



THIS IS HOME.

R.



WELCOME

TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Rivers is a dynamic church that offers inspirational, practical and motivational Bible teaching for people of all ages, races, and social and economic backgrounds. We are a safe and clean environment that is thoroughly sanitised after each service. You and your family can worship in-person in relative safety if they observe social distancing and wear masks as a wise precaution.

We are a Christ-centred church that preaches the truth about Jesus in a fresh, illustrative and creative way. We actively reach out to embrace people through services, television, our foundation to the poor and community relationships. As a result, we are a fast-growing church that started with seventy people and currently exceeds 14 000 on five campuses located in Sandton, Durban North, Ballito, Centurion & Kyalami.

We love God passionately, love people unconditionally and live life purposefully. We believe in our nation and are totally committed to serving the purposes of God and making a significant difference to the lives of people in their spiritual, social, emotional and physical worlds. Rivers aims for excellence in every area of ministry because we place high value on the church and its ministry to people. We believe that God is good and that He wants to help, bless, grow, enlarge, change and release people's potential. We are committed to bringing the grace of God into the lives of needy and broken people through the love of God.

Weekend services are geared to inspire and equip the whole family. Our exciting Kidszone Children's Church provides a FULL children's programme during all weekend services and we have junior youth, youth and young adult ministries that build into the lives of each age group. If you are visiting us for the first time, we hope that you will feel welcome and relaxed, and that you will enjoy your experience of God and His church on our campus today.

Most of all, we hope you will visit us again and we look forward to welcoming you into the Rivers family.

Ps André & Ps Wilma Olivier
Senior Pastors, Rivers Church

BALLITO

CAMPUS

We are so glad that you decided to visit us today and trust that you have been made to feel at home! This brochure is designed especially for you, to help you discover more about us and what our values are, where we are headed and our distinctive style of church.

In 2016, Rivers embarked on the exciting new project of opening a third campus. Rivers Ballito was officially opened in October 2016, led by Pastors Adi and Claire Olivier, and has already seen a great response and has had an impact in the community!

Each week, together with our other four Rivers Church campuses, we passionately work to touch our respective cities with relevant and practical Bible-based teaching. Our church services are contemporary and dynamic, and seek to give people the tools they need to shape their lives, as together we aim to shape the social and spiritual architecture of our nation through the Word of God.

In December 2021, Pastors Adi and Claire headed back to Joburg to take over the Kyalami campus, while Ballito welcomed Pastors Devon and Natanya Fugard-Gous as new lead pastors! Pastors Devon and Natanya have been part of the Sandton team for over 15 years and have added immense value as they worked alongside Pastors André and Wilma. Ps Devon has served as the Sandton Campus Pastor and headed up the Pastoral and Marketing departments. (He is an incredible communicator, creative and has served faithfully in different roles over the years.) Ps Natanya has been invaluable in her role in the Kidszone Department for over 12 years. She has passionately served and greatly shaped our children's ministry, and has also been involved in the Sisters ministry.

As a church, we believe in the value of the local church in society, and hope that you will join us on this journey as we see people's lives impacted by the message of the Gospel as we give God our very best. We are excited to see God adding many more people as we grow in influence and impact!



Ps Devon & Ps Natanya Fugard-Gous
Lead Pastors, Rivers Ballito

RIVERS MISSION STATEMENT

== TO INSPIRE ==

FAITH  **HOPE**

and to shape the

SPIRITUAL *and* SOCIAL

★ ★ *architecture* ★ ★

THROUGH THE WORD

RIVERS VISION

- To worship God passionately and present Jesus Christ in a relevant, contemporary setting where the positive, practical Word of God is understood and applied. To experience the amazing grace and presence of Jesus Christ and see lives changed through His mercy, kindness and love.
- To reach unchurched people and continually grow our churches in both size and depth. To keep reaching, helping and influencing thousands of people through everything we do on all our campuses.
- For all partners to be connected, making friends and supporting one another as they enjoy life together. Everyone should be connected to church.

