

Riverside Covenant Church

2008 Annual Report

Working together
to help people
discover Christ
and develop a growing
relationship with Him

Pastor's Report

Nearly every Sunday I conclude our time together from the back of the sanctuary and ask that we remember that our worship and service of God merely begins on Sunday. The final blessing I give comes from the end of Ephesians 3. "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within

us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." This past year, God has done "immeasurably more" than all we could have asked or imagined at Riverside.

Dana and I have now been serving you for one year and we have been repeatedly affirmed that God was indeed calling us to be in West Lafay-

ette. You have supported us in times of need and helped to quickly make Riverside home for us in countless ways. We have enjoyed serving you this past year, and have benefited greatly by becoming your friends and spiritual partners.

In 2008, Riverside has embraced a fair amount of change. Most notable is

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Missions

2008 was highlighted by our Spring Saturday trip to Trinity Mission's new store in Crawfordsville, where we helped set up the store. Participants enjoyed a tour of the Lafayette store followed by lunch, chapel and a tour of the Whitlock facility in Crawfordsville. The trip was coordinated by Trinity Mission staff members and the missions team at Riverside.



For hours, the group jostled hand trucks to move large display cases, shelving units and sorting tables out the narrow back door, either down the steep stairs or off the tall dock and

across the alley from the old to the new store. Others unpacked clothing boxes and stocked the shelves and clothing racks in the new store.

We also participated in Trinity Mission's Taste and See event in Lafayette. This is the second year Riverside has participated. The purpose of the festival is for area churches to come together to spread a little love to the surrounding Lafayette community. The Festival is located in the Trinity Mission Outlet parking lot. Churches come and set up

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Youth Ministry

The youth group started the new school year with a trip to see Third Day in concert. We had a blast getting to know the students better and even a few moms as well! After that we jumped right into weekly meetings on Wednesdays and Sundays. We split up Junior and Senior High, which was awesome, but came with its own set of obstacles when students had other commitments and only one person could come. But God blessed that too! We got to know each of the students much faster than we ever imagined with tons of one-on-one time!

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Pastor's Report (continued)

our transition to a dedicated teaching hour that we named, "Discovery Hour." Our goal was that this hour would provide an opportunity for both adults and children to discover God more deeply through scripture and community. Perhaps most importantly, the Discovery Hour is when children receive spiritual training through the Promiseland curriculum. Though attendance has varied significantly, most of those that have attended have found the time spiritually significant. I hope that in 2009 we will be able to offer two adult Discovery Hour classes and that this will encourage more adult participation and will continue to increase the number of Riverside children that attend Discovery Hour.

Other new things in 2008 included: background screenings of all volunteers that spend time with children or youth, the beginning of construction on a new kitchen, hiring of a full-time Youth Director, updated website, offering of regular Discovering Riverside classes, Riverside Block Party, Riverside church picnic, mailing of welcome notes to new homeowners in West Lafayette, Riverside Waterline monthly newsletter, formation of Pastoral Relations Committee, publication of updated Riverside pictorial directory, recycling, formation of a Development Committee to assess future building plans, installation of new furnace/air conditioner in building, Trinity Thanksgiving

dinner, and much more.

Riverside welcomed 18 new members in 2008. We had one wedding for Sam Kligerman and Annette Fearnot. Andrew and Tara Madrid renewed their wedding vows. We celebrated the life of Kara Gravitt. We also baptized Josh Menser, Sam Kligerman, Miriam Teefey, Lane Custer, Jamie Seebald, Shannon Irvin, Shelby Robinson, Jalen Pollard, and Taylor McCaw. We dedicated Caleb Johnson, Gabriel Rush, Maddie Rush, Leo Rush, Cameron Brennan, Nathan Brennan, and Nathaniel Irvin. We began the year with an overall average attendance of 135 and ended the year averaging 161. We peaked on November 23 and Christmas Eve at 186. Our 2008 giving also exceeded budget expectations.

More important than numbers, though, is the fact that in our recent congregational survey nearly everyone noted that Riverside had helped them to grow closer to Jesus Christ in 2008. Everything that we do must be focused on the simple goal of helping each other grow closer to Jesus Christ. As we enter 2009, I pray that we will continue to find new and creative ways to connect with God, but that we never lose sight of our unchanging foundation to simply hear, read, study and internalize the Word of God.

We are called to be God's representatives in our community and we must work tirelessly to be Christ-like in our words and deeds.

May God continue to bless us in 2009, by encouraging us, refining us, challenging us, and compelling us to open ourselves up to the free movement of "his power that

is at work within us." To God be glory in Riverside throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen!

