

SPRING 2021



NOW IT
SPRINGS
UP; DO
YOU NOT
PERCEIVE
IT?

What's On

Spring Concert • 25 October

Everyone is invited to a beautiful musical evening celebrating Spring, featuring the Riverlife Community Choir, soloists Grace Kikuchi on harp and vocalist Susanna O'Leary. The evening will finish with delicious desserts and drinks. **Monday 25 October** at 7pm in The Halls at Riverlife. Cost: \$5. Register via the [website](#).

Light Party • 23 October

Join us on **Saturday 23 October** for our annual Light Party for children aged 1-12 years. This year we are offering a morning **OR** afternoon session. Dress up in your favourite costume and enjoy carnival games, jumping castles, fun inflatables, a magic show and delicious food. Two identical sessions: 9am-12pm or 3-6pm. \$5pp (children and adults) - includes all games, activities, shows, lolly bag, food and drinks. Register via the [website](#).

Light Party Volunteers

If you would like to join in the fun and help out at one of the sessions listed above please email church@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au or text 0418 781 081. Roles include preparing and serving food, helping with activities and games, cleaning, face-painting, etc. It's a wonderful way to serve our community.

KidsPlay Term 4

KidsPlay will run from Tuesday 5 October to Tuesday 7 December. Please note that on Tuesday 12 October KidsPlay is having an offsite morning at Rocks Riverside Park as all Riverlife staff are away at retreat.

On the Couch • 10 & 13 Oct

We recently conducted a church-wide survey which saw over 470 people respond with valuable insights and feedback. We want to ensure that we present the key findings to the church congregation and provide an opportunity for you to know how the leadership is responding to these findings. We are excited to host two 'On the Couch' sessions with a representation from our Elders and members of our Senior Leadership and Pastoral teams to present these key findings. We will also make available (regardless of attendance) a summary of these key findings via digital download afterwards. Join us on Sunday 10 October 11am-12pm or Wednesday 13 October 7.30-8.30pm in the Chapel. No registration or RSVP required.

Baby Dedications

Our last baby dedications for 2021 will be held on Grandparents Day **Sunday 31 October**. If you would love to bring your little one to the Lord on this date please email church@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au.



Kids Church Holiday Program

Regular Kids Church is on a break. We encourage you to keep your children with you during the worship time and then they can make their way to the Halls where a Holiday Program will run for Kindy to Grade 6 children. The Splash Room will be open as a parent-supervised space, for parents and their children who are under Kindy age. **Regular Kids Church program starts up again next Sunday 10 October.**

Facility and Grounds - Volunteers Wanted!

With such a large property to look after, we are seeking volunteers to assist with improving and maintaining our facility and grounds. Weekday availability is preferable, but not essential. If interested please email john.mckenzie@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au.

ONE Conference • 8/9 Oct

ONE Conference is a regional gathering of youth and youth leaders (hosted by Riverlife) with the purpose of encountering God and being transformed by the life-changing potential that exists in just ONE moment with Him. ONE Conference 2021 will feature powerful worship and challenging teaching from our guest speakers. It will also be filled with fun, friends, live music, food and games! For more information and to register go the [website](#).

Prophetic Training

Prophetic gifts are for the building up of the family of God and are expressed best in community. Training will be held at Riverlife from 3-5pm over four consecutive Sundays in the Chapel - 31 October, 7, 14 and 21 November. Cost: \$20. Register via the [website](#).

What's On

LifeCentre Training

Do you have a heart to see people's lives healed and set free? The LifeCentre offers prayer ministry for adults in every season of life to help them heal from the past, know who they are in Christ, and live lives of freedom and empowerment. Over four Saturdays you will learn the models of LifeCentre prayer, taught from various disciplines of prayer ministry, including Sozo, MOREH and deliverance. **16 and 30 October, 13 and 27 November – 9am to 4pm each Saturday.** Cost is \$40, which includes morning/afternoon tea and materials (lunch not included). If you'd like to be a part of this vital team, registrations are now open via the [website](#).

Prayer Ministry Training Sunday 17 October

Would you like to stand in the confidence and authority Jesus gives you to pray? Would you like to bring freedom to the people around you? Come join the Riverlife United Prayer Team. With many facets within the team, you are sure to find your place. Learning to pray and minister to others is an essential way we can walk together and embrace God's presence in community. Training is free and will be held from 2.30-4.30pm in the Chapel on **Sunday 17 October**. This will give you the basic tools you need to pray effectively for other people and equip you to join the Riverlife Prayer Team. No matter where or when, knowing how to pray for someone is an exciting experience. God does amazing things when we pray! Register via the [website](#).



One from the Heart

Love

The effectiveness, purpose, and ultimately the true joy of your life is found by living a life rooted in faith, hope and love (1 Corinthians 13:13). Faith, hope and love form a simple and powerful core for all that we are and do and it's these elements that enable us to see the breakthrough!

