



# Connect

News from Riverstone Community Church

26<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**\* Birthdays this week**

Wednesday Ben Gross  
 Saturday Ken Davies



**\* Anniversary this week**

Wednesday Mark & Sarah Abraham



## Contacts

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**Finances:** Eric Gordon: 0402 066 076

**Topic:** Not Long Now:  
 Expecting Christ's Return

**Speaker:** Kevin Rosolen

**Chairman:** Phillip Gummerson

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Next Sunday	The Sunday After..
<i>Second Nature</i>	<i>Forgiveness</i>
Phillip Gummerson	Phillip Gummerson

**The Program (D.V.)**  
 10:00am  
 Church which includes:  
 Prayer and Praise  
 Kids' Spot  
 Communion & Preaching

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# Prayer, Praise & News

**\*\* Babies** For their sage arrival **\*\***

- \* Lucy Stubis
- \* Lena Barrington

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## General Praise & Prayer

- \* **Azar & Eghbal** (John Grant's friends – Iranian Christians in Turkey).  
– Azar still has the tumour as surgery was halted when the health fund refused to cover her medical expenses.  
**Praise** – A gift was given that enabled them to re-book the surgery, the exact date to be determined early in January.  
**Pray** – For a successful surgery and they can come to Australia.
- \* **Daphne Harding** –  
**Pray** – That she recovers from the stroke without lasting effects.
- \* **Eden; Johanna's grand-daughter** – In hospital with breathing difficulty.  
**Pray** – That the infection responds to treatment.
- \* **Heather Davis** – Tumour has stopped growing – Next scan in January.  
**Pray** – For complete healing.
- \* **Margaret Kennedy** – Recovering from bilateral pneumonia.  
**Pray** – That she regains her health.
- \* **Stuart & Carol Thomson** – They have gone to see their parents in Northern NSW and Bundaberg QLD.  
**Pray** – For a stress free transition – especially for the children.

### Support the Emmaus Prison Ministry

Transferring \$5/week (or \$20/month) pays for Emmaus Correspondence School booklets and postage allowing a prisoner to study God's word.

We are seeing many being saved through this ministry.

You can set up a weekly automatic transfer to:

**Emmaus Correspondence School**

**BSB 032087 Account 123703**

## Does the Bible say anything about making resolutions?



Yes, the Bible certainly encourages us to examine our lives and resolve to change them if necessary (although not just at the beginning of a new year). The Psalmist, for example, made a resolution to keep his speech pure: "I have planned no evil; my mouth has not transgressed" Psalm 17:3

Why, however, do so many of our resolutions fail? Sometimes it's simply because they aren't realistic. Instead, they're only wishful thinking, with no way to make them actually happen. For example, you might resolve to make a million dollars this year, but if you don't have any way to earn it, it probably isn't going to happen. Other resolutions fail because we aren't willing to make the sacrifices necessary to reach them.

The real problem is within ourselves—within our own hearts and minds. We'd all like to be better people, but no matter how hard we try, we find ourselves tripped up by our own moral failures and weaknesses. Even the Apostle Paul experienced this: "I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out" Romans 7:18.

What is the solution? The solution is to turn to God, confessing our sins to Him and seeking His help to live the way we should. Begin the New Year by turning to Jesus Christ and inviting Him into your life. Then ask Him to help you become the person He wants you to be. This is what Paul did, and that's why he could say, "I can do all this through him who gives me strength" Philippians 4:13.