— Pastor Dan

Women's Ministry

The Women's Ministry had another wonderful year. Below you will find a list of our 2008 events, but they do not fully reflect the heart and broader scope of what Women's Ministry is about. Women's Ministry is about reaching the hearts and minds of women for Jesus. There is a lot of time, thought and care given to each of our activities driven with the sole purpose of appealing to women and meeting their needs. All of our

Bible studies have small groups that are intimate groups of study, sharing, and fellowship.

The Women's Ministry Leadership team has monthly meetings. The areas of leadership are: Lifetime Learning team, Missions team, Special Events team, Prayer team, Encouragement team, Mentoring team, and the Communications team.

—Nancy Umbeck & Rhonda Ausk

2008 Women's Ministry Activities:

- January 22 – March 3rd: Spring Bible Study – "He Speaks to Me" by Priscilla Shirer (approximately 45 attendees)
- February 22: Trip to Frankfort to see Chonda Pierce
- April 26: Women's Spring Luncheon (approximately 104 attendees)
- April 22 – May 14: Bible Study
- Leadership Conference in Fort Wayne for team members
- May 28, June 25, and July 23: Summer book clubs
- August: Ladies Night – Card making event
- Scrapbooking Group formed
- August 1-3: Women of Faith Conference and Retreat in Indianapolis (approximately 27 attendees)
- September 3 – October 22: Fall Bible Study – "Fingerprints of God" (approximately 35 attendees)
- October: Life Care baby dresser project
- October 22: Carry-in fellowship with food, games and fellowship
- November 12: Boxes and Baskets project – girl's night out, food, speaker
- December 6: Leadership brunch

Children's Ministry (Promiseland)

The goal of Promiseland is to develop children into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. This means our kids grow up to love God, are actively serving His purposes, and are in the process of growing to honor God in all areas of their lives. Promiseland is designed around an outline called the Five Gs which guides believers toward growing into Christ-likeness and becoming fully devoted followers of Christ. The Five Gs are Grace, Growth, Group, Gifts, and Good Stewardship. These basic principles have been altered to become kid-sized and to be used throughout Promiseland.

GRACE: We want kids to accept the gift of grace (salvation) and extend grace to others (evangelism).

GROWTH: We want kids to grow in knowledge of God and His purposes, grow in understanding of how God's purposes include a plan for each of them, and grow in character - being transformed from the inside out by the power of Christ.

GROUP: We want kids to experience friendship in community where they can know and be known, love and be loved, serve and be served, celebrate and be celebrated.

GIFTS: We want kids to explore how God has created

them and how they can serve others with the talents they have.

GOOD STEWARDSHIP: We want kids to develop hearts that recognize all they have belongs to God and desire to use their resources and time for His purposes.

In the past Promiseland had taken place during the adult church service. Now it takes place one hour before the adult church service. Also, our K-through-5th-graders had all been together for a large group teaching and then were broken up into two small groups for discussion. This was a wide age range to teach and we kept the teaching at a younger level which was not very challenging for our 4th and 5th-graders. This year we moved the 4th and 5th-graders into their own room

and now their curriculum is at their learning level. This also eliminates any repeat in curriculum for the students.

This year we have added a Children's Church service that takes place during the adult church service. This time is less intense in teaching and more artistic in nature. Each Sunday's focus is different, including: Bible games, crafts with a related Scripture or Biblical message, worship or praise music, and Bible-related movies.

We have about 40 volunteers who teach and help with Promiseland. This year we developed a child protection policy which requires all volunteers to complete a volunteer application and have a criminal background check. The safety of our children is a high priority, so this has been a step in the right direction for the protection of our children and the

church.

Promiseland has grown this past year in numbers. We have gone from an average of 15 children to 20 a week. We praise God for numerical and spiritual growth in Riverside Promiseland.

—Dar Muehlhausen



Nursery Ministry

Our infant nursery has been a blessing for the infants who need a nap during church. It is quiet enough and equipped with two cribs for nappers. For babies who want some stimulation we have plenty of books, toys, and Praise Baby music/videos to keep them entertained. Infant nursery has grown from two babies to



four.

Our walker nursery has been a very active room this past year. We are well equipped with interactive toys and books to keep the toddlers busy. We have a short Bible story time with a related Bible coloring page for the children to participate in. We also have praise music to sing. We are allowing

snacks for this class since some are there for two hours. We have 18 workers in the combined nurseries. Our nursery workers deserve much praise since we have added a second hour to their time serving each Sunday.

We now have a new nursery coordinator, Rebecca Springs.

—Dar Muehlhausen

Small Group Ministry

During the past the year, we met several times to discuss the status of the small group ministry. After Dan Teefey arrived, we met with Dan to discuss his vision for small groups. We compiled a list of Riverside regular attendees. These attendees were then matched up to determine if they had connections with Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, and/or Small Group Ministry. Dan's vision was to have everyone connected through at least one of these ministries, if possible. People who were not connected were contacted by small group leaders and us. These attendees were asked about their interest in joining a small group. Some expressed interest, while others felt that work or children's activities made it difficult to participate in small groups in this season of their lives.