As a society we are obsessed by love and love stories. The biblical description of love (1 Corinthians 13:4-8), is a lot different from the world's definition of love.

The Apostle Paul seems to be saying that love trumps everything. Perhaps it is because he understands that God is love and all that God has done, and still does for us is motivated out of His love and this sets the benchmark for how we are to love one another. (1 John 4:7-11)

A Love Story

From the beginning of the creation of the world, God designed us to be in a love relationship with Him. (John 3:16)

This love is so strong that it pursues us, paid the ultimate price for us and sacrificed to live for us in a way like no-one has ever done. This is God's pursuing love expressed ultimately in Jesus!

And in God's great plan to demonstrate His love to the world He created, He has designed it so that every Christian would be like a giant neon sign that displays the evidence of being in relationship with Him so all would know of His great love.

Growing Up and Leaving Love

We tend to move away from love as a primary response to God as we grow up. It's as if we place a higher value on or rely on other aspects of our relationship with God instead of love.

But God wants our relationship with Him and others to be defined by love. (Revelation 2:2-5a)

We don't graduate from a love founded relationship with God. Living from this root, or core of love prevents the destruction of relationships, both our relationship with God and others. (John 15:9-12)

Created for a Love Relationship

God Himself pursues a love relationship with us. He is the one who takes the initiative to bring us into this kind of relationship.

He created us for a love relationship with Himself. That is the very reason we were created; it is the ultimate purpose of our life and should and can be very real and personal to us.

God never designed a relationship with us where we were just to obey Him like robots. God designed us to be thrilled by Him and to enjoy Him. (1 John 4:16)

1. A revelation of God's love is the crucial thing that changes us
2. It's God's love that transforms us
 - + When I love God - I am ruined for the world - little else matters
 - + When I experience and know God's love - I am settled about everything else
 - + When I am loved by God - I am compelled to follow His heart

This is crucial to seeing the breakthrough of the Kingdom of God - heaven invading earth. We can't expect to see God's love flow through us to others if we haven't experienced God's love for ourselves. Love must be at the root of all things.

God abides with the person who is at home with love.

Love Opposed

Just like faith and hope, love is also opposed. Most of us struggle through life because we are afraid to receive and give love. We are basically afraid of intimacy. This hinders us from having intimate fellowship with God and healthy relationships with others.

At the core of this fear is deception. Satan, who is described as "the father of lies" in John 8:44, continually lies to us about the character of the Father. Our adversary tells us that God does not love us unless we perform well enough to earn His love. He tells us that God is abusive, angry, aloof, impatient and constantly disappointed with us.

If the enemy of our souls can convince us that God has rejected us, is upset with us or has withdrawn from us because of some sin we committed, he knows we will hide from God and try to live our lives performing well enough to earn His love, thus increasing the depth of our guilt and shame pushing us further from our Heavenly Dad.

An Overflow of Love

We act in love towards others because we have experienced God's love and want to share God's love. (2 Corinthians 5:15) We love others because we have experienced, and we know a love that brings us joy and peace and freedom. We want others to experience that same feeling of being loved!

Love should be the motivator and means by which we minister to everyone. There is no breakthrough without love!

Discussion Questions

1. Do you know the love of the Father? Have you experienced the liberating, faithful love of God? Are you able to say that you love God with all of your heart?
2. Are you comfortable with love? Are you aware that the Father takes delight in you and that He thinks about you all the time? (Zephaniah 3:17) Discuss how this makes you feel.
3. Is there an area you have been believing a lie about how much God loves you?
4. Discuss the correlation between abiding in God's love and being able to love others well.
5. Read - John 17:26. Jesus prays to His Father for us to experience the same love Jesus and the Father had for one another! Need to experience the love of God afresh again today - ask Him. He is willing! Pray for one another to experience a fresh baptism of the Father's love.



Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

Riverlife partners with Open Doors to stand with and support the Persecuted Church across the world. As we approach International day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (1 November) we can unite as the Church to uphold Afghanistan and the Afghani people in prayer. Afghanistan is now held by the Taliban. Amidst the heartbreaking news and images we see coming from the country, our prayers are needed now more than ever.

Here are ways you can pray with Afghanistan today.

1. **For believers in the region**, that they will find strength, wisdom and supernatural peace in God's promises, and that they will receive pastoral care they need.
2. **For the displaced**. A new wave of refugees is expected to come from Afghanistan to many parts of the Middle East and the rest of the world. Pray for God's protection and provision over them in their journeys.
3. **For the women**, many of whom fear that they will be stripped of opportunities for education. Those involved in education during past years could also be at risk - pray for their protection.
4. **For the children**. Pray that schools and educational programs will be able to function. Ask God to raise up bold, prophetic warriors who will guard children's safety and fight for their protection from all kinds of abuses.
5. **For food to be accessible and affordable**. People are struggling right now because supply chains have broken down. As they are slowly reinitiated, inflation and access is becoming a problem.
6. **For health and wellness**. Pray that the healthcare system will not collapse. Medicines are in short supply. Pray that clean water continues to run in taps. If water becomes contaminated in the cities, there will be widespread disease and illness.

