.org.au](mailto:elders@glenbrookbaptistchurch.org.au)), or in a sealed envelope, addressed to Pastor Matt Lucas, via the church office. We will be accepting nominations up until Sunday 21st January, 2018. Please be keeping GBC and the Interim Leadership Team in your prayers through this period of nomination and discernment, and also for the year ahead.

In Christ.

*Pastor Matt*

## **Regular Ministries (most are in recess for January)**

KYB Groups (for women, both at Kauri Cottage and in a group member's home): resumes 6th February, 2018

Craft Group (for women): resumes first term, 2018

Sunday Creche (for pre-schoolers during 9am service)

J-Zone and J-Zone Junior (for K - 6 children during 9am service): resumes 11th February, 2018

Playtime (Tuesday morning for pre-schoolers and carers): resumes 13th February, 2018

Fearless Youth (Friday evening for teens): resumes 9th February, 2018

Monthly Prayer Meeting: resumes February

Life Groups, both at the church and in people's homes

# Hamper Follow-up

## Thank You

Alice Sharp would like to thank all those who helped to distribute Christmas hampers to the needy recently. Only 3 hampers were given away to individual families: the rest of the collected food was sent to Gateway at East Blaxland and Bridging the Gap at St Marys.

Thank you again to those who volunteered at the Lennox Centre to ask for food items; those who donated food through the basket in the church foyer; the packers and unpackers of the food; those who covered the hampers and, finally, those who ferried the hampers and food to those who received it.

Alice received the following letter on 14th December from Bridging the Gap:

*"Dear Alice,*

*I would like to pass on our thanks and gratitude to your congregation for their generosity in collecting food items for our families.*

*I understand your church family gathered together at Emu Plains and collected donations all day on Saturday - thank you!*

*Many of our families have little or nothing with which to celebrate Christmas with their children, and knowing that a 'stranger' has thought of them and given without requiring anything in return is a powerful example of Christ's love.*

*The staff are busy now packing hampers to be delivered next week to our families. We will be praying over these gifts, and could I ask that the church also be praying for the families, that they might recognise Jesus as the reason we celebrate Christmas.*

*We are so grateful and thankful for your generosity.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Carole Tozer*

*CEO"*



## GBC CARE

For those times that you, or a family member, require special care, please call **Reg & Robyn** on **4739 8410**; **Reg** on **0427 764 751** and **Robyn** on **0427 764 752**, or speak to any of the other team members: Robyn and Robert Kneale, Lois Pedley, Alice Sharp, Fay Smith, Christine Nettle, Melanie Bliss, Jeanette Holdsworth and Jean & Michael Dickens.

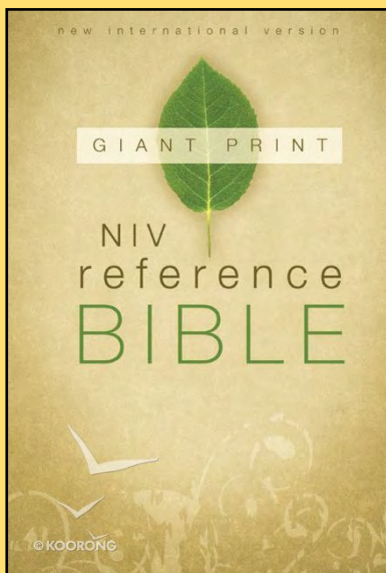
## E-TITHE DETAILS

If you would like to give your offering via internet banking, please pay into the following account:

Name: **Glenbrook Baptist Church**

BSB: **062-640**

Account Number: **000903856**



## Giant Print Bibles

For those who have difficulty reading our regular Bibles, the church now has 6 NIV Reference Bibles in giant print for following along the scripture readings during services. These Bibles can be found in the cupboard in the church foyer, in the top right-hand corner next to the blue song books.

## Share Your Story

Has God impacted your life in a big way recently?: maybe God is doing special things in your life; maybe your faith is impacting people around you. It is really encouraging to hear other people's stories. We'd love to hear how good God has been to you! To share how your life has changed, drop a line to **Melody Tallon** at **communications@glenbrookbaptistchurch.org.au** or put your submission in an envelope and place into the offering bag.

# Prayer

## GBC Prayer Chain

Our church prayer chain is available for crisis or urgent prayer needs and is coordinated by **Jenny White (0419 884 642)**. Please ensure that you have the permission of the person you want to be placed on the prayer chain prior to calling.