To help each partner discover their purpose, spiritual gifts and potential, so that they are empowered to serve

- the purposes of God as volunteers or staff at Rivers. Everyone should serve in some way.

To train and equip through our midweek Discipleship Nights short courses that are both practical

- and theological. Everyone should deepen their relationship with God and mature spiritually, as well as be trained for leadership, so that they can be successful in every sphere of life.

To develop leadership and a strong sense of

- spiritual responsibility in our young people so as to sustain a strong, influential church for the generations.

To add thriving campuses across the nation in addition

- to Sandton, Durban North, Ballito, Centurion and Kyalami that are significant and influential, and vitally linked as one church family, with team ministry and live ministry feeds.

- To continue to reach, influence, motivate and inspire people across the world through Life By Design, our weekly television programme.

RIVERS VALUES

1. THE WORD OF GOD

We believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and is relevant and necessary for practical godly living and success.

2. THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that an essential part of living a successful and victorious Christian life is being baptised, filled and led by the Holy Spirit.

3. THE PRESENCE AND TOUCH OF GOD ON EVERYTHING

We value the tangible presence of God in our lives as a source of God's grace, comfort and refreshing. We believe that there should be a distinctive touch of God on our services and ministries. God must be seen and felt, and Jesus must be at the centre of all our services.

4. DYNAMIC PRAISE AND WORSHIP

We value, honour and make great the name and character of our God through exciting, dynamic, energetic and contemporary praise and worship.

5. RELATIONSHIPS

We value all people on the basis of the great commandment – to love our neighbour as ourselves. We value relationships that unite people regardless of age, race, gender, social standing or economic level. Sexual purity in romantic relationships is essential for building godly lives. Everyone should be plugged into church life through relationships, not programmes. We should cultivate friendships with non-believers so as to reach and love our community. We encourage and value respectful relationships between people and their leaders as one of the keys to a healthy, united church.

6. CHARACTER AND INTEGRITY

We believe that character is more important than gifting, and that a godly life brings honour and respect to the church of God, and increased influence in the world. True believing should affect our behaviour, and believers should be people of the highest integrity, honesty and trustworthiness in family, business and social spheres.

7. A PRAYER LIFESTYLE

Prayer is a means of empowering ourselves and accomplishing the will of God on the earth. We have prayer meetings, prayer in Connect Groups and prayer as a lifestyle that permeates every activity of life.





8. EXCELLENCE

We believe in doing the very best for God in every aspect of our lives and ministries. God's people and facilities should reflect the God of excellence whom we serve. This is encapsulated in the following phrases: "finding a way to win" and "only the best for God". Punctuality is also a value that reflects excellence.

9. FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIP

We believe that all members should be faithful financial partners with their local church so as to empower and equip us for ongoing impact. We believe that money is an essential ingredient of an effective and influential church.

10. THE FAMILY

We believe in strong marriages and healthy families, as they are the foundation of a godly nation. We provide a course to prepare couples for successful marriages. We help strengthen and restore families and marriages through preaching, teaching and pastoral care. We provide help, spiritual support and encouragement for single parents and those in broken homes.

11. NON-RACIAL, NON-SEXIST COMMUNITY

Rivers is a non-racial, non-sexist, fully integrated church. We believe that a truly South African and global church should include all nationalities and race groups, and have both men and women serving in ministry.

12. CHURCH GROWTH AND CHURCH HEALTH

We believe that our church should be both large and healthy. Our goal is to reach and help as many people as possible, integrating them as totally committed disciples of Christ who have made a partnership commitment to serve in this church. One of the signs of health is increase. The church that is not reaching out is passing out. We have a sense of warmth, family and community despite large numbers. Community is an attitude and a value rather than a product of a small church.





13. GENERATIONAL MINISTRY

At Rivers, all age groups have a part to play in the life of the church. Our young people are not the church of tomorrow but the church of today. We include young people in all ministries so that they learn to carry spiritual responsibility from a young age. We are raising and developing their gifts and abilities so as to have godly young people and a steady flow of emerging leaders. Our unique Kidszone ministry centre bears testament to the fact that we are serious about the next generation.

