

SouthPoint Life NEWSLETTER

FAITH AND LIFE IN THE FACE OF SICKNESS

2 COR 4:16
THAT IS WHY WE NEVER GIVE
UP. THOUGH OUR BODIES ARE
DYING, OUR SPIRITS ARE BEING
RENEWED EVERY DAY.



SouthPoint Church of Christ, 24 Towers Terrace, Edwardstown SA 5039

June 2021

About Us

SouthPoint Edwardstown is a community church, a place where Everyone is Welcome.

Our service is on Sundays at 10am, followed by informal morning tea, where we get a chance to chat with visitors, new members, and friends.

Every Sunday during school term we offer "Create", art classes. Headed by Paul & Gaynor, if art is your therapy, please come along to bring your projects to life. Paul & Gaynor welcome beginners, intermediate or advanced artists, or artists in heart. All welcome.



SouthPoint organization is run by eight ministries.

1. Pastoral Care
2. Hospitality
3. Outreach and Engagement
4. Leaders support and development
5. Generations and Discipleship
6. Preaching and Communication
7. Worship and Music
8. Stewardship

Ministry Area under Spotlight

Hospitality

Team Vision:

To build a church family where everyone can make meaningful connections, people feel loved, heard, assisted and are spiritually uplifted.

Nicole is the Portfolio Leader for the Hospitality Ministry.

The Hospitality Portfolio includes the activities that bring our church family together such as:

- Morning tea
- Men's group
- Woman's group
- Fellowship Sunday
- Planning of special events
- Welcome Packs and more

As you can see this Ministry covers a large scope of fellowship, however, only has 2 official members! We thank all helping hands that serve, clean, and cater on Sundays. If you would like to become part of this ministry, please speak to Nicole.

The 2nd member of this team is our lovely Lynne. We could not imagine morning tea or any other event without Lynne's presence, her humour, and her smile. We love you, Lynne!!!

Nicole also made contact with a scrumptious little bakery called '**Bite Me**' which supplies tasty treats for our Sunday Morning Tea – free of charge. You can however show them your support anytime, as they are open 7 days a week and variety is vast – from pies, pasties, cakes (even Birthday cakes), bread to soup & coffee.

Sampled many times and it is always a winner, trust me. ☺ Ivana

You can find them in Forbes Shopping Centre
531 Marion Road
South Plympton
8371 5200



Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry exists to bring men closer together in a sense of community to support one another, foster positive relationships in their families, places of work and in the church. Breakfasts are held regularly to promote fellowship, share and undertake practical tasks.

What does it look like in reality?

We have good time at Men's breakfast, catching up outside the church hours. We get to know each other in more casual environment, whilst sharing breakfast and doing little bit of maintenance.

Kelly F.

Who Does SouthPoint Support?

Introducing Lion Hearts Learning.



Lion Hearts Learning (LHL) is a South Australian registered children's charity that provides a free playgroup/pre-school service to children impacted by Cancer, whether it be their own, a

sibling's, or a parent's.

Children undergoing oncological treatment have severely compromised immune systems and must be kept quite isolated. As most other "main stream" services available to oncology children are aimed at older age brackets, we are filling a gap that is currently

not serviced but is very important.

How does SouthPoint support this charity?

Lion Hearts Learning are using SouthPoint premisses – Kids church in particular as one of their premisses to run their playgroups.

LHL ensures the environment is very clean/hygienic with all toys and resources being disinfected after each session and the venue fully cleaned before and after. No one can attend if they are sick. At the same time as being hygienic to the level that the children need, LHL provide social, emotional and educational (preparing for school) type learning that these children are not able to access due to their circumstances.

Children have the opportunity to make friends, be independent, make decisions and learn, which helps them to build confidence and self esteem, feel fulfilled, proud, happy and whole.

LHL gives parents an opportunity for respite, as they can leave children with a qualified staff. Range of activities such as jolly phonics, craft, storytelling, farm education, body movement, nutrition, socialisation, show and tell and more are explored during their sessions.

Services they currently provide are:

Face to face sessions on Mondays and Fridays from 9:30am to 12:30pm at their Central and Southern Branches.

Online sessions, Craft and Activity Packs are offered to children who are unable to attend due to being unwell, are in hospital or live too far away.

Lion Hearts send out about 30 Free craft packs each fortnight to children at home. Craft Items are always welcome.

LHL are also very active on Marketplace to raise funds for their operation.

If you have any items that you no longer need, Maralyn Phillipps would be very thankful for your donations. Please see separate flyer for details.

Reflections

In this section we look back at recently enjoyed events.

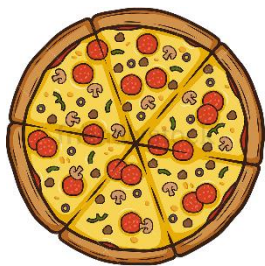
2 May

New Members & Fellowship Lunch

During our service we welcomed eight new SouthPoint members. Welcome all, it is great having you as part of our community and worship together.

Afterwards we celebrated with Fellowship Lunch. Pizza oven was fired up and everyone had a great time.

Thank you, Nick and Men's group, for organizing it and lending your hand at cooking.



