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Abba Father

BURNSIDEFAMILYCHURCH.COM

ABBA FATHER & HUMAN FATHERHOOD

Steve Chapman

Around this time each year, we celebrate Father's Day. It's a moment to reflect on the influence our earthly fathers have had in shaping who we are. For some, this brings gratitude; for others, it brings complexity or pain. But when we pause and think about *our Heavenly Father*, Scripture invites us to turn our thinking the other way around. Instead of defining God's Fatherhood by human experience, we allow God to show us *Who the True Father Really Is*.

The Bible reveals that God is not simply like a father – He *is* Father, eternally and essentially. “Abba Father” is the intimate term expressing the close relationship we can have with Him: “Abba Father is the intimate term that translates to our dear Father or daddy...” This Fatherhood is not derived from human fatherhood; rather, human fatherhood is a reflection of His.



Fatherhood in the Old Testament

The Old Testament contains glimpses of God's Fatherhood. Psalm 103:13 declares, “*As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear Him.*” Genesis 1:26 shows God's intention for relationship: “*Let us make mankind in our image, according to Our likeness...*” Although the Old Testament's picture of God as Father is present but not fully explicit, it lays the foundation for what becomes clear in the New Testament.



Fatherhood in the New Testament

The New Testament is built upon the reality of God's Fatherhood. Luke's genealogy ends with the words, “*son of Enos, son of Seth, son of Adam, son of God!*” (Luke 3:38). Paul affirms in Acts 17 that all people are God's offspring and are meant to worship Him. This means that creationally, God is Father to all humanity.

Jesus' own teaching deepens this understanding. He speaks uniquely

of God as His Father and teaches His followers to see God as “Your Heavenly Father” or “Your Father Who is in Heaven.” Matthew 5:44–48 shows that God’s Fatherhood is marked by love for all humankind, and His children are called to reflect that love – even toward enemies.



Essential Fatherhood

The New Testament also reveals that God is Father *by nature*, not merely by action. Human fathers become fathers through procreation, but God was Father before creation. He created through His eternal Word – the One who became Jesus Christ. As John 1:14 says, “*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us... the glory as of the only Son of the Father.*”

Hebrews 1:1–3 reinforces this: the Father created the worlds *through the Son*, implying the Son’s pre-existence. Therefore, God has always been Father, and the Son has always been Son. Fatherhood is not an added role – it is part of God’s eternal identity.



Fatherhood, Sonship, and Creation

Creation itself reflects this divine relationship. The Father creates as *Abba Father*, the Son mediates creation, and the Spirit is the *Spirit of Life*, bringing order and vitality. In the Creation there is a Father-Son creating of all things!

Human beings are created differently from the rest of creation. God declares, “*Let us make human beings in our image,*” establishing a unique relationship between God and humanity. This relationship is so profound that when the Son becomes incarnate, it is possible precisely because humans already bear God’s image.



Redemptional Fatherhood

Redemption also flows from God's eternal Fatherhood. Ephesians 1:3–8 shows that before creation, God planned that His chosen ones would become His sons and daughters through Christ. Redemption is not merely rescue from sin; it is the Father's purpose to bring His children home. Redeemed children are to be to the praise of the Father God.

Through Christ's saving work, human beings are freed from guilt, sin, and death. The Spirit applies this redemption, enabling believers to know God intimately as *Abba Father*.

Implications for Fathers Today

Father's Day gives us an opportunity to honour earthly fathers — their sacrifices, love, and presence. But it also reminds us that *every good fatherly gift comes from the Father above*. For those with wonderful fathers, God's Fatherhood deepens gratitude. For those with painful or complicated father experiences, God's Fatherhood brings healing and

hope. For fathers themselves, God's Fatherhood becomes the pattern and strength for their calling.



Human fatherhood is fragile and imperfect. God's Fatherhood is eternal, strong, and unchanging. He is the Father who:

- **Knows us completely**
- **Loves us faithfully**
- **Disciplines us wisely**
- **Provides for us generously**
- **Welcomes us joyfully**

As we celebrate Father's Day, may we look to ***Abba Father***, the true and eternal Father, who created us, redeemed us, and calls us His beloved children.

