

Riverside Covenant Church

Riverside News

Thoughts From Pastor Dan

Sermons on James

- Apr 6—James 1:1-18
Life is Not Easy
- Apr 13—James 1:19-27
Listen, Then Do
- Apr 20—James 2:1-13
Biblical Equality
- Apr 27—James 2:14-26
Dead Faith

Check out Pastor Dan's weekly sermon recap on the Riverside website at www.rcovenant.org

In the traditional church calendar, Easter is not just a day, but a season. Easter Sunday is the beginning of the Easter season in which Christians celebrate the continuing work of Jesus.

This is a better representation of what the resurrection means in our lives. While there may be a particular day that we dedicated our lives to Jesus Christ, our transformation was not finished on that day. Every day of the rest of our lives we are continually being transformed and made into better models of Jesus Christ. Once Jesus defeated sin and death by rising from the dead, he continued and continues to restore the brokenness of the world.

On April 6 we will begin a sermon series on the book of James. James helps us to understand what life looks like when we live every day like it is Easter. God's power is made manifest in our lives and it produces abundant fruit that is evident in the way that we live. Not only is there a change in our hearts, but there is a real revolution in what we say and what we do. The same force that raised Jesus Christ from the grave renovates our souls.

Over the next several weeks, my hope is that God will use the book of James to make our lives overflow with the hope of the resurrection. Jesus Christ came so that you "may have life, and have it to the full."

Mission's Ministry

Thanks from:

- Sharon Ridenour for the opportunity to share at Riverside what the Lord is doing in her ministry and our support of her in prayer.
- Habitat for Humanity for our partnership with them in 2008.
- Trinity Mission for our financial support, time and prayers.
- The Witkowski family for our financial support and prayers.



The Witkowski Family
Allan, Renee, Travis,
Erin and Katie



Tim, Amy, Thomas, Mark,
and Grace Fisher in India

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Women's Ministry

Purse...sue a Pure Heart

A Spring Luncheon is being planned just for the Women! Plan to join us and bring your women friends and family on Saturday, April 26, 12:00-2:00 p.m., at Riverside Church. Mark your calendars now! We promise you good food, music, a craft, humor, great fellowship, and a message just for you. It will be an exciting event you don't want to miss, so watch for more information coming!



Women's Retreat

Women's Ministry is inviting you to a National Women of Faith Conference called "Infinite Grace" right here in Indiana. It's being held at Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis, August 1-2, 2008. This is a wonderful opportunity to attend a national women's conference right here in our back yard. There are many wonderful speakers and musicians. Riverside Women's Ministry has 25 tickets for sale on a first come basis. We also have reservations at the Marriott Downtown (Courtyard). The ticket price for the two day conference is \$45.00; the hotel price varies depending on the number of women per room. Each room is a double room with two double beds. This is a time for renewal, and to share in fellowship with other women from our area. There will be something for every woman. We hope to attend as a group and any woman is welcome to join us. If you need more information about the conference go to www.womenoffaith.com or call Nancy Umbeck 765-497-9270.

Men's Ministry

Big Breakfast

The men have been active this winter with a breakfast fellowships at Wright Racing, Doug Wright's car racing shop and at the church where Pastor Dan Teefey gave his testimony. Pastor Dan also fielded questions from the men, which led to a thoughtful discussion about how and why each of the men came to believe that Jesus died and rose again for our sins and is God.

Indiana Covenant Men's Retreat

This year's Indiana Covenant Men's Retreat is Friday, April 4-Sunday, April 6 at the Camp Tecumseh Leadership Center. The theme of the retreat is "Being a Man of God...Making it in the Big Leagues!" The 'leadoff hitter' will be Stacey Littlefield, Lead Pastor of Evangelical Covenant Church of Lafayette. The 'clean-up hitter' will be Dan Taylor, Executive Director of Trinity Mission Ministries. For more information and how you can register, pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center or call the church office (765-463-4600).

Wild At Heart Study

The Men's Ministry will be finishing their study of *Wild at Heart* on Monday, April 7. The study has been well attended and most of the men have been able to attend all of the sessions. The study has provided an opportunity for self-reflection and vibrant group discussion about how each of us can embrace the adventure that God has designed us to pursue. God wants us to boldly serve and follow Him, but this will take a willingness to abandon particular comforts and insecurities so that we can live into God's will for our lives. It is only there that we will find the fulfilling, exciting and passion-filled life that we truly desire and that makes us feel alive.