We held two lunch meetings with small group leaders to discuss progress and problems with their groups, to provide ideas for studies, and to discuss small group leadership skills. Two new small groups attempted to form but never came to fruition. Another small group disbanded after losing members due to people relocating.

In the Spring, we discussed doing a small group call out on a Sunday in the early fall which might include a thematic sermon, drama, and booths to adver-

tise the various groups. However, by fall we had only 3 functioning small groups to offer, and two of those were large. In conversations with Dan, it was also apparent that the best focus for the church in the Fall was our new Discovery Hour. We were also pleased to have two new groups form during the fall (the Umbeck's group and the Gravitt's group). The Christophers and the Smileys also agreed to share the responsibility for starting a new group. It is possible that the Watts, Blanchards, and Fishers may also form a group.

Recently we have been working with Everette Mills to update the small group section of the Riverside website including listing the current groups, their current study topics, and the small group materials owned by the church.

For 2009, our plans are twofold. 1. We would like to continue to attempt to expand the number of small groups and to provide support for those currently operating. This will include networking activities by the three of us as well as regular meetings for leaders. 2. We would like to have a budget that could allow small group leaders to attend a one day small group leadership conference.

We are excited about the small group ministry at Riverside and the opportunity to develop it further.

We currently have five groups:

Justin and Kristen Gravitt

The book of James

**Tom and Debby Smiley &
John and Joyce Christopher**

Faith Lessons on the Life and Ministry of the Messiah by Ray Van Der Lann

Dave and Polly Timmerman

The Minor Prophets

Ryan and Lindsey Umbeck

Sacred Marriage by Gary Thomas

John and Judy Wade

Christianity and Other Religions

Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry had an increasingly active year in 2008. In the past, Riverside men have struggled to maintain the same level of involvement as the Riverside women. Over the past year, however, several men have made significant commitments to the Men's Bible study, Men's breakfast, and other events. This has created a renewed enthusiasm and desire to grow in community and biblical depth.

2008 was highlighted by our Men's studies. In the Fall, we studied the Bible and John Eldridge's "Wild at Heart." We learned about God's design for our

lives and how we must embrace God's will for us in our families, workplaces and community. Over the summer, we studied the book of Ephesians and enjoyed spending time simply reading and discussing God's Word. In the Spring, we again studied the Bible and "The Insider: Bringing the Kingdom of God Into Your Everyday World" by Jim Peterson and Mike Shamy. This study urged us to consider that we are Christ's insiders in our families, workplaces and community. We have a responsibility to live openly so

Continues on Page 5

Men's Ministry (continued from pg 4)

that others encounter Christ at work in our lives. During this study, we began to memorize scripture together and began to experience the power of God's Word as God's communication device in our lives.

On May 17, nearly 50 of us went to a Chicago Cubs game in Chicago. We traveled in a chartered bus and enjoyed fellowship together both on the road and at the game. In 2009, we hope to travel to Indianapolis for a minor league baseball game to make the trip more affordable for everyone.

Also in May, 11 men participated in the Riverside Golf Clinic at Coyote Crossing. Tom Guipe treated the men to breakfast in the clubhouse and then gave the men tips on their golf swings. Luckily, no one was injured and everyone had a great time. In August, Riverside held its annual Riverside Golf outing. Over 20 men played at Battle Ground Golf Club and competed for great prizes. Many Riverside men invited friends to play in their foursomes and this event will likely be an even bigger success in 2009. Also in August several

men went to Indianapolis to spend time touring a drag race garage, viewing race cars, and watching drag races. The Day at the Races was a wonderful opportunity of fellowship and new experiences.

The men also held several Men's breakfasts with wonderful food, fellowship and testimony sharing. The Men's reading group also continues to meet to discuss various issues on Friday mornings at 7am at Einstein Bagels. In 2009, we are looking forward to adding a second Men's Bible study on

Thursday mornings at 6:30am at the church. Both the Men's Monday night study at 7pm and the Thursday morning study will begin the year by examining the book of Mark in the Bible.

We pray that God continues to increase not only the involvement of Riverside men in the Men's Ministry, but that God continues to increase our devotion to God's Word and to growing into more obedient disciples

Missions (continued from pg 1)

booths and pass out free stuff: food, drinks, candy, bracelets, pencils, stickers. They have games and a tent with music. Riverside rented a big bounce and passed out popcorn (thanks to Kurt Watt and his popcorn machine). Much like last year, the big bounce was a popular item. Most of the kids were repeat customers (repeated, and repeated, and repeated).