14. THE POOR

We believe that our church should make a significant social contribution to the world's poor. We help poor and underprivileged communities in many practical ways so as to lift the level of their lives. We believe that we are blessed to be a blessing to others and that faith without works is dead. The Rivers Foundation and Connect Groups are our key avenues for showing compassion and giving financial aid and service to the poor. We believe in community upliftment.

15. BEING A RESOURCE CHURCH

Our conferences as well as our Discipleship Nights equip believers to be successful and fruitful in their personal, family, business and spiritual lives, with the Rivers Network being a resource to the wider body of Christ. Conferences create an intensive opportunity to inspire believers as well as pastors from other churches. Our Resource Centre provides carefully selected resources to direct and shape the Rivers culture and equip people for success.

16. HEALING

Emotional: Jesus came to bind the brokenhearted and restore dignity and purpose to every human being. We believe that God heals and restores lives and marriages as we follow Him, serve Him and sit under the teaching of the Word. God also works through the wise counsel and loving care of our trained pastoral team.

Physical: According to the promises of God, every believer is entitled to believe for physical health and wellness. This can come through the prayer in services, the laying on of hands or the appropriation by the believer of the Word of God.

17. OUTWARD FOCUS

We believe that our church must always be reaching out at every opportunity to introduce people to Christ. We always try to keep open the circle of our fellowship with a friendly, accepting attitude that welcomes and includes newcomers. We have a connection time in all services so as to build a bridge to newcomers. A response time at the end is the most important part of our service as the opportunity to welcome and receive people into the body of Christ.

18. DISCIPLESHIP AND MINISTRY INVOLVEMENT

We believe that attenders should become disciples who grow into fully devoted followers of Christ, who stand through trials and serve the purposes of God.





Every believer has a God-given gift that they need to discover and offer in service for the enriching of the body of Christ. We encourage attenders to become partners and fully committed members who serve God with their time, talent and treasure. It is a biblical principle that ALL people are involved and serve in their local church, not just the salaried staff.

19. CELEBRATION

We believe that our daily lives and service to God should be accompanied by a spirit of fun, celebration and joy. A large, ever-expanding life can be lived to the full without over-indulgence and sin. Our church services and ministry are accompanied by a sense of fun, humour, celebration and community, whilst not losing the true spirit of worship and honouring God.

20. PATRIOTISM

We believe our nation can overcome its weaknesses and develop to reach its true potential. The church should be supportive, loyal and patriotic. While not overlooking the issues, negative and critical talk should not be part of our vocabulary. We should speak well of our nation and its leaders, always highlighting the possibilities and potential as our church endeavours to play a part in building the nation.

CHURCH LIFE

SUNDAY SERVICES include dynamic praise and worship with a life-changing message. Please check our website for our latest service times.

COMMUNION

Communion is held on the first weekend of the month during all services.

SISTERS NIGHTS

Women doing life together, growing and celebrating womanhood. Women and teenagers from all walks of life are welcomed into an atmosphere of love and friendship. We worship God together and learn from His Word. Women are inspired to live victorious lives in a world where they often accept defeat as a norm. If you feel rejected and isolated, we will show you acceptance. If you have been battered and are suffering ill health, we will minister healing. If you feel broken, we will point you to the One who can make you whole. In addition, Rivers hosts the annual Sisters of Africa Women's Conference with outstanding international speakers. Come and be transformed by the presence of God.

JUNIOR YOUTH

Junior Youth is an exciting ministry specifically for grade 6–8. It comprises relevant Bible teaching, group participation and great fun. This programme runs during the Sunday morning services.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We believe that every partner at Rivers should play their part by using their gifts and abilities to serve others. Rivers has several ministry departments which provide great avenues for serving, such as: Car Park, Information Counter, Hospitality, Welcome Team, Resource Centre and Production, and many more.

