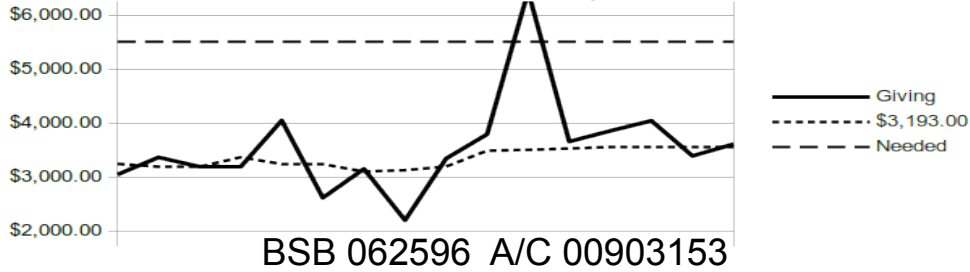


Financials (NOTE Earmarked gifts NOT included)



BSB 062596 A/C 00903153

Thank you for your heart of giving and commitment.

Birthday this week

Today Carol Thomson
Thursday Ben Gross



Anniversaries this week

Thursday Mark & Sarah Abraham

You can support the Emmaus Prison Ministry

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

We are seeing many being saved through this ministry:

Emmaus Correspondence School BSB 032087 Account 123703

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	Dave Ward:	0414 929 946
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.au)	
Facebook:	Jade Cowell	0450 508 947	
Church & Building Bookings:		(rivochurch.com/church_calendar.php)	
Finances:	Eric Gordon:	0402 066 076	



Topic: *Come and Behold Him*

Speaker: Phillip Gummerson

Chairman: Andrew Cowell

Creche: Rhiannan

Next Sunday

Sabbath Rest

Sp: Phillip Gummerson

Ch: Ralph Hearsey

Tamika & Emilia

The Sunday After..

Sabbath Work

Sp: Phillip Gummerson

Ch: Ralph Hearsey

Rhys & Rhiannan

The Program (D.V.)

9:30am

Church which includes:
Prayer and Praise
Creche
Worship
Communion
Preaching

www.rivochurch.com
www.facebook.com/rivochurch
Visitors – go to rivochurch.com/new



Praise, Prayer & News

* **Ralph & Jess Hearsey** – A new baby boy to be born late March.

* **Rhys & Rhiannan Morsillo** – A new baby to be born in May.

Pray – For safe delivery for the mothers and babies.

* **Dave Ward** – Weekly checkups.

Praise – Dave has been able to attend church.

Pray – That he recovers fully.

* **Jenny McGechan** – The eye procedure appears to be failing.

Pray – That it heals so that she can keep on nursing.

* **Heather Davis** – Praise God she's now completed her radio therapy with minimal side effects.

Pray – For a good result from a scan in the new year.

* **Andrew Webb** – Radiation therapy and chemotherapy ended.

Pray – For endurance, courage and a permanent cure.

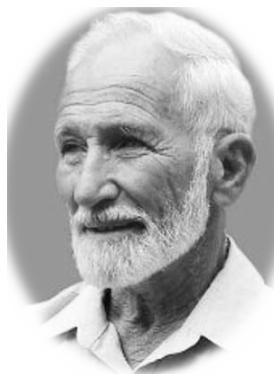
* **Christine Scott** – Atrial fibrillation and chronic lung problem.

Christine much improved and now back at home.

Pray – For improving health and strength.

* **Dr Ken Elliott** – Australian missionary held by Islamic Jihadists for more than six years in Mali.

Pray – That he is returned to his wife and family very soon.



Thanks to all who helped with the Thanksgiving Service for Mary Crossingham.

How Does the Message of Christmas Affect our Lives Today?

Sometimes Christmas can become too familiar to us. Each year we sing the carols announcing the birth of Christ. It can be easy for us to lose the wonder that characterised some people's response to Jesus' first coming. The news that God dwelt among humanity to go to the cross and die for our sins affects our lives today.

Not only are we reminded of the salvation we receive in Him, but we also receive hope in knowing that Jesus, the promised and prophesied Ruler of David's throne, will return to establish His kingdom.

Just as God was working in the past, He is active in the world today, accomplishing His perfect will. Reflecting on these truths of Christmas, our perspective about our lives can change.

The Gospel of John tells us that "the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).

Jesus, who is God, entered the world as a baby and lived a human life. He chose to identify with humanity so that He could die for us (Hebrews 2:14). When the angel Gabriel told Mary that she would give birth to a son, he told her to name the baby "Jesus" since "he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21b).

He died for our sins and rose to life, defeating death (1 Corinthians 15:55-57). In Him, we receive eternal life (John 3:16). This is the good news that believers in Jesus celebrate on Christmas, for Jesus is the promised Messiah, "Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).