## Prayer Points

- ▶ Please pray for Ron Williams, whose son passed away on 22nd December, from as yet unknown causes.
- ▶ Please also pray for: Jean Dickens (back problems), Emlyn Powell (perforated eardrum), Joy Hollins, Noel & Nola Paul and Suzanne White (Rebekah Sampson's mum - complications after breast cancer surgery).
- ▶ Give thanks for the improvement Peter Crisp is experiencing.
- ▶ Please prayerfully consider nominations for new elders for GBC to join David Wainwright and share this important leadership role.
- ▶ Ask for more school scripture teachers so there are enough to cover all of the vacant positions.
- ▶ Pray for GBC families who are away on holidays, for relaxation, refreshment and renewal. Please also pray for safety, especially while travelling.
- ▶ Ask for vision and enthusiasm for ministry leaders as they begin to prepare programs and define goals for 2018.
- ▶ Pray for GBC as a whole, that God would continue to be at work in and through us:

"Let Your kingdom come,

Let Your will be done,

So that everyone might know Your Name.

Let Your song be heard,

Everywhere on earth,

Till Your sovereign work on earth is done,

Let Your kingdom come."

# Update from Suzanne Rowe

Do you ever wonder where your day went? I find the Ignatian 'Daily Examen' to be a helpful practice - reflecting on the day last thing at night and looking for God's interactions during the day. As the year draws to a close, I sit here looking back and reflecting on what this past year has held ... an 'Examen' of 2017.

Only (officially) working three days a week on Interserve-related activities has been good, allowing me extra time to focus on health and fitness, family and more. Next year, I will need to get a little paid work to supplement my income - hopefully translation work. I'm thankful to God for his provision through his people as well as in other ways. As for the three days per week for Interserve responsibilities, that has been divided between Asia and Australia. I used to say that my job description was a bit of a mish-mash, but a friend pointed out that what I have is a 'portfolio'. So then, let me explain that my 'portfolio' contains academic pursuits, language teaching and learning, some writing and a rather large category entitled 'miscellaneous'.

One area which God has reminded me about as I examine the past year is that it is okay, and even right, to admit weakness and vulnerability. 'Blessed are the meek.....' I had goals that I didn't achieve in 2017. My health is generally good (and I'm very grateful after the dramas of 2015) but I'm still not running at full capacity, and perhaps never will. Yet at the same time, God is using me, even with a 'mish-mash' of a portfolio, and I'm grateful. It isn't about what I can do for him so much as being obedient and just 'being' in this current season of life.

God alone knows what 2018 will bring. I hope and intend to churn out writing projects, do quality research in Asia and play a part in impacting communities in Australia and Asia in both direct and indirect ways. Of

course, I also intend to finish 2018 super fit and bouncy. I wonder how things will turn out?

Thank you for your partnership throughout 2017. As the year draws to an end, I am sure that you, too, can look back over the year and see that God has been working in and through you, in the good times and the hard times.

Best wishes for the New Year.

*Suzanne*



# Community



## **Barnardo's Western Region Auxilliary**

*in conjunction with*

## **Stafford Ladies' Fashions**

*are holding a*

## **Fashion Parade and Sale with Lunch**

Dresses, skirts, slacks, blouses, etc from size 8 - 24

**All items discounted 30 - 50%**

at St Finbars Church Hall

Levy St, Glenbrook

Friday, 16th February

Garments ready for inspection at 10am; parade commencing at 11am

Cost: \$7.50 for parade, sale and lunch

(Lucky Door Prize and Trading Table)

**Inquiries: Julie (4739 5969) or Jill (4739 4945)**

Proceeds to aid Barnardos Australia: The Children's Charity

(registered charity # CFN13840)

## **Stop Press**

On 14th January, 2018, Alissa Ryan will be speaking at the 9am service. At the time of printing, the topic was yet to be decided. Alissa spent 2017 at YWAM (Youth With a Mission) in Perth, and overseas as a leader of a team of eleven young people.



# Contacts

---

## **PASTOR**

Pastor Matt Lucas  
pastor@glenbrookbaptistchurch.org.au

## **GBC CARE**

Reg & Robyn Moses  
4739 8410  
Reg 0412 764 751  
Robyn 0427 764 752  
rnrmoses@tpg.com.au

## **ELDER**

David Wainwright  
elders@glenbrookbaptistchurch.org.au

## **CHURCH OFFICE**

Stephanie Mackenzie  
office@glenbrookbaptistchurch.org.au  
Rebekah Sampson  
r.sampson@glenbrookbaptistchurch.org.au

## **BULLETIN**

Melody Tallon  
communications@glenbrookbaptistchurch.org.au

## **Office Hours**

Tues 9.30am -3.30pm  
4739 3974

Outside of office hours, please leave a phone message or email. All messages/mail will be attended to.