

**WE**  
*Believe*  
**IN PRAYER**  
**PRAISE**  
**NEWS &**  
**THE BIBLE**

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**WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S ROSEVILLE**  
**9TH AUGUST 2015**

**ST**  
**ANDREW'S**  
*Believes*  
**IN NEWS**

*All that's going on  
around St Andrew's*

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# FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER

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## REV JOHN DICKSON

### 🕊 Senior Minister

Dear St Andrew's,

I've got 'public Christianity' on the mind. I don't know about you but since we've been exploring the theme of being more open about the Lord in daily life I have had some lovely opportunities to speak of my faith to others—my hairdresser, family members, random people on the ski lifts! I've been preaching—to myself as much as anyone else—that being more public about our faith is not more complicated than letting our sense of God's greatness find its way onto our lips. New York's Tim Keller, one of the finest preachers in the world today, put it nicely in a social media bite this week: "Being public about your faith simply means not hiding the wellspring of your life, not hiding who you truly are." What we call 'evangelism' isn't much more than the overflow of a heart of worship. More about that this Sunday!

So let me urge you once again to consider who you might invite to the God Science series for the next two Sundays (16, 23 August), coinciding with National Science Week. Dr David Whalley from our 5pm congregation has terrific things to say about this often fraught debate, as he combines the best science with classical convictions about God the Creator. His information is up-to-date, his manner is

clear and winsome, and his slides are something to behold! I've got friends I'm inviting. Please do the same.

Oh, and don't forget the other two fantastic opportunities for 'public Christianity' coming up. In between the two God Science Sundays, on Thurs 20 August at 7:30pm, we've got Dr Briony Scott speaking in our church hall on the 'Digital Playground', an exploration of the benefits and pitfalls of a generation growing up with 24/7 social media. While not directly theological, the topic will invite all sorts of reflections on the important things of life and faith. Also, Professor Miroslav Volf of Yale University is in Sydney that week with the Centre for Public Christianity and Gospel Conversations. The Friday night lecture in North Sydney (21 August) offers a rare opportunity for thoughtful sceptics to hear one of the world's leading Christian intellectuals as he addresses the theme of 'Pleasure, Meaning and the Death of God', in which Volf will analyse our culture's pervasive nihilism and hedonism as symptoms of our loss of belief in a Creator. Visit [www.volfinsydney2015.com](http://www.volfinsydney2015.com) for details.

Speaking of public Christianity, please be in prayer about the debate raging at the moment in some quarters over the appropriateness of Special Religious Education (SRE) in our state schools. The NSW government is conducting a review of SRE. Public submissions closed last week. There are influential voices in our

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# FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER

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community which insist that confessional religion has no place in government schools. Religion is fine, so long as it is not believed! Their vision of 'secularism' forbids any open religion in our government institutions. I debated a couple of these folk on ABC radio last Sunday night. They are passionate. They are not giving up until SRE is banished from our schools. In my view, however, 'secular' in its healthy form means that religion is neither imposed nor excluded in the public square. Being entirely optional, SRE fits this perspective perfectly. Please pray for the government as they assess what is good and bad in current SRE practices. Pray that it will lead to a strengthening of SRE in our schools, so that hundreds of thousands of students will have the opportunity to understand the Faith that shaped their culture and make up their own mind about its relevance for life, something certain lobby groups are committed to preventing.

Finally, now is as good a time as any to let you know that I am overdue for long service leave, having worked for the Anglican church, in one way or another, part time or full time, since 1995. Buff, Josie and I—and Josh and Sophie for a brief time—will be moving to Oxford for a few months at the end of November, returning sometime in the lead up to Easter. We have a scholar's flat arranged as payment for a bit of lecturing I'll be doing at the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics (a centre attached to the

university's Wycliffe Hall, where John Lennox, Alister McGrath, Os Guinness, and others also regularly teach). As an Academic Visitor of the Oxford Classics Department, I am also hoping to dip my toe into a long term research project I've been planning on 'mnemonics' in classical and Jewish antiquity, i.e., ancient methods for memorising the teachings of philosophers and rabbis. But don't worry, this is basically a holiday. Really. Josie will go to school, and Buff and I will play most of the time. The other two kids will join us for January only. What happens to St Andrew's during those months? Praise God we have our own former Archbishop sitting on staff already! Peter Watson has kindly agreed to be Interim Rector for the period. I am also arranging for you some special guest speakers (via CPX) to assist Peter, James, and Mike with the preaching load. I promise you are going to have a great time—and so will the Dicksons!