For those of you who were unable to attend, we hope you can join us next year. Taste and See is one of the neatest events happening in the Lafayette Christian community. Area churches come together with no other agenda except to minister to the downtown area. Kids and whole families come from nearby neighborhoods to enjoy the festivities. As you

can imagine the Big Bounce is very popular. We are looking forward to next year already and plan to bring the Big Bounce and the popcorn, but we are always open to additional ideas.

This past Winter we once again participated in Operation Christmas Child. Riverside set a new record for itself!! The Riverside Mission Committee set a goal of donating at least 100 filled shoes boxes to the Samaritan's Purse ministry. After the worship service on November 23, slightly more than 100 boxes from the Riverside congregation began their journey to bring gifts, joy and the Good News of Jesus to children a world away from the life we know here in Indiana.

The Missions Minis-

try also sponsored an area student, who was a ward of the state, to attend Young Life camp. This very well may have been the best thing we did all year because God did amazing things in the student's life.

In 2008 we also continued to financially support the Witkowskis (China), Kir-

gisses (Lafayette Area Young Life), and Trinity Mission (faith-based residential addiction recovery) monthly. In 2009, we will add the Allens (Alaska) and Sharon Ridenour (Azerbaijan) to those that we support monthly.

— Everette Mills

In 2009, we are targeting:

- Renewed focus on doing something in the worship service related to Missions on the Third Sunday each month (1 live speaker per quarter)
- 2 Spring and 2 Fall Saturday mission trips
- Operation Easter to families at Elim Covenant Church in Elim, Alaska
- Possible summer mission trip
- Trinity Taste and See Festival
- Operation Christmas Child Possible additional after Thanksgiving Christmas focused event

Youth Ministry (continued from pg 1)

Wednesdays became our "community involvement" night where we would get out of the church building and love on people out around town. We swept and mopped the floors at all the Starbucks in town, handed out hand warmers to people waiting at the bus stops, cooked and served dinner at Lafayette Urban Ministry, and handed out food gift cards to people working at drive-thru windows, just to name a few!



Sundays were a little tricky. We started the Senior High at Greyhouse Coffee Co. where we gave our "lifetamonies" to learn more about each other. After that, we began a study on the book *Crazy Love* - all

about how we can be transformed when we are crazy in love with Jesus. We quickly realized that we needed to be back at the church in the youth room so that the students felt more at ease to share instead of being out in the open for all to see if they got a little emotional.

With both age groups, 2008 was all about stretching their idea of God in their lives - that even as teenagers there can be a deeper level of commitment and with that, their lives need to look different. Not just at church, but at school and at home as well. We had lots of crazy fun days doing things as a group too. Here are some highlights: sleepovers that ended with funny color hair, plastic bag madness, lock-in

with glow-in-the-dark capture the flag, shopping for our Christmas child and spending too much just because our students wanted to give our child all the fun stuff they love, Extreme Worship where students were really stretched in their worship style, a bonfire with horse poo land mines, boys-only paintball, bigger and better contest where one team actually lost the box springs for River's bed off the top of our car, TONS of leaf raking to raise money for our ski retreat, freezing cold Purdue games selling hot chocolate, messy gingerbread houses, Discovery Hour - even though the

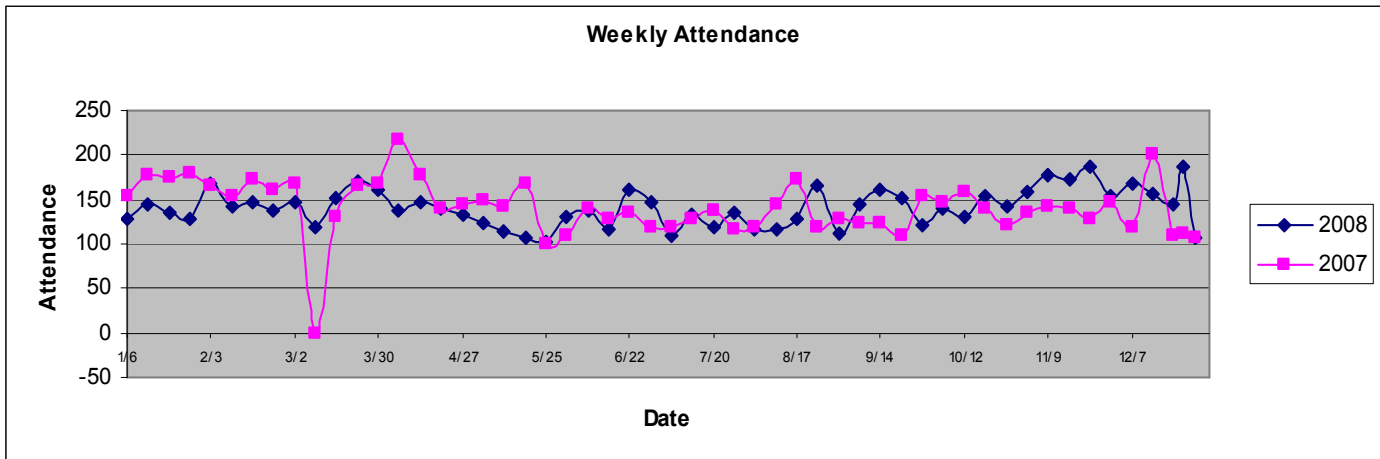


kids were always half asleep when they got there, God would always reveal something new to them, and the icing on the cake - our Ski Retreat where we came together as a community in the