For more information about our various ministries, visit our website at www.rivers.church/ballito or contact us on +27 32 940 0420 or ballito@rivers.church



TO
FAITH

and to

SPIRIT

ARCH

HOPE

E

KIDSZONE

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Kidszone is a fully fledged children's church for kids aged 1 – Grade 5 that develops your child's spiritual life. Exciting praise and worship, crafts, small group interaction and clear age-appropriate, practical teaching is provided by our dedicated team. Our specially designed children's ministry centre is unique, vibrant, child-friendly and exciting. The facility has modern technology in all classrooms and a fun playground. It is a safe, secure environment that our kids just love attending each week! It is a secure, sanitised and safe environment that your kids will just love to attend each week.

DURING ALL SERVICES

A full programme is provided for the duration of all weekend services. Check-in opens half an hour before the services start. Parents must be available on campus for the duration of the service and collect their kids immediately after services end.







LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

SENIOR PASTORS

Since 1992, André and Wilma Olivier have been the pastors of Rivers Church. They have grown Rivers from a church of seventy into a church of over ten thousand and are responsible for the vision, values and culture of the multi-campus church. They are passionately committed to building all their congregations into churches of blessing and significance.

FULL TIME STAFF

Rivers Church employs a large number of competent staff across its campuses in order to carry the responsibility of the day-to-day needs of the church. This team is released by the senior pastors to provide high standards of ministry effectiveness and excellence, as well as loving pastoral care.

BOARD

The board's role is that of governance-oversight, monitoring best practice and adhering to legislated requirements, comprising of executive and non-executive members with the chairperson of the board being non-executive. Directors of the board do not receive remuneration in respect of their roles and responsibilities. All board directors also serve as elders.

ELDERSHIP

The senior pastors select elders from spiritually mature long-serving congregation members and senior staff members. The senior pastor is the chairperson of the elders. The role of the elders is to offer perspective and assist the senior pastors in maintaining the spiritual health of the church.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Rivers Church financially supports missionaries in various parts of the world as well as many social justice initiatives

through the Rivers Foundation. Connect Groups regularly contribute time, money and volunteer service towards projects that help the less fortunate.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY

Rivers is a registered non-profit organisation. We adhere to strict financial management procedures and money is handled with integrity and a spirit of excellence. The board brings godly wisdom and sound financial expertise to the organisation. The senior pastors have full leadership to direct the church but have no ownership of any assets of the church.

The senior pastors and board are responsible for the management of the church. Audited internal controls are adhered to in the handling, banking and spending of church finances. The senior pastors are not signatories on any church payments nor can they activate internet payments. The board determines the salaries of the senior pastors and staff. The church's financial records and systems are externally audited annually and submitted to the Receiver of Revenue.

Rivers Church Bank Details: Standard Bank, Sandton City Branch, Branch Code: 019205, Account Number: 301 056 307



HELPFUL INFORMATION

PASTORAL CARE

If you are a partner at Rivers and need advice from a pastor, have questions, or need spiritual help, our pastoral team is available to lend a helping hand. It is, however, necessary to book an appointment.

CHILD DEDICATION

Child dedication takes place during the services. Indicate your interest on a response card and we will contact you for the next one we have. Attend a short session explaining child dedication and what to expect. It is imperative to RSVP if you would like your child dedicated.

PARENTS WITH BABIES

There are parents' rooms on all campuses, with a live TV feed from the service, as well as feeding and changing facilities. This is only for babies from birth up to 18 months old, with parental supervision. Should your baby become restless and disruptive, please be considerate and use this facility as our services are recorded.

A DEATH IN THE FAMILY

If you are a partner at Rivers, contact one of our pastors for spiritual comfort and advice for arranging a funeral service, bereavement counseling and pastoral support.

