

Financials



The special Christmas collection for
Local and Overseas workers
was \$6,840



Thank you for your heart of giving and commitment.

Birthdays this Week

Today	Warren Elphick
Tuesday	Susan Fredericks
Friday	Marie Davies
“ “	Benji Davis



Congratulations

To Joanna and Cohen on their
engagement.



Anniversary this Week

Tuesday David & Ruth Owen



Christmas Light Show.

You are invited to Kevin Rosolen's
994 Wisemans Ferry Rd
South Maroota
Sat 16th Dec 6pm start

Carols in the Park.

Saturday 2nd Dec
6pm to 7:30pm Food trucks.
7:30pm to 9pm Carols
(Combined Churches)

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	Stuart Waller:	0419 445 660
Kids Church:	Rhiannan Morsillo	(rhiannan.cowell@gmail.com)	
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Connect:	Warwick Gummerson	(warwick@gummerson.com.au)	
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Church & Building Bookings:	(rivochurch.com/church_calendar.php)		

Connect

News from Riverstone Community Church

19th November 2023

Topic: *The Privilege of Knowing God*

Speaker: Josh Groenestyn

Chairman: Ralph Hearsey

Creche: Carol & Lina

➔ **BAPTISM Maybelle & Faith Thomson** ◀

Next Sunday...

*The Product of
Knowing God*

Sp: Ken Harding
Ch: Ralph Hearsey
Cr: Jono & Lisa

The Sunday After..

*A Better Story:
Eternal Value*

Sp: Phillip Gummerson
Ch: Andrew Cowell
Cr: Ace & Joanne

The Program (D.V.)

10:00am

Church which includes:
Prayer and Praise
Creche
Baptism
Kids' Church
Worship
Communion
Preaching

www.rivochurch.com

www.facebook.com/rivochurch

Visitors – go to rivochurch.com/new



Prayer, Praise & News

- * **Auden Hearsey** – Neurological difficulties since birth last March.
Pray – For Ralph, Jess and Auden – Follow up with specialists.
- * **Emmaus Prison Ministry** – Some prisons not allowing courses.
Pray – For exemption allowing prisoners to request courses.
- * **Lucy Stubis** – Needed a pass in English writing for employment.
Pray – For guidance as Lucy processes the unfortunate result.
- * **Jono Odell, (Felicity Marlow's brother)** – In palliative care.
Pray – For Jono and the Marlow family as they support Jono.
- * **John McGechan (Cathy Camilleri's dad)** – Melanoma on leg.
Pray – As they await biopsy results.
- * **Cathy Camilleri** – Health issues – Follow up with gynaecologist.
Pray – For a good prognosis.
- * **Joyce Abraham (Mark's cousin-in-law)** – In ICU in India.
Pray – That the doctors can cure the large mass in her stomach.
She has been on a ventilator for about a month.
- * **Samuel (Samara Abraham's cousin – Yr 6 at ACC Marsden Park)**
(Has forehead swelling - osteomyelitis with abscess.)
Fluid drained but he's still weak on left side and is having seizures.
Pray – That he recovers with no long term effects.
- * **Joseph Peters (Cartwright Assembly)** – Very ill with bladder cancer.
Pray – That the chemotherapy treatment will bring relief.

You're invited to a
Tropical Christmas Lunch

3rd December

(scan QR code for details and to RSVP)



Why Does Evil Exist?

What does the Bible say? Can it give us any comfort?

One problem that the Old Testament doesn't fully answer is how God can redeem us if we're so obviously prone to keep falling into evil? If even wise King Solomon or Moses himself fell short, what chance do we have?

For Jesus and his Jewish followers, the Messiah's death on a Roman cross was understood to make a final atonement for sins—like the ultimate Yom Kippur.

In Revelation 5, the apocalyptic prophet, John, has been having a vision of the heavenly throne room where God dwells in power and glory. John sees a scroll in the hand of God sealed with seven seals: *"But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it"* (Rev 5:3).

So John weeps because the scroll couldn't be opened. It's the scroll of divine judgement!

People today are very uncomfortable with the idea of divine judgement. But it's what John is desperate for. Why? Because he is Jewish, and his people have been oppressed by evil empires for the last 500 years! In his life, he's seen the constant suffering of his people.

So, what does this world need more than anything? It needs a wise, powerful, and perfectly just judge and ruler. But where can we find one of those? No one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And one of the elders said, *"Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."* Rev 5:4–5

At last! The Lion of Judah! Here's the mighty king who will execute justice for the poor and oppressed with perfect fairness! He will bring down all the kings of the earth who would use violence to control people and hoard their wealth. He has already conquered!

The Bible is not the story of a Creator God who stands far off and says, "Tsk-tsk," to human evil. God's answer to evil and the power of death is to come down and get right in the middle of it to break through its power with self-sacrificial love and open the way for us to follow Him through it—and out into eternal life.

From <https://jewsforjesus.org/answers/why-does-evil-exist>