UPCOMING DIARY DATE REMINDERS

6TH SEPT	Father's Day Service
18TH SEPT	Final Kids Club for Term 3
20TH SEPT	Music Practice: Open Session – 12-2pm
25TH SEPT	Final Ablaze for Term 3
27TH SEPT	Mannum Family Mission Meeting

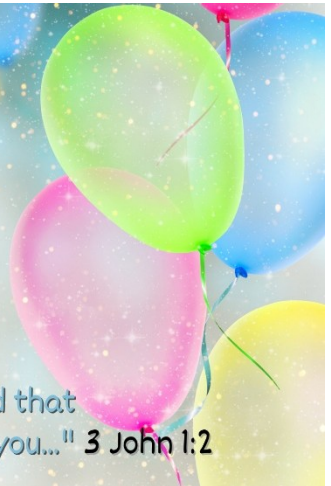
BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2- ELLIA

20- JEFF

"I pray that you may enjoy good health and that
all may go well with you..." 3 John 1:2



Father's Day Service Sunday, September 6th 10 am



May God bless and strengthen every father and father figure on this day

September Teaching Series

MARK 14-16

*"Surely this man...
...was the Son of God!"*

Mark 15:39

6 Sept Ps Ray Bettcha

13 Sept Ps Ben Delaney

20 Sept Devinder Raju

27 Sept Ps Ben Delaney





Open MUSIC PRACTICE

20 SEPT.

WATCH | LISTEN | JOIN IN!



Upcoming Baptism Service



Sunday 27th September 10am

Join us as we celebrate new beginnings



September 2026

August '26							October '26						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		4	5	6	7	8	9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		25	26	27	28	29	30
30	31							25	26	27	28	29	30
								30	31				

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	9.30a Prayer Meeting 10a Worship Gathering Little Sparks	31 w7	1 9.00a Prayer 10a Talking Tuesday 7.30p Encourage Connect	2 10.30a Magill Estate	3	4 5:15p Kids Club 6.30p Ablaze Youth	5 6.30p Intercess. Prayer
6	9.30a Prayer Meeting 10a Father's Day Service Little Sparks	7 w8 7.00p Elders	8 9.00a Prayer	9 7.30p Flourish Connect 7.30p Glenside Connect	10	11 5:15p Kids Club 6.30p Ablaze Youth	12
13	9.30a Prayer Meeting 10a Worship Gathering Little Sparks 5.00p Burnside Tamil Christian Fellowship	14 w9	15 9.00a Prayer 10a Talking Tuesday 7.30p Encourage Connect	16 7.30p Flourish Connect 7.30p Glenside Connect	17	18 5:15p Kids Club 6.30p Ablaze Youth	19
20	9.30a Prayer Meeting 10a Worship Gathering Little Sparks 12p Music Practice	21 w10	22 9.00a Prayer	23 7.30p Flourish Connect 7.30p Glenside Connect	24	25 6.30p Ablaze Youth	26
27	9.30a Prayer Meeting 10a Worship Gathering Baptism Service Little Sparks 1-5p Mannum Meeting 5.00p Burnside Tamil Christian Fellowship	28 School Holidays	29 9.00a Prayer	30 7.30p Flourish Connect 7.30p Glenside Connect	1	2	3 7.30p BICC Prayer
4	9.30a Prayer Meeting 10a Worship Gathering Little Sparks	5 School Holidays 7.00p Elders Labour Day	Notes				

