



# the church Messenger

July 2021

'A Community of People  
who Worship, Grow, Love, Serve &  
Discover Jesus Together'

## *The Monthly Newsletter of Lilydale Baptist Church* **Church Information**

### For Pastoral Care and Prayer Support.

Contact: Pastor Stewart  
(Currently on leave)

### For Church Family Prayer Support.

Contact: Lillian Len Taylor on  
0422 612 833

### For Email Prayer Chain requests

Contact:  
[administrator@lb.org.au](mailto:administrator@lb.org.au)

### Church Office

2/28 John Street Lilydale.  
9735 2233

Email: [office@lb.org.au](mailto:office@lb.org.au)

Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm

### The Mustard Tree Op Shop and Café

3/28 John Street Lilydale.  
9735 3500

Mon-Fri 10am-3pm Sat 10am-1pm



### On-line Giving Details

Lilydale Baptist Church General Fund

BSB: 704 922 Account: 100007931

Lilydale Baptist Church Mission Fund

BSB: 704 922 Account: 100007924

Mustard Tree Welfare

BSB: 704 922 Account: 100008629



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# A Word from... “James 1:2-5”

## Finding ‘joy’



There are so many words people are using to describe the state of the world amid the COVID-19/Coronavirus outbreak. We hear it's unprecedented. We hear it's serious. We hear it can take lives. You may be doing ok with COVID but other challenges are stealing your joy—things closer to home? Family struggles? Church? Work? Mental Health? The list is endless....

**Joy is more than just a feeling. It's a mindset centered in hope.**

Most of Australia is under some kind of orders involving minimizing contact in public and doing what we can do to flatten the curve, with most states in lockdown.

We can be anxious during this time. We can worry about ourselves and others. We might be grieving the loss of loved ones, jobs, school and the simple freedoms we enjoyed just a month ago. We may feel angry, frustrated and doubtful of the many sources of information being given to us.

**So, in this uncertain time, is it possible that we can still find joy?**

To get to that answer, let's read some words from the Book of James:

*“My brothers and sisters, think of the various tests you encounter as occasions for joy. After all, you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. Let this endurance complete its work so that you may be fully mature, complete, and lacking in nothing. But anyone who needs wisdom should ask God, whose very nature is to give to everyone without a second thought, without keeping score. Wisdom will certainly be given to those who ask.” James 1:2-5 (CEB)*



There are some passages in Scripture that can absolutely leave you scratching your head. Does James seriously think that I'm going to be joyful when I'm going through the tough moments in life? Are we supposed to be joyful when the world is in a state of fear? When things seem to be falling apart everywhere I look?

Maybe you get where I'm coming from on this. Joy is often the last thing that I think of or feel in the moments of stress, the times of struggle, in the hours of pain, in dealing with fears and questions and doubts.

***Joy is more than just a feeling. It's a mindset centered in hope.***

## A Word from... “James 1:2-5” (cont.)

Yet, that's where this letter goes: joy. Why? Because it's a chain reaction. View it as joy because this trial can test your faith and show you just how much you need God. And when you realize that about your faith, your faith can mature and grow.

But still, joy? Joy when you have just found out your job is no longer yours? Joy when someone you love is sick and struggling? Joy when people are talking about you? Joy when there is no money to pay the bills? Joy when you hear a rumor or half-truth? Joy when just getting out of bed is a struggle on some days?

# Joy?

*Maybe* what James is ultimately pointing us to is that we can reach a place in our faith when we see past the emotions and situations that we encounter and we can see that God is still present. It's a place on the other side of pain and doubt. It's the place where we know that no matter what, God is there.

*Maybe* that's what can lead us to be able to ask God without doubt. **Why?** Because we've had the chance to see God at work in our trials. And because we've seen God there, we know that he's going to be there in the future and that God's never going to leave.

*Maybe* that's what I find myself coming back to. **God is here, God is there. God is always.**

Even in the trials. God is with you as you shelter in place. God is with you when you wait for test results. God is with you when you are struggling to make ends meet after the sudden job loss. God is with you no matter what.

And for some reason, that does start to make me feel joyful.

Pray with me...

Almighty and loving God, thank you for your presence with us in the toughest moments of life. God, thank you for being with us during every trial and everything we don't understand. God, you are with us in the lowest moments just as you are with us in happiest of times. Help us, God, to find the joy in knowing you will not leave even in the toughest of moments we experience. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen



Be blessed and joyful...

