



From the Pastor's Desk...

Yes, it is the most wonderful time of the year, Christmas!

Celebrations will be taking place in many different ways; break up parties at work, Christmas lights on homes, Carols played in shopping centers and on the radio, the celebration of the perfect car park, and the most significant one of all... celebrating the birth of the Saviour of the world, Jesus.

I've read a few articles recently that people are wanting to say "Happy Holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas" but what if you weren't going on holiday that would leave a lot of people out.

So where did the phrase 'Merry Christmas' come from? The origin is a little obscure. However, it's believed that an English admiral first used the term 'Merry Christmas' in an informal letter, way back in 1699. In 1843, Charles Dickens used the same phrase in "A Christmas Carol."

I believe over many years the words "Merry Christmas" have become a sort of throw-away line to express joy and good wishes, but it means so much more. 'Merry' comes from the old English word 'myrige' which means pleasant, and 'Christmas' is two words combined 'Christ' being the anointed or one set apart and 'mass' is a time of celebration and remembrance. So, if we join it all together, it's an encouragement given to others to have a pleasant celebration of remembering Christ.

We cannot, and should not, reduce this time of the year, 'Christmas', down to just a good wish of joy, but also a time of remembering and celebrating Jesus, the Messiah, for truly Jesus is the 'Reason for the Season'.

So from our family to yours, whether you are staying here or traveling to see family and friends, or having a holiday, 'Merry Christmas', have a pleasant time of remembering and celebrating Jesus, the Messiah.

God bless

Pastor Jim

Services: 9:30am Sunday
Graceville State School Auditorium
Oxley Road, Graceville

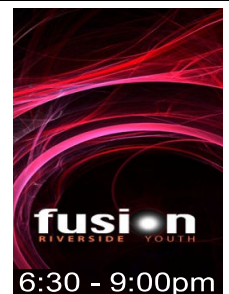
Contact: Pastors Jim and Paivi Cameron

Phone: (07) 3278 5969 or 0413 006 741

Church Office: 3 Neata Street, Corinda
PO Box 11, Corinda QLD 4075

Email: info@riversidecc.org.au

Website: www.riversidecc.org.au



6:30 - 9:00pm
Fridays
(Finishes 12 Dec 2015
Starts 31 Jan 16 2016)





Bruce Holliday



Daniel Wangatau



Roger Mai



Brad Smith



Lee-Anne Longton



Pastors Jim & Paivi Cameron

Connect Groups...

Connect Groups to connect us to each other and to God's Word.

DAYTIME:

Friday 10:30am at Graceville
Phone: (07) 3716 0030
Leader: Bruce Holliday

EVENING:

Tuesday 7:00pm at Paddington
Phone: 0408 755 275
Leader: Roger Mai
Tuesday 7:30pm at Oxley
Phone: 0411 255 161
Leader: Brad Smith
Thursday 7:30pm at Graceville
Phone: 0430 286 557
Leader: Daniel Wangatau
Friday 6:30pm at Forest Lake
Phone: 0438 756 962
Leader: Lee-Anne Longton

PowerKids...

...a fun program during church for children aged 4-12. (All leaders have Blue Cards.) Directions from the Welcome Team (on holiday from 13 December)

Glowbugs...

Letting our little lights shine!

A program run for 1 - 4 year olds in the Oxley Room after worship concludes. Fun ~ stories ~ songs ~ play for toddlers. Talk to a Welcome Team member at the door for directions.



Serving Opportunities...

Great opportunities to serve in 2015:

SERVING MORNING TEA...

... after the service (rostered)

DATA / VIDEO PROJECTION TEAM

... on the rostered team (full training)
Please speak to Pastor Paivi.

Electronic Giving...

For those who find it more convenient to give electronically, deposits can be made directly to the church account.

Bank: Commonwealth
Acc Name: Riverside Christian Church
BSB No: 064 162
Acc No: 10116916

Please designate 'Tithes', 'Missions', 'Miracle Offering', etc, in the transaction description.

There's also a **mobile EFTPOS machine** at the **Welcome Desk**.

Prayer Requests...

If you have an emergency prayer request, please contact the church office (3278 5969 or 0413 006 741) for passing to the Prayer Team.



Prayer requests can be posted on the Riverside [facebook](#) (closed group) page.

SERMONS can be downloaded from iTunes - go to the church website at www.riversidecc.org.au and click on...



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

... Thursday 24 December

...one hour service at 6:30pm with Special Guest Artist, Dr Kerry Vann

Invite family and friends to celebrate with us!

Soprano Kerry Vann is a versatile musician. She sang with the chorus of Opera Queensland for ten seasons and has sung many leading roles for the Ignatians Musical Society, Queensland Musical Theatre, Ipswich Musical Society and the Brisbane Light Opera Company. Kerry holds ten degrees and diplomas: eight in music, one in languages and one in education. In addition to singing, she is the principal percussionist of the Brisbane Philharmonic Orchestra and Corda Spiritus, and the keyboard percussionist with the Brisbane Excelsior Band. In her 'spare' time Kerry loves to travel, swim, walk, play golf and is a member of the board of directors of 4MBS classic FM.



riverside Community Carols

Sunday 13 December

Graceville State School Oval

5:15pm...

Food & Drink for sale
Free Activities including:

- ...Jumping Castle
- ...Face Painting
- ...Family Portraits
- ...Petting Zoo

5:30pm...

Christmas Carols with
Guest Artists