SEPTEMBER SUNDAY TEAM

Date	Teaching Team			Kids Ministry		Music Team (see elvanto for musicians)		Service Team					Hospitality Team		
	Sermon	Com-munion	Chair/Notices	Little Sparks	Helper	Sound Desk	Media Desk	Comm Serving	Welcome	Collection	Count	Lock Up	Kitchen	Coffee Team	Comm Prep
6/09	Ray Bettcha	Brian Raynor	Ben	Lily	Elsa Annabelle	James	Lachlan	Devinder Smita Jelita Mark H	Ally C Nick	Benjamin Brandon	Aaron Mark T	Nev	Carol	Joshua Lachlan	Helene
13/09	Ben Delaney	Ellia Delaney	Alf	Jim	Carol Bron	Jeremy	Annabelle	Jenny S Leonie Monica Aaron	Hannah	Ally T	Jeff	Jim	Renee Scott	Lily	Amayah
20/09	Devinder Raju	Renee Allen	Laura	Ben	Hugh Michelle	Joshua	Nima	Brandon Benjamin Cheng Yi Lyn	Vicky A Tony	Amayah Beth	Sheila Monica	Ben	Ally C	Nima	Jenny S
27/09	Ben Delaney	Joshua Reynolds	Scott	Lily	Elsa Lyn	Jeremy	Sheila	Renee Liz D Nima Brian	Aaron	Clara	Leonie	Mark H	Jelita	Hannah	Amayah
Thank you for serving the Lord, and blessing our Church family. If you need to swap with someone, please contact another person directly. A copy of the roster is up on the rear hall bulletin board. info@burnsidefamilychurch.com // www.bfc.elvanto.com.au															

SEE BFC.ELVANTO.COM.AU FOR ONLINE CALENDAR & ROSTERS

September



- 1 ☐ Heb 1:1-9 | Is 1-2
- 2 ☐ Heb 1:10-14 | Is 3-5
- 3 ☐ Heb 2:1-9 | Is 6-8
- 4 ☐ Heb 2:10-18 | Is 9-10
- 5 ☐ Heb 3 | Is 11-13
- 6 ☐ Heb 4:1-11 | Is 14-16
- 7 ☐ Heb 4:12-16 | Is 17-20
- 8 ☐ Heb 5 | Is 21-23
- 9 ☐ Heb 6:1-12 | Is 24-26
- 10 ☐ Heb 6:13-20 | Is 27-28
- 11 ☐ Heb 7:1-10 | Is 29-30
- 12 ☐ Heb 7:11-28 | Is 31-33
- 13 ☐ Heb 8:1-6 | Is 34-36
- 14 ☐ Heb 8:7-13 | Is 37-39

- 15 ☐ Heb 9:1-10 | Is 40-41
- 16 ☐ Heb 9:11-28 | Is 42-43
- 17 ☐ Heb 10:1-18 | Is 44-45
- 18 ☐ Heb 10:19-39 | Is 46-48
- 19 ☐ Heb 11:1-16 | Is 49-50
- 20 ☐ Heb 11:17-31 | Is 51-53
- 21 ☐ Heb 11:32-40 | Is 54-55
- 22 ☐ Heb 12:1-13 | Is 56-58
- 23 ☐ Heb 12:14-29 | Is 59-61
- 24 ☐ Heb 13:1-8 | Is 62-64
- 25 ☐ Heb 13:9-25 | Is 65-66

TERM 3: "YOU CANT ASK THAT"



**JOIN US TERM 3 FRIDAYS, 6:30-8:30 PM
AT BURNSIDE FAMILY CHURCH**

CONTACT: LILY@BURNSIDEFAMILYCHURCH.COM



SUPA Summa Fun

January 10-16, 2027 - Mannum

Get Involved

in MAKING GOOD SOIL

SUPA Summa Fun is a school holiday program associated with Scripture Union Australia. Our program is designed to introduce young people and families in Mannum to Jesus, the Bible and the local church.

You're invited to come along to our info session to find out more!

Info Session

SUNDAY 30 AUGUST

2:30-4:30 PM

@ BURNSIDE FAMILY CHURCH
88 LOCKWOOD RD, BURNSIDE

Contact: mannum@suteams.org.au



IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS!

SEND A GIFT FILLED SHOEBOX



Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organisation. This project is a hands-on way for you to demonstrate God's love to children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, and fun gifts.

We collect the gift-filled shoeboxes and send them to local partners around the world that use them as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. After receiving gift-filled shoeboxes, many children accept an invitation to participate in ***The Greatest Journey*** discipleship program and millions of children each year are making decisions to follow Christ.

Since 1993, more than **244 million** children in more than 100 countries and territories have received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox, and over **27 million** children have made decisions to follow Christ after participating in ***The Greatest Journey***. The project delivers not only the joy of what, for many kids, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love.



A simple gift-filled shoebox is making an eternal difference.