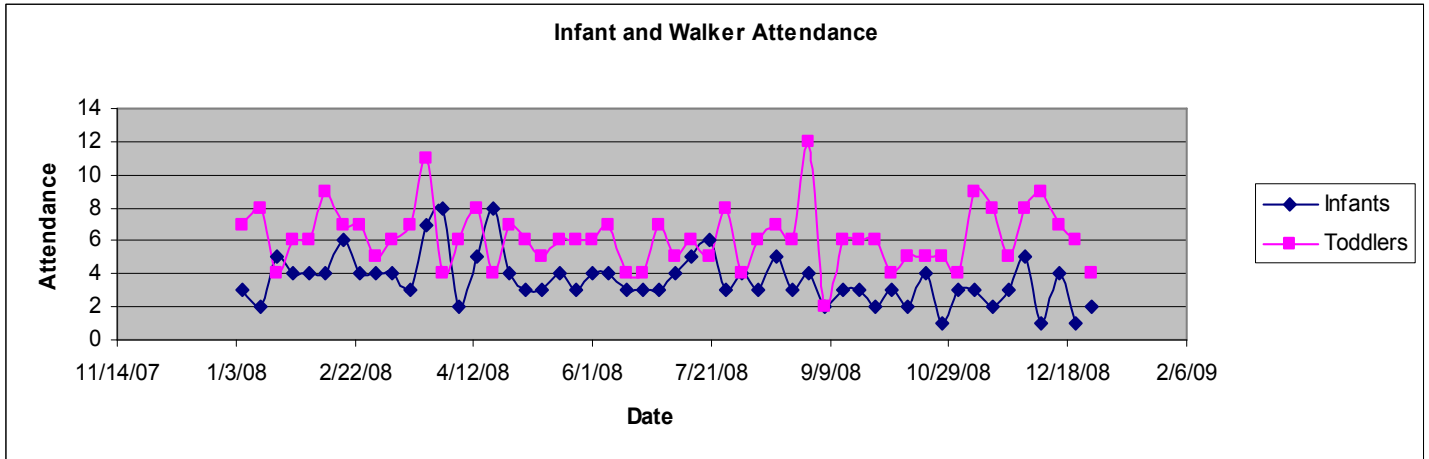
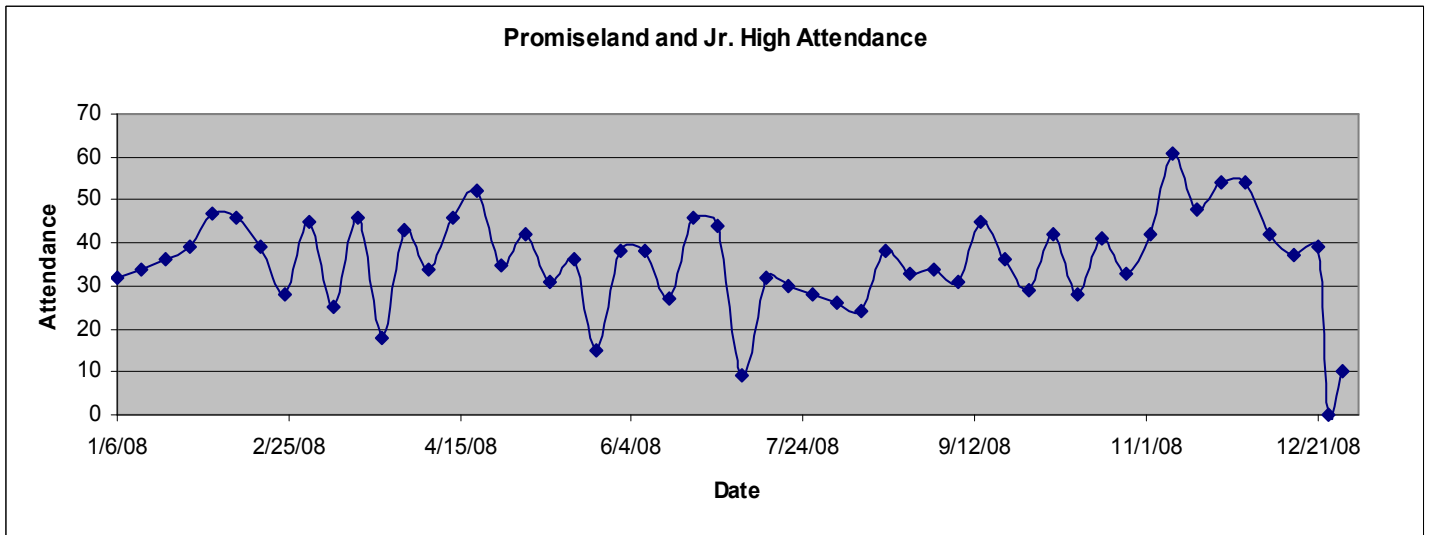
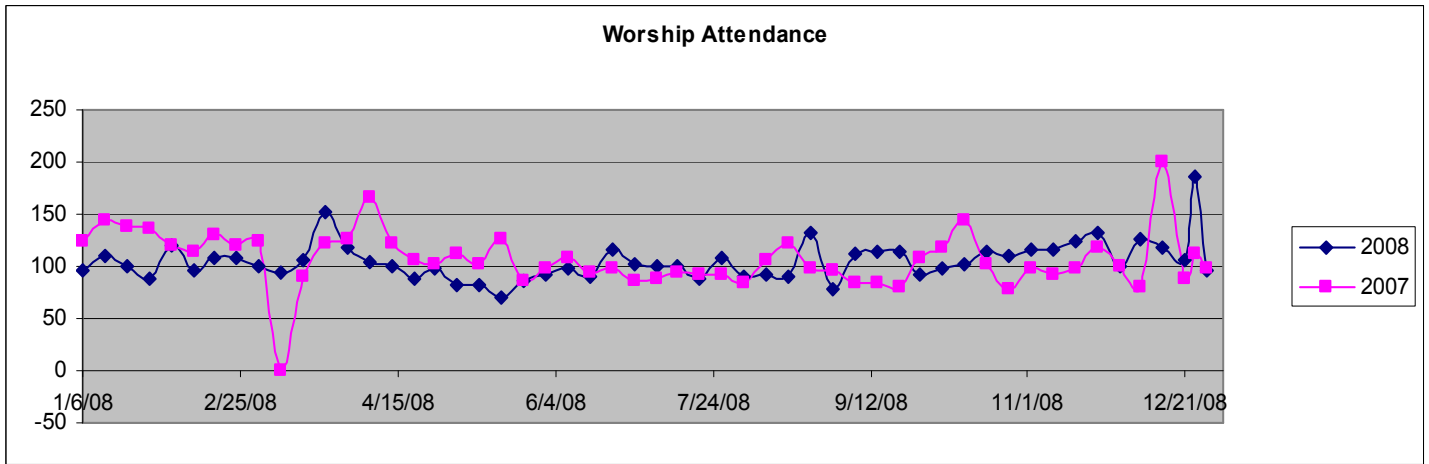
Lord, pushed a van out of the snow, knocked each other around playing broomball, ate some really gross stuff at Club Angst, and most of all, we allowed God into places in our hearts that were hurting and let Him start to do a really awesome work in us all. Wow, when it's all written down, what an amazing list of ways that God worked in and through the students in 2008. God is good-all the time!!

