

September Church Program



St Marks **Avalon** & St Davids **Palm Beach**

ANGLICAN CHURCH

St Marks Avalon	5 Sept	12 Sept	19 Sept	26 Sept
Sermon	Joshua: Rest and Refuge	Joshua: You too under the Joshua Tree	Expressing Freedom in Christ	Farewell
Preacher	Jaime Dickson	Stuart Holman	Rod Post	Jaime Dickson
Reading 1	2 Thes. 1:1-12	2 Thes. 2:1-17	2 Thes. 3:1-18	Psalms 1
Reading 2	Joshua 20:1-9, 21:43-45	Joshua 24:14-33	Gal 5:1-14	TBA
St Davids Palm Beach	SS3	SS2	HC	SS3
Sermon	Choose Life!	Expressing Freedom in Christ	Farewell	Topical
Preacher	Sally/Jim Longley	Rod Post	Jaime Dickson	Sally Longley
Leader	Peter Sledge	Sally/Jim Longley	Jaime Dickson	Sally Longley
Reading 1	2 Thes. 1:1-12	2 Thes. 2:1-17	2 Thes. 3:1-18	Psalms 1
Reading 2	Joshua 24:14-33	Gal 5:1-6	TBA	TBA

September 2010

Update: Our Strategic Ministry Plan

A group of leaders within our church are working hard at developing a Strategic Ministry Plan for 2011-2013 for our church. These leaders comprise our Parish Council, Home Group Leaders and other invited 'elders' of our church. The plan under development will be 'strategic' because it will focus our efforts into a sharp 'point': we will direct our best effort in one direction, doing 'less' rather than 'more'.

What is this 'point', this single focus, that will direct our efforts? We believe that, under God, our mission (what God has given us to do) is to cultivate growth; which means transformed lives and the making of disciples (Mt 28:18-20; Mk 8:34-36; 2 Tim 2:2; Rom 12:2). We believe this will happen in the context of belonging to our church community and being connected to our wider community (Eph 4:12-16; 1 Cor 12:27; Acts 2:42-47). This belonging stimulates real growth as we wholeheartedly love God and love others (Lk 10:27; Jn 13:34-35; Phil 3:7-14). The bible passages cited here drive our understanding-- the simple summary can never fully communicate this wonderful complex of ideas.

And yet, good communication with each other and with our wider community does require a summary statement. Our leadership group has been working hard at this task and feels keenly the limitations of language in its efforts. We are concerned that this statement communicate clearly and memorably. It should inspire us to live it. It should work in the public domain as well as in personal conversation. This is a tall order. Currently all Home Groups are discussing the relative merits of our best efforts to date-- make sure you have your say! We want to be the church that is:

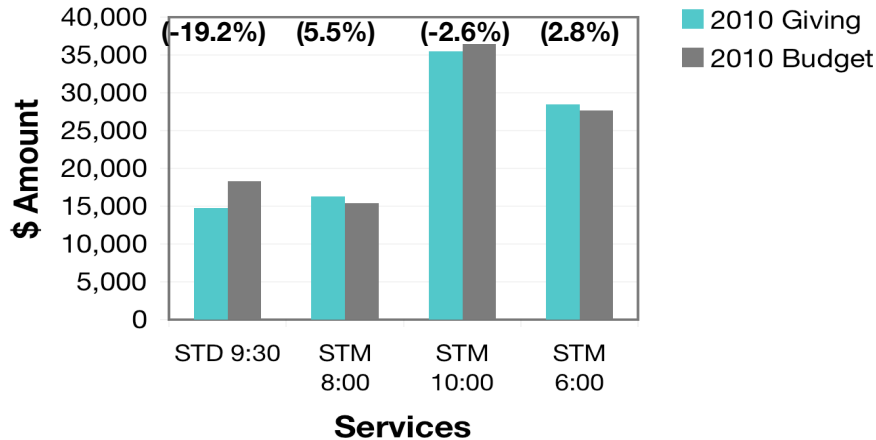
*"growing Life together with Christ" or
"growing New Life together with Christ"*

