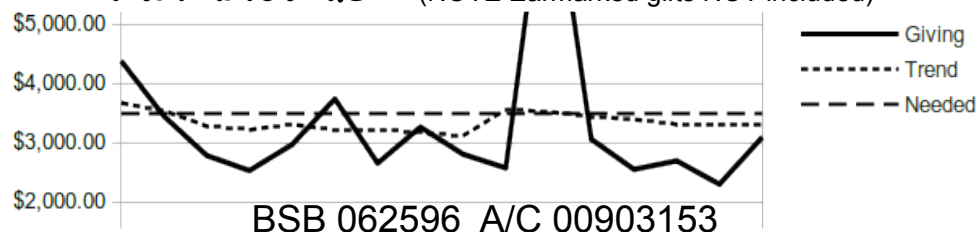


Financials

(NOTE Earmarked gifts NOT included)



BSB 062596 A/C 00903153

Thank you for your heart of giving and commitment.

Birthdays this week

Tuesday Beatrice Smith
 Friday Jackson Davis
 Saturday William Prestidge



Anniversary this week

Wednesday Steve & Tracey Morsillo



Announcements:

Youth Group, KYB and Play Group have started up again!
 (Youth Group needs girl leaders – please contact Rhys)
 Kids' Church is on again from next week!

Contacts

For Eldership contact and Pastoral Care: elders@rivochurch.com
 Andrew Cowell: 0426 838 948 Linc Marlow: 0490 804 708
 Phillip Gummerson: 0414 765 200

For Deaconship matters: deacons@rivochurch.com
 Brett Davis: 0409 841 058 Eric Gordon: 0402 066 076
 Stuart Waller: 0419 445 660

Kids Church: Rhiannan Morsillo (rhiannan.cowell@gmail.com)
Youth: Rhys Morsillo 0411 776 587
Connect: Warwick Gummerson (warwick@gummerson.com)
Facebook: Jade Cowell 0450 508 947
Church & Building Bookings: (rivochurch.com/church_calendar.php)
Finances: Eric Gordon: 0402 066 076

Connect

News from Riverstone Community Church

6th February 2022

Topic: The Gospel:
I am John
Speaker: Ken Harding
Chairman: Ralph Hearsey

Next Sunday

*Follow Me:
Witness Jesus*

Andrew Cowell
(Ralph Hearsey)

The Sunday After..

*Follow Me:
Walk with Jesus*

Phillip Gummerson
(Ralph Hearsey)

The Program (D.V.)

10:00am

Church which includes:
 Prayer and Praise
 Kids' Spot
 Communion & Preaching

www.rivochurch.com

www.facebook.com/rivochurch

Visitors – go to rivochurch.com/new

Prayer, Praise & News

** Babies **

- * **Lucy Stubis** – At 26 weeks, there appears to be some risk of premature delivery. This will be treated with progesterone until 34 weeks.
- * **Lina Barrington** – Some blood clots on Lina's lungs currently being treated.

Pray – For the mothers, the babies and for safe deliveries.

General Praise & Prayer

- * **Heather Davis** – Tumour on her lung is unchanged in almost a year.
Praise – Heather was able to attend church last Sunday.
- * **Azar & Eghbal** (John Grant's friends – Iranian Christians in Turkey).
Azar's surgery postponed due to high blood pressure.
Pray – About HER treatment and also their asylum application.
- * **Daphne Harding** – Daphne visited her Cardiologist last Thursday for an echocardiogram. Her mitral valve is leaking and may require surgery. Meantime the Atrial Fibrillation will be treated medically. Next appointment in 2 weeks time.
Pray – For a complete recovery and for guidance re future direction.
- * **Basil Connell** – Very low Haemoglobin, breathlessness and tiredness.
Pray – For successful treatment from the haematologist Tuesday.
- * **Monica's brother; Paul** – Radiation treatment has begun on his head.
Pray – For his treatment and especially for him to come to Salvation.
- * **Margaret Kennedy** – Recovering from bilateral pneumonia.
Pray – That she regains her health.
- * **Doug McNaught** – Had shingles and then developed Bells Palsy.
Pray – That his stay in rehab helps him recover.
- * **Covid-19** – Please pray for many friends and relatives who have Covid-19, many interstate, that they recover quickly without lasting affect.
- * **Stephen McNair (known to Ellen Kerslake)** – Tear in lung as a result of Covid-19.
Pray – For his comfort and recovery.
- * **Bonny Gordon's dad** – Isolated in a room because of Covid in the nursing home.
Pray – That the home reopens and that the outbreak clears.

Afghanistan.



"I grew up in Afghanistan and was very well educated. My family are secret believers. A few years ago the Taliban came and they took my father away because he was a Christian. If I am honest, I can only think about survival." - Zabi, a secret believer in Afghanistan.

When the Taliban took over Afghanistan, her life as a Christian became even more volatile.

Zabi isn't just a well-educated young woman, she is also a human rights activist, making her a huge target for the Taliban. Five years ago they killed her father for his faith, after torturing him for several months. And only two years ago, Zabi's brother disappeared. He was also a Christian.

Zabi and her mother had no choice but to flee Afghanistan.

"Our situation is desperate," Zabi said. "I have money in my bank account, but cannot access it from here. What will happen to me? I'm praying I can leave this country and go somewhere safe. I may have to go into hiding. Or I'll be deported to Afghanistan, but I may be killed if that happens."

"Honestly, I can only think about survival."

"Open Doors" in the region have encouraged her, prayed with her, given her food. But we don't know what the future will hold for Zabi.

According to our newly released World Watch List, Afghanistan is now the #1 most dangerous country to be a Christian.

This is big news. It's the first time this number one spot has shifted, since 2000.

In the year 2000, we were welcoming the new millennia, getting ready to host the Sydney Olympics and North Korea was the most dangerous place in the world to be a Christian.

In the 20 years since, North Korea has grown increasingly worse for Christians. Countless scores of believers have lost their lives for the gospel and whole families have been left for dead in labour camps.

But as persecution has increased in North Korea, it has become even more extreme for Christians from Afghanistan.

This really should alert us to the intense persecution our brothers and sisters are facing under the hands of the Taliban. Right now it's impossible to follow Jesus openly without being disowned or even murdered by your own family. Christians are left with two choices- to flee or be publicly executed.

From Open Doors newsletter