There is also opportunity to support in other ways (sign the Open letter to Australian Government from churches and congregations Australia-wide via Micah campaign 'Christians United for Afghanistan') and to pray and contribute to supporting the emerging and persecuted Church in Afghanistan via Open Doors.



Worship Art Workshop

Do you love to draw or paint during worship time? Would you like to know more about how you can creatively express what God is showing you? If you are interested in joining our Worship Art Team or would just like to learn a new skill, join us at our free Worship Art Workshops on Tuesdays from 7-9pm on 19, 26 October and 2 November in the External Cafe. To register, email church@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au.

QB Combined Service

On Sunday 24 October at 5pm, we will be hosting a combined service for Queensland Baptists Brisbane West and Ipswich Region. The Queensland Baptists Director of Movement, Jason Elmore, will be our guest speaker. Everyone is invited to join us as we hear from Jason and support our wider Queensland Baptist Movement.

Alpha Online Starts 7 Oct

Interested in exploring questions of faith and life or know someone you could invite to come along with you? Join us **this Thursday ONLINE** for Alpha as we share friendly conversation together. Led by Ryan Vallee and Joel Kelder, Alpha is the perfect next step for those who want to find out who Jesus is and why He matters! This free course runs over eight weeks (7 October to 25 November) from 7.30-8.45pm each Thursday night online via Zoom. Registrations and more information via the [website](#).

Riverlife Giving	
AUG GIVING	82.3% of budget
YTD GIVING	79.5% of budget

Contact Us

Office Hours
Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

E church@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
P 3378 3595 W riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
Jennifer Street, 17 Mile Rocks Qld 4073

- Senior Pastor **John Robertson**
john.robertson@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Worship and Creative Arts **Nick Riddel**
E nick.riddel@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Spiritual Formation **Jo Leutton**
E jo.leutton@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- REACH **Robyn Robertson**
E robyn.robertson@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Families **Grant Gehrke**
E grant.gehrke@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Children's Ministry **Petrea Taylor**
E petrea.taylor@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Care Pastor **Lucjan Sosnowski**
E lucjan.sosnowski@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Care Pastor **Linda Liddell**
E linda.liddell@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Young Adults & Online **Nick Lloyd**
E nick.lloyd@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Youth **Scott McKinnon**
E scott.mckinnon@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Administrator **Mark Hodgson**
E mark.hodgson@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Elders *Concerns and prayer needs*
E elders@riverlifecyclechurch.org.au
- Riverlife Counselling M 0411 244 513

Online Giving

If you would like to give tithes, offerings or donations, please use the following details

ACCOUNT NAME Riverlife Baptist Church
BSB NUMBER 704-913
ACCOUNT NUMBER 400 039 640
REFERENCE Tithe, Offering or Donation
Text to Give: SMS Riverlife - 0488 202 202

Information Slip

If you are a newcomer to our church we want you to feel at home and part of our church. We hope you will give us the opportunity to get to know you. Please fill out this slip and present it at the Info Desk in the foyer for more information on how you can get connected at Riverlife.

Date Sunday 3 October 2021

Service 9.00am
 5.00pm

Personal Details

Mr Mrs Miss Ms

Surname _____

First Name _____

Phone (h) _____

(wk/mob) _____

Email _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Age

- Grade 7 - 8 30's
 Grade 9 - 11 40's
 Grade 12 50's
 18 - 24 yrs 60+
 25 - 29 yrs

Date of Birth DD/MM/YYYY

Single Married Single Again

Children's Names and Ages/Grades if applicable

- First time guest
 New - looking to get connected
 Visitor only
 Regular attender
 New to the area

This information is used for contact purposes only

Welcomer or Help Desk Use Only

- Welcome Pack given
 Details checked

Welcomer's Name _____

riverlifecyclechurch
riverlifecyclechurch

Can we help you in any of the following ways?

- Accepting Jesus as my saviour
- Finding a church home
- Being baptised
- Church membership
- Pastoral care
- Life groups
- Children's activities
- Youth activities
- Young adult activities
- International social activities
- Growing in my faith
- Discovering my ministry
- Volunteering
- Other

I was welcomed by

Prayer requests and praise points

Please send my prayer needs to the prayer chain

NAME

CONTACT NUMBER/EMAIL (OPTIONAL)

WE DESIRE TO BE

A family embracing the Father's presence, releasing empowered people who declare and demonstrate Christ's kingdom