More to Come

We have several activities we are looking forward to this spring including a Men's Big Breakfast at one of Tom Guipe's Golf Courses, and a trip to Wrigley Field for a Cubs game on May 17.



Promiseland Chatter

In spite of a snowy March, Promiseland sprang to life at Riverside with a springtime theme decorating the lower halls of our church. With the excitement of Easter approaching, the children participated in weekly rehearsals of Easter music with Miss Andrea.

Palm Sunday was ushered in with a processional throughout the sanctuary of banners and palm branches waving to songs of "Hosanna!"

On Easter Sunday, Promiseland participated again in "big church worship" singing "Mighty Resurrection Day" and "Colors, Numbers, ABC's", directed by Miss Kelly and Miss Sara.

In the month of March, Promiseland learned: Jesus is the King. Jesus died and rose again. Jesus is always with us.

Praise be to God for the blessing of your children and all who serve to teach them.



Jesus is Alive!

*"He was buried,
and He was raised
from the dead on
the third day..."*

1 Corinthians 15:4

Youth Ministry

Youth Ski Trip - Jan 25th and 26th

Thirteen youth from Riverside went on a ski weekend to Michigan, Jan. 25th and 26th. We drove to Beechpoint Christian Camp near Kalamazoo, MI on Friday night, arriving in time for some free time in their gym and a devotional. Saturday, we spent all day on the slopes at Bittersweet Ski Resort. Although several had never skied before, they were all pros by the end of the day. It was a great day skiing and spending time together.

30 Hour Famine - Feb 22nd and 23rd

We have raised \$2,497 so far for World Vision through our 30 Hour Famine fund raising, and there is still money trickling in! Although 13 youth participated in the 30 Hour Famine, the money was raised by a core group of 8 students which is an awesome job of fund raising. Thanks go to Riverside and family and friends.

It was an amazing 30 hours, with 24 of those hours spent together learning about world hunger and what God wants us to do about it. The youth were divided into 3 tribes, and Pastor Dan led us through many activities and lessons, with the most popular one being the scavenger hunt for items needed by the men at Trinity Mission. Congratulations go to the Borneo Tribe for winning the competition, but all the teams were winners in what we learned and accomplished together.

We would like to make both of these as annual events, hopefully including the senior high students next year!

Small Group Ministry

Our small groups provide the opportunity to develop relationships and give and receive support in the Christian life, which is support we all need. This spring we have a new group that has started and other groups that are reformulating. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Dave Timmerman (765-463-3126 or dtimmerman@rcovenant.org) or Tom or Debby Smiley (765-464-8191 or nomoieps@yahoo.com).

*A place to grow in
your relationship
with Jesus Christ.*



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Community Events

LifeCare Services Spring Support Banquet

LifeCare Services is a pregnancy center near the Purdue University campus. Their spring banquet will be held Friday, April 4 in the Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms beginning with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Star Parker will be the speaker for the evening.

Focus on the Family Garage Sale

The 2008 Focus on the Family Garage Sale will be Saturday, June 7. As you do your spring cleaning, keep this garage sale in mind and save all your treasures to donate the week before the sale. Any questions call Nancy Umbeck 765-497-9270.

Year-to-Date Financial Update

Year-to-Date Giving Needed	\$ 65,892
Year-to-Date Giving	\$ 64,567

April Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Reading Group @ Einstein's 7 am Indiana Men's Retreat LifeCare Services Banquet	5 Indiana Men's Retreat
6 Indiana Men's Retreat 10am - Worship / Communion 7pm - Jr High Youth	7 7 pm - Men's Wild at Heart Study	8 6:30 pm-Leadership Team Meeting	9	10	11	12
13 10am - Worship 11:30am - Staff Meeting 7pm - Jr High Youth	14	15	16	17	18 Reading Group @ Einstein's 7 am	19
20 10am - Worship 11:15am - Missions Committee Meeting 7pm - Jr High Youth	21	22	23	24	25	26 12-2 pm - Women's Luncheon
27 10am - Worship 7pm - Jr High Youth	28	29	30	Upcoming: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 1 - National Day of Prayer • May 17 - Riverside Day at Wrigley Field • June 7-Focus on the Family Garage Sale • August 1 & 2 - Women of Faith Conference 		