

rice

inter-church evangelism



Blurb from Steve...

Welcome to RICE 2007!

It's another fantastic year to be proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to the youth of Sydney and I wish to thank each and every one of you and your churches for being partners of the gospel with us in the RICE ministry for 2007! This year will prayerfully be a great year of growth for RICE and your Youth Groups, as RICE aims to partner with over 40 churches and 300 leaders to reach more than 2000 of Sydney's youth.

In doing so, big and exciting changes have been planned for RICE 2007, including the moving of both events to two new locations - some of the best and biggest venues in all of Sydney! Our aim is to pack these venues out for both RICE: Big Day Out and RICE Rally so that the message of eternal salvation only through Jesus Christ may be preached by some of the most gifted speakers in Sydney.

As you can see, preparations are already underway to realise these visions for RICE 2007. It is my sincere hope that this newsletter and later installments will keep you updated with all the latest happenings in RICE.

So get excited! Get pumped! And get praying! Looking forward to serving with you in RICE 2007.

Steve

Prayer Points

- Thank God for His wonderful blessings and grace enabling many to give their lives over to Christ at the RICE events over the past 5 years. Pray that these young people are still growing in their faith and love for Christ.
- Pray for Christian youth from the churches involved in RICE - that they will be eager for the Gospel to reach out to their friends, and that they will be bold and enthusiastic to invite their non-Christian friends.
- Pray for non-Christian youth that they will hear about the RICE events and accept the invitation to come and hear the Gospel.
- Pray that youth leaders of all the churches involved in RICE will have wisdom as they start planning for the 2 events in August. Pray for their health and strength as they serve the kingdom of God through RICE.
- Pray that RICE leaders will remain focused on God, trusting Him and serving His people with humility and love.
- Thank God for providing and enabling us to have such a fantastic location for RICE 2007.
- Pray that we will be able use the themes for RICE 2007 in a relating and engaging way with the youth.
- Pray that the Gospel will continue to be preached clearly and faithfully.
- Above all, pray that God will be glorified in everything that we do.

How to make the most of RICE 2007:

- **Pray** - incorporate and encourage congregational prayer for the RICE ministry.
- **Encourage** - Youth to invite their non-Christian friends along to RICE, youth leaders to serve wholeheartedly for the Gospel
- **Send** - Young youth leaders to RICE Leader's Training Days to equip them with many skills in explaining the Gospel to those who have yet to hear about the Good News.



Every year a highly talented team of church youth leaders spend countless hours organising and running the RICE events. The 2007 core organising team is made up of:

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|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| • Steve Chong (Director) | • Virginia Choy | • Roberta Law |
| • Naomi Chong | • Joanne Lo | • Susie Chan |
| • Sam Mak (Co-ordinator) | • Brian Lee | • Cindy Tan |
| • Luke Hall | • Ben Chow | • Cindy Tjahja |
| • Kris Lim | • Benny Aow | • Elaine Lee |
| • Faith Wan | | |

Tell us a little about yourself, e.g. what you do, any hobbies/interests, which church you attend?

Obviously I am a Christian – that is I put my faith in Jesus and the promises God has fulfilled through Him. I have been married for a little over 8 years to Charisse, who moved here from Hong Kong when she was 17 years old. Charisse and I both attend Cornerstone Presbyterian Community at Concord. We are greatly blessed to be part of a outward loving and supportive church. I am a wheelchair user as a result of a motor vehicle accident in 1980, at which time I was 19 years old so you can work out how old I am now! I run a small but vibrant business providing equipment such as specialised cushions for pressure care, mattressing and back supports for wheelchairs. I travel a lot, enjoy being home with Charisse and looking after the garden. When time allows I love to fish, cook, handcycle, snorkel, read, watch movies – you name it. I really like hot spicy food.

How did you find out about RICE?

Well, Steve Chong is part of our church so it would be difficult not to be aware of RICE. As you know Steve is not the most shy person in the world, and God has blessed him with an energy and passion that is hard to ignore!

How has RICE impacted your church?

RICE has been a huge positive force at our church. We have seen the spiritual growth of our youth in the way they serve and commit to the RICE event. As well it has given them a real chance to invite their friends to an event that is both fun and evangelistic. The opportunity to mix and learn from other churches and youth groups is an extraordinarily powerful vehicle for growing and strengthening this one body we are all a part of. Perhaps the 'R' in RICE should stand for Rocks – "it ROCKS", the youth are "ROCKS", RICE Rocks!



Some thoughts on RICE thanksgiving night?

Great to meet the leaders, and hear the passion and vision that is RICE. For me this was another example of the amazing grace, power and blessings God has poured out on the church here in Sydney. RICE is an incredible vehicle for delivering the Gospel message to the ABC youth, and I pray that this ministry will continue to spill out to the non ABC youth. To spend some time with some of the youth servicing in this ministry is a great privilege, and I came away feeling a desire to visit the various churches to see how they effectively preach and teach the word of God to the youth.

How can we be praying for the youth group at your church?

Interesting that you should ask that! We would really like prayers for our youth leaders, that God encourage, strengthen and give them joy in service. Please pray for faithfulness and wisdom in their leadership and that they support each other through pray and loving action. Please pray for the youth and the leaders that God will keep them close and protect them from Satan and the spiritual warfare that is part of having a strong ministry. That in this busy world where it is easy to focus on worldly matters they will be able to see life through the perspective of eternity and the faithful promises of our amazing God.

RICE 2007 Key Dates



Rice Pink Meeting

Monday, 2nd April 2007

Monday, 30th April 2007

Thursday, 31st May 2007



Rice Leaders' Day Out

Saturday, 14th July 2007



Rice Big Day Out

Saturday, 11th August 2007



Rice Rally

Saturday, 18th August 2007

Contact us:

Would you like more information about RICE 2007?

Please visit our website below for up to date information about the RICE events for 2007 or please feel free to email any questions you may have to our secretary.

Website: <http://www.riceevent.org.au>

Questions: Please contact: secretary@riceevent.org.au