—Becky Wellner

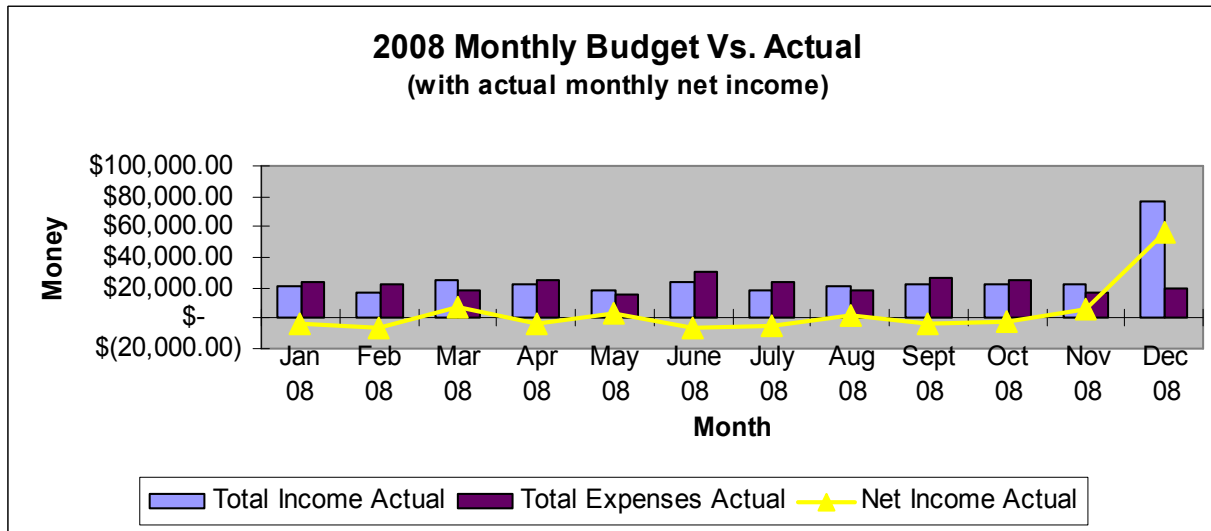
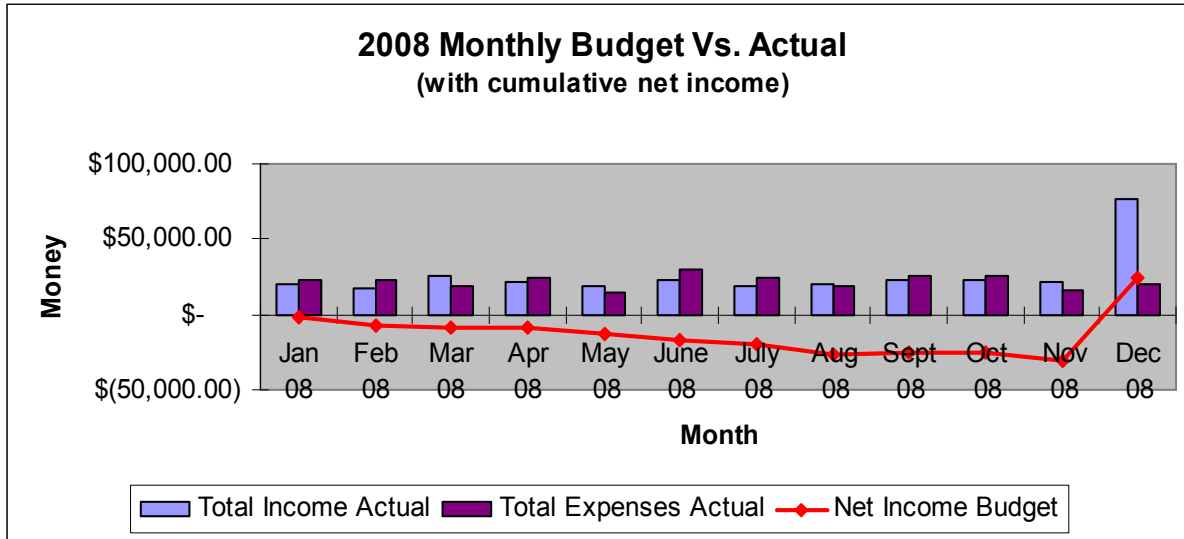
2008 Attendance



2008 Attendance Continued



2008 Giving Review



Leadership Team Members 2009

Leadership Team Members	Ministry Responsibilities
Dan Teefey (Pastor)	Adult Education
Scott Blanchard (Chair)	Promiseland and Jr. and Sr. High
Nancy Umbeck	Nursery and Women's
Steve Johnson	Web site, Facilities, and Finance
Linda Bogan	Worship
Lisa Harker	Welcome, Usher, and Drama Ministries
John Christopher	Men's Ministry, Missions, and Small Group

2009 Budget

	2008 Actual	2008 Budget	2009 Budget
Income			
1000 - General Fund Income			
1001 - Loose	4,945.46	5,000.00	5,000.00
1002 - Checks	293,470.10	280,336.53	303,497.00 ▲
1003 - Interest Income	754.13	150.00	1,500.00 ▲
1004 - Building Use	40.00	0.00	0.00
1005 - Special Gifts (In and Out Funds)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 1005 - Special Gifts (In and Out Funds)	10,000.00	0.00	0.00
Total 1000 - General Fund Income	309,209.69	285,486.53	309,997.00 ▲
Expense			
100 - Administrative			
Total 101 - General Office	5,814.35	9,500.00	7,015.00 ▼
Total 100 - General Office	5,814.35	9,500.00	7,015.00 ▼
200 - General Property			
201 - Insurance			
201.1 - Building Insurance	3,282.33	3,400.00	3,400.00
202 - Building Maintenance & Repair	5,546.32	10,000.00	5,000.00 ▼
Total 203 - New Furniture	0.00	0.00	2,000.00 ▲
Total 204 - New Equipment	17,780.75	5,300.00	4,000.00 ▼
205 - Building Improvement			
206 - Equip. Rental	2,570.40	2,500.00	2,600.00 ▲
207 - Equip. Maintenance & Repair	484.76	1,500.00	500.00 ▼
Total 210 - Utilities	9,963.29	9,200.00	10,300.00 ▲
211 - Custodial Service and Supplies	4,792.68	4,500.00	4,800.00 ▲
212 - Landscaping			700.00 ▲
Total 200 - General Property	44,420.53	36,400.00	33,300.00 ▼