# What's happening @ LBC...

## Put it on the Calendar

July 1st: Thursday, BLinGG Craft night 7.30 @ church—See Ellen Adams

July 3rd: Saturday Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 8am—See Gordon Taylor

July 11th: Sunday Lunch @ International—See Kaye Bradfield



ONLINE SERMONS  
**LISTEN**

*You can listen to our sermons on our church website ([www.lb.org.au](http://www.lb.org.au))*

QR Codes are now required to be used in all Church settings. Don't forget to download the Victorian Government App so that you can be ready to scan yourself in at Church.



**The  
MUSTARD  
Tree  
Op Shop & Café**

A community ministry of Lilydale Baptist Church

## Job Vacancy

Lilydale Baptist Church welcomes applications from suitable persons for the role of **Assistant to the Managers** for their community ministry, The Mustard Tree Op Shop, café and Foodbank.

The Mustard Tree Op Shop and Café finance a variety of community ministries of LBC as well as being a place of connection for the local community. The Mustard Tree seeks to be Jesus' hands, feet and voice to our local community. This is a permanent part time role of 18 hours per week, over three days. This position is based in the shop and reports to the retail manager and the Community Programs Coordinator.

For a detailed job description and to submit applications, please email:

[tmtmanager@lb.org.au](mailto:tmtmanager@lb.org.au) .

Applications close 16<sup>th</sup> July

# Life at LBC...



## Life Groups

"A place to belong. A place to grow"

If you are interested in joining a group please speak with Pastor Stewart.

## BLInG Craft

Blingg craft is back—First Thursday of each Month

7.30pm at the Church- All Ladies  
Welcome Bring your craft



## Lilydale Baptist Church

### Privacy Collection Notice:

Personal information provided by you and collected by Lilydale Baptist Church will be used in conformity with our Privacy Policy, which can be found at ([www.lb.org.au](http://www.lb.org.au)) or a copy can be obtained from the church office.



### Men's Group

This Breakfast/Bible Study is part of a series of informal, interactive studies for men. BYO Bible and a healthy appetite for breakfast.

Please see Gordon Taylor for details.



## Make & Mingle...Is Back

It's about fellowship and support. Its a great time of sharing and talking. So if your just wanting to sit, talk and share come to the church on Thursday morning, 9.30 - 12.00, and "mingle".

*You can of course also bring along your craft!!*

All things  
Mustard Tree...



## Café Update:

In addition to the Café being open Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, they are now able to open on a Monday, Wednesday & Friday for Coffee & Cake. It's a step in the process of being able to return to full time opening hours with full menus.



**Our Foodbank is now  
open Monday to Friday !**



## Are you on Facebook?

If you are check out the Facebook pages of the Mustard Tree and Lilydale Baptist Church.

## Do something worthwhile. Get involved!

We currently need more volunteers to work in the shop, café and garden at The Mustard Tree.

If you are interested in joining the Team, please pick up an application from the front counter of The Mustard Tree



**Special School Holiday  
activities are planned for  
the School children in the  
TMT on Mon 11th & Fri  
18th July.  
Don't Miss out.**

**Put it in your Diary!**



## BLINGG "CREATE" EVENT

*All ladies welcome (young and young at heart!)*



**CRAFT – COFFEE – CAKE**



*Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2021*

*2:30–5:00pm*

*at Lilydale Baptist Church*

Devotion presented by: Jenni Booth

*Show us your "lockdown" crafts or share photos and  
join in making a craft using wool*



*\$10 each for afternoon tea and craft supplies*

**RSVP: Ellen on 0417 033 207 or Heather on 0402 372 984**

# Life at LBC...

## Letter of Congratulations 15-Year Partnership with Kids Hope

Congratulations Lilydale Baptist Church for your 15-year partnership with Kids Hope. 15 years of anything is a long time, but 15 years of sustained partnership, transformational impact, and committed community engagement contributes to generational change and is to be celebrated!

The mentoring relationship between Lilydale Baptist Church and Rolling Hills Primary School over the past 15 years has helped transform the lives of so many young people, improving their resilience, social and emotional wellbeing, and academic success.

We are encouraged by your commitment to the children in your community through the Kids Hope program, replacing vulnerability with hope for a brighter future.

Congratulations on being part of a movement of hope in our nation! We wish your Kids Hope Team at Lilydale Baptist Church ongoing fruitfulness, as your partnership with Rolling Hills Primary School continues to flourish.



From The Kids Hope Team!

### CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

PRESENTED TO

**Lilydale Baptist Church  
and  
Rolling Hills Primary School**

**In recognition of a dedicated 15-year partnership with  
the KIDS HOPE Mentoring Program**



  
Gail Cameron  
KIDS HOPE CEO