

**Financials (NOTE Earmarked gifts NOT included)**



BSB 062596 A/C 00903153

Thank you for your heart of giving and commitment.

**Birthdays this week**

Today	Alison White
" "	Samara Abraham
Monday	Steve Morsillo
" "	Isaiah Hearsey
Tuesday	Zac Waller
Wednesday	Zipporah Ratumu



**Lunch today**

**Contacts**

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**Church & Building Bookings:** (rivochurch.com/church\_calendar.php)

**Connect**   
 News from Riverstone Community Church

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023

**Topic:** *A Better Story:*  
*Full Contentment*  
**Speaker:** Ralph Hearsey  
**Chairman:** Phillip Gummerson  
**Creche:** Tamika & Emilia



**Next Sunday**

*Ezra:*  
*Reformation*

**Sp:** Linc Marlow  
**Ch:** Mitch Cavens  
**Cr:** Estelle and Maybelle

**The Sunday After..**

*Portrait of a*  
*Healthy Church:*  
*Founded upon*  
*God Alone*

**Sp:** Andrew Cowell  
**Ch:** Mitch Cavens  
**Cr:** Stu & Carol

**The Program (D.V.)**

**10:00am**  
 Church which includes:  
 Prayer and Praise  
 Kids' Spot  
 Creche  
 Worship  
 Communion  
 Preaching  
**Lunch**

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# Prayer, Praise & News.

- \* **Faith Connell** – Painful lump suddenly appeared on her hand.  
**Praise** – The lump is metabolic arthritis and is treatable.
- \* **Andrew Webb** – Progressing through cancer treatment each month.  
Thanks for the ongoing love and prayers.  
**Pray** – For relief from constant pain and nausea.
- \* **Margaret Kennedy** –  
**Praise** – Home from Gold Coast hospital and under a good specialist.
- \* **Kristie Prestige's dad** – Blood clots following knee surgery two weeks ago.  
“Back to John Hunter hospital ... nurses run off their feet ... couldn't even get him to the toilet or shower him.”  
**Praise** – “God is good ... as I'm not working, I can help look after him.”
- \* **Auden Hearsey** – Still unsettled but improving.  
**Pray** – That he can be more relaxed and calm.
- \* **Rhonda Southwell's dad, Ron Kerlake** – Further heart op Wednesday.  
**Pray** – That this goes well.
- \* **Julie Ward's mother** – Declining health – Julie is with her in Qld while the family decides about the future care.  
**Pray** – That Julie can be a blessing to her family.
- \* **Marie Davies' neighbour – has cancer – Family has asked us to pray.**  
**Pray** – For the opportunity to present the Gospel.
- \* **Nigel Hughes** –  
**Pray** – That he can find suitable, affordable housing nearby.
- \* **Playgroup, Kids' Church, Kids' Club, & Impact Youth.**  
**Pray** – For the leaders and helpers who run these activities.
- \* **Medieval Holiday Club – NEXT WEEK (10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July.)**  
**Pray** – That this outreach will be mightily used by God.
- \* **Sport's Centre, Emmaus Ministry, Billy Graham Online, & School Scripture.**  
**Pray** – That many more are saved through these channels.

## A Nation with a Broken Moral Compass.

What happens when a nation throws out its moral compass? Everyone does just as each person wants to do. Without a moral compass, there are no absolutes. No absolute truth that guides and determines this is right and this is wrong. There is no absolute in gender and marriage gets redefined. Instead of One God, there are many gods and all are accepted.

Certainly, we should love others as Jesus loves them, but that does not mean we accept anything that blatantly contradicts the Bible.

In Judges 17, we find a son who stole from his mother – 1100 silver coins. The mother, angry over the theft pronounces a curse on whoever stole the money, not knowing she was cursing her own son. The son hears about it and decides to return the money – not because he is convicted about the wrong but because he's afraid of the curse. Then we see the mother do something that is becoming more and more common in parents today – she blesses the son. There is no discipline. No discussion about right or wrong. In fact, she is so happy to get the coins back that she says she's going to dedicate them to God. So she has them made into an idol.

What begins in the home will eventually spread to the community, the government, and the nation. At the point of Judges 17, we see that the nation lost its moral compass and in verse six we read: *“In those days, there was no king in Israel. Everyone did whatever he wanted.”*

The eventual result is God's judgement on the nation. And it always happens in the same order: Moral decay at home, then the community and the church, and then the government. Then God brings judgement and the people wonder what's happening.

What's needed is a spiritual clean up. We need the Holy Spirit to clean up the hearts of God's people. 2 Chronicles 7:14 says: *“...If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”*

<https://wellspringchristianministries.org/judges-176-a-nation-with-a-broken-moral-compass/>