Senior Minister:	Stuart Holman <i>(family day off; Thurs)</i>	tel:	9918 2829 (office / Stuart)
Associate Minister:	Jaime Dickson <i>(family day off: Tues)</i>	tel:	9974 2634
Honorary Assoc Minister:	Sally Longley	tel:	9913 7871
Ministry Coordinator:	Jo Debnam <i>(Wed, Thurs, Fri)</i>	Office:	4 Kevin Ave Avalon NSW 2107
		email:	mail@stmarksavalon.org.au
		web:	www.stmarksavalon.org.au

Finances

Our wardens and treasurer provide the following financial update. Overall our total giving is marginally below budget by 2.2%. The figures for each individual congregation appear below. We encourage you to give by electronic means (details in the yellow 'Giving' brochure by the church notice board) or by the envelope system and these envelopes are at the rear of the church.

Actual Giving vs Budget 2010



St Marks Preschool to close

After many years of community based preschool on St Marks premises, the Parish Council has decided not to renew the current lease at the end of 2011. This was a difficult and heart-wrenching decision to have to make. It was made because of the difficulties faced in providing effective management. Volunteers from St Marks Church have led the Association that runs the preschool for over 30 years but times have changed. The increasing complexity of DoCS regulations and the operational, marketing and development skills required are expertise that we just don't have. Avalon has changed, expectations have changed, and so we do too. A new and more professional approach, as befits our times, is being sought in a new tenant for our site, commencing 2012.

We thank the many volunteers who have contributed to the preschool in so many ways over the years. You have done a wonderful job. Many of our children have also benefited much from the care and education provided by our excellent Directors, Teachers and Assistants.

Notes and News

Prayer for Strategic Ministry Plan

Dave Miles is gathering people to continue prayer for the Strategic Ministry Plan so please come and join with this really important part of the process on 25 September at 5pm at St Mark's church.

PIPPA

Pittwater Inter-church Prayer and Praise Assembly (PIPPA) will meet on Friday 1 Oct at 6pm at Jacaranda Room, Pittwater Uniting Church. Call Carolyn Mills 9918 8945

BCA Box collection

We're very grateful to John and Kerren for all their work for the BCA and want to thank them for their time in this ministry. If anyone would like to start doing this ministry being a Mission Contact for BCA then please speak to Jo Debnam our Ministry Coordinator.

New Birthdays Ministry

Heidi Breebart is launching a wonderful new ministry which will mean people are blessed on their birthdays! The new Parish Roll at the back of both churches requests the day and month of your birthday. Please provide this information so Heidi knows when to contact you! Please also ensure all your contact details are correct and confirm whether you give permission to publish your details. We can only publish people's contact details if you have ticked the box giving permission.

Over 50's Group Picnic and Walk

Come and join us for a picnic and walk at Manly Dam on Friday 24 September. We will meet at 10.30am in the main picnic area at the entrance to the park. Enter via King Street, off Condomine Street. BYO everything. Contact Cath Bushnell on 9979 2497 for more information or if you need transport.

The grand opening of the newly renovated toilet at St David's!

Jaime officially opened the new toilet at St David's on 15 August 2010 which was a long awaited occasion and therefore an important and memorable time for everyone at St David's. We're so grateful for the donation from the estate of the late Neil Morrison family which made this renovation project possible.

Farewell Church Picnic

Let's gather together to say a big farewell to Jaime, Trine, Sam, Cameron and Emily on Sunday 26 September at Clareville Beach at 12.30pm. BYO chair/lunch. If you would like to make a donation to the Dicksons farewell gift then please put it in a sealed envelope and place it in the secure mail box at the office door. Thanks.

MAG collection starting now!

This year we will have our MAG Collection providing supplies needed for the "Sewing & Craft Centre" at Bunda, Tanzania. MAG is a practical way for YOU to share in the ministry of Helen Hoskins in Tanzania. So please bring beads, stuffing, felt, cardboard, sewing thread, pins, needles, scissors, shears, unpickers, elastic, buttons, laces, zips, ribbons, Velcro tape, braids, etc. Singer sewing manuals and accessories - needles, bobbins, oil, needle threader (please do not send any other brand). Leave your donation at the back of our church (bin marked MAG collection). PLEASE NOTE: If you wish to send goods other than what's listed, or send goods to Helen, please contact Jo Debnam or Cath Bushnell.

Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting is on Monday 20 September at 7.30pm at St Mark's Church.