▲ = Increase in budget

▼ = Decrease in budget

	2008 Actual	2008 Budget	2009 Budget	
200 – General Property				
201 – Insurance				
201.1 – Building Insurance	3,282.33	3,400.00	3,400.00	
202 – Building Maintenance & Repair	5,546.32	10,000.00	5,000.00	▼
Total 203 - New Furniture	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	▲
Total 204 - New Equipment	17,780.75	5,300.00	4,000.00	▼
205 – Building Improvement				
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207 – Equip. Maintenance & Repair	484.76	1,500.00	500.00	▼
Total 210 - Utilities	9,963.29	9,200.00	10,300.00	▲
211 – Custodial Service and Supplies	4,792.68	4,500.00	4,800.00	▲
212 – Landscaping			700.00	▲
Total 200 - General Property	44,420.53	36,400.00	33,300.00	▼
300 – General Ministry				
Total 301- Nursery and Children's Ministries	4,968.35	6,200.00	3,250.00	▼
Total 302 - Youth Ministry	4,077.91	3,000.00	3,500.00	▲
Total 303 - Adult Formation	284.31	0.00	500.00	▲
Total 304 - Small Group Ministry	193.95	500.00	750.00	▲
Total 305 - Women's Ministry	2,012.65	2,000.00	2,500.00	▲
Total 306 - Men's Ministry	371.54	500.00	500.00	
Total 307 - Worship Ministry	1,483.29	1,600.00	1,400.00	▼
Total 308 - Outreach/Evangelism Ministry	2,805.14	6,500.00	3,000.00	▼
Total 309 - Missions Ministry	31,900.01	31,958.53	40,550.00	▲
Total 310 - Benevolence	600.00	3,000.00	1,500.00	▼
Total 300 - General Ministry	48,697.15	55,258.53	57,450.00	▲
400 – General Community				
Total 401 - Fellowship	3,436.45	2,600.00	3,500.00	▲
Total 402 - Leadership/Staff Development	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	▲
Total 400 - General Community	3,436.45	2,600.00	7,500.00	▲

500 – Staff Compensation and Benefits			
501 – Senior Pastor			
501.1 – Salary			
501.2 – Housing Allowance			
501.3 – FICA/Medicare Contribution			
501.4 – Pension			
501.5 – Health Insurance			
501.6 – Continuing Education			
501.7 – Travel Expense			
501.8 – Dues/Professional Fees			
501.9 – Mileage			
501.10 – Pastor’s Discretionary			
Total 501 - Senior pastor			
502 – Administrative Assistant			
502.1 - Salary			
503 – Worship Director			
503.1 - Salary			
504 – Children’s/Family Min. Director			
504.1 - Salary			
505 – Children’s Ministry Assistant			
505.1 - Salary			
506 – Nursery Coordinator			
506.1 - Salary			
507 – Youth Director			
507.1 – Salary			
507.2 – Health Insurance			
507.3 – Continuing Education			
507.4 – Youth Director’s Discretionary			
Total 507 - Youth Director			
508 – Christian Education Director			
508.1 – Salary			
509 – Women’s Ministry Director			
509.1 – Salary			
596 – Preaching Honoraria			
597 – Staff Search			
Total 597 - Staff Search	0.00	0.00	0.00 ▲
598 – Payroll Expenses	3,708.33	3,900.00	3,900.00
599 - Miscellaneous	1,834.40	0.00	
Total 500 - Staff Compensation and Benefits	135,073.06	148,678.00	174,732.00 ▲

Staff salary information has been omitted from the online version of the 2008 Annual Report.

All staff salary information was available in hard copies of the Annual Report and budget made available at the annual meeting.

You can obtain a hard copy of the complete budget at anytime by contacting the Riverside Covenant Church office.

600 – Loans			
601 – National Covenant Properties			
600.1 – Interest Expense	21,205.51	31,000.00	21,500.00 ▼
600.2 – Principle	8,382.89	0.00	8,500.00 ▲
Total 601 - National Covenant Properties	29,588.40	31,000.00	30,000.00 ▼
Total 600 - Loans	29,588.40	31,000.00	30,000.00 ▼
9900 – Uncategorized Expenses	5,348.78	2,000.00	0.00 ▼
	0.00	50.00	0.00 ▼
Total 9900 - Uncategorized Expenses	5,348.78	2,050.00	0.00 ▼
Total Expense	272,378.72	285,486.53	309,997.00 ▲
Net Income	36,830.97	0.00	0.00

