

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Newsletter May 2025

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS



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A message from the editor

Hello Rivercourt Family as we now enter the month of May. I hope and pray you are all keeping well.

We had a very busy Easter this year and I hope you enjoyed the different services and activities that were going on at Rivercourt. Unfortunately I was only able to attend Easter Sunday but it was lovely to see the church full and to celebrate the baptism of baby Joseph.

This month we have a VE day BBQ to commemorate its 80th Anniversary outside the front of the church on Monday 5th May from 12.30pm onwards.

Our 150th anniversary celebrations will also be commencing this month, beginning with a service on Sunday 18th May, led by our District Chair Reverend Dr Jongi Zihle. There will be a bring and share lunch after the service so please do come along. On Sunday 25th May Reverend John Cooke will be leading our service, who I'm informed used to minister at Rivercourt many years ago.

If you wish to have anything included in the June newsletter please email rivercourt.ministry@outlook.com by Wednesday 28th May.

Kind Regards,

Scott

Dates for diary

- **Monday 5th May** - VE Day
80th Anniversary BBQ
outside front of church,
starting 12.30pm
- **Thursday 8th May** - Open
Doors re-commences 10.30am - 2.30pm
- **Friday 9th May** - The funeral of Mr Thomas will take place
at Rivercourt 10am
- **Sunday 1st June** - Annual General Meeting 12.30pm
- **Saturday 7th June at 10am** -House of prayer

2025 MAY						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

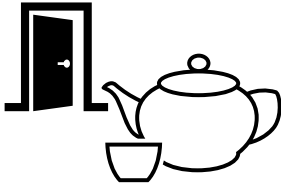
Church reminder: Congregation Feedback Questionnaire

Hello Rivercourt! In last month's newsletter, I asked the congregation to fill out a Congregation Feedback questionnaire.

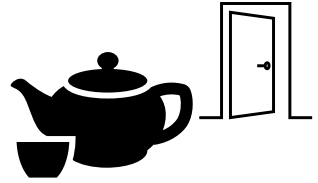
I have designed the questionnaire to better understand the kinds of activities and outreach events that members of our church would like to see happen, i.e. activities for Open Doors and potential collaboration with church user groups. **Please do take some time to fill out this form-** your comments will help me organise fun fellowship events at Rivercourt and increase church engagement!

Please fill out the questionnaire attached in this newsletter and hand back to Marina/the church office. A digital version is also available to download and email back to rivercourt.ministry@outlook.com

Thanks! Marina- Community & Worship Administrator



OPEN DOORS AT
RIVERCOURT



Every Thursday starting Thursday 8th May we will be re-opening the front doors of the church from 10.30am - 2.30pm.

At 12.30pm there will be a short service, around 30 minutes. This, before our 2 week Easter break has been proving very popular. If you have not already been and are free, please come along and join us.

After the service we have a shared lunch. Tea and coffee is also served prior to the 12.30pm service and after lunch. There is free Wi-Fi for all to use whether a guest, volunteer or visitor. Talking of volunteers, if you are at a loose end and wish to help out then your presence will be gratefully received!

Let's continue building on the success that has become Thursday's Open Doors at Rivercourt, that has seen many new faces pop into church whether for a chat and a cuppa, to attend the afternoon service or to just sit in peaceful contemplation.

We look forward to seeing you all again.

Sunday Suppers

Sunday Suppers serves people who are homeless or experiencing food poverty with a nutritious free hot meal every Sunday evening from mid-October to the end of April at Rivercourt Methodist Church.

Founded as a project in 2023, Sunday Suppers became a registered charity in November 2024 (no 1210994). We have seven trustees. We are supported by both Rivercourt and St Peter's church, which provides many of our wonderful team of over 60 volunteers. We also have student volunteers from Latymer Upper School and West London Free School.

We work in partnership with City Harvest London, from whom we obtain much of the food we need free of charge. We are also grateful to LBH&F, who gave us a grant as part of their 'Welcome Spaces' initiative, and the many generous private individuals who have given us financial donations and gifts of good quality clothing for our guests. This year we have also enjoyed the support of St Peter's C.E. primary school, whose pupils have organized two food collections for us.

We regularly feed between 75 and 80 guests every Sunday evening. Last Sunday, 27 April, we served 103 guests - a new record. These numbers are higher than last year and sadly are likely only to increase. Guests often travel several miles to come to us as there is no free food provision open in their area on Sundays, and they will otherwise have nothing to eat.

Sunday Suppers will take a break over the summer and start up again on 19 October.

If you are interested in volunteering or otherwise supporting Sunday Suppers, please contact Vicky or Steve on sunday-suppers@outlook.com. Thank you! Vicky.

Please pray for



Reverend Singa and Fe`ao with the sudden passing of her brother in law

Catherine Lorraine who is back in hospital

All those around the world affected by war and conflict



Thank yous

A big thank you to all those who volunteered during this season of Sunday Suppers. You are truly appreciated.

All those who helped put together the Easter celebrations.

Church members who keep the church running throughout the week.

Services in May

Sunday 4th May - Mr Lola Fatogun

Betty's team

Thursday 8th May - Mr Monty Grigg

Sunday 11th May - Mr Samuela Halofaki

Steve's team

Thursday 15th May - TBC

Anniversary service -Sunday 18th May- Reverend Dr Jongi Zihle

Juliana's team

Thursday 22nd May - TBC

Anniversary service -Sunday 25th May - Reverend John Cooke

Betty's team

Thursday 29th May - Reverend Marilyn Neufville

150th Anniversary

Rivercourt's 150th Anniversary is upon us! All help is appreciated and welcome as we finalise setting up the church's photo exhibition. If you are able to give some time, please get in touch via email: rivercourt.ministry@outlook.com

Rivercourt's Hymn-athon will be commencing this month- please come along at Thursday lunchtime and join us on the steps as we sing 150 hymns from May-September.

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

FOOD STALLS

FUNDRAISERS!

PHOTO
EXHIBITION

GAME STANDS
AND PRIZES TO
BE WON!

HYMN-ATHON

DANCE &
MUSIC
PERFORMANCES

SPECIAL
WORSHIP
SERVICES

You are warmly invited to join Rivercourt Church as we celebrate 150 years with a **huge line up of family-friendly events** throughout May-September, 2025

150 ANNIVERSARY

Follow and check out our Instagram [@rivercourthammersmith](https://www.instagram.com/rivercourthammersmith) and Facebook [@rivercourtmethodistchurch](https://www.facebook.com/rivercourtmethodistchurch) for the latest schedule of events, dates and times!

CHALLENGE 150:

We are currently setting up a Givey.com fundraising page to raise money for Sunday Suppers. The idea is that church members will fundraise by completing a challenge of their choice, 150 times e.g. make 150 teas for Thursday Open Doors, complete a 150 minute walk, a 150 minute dance-a-thon etc! Please let us know if you would like to take part in the challenge!