

## Financial Stewardship & Funding of Ministry

*“But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this?  
Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.”  
(1 Chronicles 29:14)*

Ruach is financed by the voluntary contributions of the people who are part of our church body. You might hear these contributions referred to by different people as gifts or giving, donations, tithes and/or offerings.

Without the financial contributions of members our church cannot function as it does. Money is needed to meet the running costs of the organisation (office & hall rental, phone & internet, insurances, audit and more), and for the employment of staff. It enables our ministry activities, including financial support for local outreach and overseas mission partners. We also promote special giving opportunities where 100% of the donations given go directly to a specific cause.

A team of elders and the Ruach Board ensure that money is wisely spent and properly accounted for. We maintain open communication regarding finances and encourage input to the budget setting process via consultation with house church leaders.

Many people are generous in personally giving to the work of ministries beyond Ruach, which we encourage. However, supporting the work of the church body you are a part of is an important component of your giving plan.

We believe giving is a biblical principle.

In both the Old and New Testament God's people are encouraged to see that all they have comes from the hand of God and to give generously in response to this blessing. Giving to God's work in the world through the church is an act of worship, thanksgiving, and trust in his provision. Everyone contributes to God's work and the common good regardless of the size of their gift. The contributions of all church members enables some people to focus on preparing God's people for works of service through paid church-based ministry. It enables us to serve and bless those who are in need. Giving also opens up new ways in which God is able to bless us.

*“Honour the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.” (Proverbs 3:9)*

*“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” (Malachi 3:10)*

“The tithe” refers to a commitment to give 10% of your income back to God. Our attitude to giving should not be tied to a percentage, but the principle of tithing can be a helpful springboard towards generosity no matter how small or large your income is. It is interesting to note that in the verse from Malachi above, God invites us to test him out in his ability to provide when his people tithe. However, what you choose to give is entirely up to you. We encourage you to spend time in conversation with God and looking at his Word as you consider financially supporting Ruach. It may be helpful to talk to your pastor or other mature Christians about their perspective and experiences of giving as a Christian.

*“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” (2 Corinthians 9: 7-8)*

We believe God is generous and faithful to provide all our needs, as individuals and as a movement. If you would like to support the ministry of Ruach through regular weekly or monthly donations we encourage you to do this through online banking/EFT. Cash or cheques can also be passed on at house church meetings or at Celebration.

## How to Give to Ruach

Account name: Ruach Ministries Limited  
Bank: Commonwealth Bank  
BSB: 062 109  
Account no: 00902701  
Reference: Please include house church number/name for general giving OR description of purpose for other payments.

If you don't know your house church number see below, or ask your pastor or contact the office. If you are not currently part of a house church use your surname or "Nthside giving".

To confirm a transfer has gone through and been correctly identified, email [Lou@ruach.org.au](mailto:Lou@ruach.org.au) or [katherine@ruach.org.au](mailto:katherine@ruach.org.au)

If you prefer not to give by EFT you can give by cash or cheque at house church (speak to your pastor if the opportunity isn't obvious at your meetings) or at Celebration. You can also bring your gift to Celebration in an envelope and put it in the main offering box. Please mark the envelope "General giving" and include reference details as outlined above.

### Ruach house church ID numbers (as at July 2017)

House church number	House church name	Leader
3	Manly Ocean	Jenn W
4	Balgowlah Heights	Kathy F
5	Balgowlah Alpha	Jonny O
20	Forest Hills	Max M
21	Long Reef	Sally K
22	Forestville	Simon & Kari H
25	Manly Beach	Anna C
35	Hornsby	Alex G
30	Southern Highlands	All groups