INTEGRATION COURSES

We offer two short courses designed for new believers or those new to Rivers. Both courses are valuable in helping you integrate into church life by laying a solid foundation of Christianity upon which you can build and progress in your faith. They are offered for FREE by our pastoral team throughout the year. Please visit our website or enquire at the Information Counter in the main church foyer for course dates. The Getting Started Course will help you gain a basic understanding of Christianity and help you lay a strong foundation of faith from the start. Our Partnership Course highlights the importance of partnering with the local church and becoming a committed member.

HOW TO JOIN US

We invite you to take your place among the many who have made this their spiritual home, discovered their spiritual gifts and are serving God with passion and purpose. Partnership involves more than being listed on the church database as a member or attending regularly. Biblical partnership is something much more meaningful and exciting. Our Partnership book explains fully the vision, values and culture of Rivers Church and is made available at the free Partnership course. As you work through this Partnership booklet, there will be questions to answer along the way and a form to complete at the end should you decide to partner. Once you have completed the booklet and handed in your form, you will be personally contacted and invited to a partnership welcome evening. We hope you enjoy discovering more about us and look forward to welcoming you as a partner very soon.

RESOURCES

A full range of equipping resources by the senior pastors is available. Visit our Resource Centre in the foyer for selected CDs, DVDs and Bibles, as well as our own Rivers worship albums. There is an excellent range of books and resources from recommended authors and speakers to help you become the person you want to be in Christ. Visit the online store at rivers.church/store.

SECURITY

Rivers Church is serious about security. We have several security guards stationed on campus 24 hours a day, as well as a plain-clothes security team in every meeting. Gates are secured 15 minutes after the start of each service for your personal safety. Monitored CCTV cameras are also located all over the campus for the protection of you and your family.



CONFERENCES

SISTERS OF AFRICA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Each year, women gather to receive awesome keys from God's Word to live their best lives in the home, church and the marketplace. International guest speakers and local women minister on a wide range of topics. We have seen lives transformed and many women receive Christ as their Lord and Saviour. Kids Africa Conference runs simultaneously in a safe and secure environment for the children of those attending the conference, in our three floor, unique children's ministry centre. Sisters of Africa is a highlight on the Rivers calendar and not to be missed.

MEN'S CONFERENCE

Equipping men through ministry, friendship and fun, to live strong and effective lives. Each year, Rivers hosts Heroes Men's Conference for a focussed time of ministry of the highest calibre. It is a fantastic opportunity that no man should miss. Many have been strengthened and impacted at this great event.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT'S CONFERENCE

Hundreds of young people get to experience God in a whole new way as they collide with what God has in store for them at this conference.

For more information visit our website at rivers.church or contact the church office on +27 11 523 7000.

*All conferences are held on our Sandton Campus.







LIFE BY DESIGN TV

With the Life By Design TV ministry, Ps André reaches out and speaks beyond the walls of Rivers Church into the wider audience of Africa and Europe, encouraging them to live life by design, not by default.

This programme is funded through the generous and faithful givers of Rivers Church, and is viewed as another campus, as we minister to many thousands of viewers weekly and are able to reach not only the unchurched but Christians who no longer attend church. If you would like to sponsor a programme or make a donation towards this influential avenue of ministry then visit our Information Counter or go to our website. Please pray for and support Life By Design.

Each week the programme is enthusiastically received with SMSes and emails flooding our inbox expressing appreciation for the programme and asking for prayer as well as copies of the messages. Here is a sampling of the texts we have received:

"I am addicted to sex and my partner and I keep on fighting about it. I was thinking of cheating, but I heard your points on dealing with [addiction] and I will apply them."

"Brilliant! I am building a business at 62. You have no idea how God is using you."

"Good morning, I am a Muslim but I love watching your programme, it is very inspiring."

"Thank you for your programme. You have changed my way of thinking and I am doing things differently."

"I'm so inspired by your testimony and I've decided to change the way I see myself."

"I love your programme; it is changing my life for the better. Thank you."