Will you pack a shoebox this year and share the hope of Jesus with children all over the world?



Scan code to choose either:
Give a Pre-packed Shoebox
OR
Build a Shoebox Online

NORWOOD
CHRISTMAS
Pageant
2026

SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

Every year, Burnside Family Church, and several other churches in the Eastern Suburbs of Adelaide have the opportunity of taking part in the Norwood Christmas Pageant.

The "Combined Christmas Endeavours" has a prominent section near the start of the Parade, where we have the opportunity to proclaim the Good News of Jesus' birth to the streets of Norwood.

We always need volunteers to make this a success.

There are various ways that you can be involved on the day:

- Walking in the Parade carrying a banner or sign
- Distributing our gifts of bubbles with flags attached
- Riding on the Carol Singing truck,
- Walk with one of the nation groups in the 'Christmas Around the World' section

The Norwood Pageant starts at 10am, however if you are volunteering, you will need to report to the Combined Christmas Endeavours section (near the front of the Parade) to get ready and help preparations from 9:00am to 9:45am.

Volunteers, if you have any questions, call Alf on 0412 899 779

Good Life Group

When: Thursday 10-11:30am fortnightly
Coffee at 10am

Upcoming dates:

Thursday 30th July

Thursday 13th August

Thursday 27th August

Thursday 10th September

Friday 25th September



TITHES AND OFFERINGS

TITHES & OFFERINGS

EACH DECIDE IN YOUR HEART HOW MUCH TO GIVE.
AND DON'T GIVE RELUCTANTLY OR IN RESPONSE TO
PRESSURE. "FOR GOD LOVES A PERSON WHO GIVES
CHEERFULLY" 2 COR 9:7

BSB - 035039 | ACC - 524397 | NAME - BFC
Ref: "Giving" or "Missions"



LEAVE A LEGACY. MAKE A PLEDGE TO:

CHURCH LEGACY FUND

A FUND TO STRENGTHEN OUR HERITAGE
OUR LOCAL FACILITY AND GLOBAL MISSION

BSB - 035039 | ACC - 524418 | NAME - BFC
LEGACY
Ref: "BFC Legacy"

[A service fee of 1.45% charged by the provider]

CONNECT

— —
PRAY



GOODLIFE
GROUP
10AM
FORTNIGHTLY
THURSDAYS
@BFC

'ENCOURAGE'
MEN'S CONNECT

730P
FORTNIGHTLY
TUESDAYS

ANDREW JENKINS

GLENSIDE
730P
2ND & 4TH
WEDNESDAYS

ALLY/ALF
CHEHADE

— —
DISCUSS



TALKING TUESDAY
(WOMEN)
10.00A
FORTNIGHTLY
TUESDAYS

BRON LANGMAN

'FLOURISH'
(WOMEN)
7.00P
FORTNIGHTLY
WEDNESDAYS

SHARON
JENKINS

BURNSIDE TAMIL
CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP

5.00P
2ND & 4TH
SUNDAYS

DAISY & KUMAR

— —
BELONG



2026

friends | grow | care | fellowship | pray | bible | support

info@burnsidefamilychurch.com

CONTACT

ELDERSHIP TEAM

Alf Chehade	0412 899 779
Jim Derrington	0433 447 795
Neville Langman	0409 642 005
Devinder Raju	0400 795 989
Andrew Jenkins	0422 556 420

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ONLINE GIVING

Westpac Bank Branch

BSB > 035039
Account > 524397
Ref > Giving or Missions
EFTPOS is available

WE'RE HIS CHURCH

...a house of prayer for all nations
accomplishing more than we
could dream for the
brokenhearted to call on the
name of Jesus [as vision]

...sent to make a difference every
day in the name of Jesus to all
generations [as mission]

10.00A SUNDAY

Starting at 10.00a, we usually finish by 11.30a. You will be greeted at the door and receive our newsletter and invited to take a seat of your choice. Our gathering begins with music with words shown on a media screen.

During the service, we share in communion which reminds us of the death and life of Christ we share. An encouraging message from the Bible follows and afterwards, everyone is invited to the Back Hall for tea and coffee.

We have a video stream into the rear Hall we call our Family Room and a recording of the service is posted online each week.