Until then, there's much to do and to pray for, as we seek to make the greatness of our Lord more *public!*

Every blessing,  
John

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around St Andrew's*

# COMMUNITY WATCH

## COMING UP

### 🕒 **Public Lecture: Prof Miroslav Volf** **'Pleasure, Meaning & the Death of God'**

Fri 21st Aug | 7:00pm - 9:30pm

Smith Auditorium, Shore School -  
Blue Street, North Sydney

Cost \$20 (includes pre-lecture drinks)

Drawing on Friedrich Nietzsche, Professor Volf will explore two pervasive and mutually reinforcing nihilisms of our time - our misplaced search for meaning, and our wrongheaded pursuit of pleasure - and counter common critiques of religion by arguing that faith in God intensifies and deepens enjoyment of the world, uniting both meaning and pleasure.

Book at [www.volfinsydney2015.com](http://www.volfinsydney2015.com)

## OTHER

### 🕒 **DVD of Jean Rixon's funeral**

Please contact the office this week if you or others you know would like a DVD copy of Jean's funeral.

[office@standrews.net.au](mailto:office@standrews.net.au)

## OUTREACH SERIES: GOD SCIENCE, THINK & BASICS

An opportunity to invite family, friends and colleagues to these events.

### 🕒 **God Science**

Sun 16th & 23rd Aug | 10am, 5pm, 7pm

A two week series on belief in a scientific age. Speaker: Dr David Whalley.

### 🕒 **Think: The Digital Playground**

Thu 20th Aug | 7:30pm - 9:30pm

In the Church Hall

Dr Briony Scott will address the issue of growing up in a digital age. Q&A to follow and supper will be served. To assist with catering please RSVP to [events@standrews.net.au](mailto:events@standrews.net.au)

### 🕒 **Basics - The Heart of Christianity**

Sun 30th Aug, 6th Sep, 13th Sep |  
All services

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# COMMUNITY WATCH

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## PLEASE PRAY

### 🕒 Churchwide Prayer

Pray for Matt Stedman who has travelled to Zimbabwe with his brother Pete to follow on from James Smith, teaching PTC courses to pastors and ministry staff. Pray that God will use this time to mature and grow his church in Zimbabwe and bring Matt and Pete safely home.

Praise God for Santino's sister Pauline's successful 8 hour brain surgery last week and pray that she responds well to radiotherapy and rehabilitation, and makes a full recovery.

Pray for the special opportunities the 'God Science' series and the 'Think' night on 'The Digital Playground' give to engage with the wider community. Pray for widespread interest and that many visitors will be helped to greater understanding and experience a warm welcome.

### 🕒 8:30am Prayer

Please pray for Judith Riches after surgery last week. Pray for a clear prognosis, a full recovery and that Bob and Judith will rest assured in God's gracious care, and know peace in him.

Pray for Margaret Rook after tests in hospital have revealed some cardiac issues. Pray for good management of these health issues so she can soon return to Waldergrave House and for her sister Cathy as she supports her.

### 🕒 10am Prayer

Please continue to pray for Choon Hwa Lim's recovery after cataract surgery; that her sight will further improve and that God will grant her patience and his peace in trusting him.

### 🕒 5pm Prayer

Praise God for his mercy and answer to prayer for Sue Byrne after a retinal detachment. Thank him that recovery is going so well and pray for it to continue in the weeks ahead.

### 🕒 St Andrew's Ministries

Thank God for the Small Groups and for those who lead them. Pray for all who attend; that it will be an encouragement to grow together in God's word and to share their lives with each other.

## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Let your merciful ears,  
Lord God, be open to the prayers  
of your people; and so that they  
may obtain their petitions,  
make them to ask such things  
as will please you;  
through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen.

*All that our missionaries  
do in and around their communities*

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# MISSION & AID

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## STEPHANIE AND ANDREW BROWNING



### 📍 Tanzania

Stephanie and Andrew Browning with children William and Christopher are serving in Arusha, Tanzania where Andrew works at the Lutheran Mission Hospital and Stephanie has set up a Christian School.

Pray for the Brownings who are currently in Australia; that they will have good opportunities to share what God has been doing in their lives and in Tanzania.

Pray that the family will get plenty of rest while they are here and for good health during their trip.

Pray for William and Christopher; that they will cope well with travelling and really enjoy their visit.

Praise God for Andrew and Stephanie's families; that their parents are all in good health and for all the help and support they are able to give Andrew and Stephanie while they're back in Australia.

Pray for unity and a good Christian focus amongst all the staff in Tanzania and Ethiopia.

Pray for the new teachers starting at the school this term: Magdalena, Jayne and Becky.

Pray for all the new students starting at the school in August; that they will settle in well.

Pray for Andrew and Stephanie; for more wisdom, love, power and joy and that they will take time to spend with the Lord, seeking his will each day.

Pray for their marriage and family life; that with all the busyness they will take opportunities to spend together.

*Words you'll need for  
today's contemporary services*

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# CONTEMPORARY SERVICE PRAYERS

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## CONFESSION

Most merciful God,  
we humbly admit that  
    we need your help.  
We confess that we have  
    wandered from your way:  
we have done wrong,  
and we have failed to do  
    what is right.  
You alone can save us.  
Have mercy on us:  
wipe out our sins and teach us  
    to forgive others.  
Bring forth in us the fruit  
    of the Spirit  
that we may live as  
    disciples of Christ.  
This we ask in the name  
    of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
    on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
    as we forgive those  
    who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
    and the glory, are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

## KEY CONTACTS

### ➤ Senior Leadership Team

**John Dickson** – Senior Minister

T. (02) 9412 2553

[john.dickson@standrews.net.au](mailto:john.dickson@standrews.net.au)

(note: this email account is managed by the Office)

**Santino Dimarco** – Executive Pastor

T. (02) 9412 2553

[santino.dimarco@standrews.net.au](mailto:santino.dimarco@standrews.net.au)

**Matt Stedman** – Senior Associate Minister

M. 0403 860 501

[matt.stedman@standrews.net.au](mailto:matt.stedman@standrews.net.au)

**Cath Ahern** – Children’s Minister (*Honorary*)

M. 0407 152 995

[cath.ahern@standrew.net.au](mailto:cath.ahern@standrew.net.au)

### ➤ Ministry Contacts

**Mike Hastie** – Assist. Minister

M. 0421 014 977

[mike.hastie@standrews.net.au](mailto:mike.hastie@standrews.net.au)

**Meredith Hatcher** – Assoc. Women’s Minister

(*Part Time - Sun, Tue, Thu*)

M. 0403 154 160

[meredith.hatcher@standrews.net.au](mailto:meredith.hatcher@standrews.net.au)

**James Smith** – Assist. Minister

M. 0438 669 530

[james.smith@standrews.net.au](mailto:james.smith@standrews.net.au)

**Peter Watson** – Minister for Seniors

(*Part Time*)

T. (02) 9412 2553

[peter.watson@standrews.net.au](mailto:peter.watson@standrews.net.au)

### ➤ Church Office

**Bec Kimpton** – Office Manager

T. (02) 9412 2553

[office@standrews.net.au](mailto:office@standrews.net.au)

### ➤ Group Contacts

**Children’s Ministry**

[kids@standrews.net.au](mailto:kids@standrews.net.au)

**Community Project**

[communityproject@standrews.net.au](mailto:communityproject@standrews.net.au)

**Environmental Action Group**

[eag@standrews.net.au](mailto:eag@standrews.net.au)

**ESL**

[esl@standrews.net.au](mailto:esl@standrews.net.au)

**Fit For Good**

[fitforgood@standrews.net.au](mailto:fitforgood@standrews.net.au)

**Playgroup**

[playgroup@standrews.net.au](mailto:playgroup@standrews.net.au)

**Time Out**

[timeout@standrews.net.au](mailto:timeout@standrews.net.au)

**Youth**

[stayrevive@standrews.net.au](mailto:stayrevive@standrews.net.au)

**Xtreme**

Fri after school for Years 5&6

[kids@standrews.net.au](mailto:kids@standrews.net.au)

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT DETAILS

### ➤ Supporting the General Ministry

Supporting the general work of St Andrew’s:

**Anglican Parish St Andrew’s**

**BSB 704 998 | A/C 100 005 413 \***

*This is our preferred method to receive your regular support.*

Alternatively cash/cheque contributions can be made via the offertory collection during each of the services.

### ➤ Supporting the Property Redevelopment

To support the St Andrew’s Property Redevelopment, **tax-deductible** contributions can be made via:

**St Andrew’s Anglican Church**

**Roseville Donation Fund**

**BSB 704 998 | A/C 100 010 195 \***

Please include your surname and the initials “PV” (for Property Vision) in the reference field.

Donations by cheque should be made to

St Andrew’s Roseville Donation Fund.

Please mark the envelope with your surname and “PV”.

If you would like to support the Property Redevelopment

but **do not** require a tax deduction, please contact the Executive Pastor, Santino Dimarco.

(\* this BSB may be displayed as Indue Limited which is part of the Diocesan banking arrangements)

ST  
ANDREW’S  
*Believes*  
IN THE COMMUNITY

St Andrew’s Anglican Church Roseville

1 Bancroft Avenue Roseville NSW 2069, Australia

T. (02) 9412 2553 | [office@standrews.net.au](mailto:office@standrews.net.au) | [www.standrews.net.au](http://www.standrews.net.au)