

StMarks  
uneChurch\*

Your church.  
On campus

\*[unechurch.org.au](http://unechurch.org.au)



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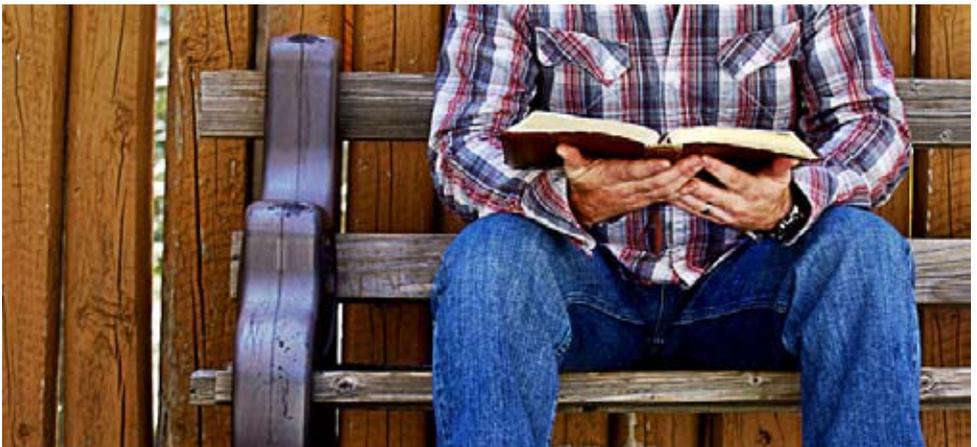
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## Reformation Series - 'Bible Alone'

2 Timothy 3:10-17 & Deuteronomy 32:44-47

Take to heart all the words by which I am warning you today, that you may command them to your children, that they may be careful to do all the words of this law. For it is no empty word for you, but your very life... Duet 32

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." 2 Tim 3



## Pastor's Blog | *On the Importance of Music Lessons*

I'm writing to you from Terrigal, where most of the Staff Team are attending an excellent church leadership conference. A long drive and a compressed work week, but very worth it so far!

One of the themes of the conference is on the idea of magnification: that as a community we do well in encouraging and enabling one another to magnify the name of the Lord in word and life. That we enjoy Him, see Him as most precious, and have our affections directed most to Him. As we've seen in Philippians recently, we're to count everything as loss compared to the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus the Lord (3:8). To be in his kingdom (with Him, seeing him face to face) is a treasure worth giving everything else up for (Matt 13:44). Jesus comes so that our joy might be full (John 15:11).

We don't just plod our way through the Christian life in grudging obedience, but instead pursue our Joy in knowing Him. This is for all of life, but in our gatherings music ministry plays such an important role. We're commanded to make melody to the Lord; we're wired for music by our creator and we can use this gift both to praise Him and stir our affections.

This is why I'm so grateful for our musicians. They have very particular gifts and use them with great generosity to help in this way. They're not simply setting a beat for us, but helping us as we lift our hearts and voices to our King. Many of my most profoundly encouraging and moving moments in church are in song; I'm sure yours are too. In some churches music can be seen as a bit of a secondary ministry - just turn up and play. But not with us - it's so important to what we do when we gather, and to us being a gathering that engages well with non-Christians.

The thing is, it's often hard to find enough musicians! So, of course, if you play an instrument but have kept this hidden, please consider letting Matt Mulready (AM), Mike Croft (4PM) or Josh Dobos (7PM) know. There's no guarantee you'd play, but you might just have the instrument they've been looking for to fill in a band's sound.

But I want to play a longer game. Parents, if you're not already, consider getting your kids music lessons! Music teachers will tell you of all the benefits of this developmentally, and the enjoyment they can have, but with the above in mind I want to point to the value developing this gift might have for church gatherings years from now. Even though I'm not musical, all the Eastment kids are learning instruments suitable for church music. Hamish can play whatever he likes as long as it's drums (we're always short drummers Sunday nights)! We don't have swimming pools of cash, but we think it's a good investment. And if you're not a kid anymore but want to get drum lessons, I won't stop you!

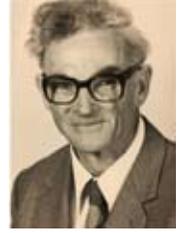
May we ever and increasingly be a church that's "... filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart..." (Eph 5:19).



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## Upcoming & Notes



• **Vern William's Memorial Service 1pm NEXT Sunday July 9** > at St Marks uneChurch. Come and celebrate the life of (as Howard Doran writes) "... by far the longest serving and a foundation member of our church family here at St Mark's." Please let Matt in the Office know if you can help out by providing/serving afternoon tea and/or welcoming.

• **New Life 2017 Christian Women's Conference Aug 25 & 26** > @ Carinya Christian School



Tamworth. Organised by the Anglican Diocese of Armidale for the women of the New England/North West, New Life aims to provide quality Bible teaching to encourage women in their relationship with Jesus and equip them to serve Him in their local communities. Theme: *'Waiting for the Day'* - Studies in the book of II Thessalonians and on prayer. Flyers in church foyer. Early bird rate closes 30th July. Rego and more info at [newlifeconference.org.au/](http://newlifeconference.org.au/)

• **Confirmation with Bishop Rick Lewers October 22** > Contact Matt in the Office.

• **Car loan needed for Gillian Law** > on home assignment end of July to mid-January. Contact Amy Saville at CMS - [asaville@cms.org.au](mailto:asaville@cms.org.au) or 07 3112 6530

• **Colin Buchanan Concerts** > PLC Astra Arts Centre. *Kids Concert 2pm Friday 11 Aug* \$8pp tickets. *Adults/Family Concert 7pm Saturday 12 Aug* \$20pp. Tickets [www.trybooking.com](http://www.trybooking.com)

## Family Prayer

- **Grieving** > The Sindel family at the passing of Pauline's brother Andrew (Wednesday June 21).
- **Baking** > Henry & Candy Yeomans (due end July); Heidi & Hunter Gerberich.
- **'Tent' Wear & Repair (2 Cor. 5)** > Samantha Guilbert; Luke McClenegan; David Meares; Owen Chapman.
- **Betrothed** > Ben Lukins & Laura Millican Dec 9. • **SunAM Prayer Ministry** > See Robert Baker.

## Family Finances

<b>Giving 15/6 – 28/6</b>	<b>\$15,667</b>
<b>Giving Year to Date</b>	<b>\$405,636</b>
<b>Amount needed to meet *Budget YTD</b>	<b>\$366,155</b>
<b>Amount needed to cover expenses YTD</b>	<b>\$417,463</b>

- **\*Deficit Budget** \* A deficit budget with a 7% increase is in place.

*As you excel in everything in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you - see that you excel in this act of grace also. 2 Cor. 8:7*

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