9 May - Mother's day



Special day for all mothers, however not all can celebrate it in peace and surrounded by love. That's why we decided to bless mothers living in tough circumstances. We contacted women's shelter and asked them what their current needs are. The answer was "Warm blankets", as winter is approaching.

So we put out an appeal for blankets and funds donations. It was well received and at the end we were able to bless the shelter with 25 adults and 10 children blankets.

Happy Mother's day to all!

In house, children were involved in making special presents for their mommies, which involved lots of paint, glitter and plants. And all mommies loved it! 😊

Basketball Ring

It's great to see our Youth members involved in "real world ". Liam and his grandpa Darren installed brand new basketball ring in a courtyard. Thank you lads and we wish Liam all the best with his apprenticeship.





Projects Of The Month

This month SouthPoint takes the opportunity to bless organisations with donations for their very special causes. All three organisations are linked to cancer and easing the many challenges that surround people who are battling this disease.

If you wish you will have the opportunity to donate to one of the following causes:

- Robyn's cancer support group, Compass
- Lion Hearts Learning
- Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Compass, Cancer Support Group



When it comes to cancer, each person is on a different journey. Compass is about finding support while you walk this path. Beating cancer is more than treating the tumour. It's about ensuring people living with cancer have quality of life, during and after cancer treatment by also treating emotional, physical and health concerns of the individual. Robyn often needs to treat patients to

flowers, cup of coffee or reading material to lift up their spirits. Thus far, this was coming from Robyn's own pocket.

Compass are also leading discussion about quality of life, which is presented by Robyn Combes, who is living with breast cancer. Her positive attitude is inspiring.

Tuesdays 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Mitchell Park Neighbourhood Centre

Cost: Free

Includes tea and coffee.

For more information call 8375 6804

Lion Hearts Learning

Email: lionheartslearning@gmail.com

<https://www.lionheartslearning.com/>

JO and daughter Codee-Jo (Their Story and How Lion Hearts Learning Started)

My daughter Codee-Jo Townsend was diagnosed with Leukaemia in April 2017 and it has been a roller coaster of emotions. We had to be brave in the face of sheer terror, provide laughter when wanting to cry and give meds at home while wanting to run to the hospital to ask nurses to do it. To date, in our lives, it has been the hardest experience so far. And since walking the journey, we've discovered so many families are in the same position.

Our whole world went from happy and normal to uncertain and out of control. Codee-Jo had tests after being sick, went into hospital and never came out. We were suddenly hit with the fear of losing a child, having to negotiate full time hospital rotation amongst looking after our other child, which meant giving up work and being hit financially. The emotional, financial, physical and mental impact was huge. The pain of watching Codee-Jo being injected regularly, given oral meds, going to theatre and being isolated was heartbreaking.

I am telling you this, not for sympathy, but to highlight the reality of the impact Cancer has on families. It is something no one ever expects, but many are forced to deal with.

We were lucky enough to have a village of support, who helped us. From caring for our son while we could not be with him, financially helping us, cooking meals, cleaning, rotating hospital care, supporting us and holding us up. We saw first-hand how important and life saving it was for us to have people help us. It was hard even with this, and we know that not every family gets the support we did.

When Codee-Jo had over a year to go of chemo every day, theatre monthly, bloods regularly, IV chemo every few weeks and low bloods, she had to stay clear of others so she didn't get sick, we really started to feel the need for social and educational learning for her.

Because kids with cancer often must be isolated from others as their immunity is so low, they cannot go to childcare, kindergarten or school when this happens.

For oncology kids the age of 2 to 5, there were little opportunities in South Australia for them to access social and educational opportunities that are germ free and safe for them to play.

For us, not only did we want something for our daughter, but after the kindness we were shown and the difference it made, we were inspired to give back to others in the same situation.

After research, there was one playgroup in Prospect. The structure, being a play type situation, we thought was wonderful. However, it was not easy for us to attend.

We thought it would be great to have something similar in the south of Adelaide also but more like an educational set up following the Early Years Learning framework and something where parents could leave and have respite. We realized the importance of parents having a break and regrouping so they could put their best foot forward as there is generally not much rest for parents.

So, we started Lion Hearts Learning.



Cancer Council

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Sunday, 20 June 2021

This is our in-house fundraiser with quality Cake and Coffee.

\$5 per adult (kids free). *You are welcome to donate more!*

Directly after church.



Why host a Biggest Morning Tea?

1 in 2 Australians are diagnosed with cancer before the age of 85. We want to change that, and we need your help.

Your donations will help raise vital funds to bring us closer to a cancer free future.

On this day we will have a privilege to welcome Dr Dan Thomas as our speakers.

Daniel Thomas is a clinical haematologist and pathologist whose goals in research are to develop new drugs for the treatment of cancer and lead a productive cutting-edge cancer research group in Australia.

In The Pipeline

Men's Ministry Event

Saturday, 26 June, 2021

6:00 PM - 9:30 PM

Wood Oven Pizza (6 pm - 9:30 pm)

AFL Football - Port Power Vs Sydney Swans on a big screen!! Darts, Table Tennis and Good Times!!