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST BROADCAST SCHEDULE
RIVERS.CHURCH/LBD | SMS LINE: 082 920 20 20**

SPECIAL MINISTRIES

RIVERS FOUNDATION

The Rivers Foundation provides a well-managed avenue for businesses and individuals to donate money and offer volunteer service for projects that alleviate the plight and suffering of the less fortunate. Annually, the Foundation considers credible beneficiary projects and organisations to support that are reputable and showing significant progress and results. Funds and volunteer service channelled through the Foundation are used exclusively for the projects to which they are allocated and no administration costs are deducted.

The Rivers Foundation supports 9 Acres of Love Homes on a monthly basis. Acres of Love exists to serve, rescue and care for the most vulnerable children most of whom are abandoned or orphaned due to AIDS, abuse, and extreme poverty in South Africa. Many of these children come to Acres of love homes on the brink of death, with substantial emergency medical needs that require immediate proactive intervention. Acres Homes welcome these children into family homes with full-time, loving house-parents who are trained and empowered to use the very best resources and support. Acres advocates for the rights of children to obtain world class health-care, education and nutrition. Many of Acres' children are able to launch into self-sufficient adulthood after the age of 18 or when they finish their studies or schooling. We use Acres of Love model to teach other homes how to care for the homeless and destitute children found in our communities.

Banking details: Standard Bank, Sandton City Branch, Branch Code: 018105, Account Number: 220 438 935. A debit order facility is available. Contribute from as little as R75 a month and help make a difference.

The Rivers Foundation is a registered non-profit organisation. Section 18a: PBO Number: 930 031 377. Section 21 Company: 206/001825/08.

For more information on the Rivers Foundation or volunteering, contact us on +27 11 523 7000, email info@riversfoundation.org.za or visit our website: www.riversfoundation.org.za

*The only additional thing they asked was that we remember the poor,
and I was already eager to do that.
Galatians 2:10 MSG*

GIFTED GIVERS

Rivers members who have the gift of giving and would like to make contributions over and above their regular tithes and offerings are invited to join either Kings of Provision – significant givers who contribute R100 000 or more per calendar year, or Hearts for the Vision – key contributors who give R30 000 or more per calendar year. These ministries empower us to expand through property development and capital expenditure that increases the growth and effectiveness of Rivers Church. You are invited to join one of these powerful ministries by emailing contactus@rivers.church

*Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's business manager; Susanna; and many others who were
contributing their own resources to support Jesus and his disciples.
Luke 8:3 NIV*





CHANGED LIVES

Our Response Cards are a great way to make your needs known to us, as well as to celebrate your answered prayers with us. Every week, our pastoral staff prays for and contacts those who hand in prayer requests. We have seen God do amazing miracles!

I praise God for my life and Him having watched over me till I completed my degree. Without Him I would never have been able to.

I thank God for good health and strength for me and my family.

Thank you Rivers – Sandton, Durban and Ballito – for such well organised, inspiring and meaningful services. I visit all campuses regularly and they most certainly always make me feel at home.

I would like to thank God for bringing my sister home. She was admitted to ICU after having her first baby, but with all the prayer from the church and God's grace she is 100% well. God is so good!

SALVATION

The Lord declares that He has “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future” (Jer 29:11). God said this because He made you and wants to bless you. He knows you inside out and now wants you to have a personal relationship with Him through Jesus Christ. Jesus said, “No one can enter the Kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.” This means that just as we were born naturally we need to have a spiritual rebirth. By making a personal commitment to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and committing to follow Him, we experience spiritual rebirth. Jesus also said that He stands at the door of our hearts asking to come in. We have to make the decision to invite Him in; it is not automatic. If you have never prayed and consciously put your trust in Him, asking Him to come into your life, why not do so today by praying this simple prayer:

Father, I come to you in the name of Jesus. I accept Jesus Christ as my Lord and personal Saviour. Thank you Jesus, that you died on the cross for me, so that I might become a child of God. I ask you to come into my life and cleanse me from my sin. I thank you Lord that I can be born again and that my life can be new. Amen.





RIVERS.

CHURCH

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