\$7 for Pizza and variations including a can drink.

Prayer Points

Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask and keep on asking and it will be given to you; seek and keep on seeking and you will find; knock and keep on knocking and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who keeps on asking receives, and he who keeps on seeking finds, and to him who keeps on knocking, it will be opened."

As we look at the theme "faith and life in the face of sickness" we ask that the Holy Spirit will use this theme to minister to our community of believers.

Let us pray for the following people and ministries at SouthPoint:

- 1) Compass Cancer Support Group - Pray especially for those members of the group who are being treated for stage four cancer and the emotional effect it has on their lives and families and that being a member of the group may give them a safe place to share their pain.
- 2) Pray for Geoff and Pauline McKay as they seek healing and the right treatment for Geoff's non-cancerous brain tumour.
- 3) Pray for Bill Till's arm to recover quickly from his workplace injury.
- 4) Pray for Lion Hearts Learning group

- 5) Pray for those in our congregation living daily with physical or emotional pain that they may know the comfort of the Father's love on a daily basis.

Testimony from our Jolie

GOD IS GOOD! He definitely uses weird and wonderful ways to get our attention. In 2019 I had learnt that I was losing my job of 32 years. The last couple of years in that position were extremely busy and stressful; my work / life balance was well off kilter. For a long while I was distracted from God.

My immediate family's health throughout the course of our lives has been pretty good, aside from some heart disease in the extended family. This thought about my family history of good health always plagued me. Though I questioned myself often, or maybe God, why this was the case. The answer never came so I just took it as a blessing. As an adult though, my parents' siblings were starting to have health issues including my Aunt who found a lump in one of her breasts.

I finished up my job of 32 years on the 1st May 2020. It was that very weekend during COVID while we were having church services online, when we had a message from Jean Smith about relationship in Christ. I really felt the Lord speaking to me that this is the time. So, I decided to get up in the mornings with my husband, and while he was occupied, to spend some time with the Lord, reading the Bible and praying.

On the Monday following this message, I got up and made myself comfortable. I wanted to put on some music to help inspire me, so I turned to YouTube and found a set of songs I liked. I cannot remember the name, but the first song was about Trust. I opened my bible, cannot remember what book or verse, again it was about trust! It was a very loud and clear message that I thought was about my job situation, not to be the case.

I was only off work about 7 weeks, when one night I was having trouble settling to sleep and happened to find a lump in the upper left-hand section of my left breast. Naturally, I went through the motions of making a Doctor's appointment and getting testing etc done. The diagnosis was positive for cancer, and that was only at the end of my very first week at a new job.

The shock almost seemed insurmountable for all four of us, but God immediately came into action. He surrounded us with people to talk, and talk we did. It was the one thing that got us through this weekend to share our news. A couple of weeks later I received the official diagnosis and action plan to go forward. I was to have surgery and then go onto chemotherapy and radio therapy. God did truly bless us by surrounding us with plenty of support. Particularly following surgery where people from both our church homes brought us meals and an offer to refresh my garden.

More importantly I received an invitation to join Compass, a cancer support group run by our very own Robyn Combes. In this group were Christian and non-Christian ladies. The group provided me a place to share my heart and thoughts throughout my treatment journey. Again, something God knew I needed.

Toward the end of my chemotherapy treatment, I started having anxiety about reoccurrence of cancer. Sometime later I got a phone call from a new friend who has been through her own health ordeal who said she had a gift for me. She had been to the Christian bookshop in the city with a couple of friends and told me that she was wanting to get something for me - tossing up between two items with a different bible verse on them. The bookmark she ended up giving me had Jeremiah 29:11 on it, given the relevance it had for her. The following morning, I was thinking about this verse but had forgotten the Bible reference thinking it was Philippians 4:6 on the bookmark.

So, I looked up this verse and what it is about...that is right! Being anxious for nothing. I went back to check the scripture on the bookmark and realised that God was again speaking to me. Being anxious for nothing also means trusting Him.

I have finished the worst of my treatment now and look forward to 'a new normality' for a while. Throughout this journey God has brought me closer to him, strengthened my faith and taught me many things. No matter what the circumstance, the Bible is truly alive, and I am continually amazed by that.

GOD IS DEFINITELY GOOD

Philippians 4:6

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.



Ivana's Recycling Tip

As we're looking into health and healing this month, let's not forget about keeping our planet healthy too.

Did you know that food scraps, used tissues, pizza boxes, small pieces of paper, garden cuttings etc can be put into your green bin? To keep your bin clean, you can use compostable garbage bags.



Admin

Please do get in touch to say hello, ask questions, or provide feedback about what you would like to see at SouthPoint. You might have ideas for events, fundraising, home groups, kids church activities etc. We want to hear it all.

You can reach us via e-mail: admin@southpointcc.org.au or phone 8293 5754 or speak with us in person.

We share our days in the office, which is now open on Tuesdays (9-5 Hanli), Thursdays (9-3 Ivana) & Fridays (9-5 Hanli & Ivana).

We hope you enjoyed this Newsletter; we are here for you!

Yours,
Hanli & Ivana

Psalm 17:6 I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer.