

2014-2015 Annual Report

Riverside

COVENANT CHURCH

June 28, 2015

Pastor's Report

I am writing this report as I prepare to leave for the summer on sabbatical. I will miss being with you at our Annual Gathering and Meeting. It is an honor to serve as your pastor and I continue to be excited about what God is doing with us in Tippecanoe County and beyond.

The verse that continually comes to mind when I think about where God has Riverside is Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes . . ." Our joy in Christ, authenticity in relationships, sacrifice in love, and boldness in mission display the power of God that brings salvation to our community and world. We are not ashamed of the Good News of Jesus, but testify to Jesus' work among and through us.

We display the Gospel's power in many ways, but one recent example is our 2nd trip to Cangahua, Ecuador. Our long-term partnership with our brothers and sisters in Christ is beginning to take root and we are bearing wonderful fruit in the

spiritual growth of our teams and the Cangahua church's evangelism of their local community.

This year we also spent several weeks in a sermon series on "Discerning the Will of God." The series was designed to help us seek and understand God's will in our personal lives and together as we move towards deciding whether to build a new church facility or to stay in our current location. I am excited for our conversations in the Fall and have been praying for a sense of unity and call that will display the power of God.

In May Dar Muehlhausen announced her resignation from our Children's Discipleship Director position. Dar had served 8 years in this position and many more in other Riverside Children's Ministry roles. She has dedicated herself to helping Riverside's children learn about and grow to follow Jesus and we are thankful for

her leadership and wisdom over the years. After a brief search process that included Dar, the Children's Ministry Team, and the Leadership Team, Megan Mills was selected as Riverside's new Children's Discipleship Director. Megan has been working in our Children's Ministry for many years and will be a wonderful addition to our staff.

One of our main focuses in the upcoming year will be to take our results from the REVEAL survey and to grow in our ability to partner with God in making disciples. No matter where someone is at in their faith we want to provide relationships and opportunities that will help them take next steps in their faith. We want to focus on three things in this effort: helping people connect their beliefs to action, creating more mentoring/discipleship relationships, and developing a spiritual growth pathway that will provide opportunities for growth and accountability for everyone.

In the 2014-2015 fiscal year Riverside welcomed 12 new members and I conducted three weddings: Richard and Karen Smith, Will and Miranda Garcia, and Kyle and Erin Miller.

I also led memorial services for Doug West, Marjorie Owen, and

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Team that went to Cangahua, Ecuador on mission trip



Children



VBS 2014



Bethlehem Experience



Celebration of memorization of the books of the Bible



Sunday Morning Lesson

Promiseland Children's Ministry is about teaching children to know, love, and live for Jesus. We seek to glorify God by meeting kids where they are in their spiritual journeys and leading them into a relationship with Jesus Christ that is authentic and lasting. We measure this process by their personal commitments to Christ, memorization of scripture, and giving to missions.

We continued in 2014 to teach our children about the Christian faith through Willow Creek's Promiseland Curriculum. We have used this curriculum for 15 years and decided to search for something more updated since Willow has no plans to update their curriculum. After a yearlong search, the PL Ministry Team has chosen Groups, Hands On Bible curriculum to use this Fall. We are excited for the change and look forward to see how God will use it in the lives of our Promiseland kids.

Children's Ministry completed another year with a fantastic

ministry team consisting of eight ladies who faithfully met each month to help with the plans and decisions made each year for this ministry to function and grow.

Missions:

- Supported a child from Ethiopia for the 6th year.
- Filled 5 shoeboxes, with items purchased from the Promisemart Store, using Bible Bucks. (Samaritans Purse, Operation Christmas Child Project)
- Collected money at VBS for wells in India.
- Gave money to Ronald McDonald house from money the 2nd-3rd graders earned.

Special Events:

- Brought in palms on Palm Sunday.
- Vacation Bible School with 80 children attending and about 35 adults helping in some manner.
- Provided catered meals for 2 appreciation teachers' meetings.

- Presented Bibles to 2yr. olds and Kindergarten children in the church service.
- Prayed for and commissioned our PL teachers for another year in our worship service.
- Celebrated Jesus' Birthday through the Bethlehem Experience.
- Celebrated with several kids who memorized the Books of the Bible, the Ten Commandments, and the Fruit of the Spirit. We have enjoyed pool parties with ice cream Sundays, Dog n Suds, Silver Dipper, and the park.

We currently have 19 teachers and 90 three year olds-5th grade children participating in Promiseland. God is good and we praise Him for his continued faithfulness to our Children's ministry.

~ Dar Muehlhausen
Children's Discipleship Director
dar@rcovenant.org

Nursery

The nursery ministry provides care for children under the age of 3 in two nurseries (one for those from infant up to age 2 and another for those age 2) during two church services calling upon a group of volunteers that includes parents of the children utilizing the nursery. During the last 12 months we provided care for approximately 30 children.

Each nursery has an interactive curriculum of bible stories, songs and hands on props to share the story of Jesus with even these smallest ones. The children always look forward

to this time and the snacks that follow.

Parents of children using the nursery are required to work one service each month. Even with that and a few other volunteers the nursery has struggled to keep the worker roster filled and as such has had times where the 2 nurseries are combined in one room or relied on a couple of people that work several times each month. The nursery is still in need of workers.

Additional care has been provided for special church services and to serve those par-

ents working VBS, though the attendance tends to be lighter at these times.

Our prayer for the upcoming year is that we would have volunteers (both adults and Jr./Sr. high schoolers) sign up for a 90 minute time slot once a month as a love ministry to the families that use the nurseries.

It is a joy being able to love on these little ones and provide a service to their parents at the same time.

~Laura Russell
~Emily Farley
Nursery Coordinators

Youth

The youth group had more energy than a Redbull this year! We saw sustained growth in the JH throughout the year as we worked our way through the Old Testament and all the flavors of froyo at Urban Swirl. After losing 12 seniors to college, as will happen, our SH took a hit so the summer will be our rebuilding/reconnecting time with them. It's like having to hit the reset button. We met regularly at lunchtime throughout the year with SH girls to study what real love from God looks like, and I was able to connect with more SH girls at the annual Awakening at Frankfort Camp.

We were back at Covenant Point for our winter retreat

after trying Spring Hill Camp the year before. As always it was a super experience and we had a diverse group of kids that had a wonderful time unplugged from the world and plugged into the Lord. We really want to continue to build the idea of being a family in Christ so we had sleepovers at our house, spent time one-on-one with kids, and invited them all to see their lives differently, less about ourselves, more about the whole.

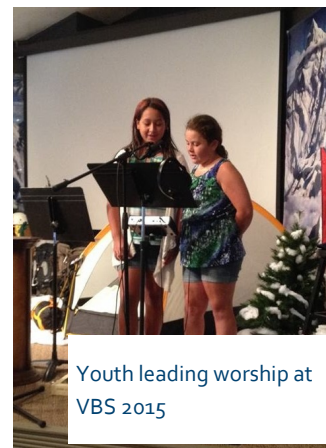
Youth Sunday was a personal highlight, as Robyn Corbin got to share what Christ has done in her family and we had our first youth drummer in the band! It's always a joy to see them using the gifts the Lord

has given them to draw others into worship. As we look forward to the next school year we shift focus a little. As per Sticky Faith and our Reveal Study, we know that kids remain connected to the Lord more because of their parents, less from outside the home. Equipping and encouraging parents to live their lives faithfully sold out for Jesus will be at the forefront of the youth ministry. Hopefully this will create opportunities for families to grow in the Lord as a unit, which would be super exciting to see even more of at Riverside.

~Becky Wellner
Youth Discipleship Director
bwellner@rcovenant.org



Youth having fun!



Youth leading worship at
VBS 2015

Worship

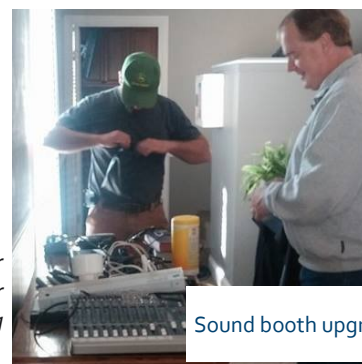
The Worship Team continues to grow and be an approachable tool for connecting to the Lord through prayer and worship on Sunday mornings. We added several new team members this year, even some kiddos from downstairs! A core group of musicians and sound/ppt people have met to continue to encourage new ideas, foster connection, and

uphold standards that we would like to use to take our skills to the next level. We upgraded our sound board this year which was a big project, but with the faithful planning of our sound team and lots of extra hands the install went smoothly and the new board is working well. It has more bells and whistles, so the training is more intense, but

the added quality is worth it!

The team hopes to grow in creativity and reliance on the Spirit's promptings as we continue to grow and change as a congregation.

~Becky Wellner
Worship Director
bwellner@rcovenant.org



Sound booth upgrade

Welcome Ministry

Riverside's Welcome Ministry is made up of Servers who form Riverside's first impression for guests and serve all worshippers on Sundays. Our Servers communicate to everyone that walks in our doors on Sunday that "you matter, you belong, and this is a safe place to question, explore, and choose next steps in relationship with others on the same journey." Our Servers treat

people as they would if they were inviting them to their home going out of their way to welcome people, saying "good morning" with a warm smile, and ensuring that they feel like they belong. Servers introduce themselves to guests they do not know, are quick to show them around our building, to offer them something to drink and eat (e.g., coffee and donuts), to introduce them to

other friends, and to answer any questions they may have.

We have formed a Welcome Ministry Team to support and provide strategic direction for this Ministry. The Team meets quarterly. If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer to be a part of this ministry please contact Stan Hickman.

~Stan Hickman
sth03052@msn.com



"I've taken my place among you as
the one who serves."

Luke 22:27

"He (Jesus) came to serve, not be
served."

Matthew 10:24

Small Groups

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote: "What may appear weak and trifling to us may be great and glorious to God." It is sometimes hard to believe that God might be doing glorious things in us as we meet in small groups.

But let me point out what God has been doing: The Bogans heroically lead three groups, two of them brand new. Despite many families moving, the Moeschbergers persist in welcoming more into their fold. The Redingtons are ending their group as they transition into another chapter of life, but they've done so with great wisdom and faithfulness. The Teefey's have continued to add new members. The Elliots have continued to have worship and family time. The Smiley's group finished well, and some have joined other groups. A new group led by

*"What may appear weak and trifling to us may be great and glorious to God."
Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

Abigail Heath, and Kevin and Sarah Dickson has recently formed for grad students and young professionals. Plus other groups, including men's and women's Bible studies, are full of people pursuing God.

In all this I've seen an encouraging pattern: we have small group leaders who step up time and again to model God's faithfulness by patiently serving those under their care, despite the frequent transitions of a college town like ours. The pastoral staff of Riverside can't meet with everyone every week. But by God's grace, small group leaders serve as lay shepherds, being the first to love those in their groups through praying lips, a helping hand, a kind word, an empathic hug, and Scripture study.

Jesus said, "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." As we move towards clearer pathways of discipleship, continue training small group leaders at least six times per year, and look to develop new leaders, please pray with me that we'd lean into our community and live with great hope. We may be "weak and trifling," but to God we are "great and glorious." We may fear much: change, not getting our needs met, being a little flock of Christians in a large and complex world. Yet it is the Father's "good pleasure to give us his kingdom!" So, we have all we need, and I trust he will provide more as we need it. This is our hope as he leads us into his presence through small groups each week.

*~ Rick Whitlock
Director of Small Groups
rwhitlock@rcovenant.org*

Stephen Ministry

After ten Stephen Ministers were commissioned in June 2014, it didn't take long before every one had a care receiver. Some of our Stephen Ministers have now had more than one care receiver.

These dedicated ministers meet twice monthly on Monday evenings for peer supervision and continuing education. Peer supervision gives them the opportunity to receive support and accountability. Stephen Ministry is designed to support and care for the ministers as much as the care receivers.

Kevin and Rita Rigenbach went to Stephen Leader training in February. They are the Referral Coordinators – Kevin

for men and Rita for women. If you or someone you know would like a Stephen Minister, you can count on Kevin or Rita to make this happen.

We are so grateful for the generous giving of their time and talents of Sara Rottler and Mike Amato, who have needed to step away from Stephen Ministry for the time being due to other life commitments. We hope to see them back on the Stephen Leader team sometime in the near future.

Our next goal is to hold another training session to start fall 2015. If God has given you a heart for people, gifts of mercy and compassion, or a burden for those hurting and struggling, please pray about be-

coming a Stephen Minister. We need you!

If you have any questions, you may contact any of the Stephen Leaders: Ann Amato, Lisa Harker, Kevin and Rita Rigenbach. God has blessed us richly with his ministry. Please visit our website at www.rcovenant.org/stephenministry or our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/riversidestephen.

*~Lisa Harker
Stephen Ministry Leader*



*To equip and empower Riverside
to provide spiritual care for
those facing difficulties.*

Community Outreach

New and exciting things happened during the past year with the Local Community Outreach Ministry.

- Tina Fleener stepped up to help coordinate the activities of the Local Community Outreach Ministry. For the 2015 calendar year, Tina developed servant opportunities for each quarter of the year. The first quarter focused on Homelessness. The second quarter focused on Women and Family. The third quarter will be Children and Hunger. The focus will be Christ is Coming for the fourth quarter. Operation Christmas Child and Jubilee Christmas are the main events planned for the final quarter of the year. Brown bag events have taken place to give the homeless and women at the Domestic Violence Shelter gifts from Riverside Covenant Church. Since February 2014, more than 200 brown bags have been distributed. Each one had a scripture verse on it. Future brown bag events are scheduled for July 18, August 15, Sept 19, and November 21. Please keep an eye out for back to school supplies for the July 18th brown bags.
- Linda Bogan and Kurt Watt have created a Brew Crew to make laundry soap each week. A team of Denise Neff, Robyn Bennett, Tina Fleener, Linda Bogan, Randy Bogan, and Kurt Watt make, bottle, and deliver almost 160 gallons of laundry soap each month. This is up from 120 gallons earlier this year. New locations were added to deliver the laundry soap. Riverside Covenant Church now provides laundry soap to Lafayette Transitional Housing, Salvation Army, Family Promise, and the YWCA Domestic Violence shelter. Clean and empty gallon jugs are always needed.
- Julie Griffin still orchestrates the monthly meal at Lafayette Transitional Housing. With the recent closure of MHA's Day Shelter, all the homeless now go to Lafayette Transitional Housing. She is serving more people at the Wednesday evening meal. Riverside Covenant Church applied for a \$2,000 grant to increase this once a month meal to three times a month. If you have an interest in helping serve these meals to the homeless, please contact Julie Griffin.
- Jubilee Christmas was coordinated by Lindsey Ford this year. Because of the generosity of several church members, extra families were added on at the last minute. It was proof that we are being Christ's hands and feet to the children in need. This year we may get the children's birthday so Riverside Covenant Church can send them a birthday card reminding them Jesus loves them.
- We did not participate in the Homeward Bound Walk this year, but there are plans for the next budget year to participate in 4 local walks to benefit local agencies. Homeward Bound Walk 2016 is one of them.
- Everette Mills coordinated the Purdue Half Marathon this past year. We

will be participating this year also.

- Food Finders Food Bank requested help with the Summer Feeding Program at ClayStone Apartments on the south side of Lafayette. Tina Fleener and Faith Pitstick volunteered in June 2015. More volunteers are needed for Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays from 1-2 pm until August 7th. If interested, please go to www.foodfinders.org and sign up if you are available.
- As reported last year, the Riverside Community Outreach Ministry was awarded a \$14,000 grant to solidify a mentoring and academic incentive program with Oakland Alternative High School and Lafayette Jefferson High School. That money was used to purchase items (e.g.— gift certificates, tablets, scholarship and end-of-the-year celebration) to award academically challenged students who made the effort to improve their grades.

Tina Fleener is creating servant opportunities throughout the year. If you have a desire to serve GOD in our local community, please contact Tina.

Tina Fleener
tlf520@yahoo.com



Jubilee Christmas
2014

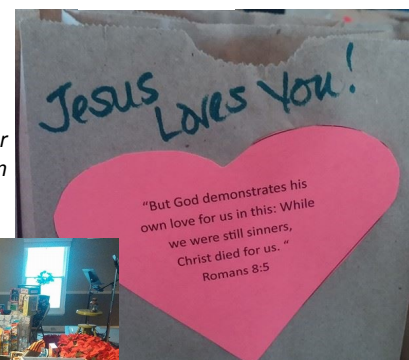
'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.'

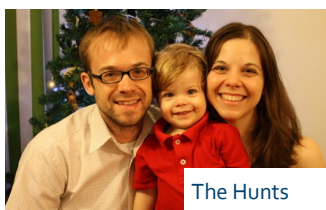
Jesus

(Matthew 25:37-40 Msg)



Decorating
brown bags





The Hunts



The Gravitts



The Halters



The Witkowskis

Missionary Support

Riverside Supported Missionaries

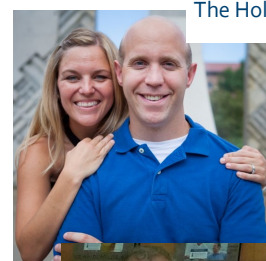
Riverside supports a number of different missionaries throughout the world, from Tippecanoe County, across the United States, and to a number of countries where you can't enter with "Missionary stamped on your visa". Highlights this year include the birth of several new children to our missionary families, Sacred Heart holding their first baptism service, and the Halter family leaving to go to Tanzania to start serving in their new home. We have been blessed through the work of our missionaries and look forward to God's work through them in the coming year.

Below is a list of the currently supported missionaries:
 Adam and Beth Hunt - New Mission Systems International
 Allan Witkowski - Team Expansion
 Alex Velasco - Covenant Merge Missions
 Berean Covenant Church - Blake and Leann Holaday -

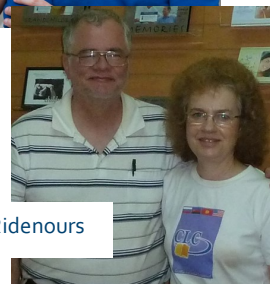
Bridges International
 C & K L- Pioneers
 Dave and Sarah Halter - World Venture
 Emily Umulis - Intervarsity
 Jenny and Caleb Hoover - Cru
 Joel and Kim Delp - Covenant Missions
 Justin and Kristen Gravitt - Navigators
 Mark & Linda Ridenour - CLC
 Mark Kirgiss - Young Life
 Sacred Heart - ECC Central Conference
 S & T G - CLC

To receive regular updates from our missionaries, join the email list by visiting <http://www.rcovenant.org/missions>

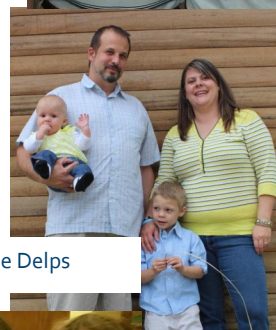
-Everette Mills
elmills@elmills.net



The Holadays



The Ridenours



The Delps



The Velascos

Men

The Men's Discipleship Ministry had another great year. The fall 2014 events began again with Carnivore Night... an event where guys gather for steak dinners, fellowship, and pie. It has become a tradition to use this event to launch our fall activities. The men's

leadership team decided to have several types of studies, one type focused on life application or topics studies and then another to studies focused on Books of the Bible. Theme focused

studies included *Chasing Daylight* by Erwin McManus and *Ordering Your Private World* by Gordon MacDonald as well as a traditional Bible study of 1 & 2 Kings. Each of these studies were offered on Tuesday nights and Thursday mornings. A Monday night Men's Bible study is also available, recently this group studied the book of Romans. The Monday night group averages about 8 men and after a recent study the group enjoyed fellowship by traveling to Logansport for dinner and ice cream.

In the spring, the Men's retreat was once again held at Twin

Lakes Bible Camp in Hillsboro. The retreat was co-planned with ECC and the guest speaker was Derryck McLauhan. The group discussions were thought provoking and challenged guys to think through what they truly believe. About 12 Riverside guys attended the event this year.

Chuck Moeschberger and Brian Russell continue to provide Men's breakfast at the church on the 3rd Saturday each month. These breakfasts are enjoyed by many and provide another opportunity for River-

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Carnivore Night



Men's breakfast

Women

Riverside is blessed for many reasons. One of those reasons (my personal favorite) is the women. There are some AMAZING women at Riverside, and I feel so blessed to have the privilege of knowing them and growing with them. Here are some things we have been up to in the last year...

- Women's Discipleship Team...One of the greatest things that has happened to the Women's Discipleship Ministry since I took the leadership last January is the formation of the current Women's Discipleship Team. It is made up of nine Riverside women of varying ages, faith backgrounds, and stages of life. This team has been a fantastic support in making ministry decisions with a perspective that is deep and wide, encompassing the different ages, faith backgrounds, and stages of life of the women of Riverside. I am so thankful for all that these women do to invest in the Women's Discipleship.
- Book Club...We had some great discussions last summer, centered around the three books we chose for book club: Shadowed by Grace (Cara C. Putman), Choosing to See (Mary Beth Chapman), and Bridge to Haven (Francine Rivers). As Cara Putman is a local author, we were blessed to have her in attendance for the discussion on her book. The ladies enjoyed it so much that we decided to hold a special Christmas edition of book

club for her book Where Treetops Glisten, which was a compilation of interlocking stories based in Lafayette during World War II. We met to discuss the book in Mike and Ann Amato's home, which is where the stories are set. What a treat! The summer and winter book club meetings were a vehicle for developing friendships among the women and provoking our minds to think deeply about our relationships with the Lord.

- Bible Study...In the last year, the women have done three different Bible Studies together. In the fall we did an inductive study on Joshua; in the winter we did Priscilla Shirer's Gideon study; and in the spring we did a study on prayer, hearing from five different women in our church family about different aspects and practices of prayer. Through the homework for each of these different studies, as well as the teaching involved, these Bible Studies have been a place where "iron sharpens iron," deepening our relationships with the Lord and drawing us further into discipleship.
- Fall Retreat...We headed back to Camp Tecumseh in September for our annual fall retreat, where we heard from Crystal Kirgiss on the theme "Get Real." Whether it was unscripted late night chats or post-session discussion questions, the Lord used our conversations to allow us to be more authentic with ourselves, with each other, and with the

Lord.

- Fellowship...The women had multiple fellowship events, geared toward developing and deepening relationships. We rang in the Christmas season with our annual Christmas Brunch, where we ate, played the bells, did a mission project, and heard from Sharon Fearnott. Also in the winter, we did a progressive dinner, moving from one house to the next for each course...and there may have been an entertaining game or two. ;) Early in the spring, we had a fellowship dinner in the church building, where all in attendance were deeply moved by the powerful testimony of Heather Corbin. Last, we had our annual Spring Luncheon, where we invited our friends to come for a delicious lunch, some sweet worship, and a message from Abigail Heath on "Be Brave. Be Known."
- Outreach...Much of the women's outreach has been incorporated into our fellowship gatherings, allowing us to look outside of ourselves as we get together. At our fall retreat, we focused our craft time towards making gifts to go in the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. We put the finished products in the back of the sanctuary for our church family to take to add to the shoeboxes they were bringing. At our Christmas Brunch, we put together spa jars with encouraging personal notes and scriptures, which we gave to Lisa Harker to pass on to the



Spring Luncheon



Continued on page 9

Prayer Movement

God's prayer movement at Riverside seeks to grow us all in prayer. Our mission is to become a prayer saturated church. We want to be participating in conversation with our Lord throughout each day regarding all things, great and small, corporate and personal. We want to be people who seek Him first and submit our wills to Him. Prayer is not so much a list of requests we make to the Lord, but an abiding in and depending on His presence as we live our daily lives.

The Prayer Leadership Team seeks to provide opportunities for personal and corporate growth in prayer. Throughout the last year, we have hosted several prayer gatherings with meals. From quiet, reflective prayer walks to noisy, celebratory times of praise and thanksgiving, we desire for everyone to grow in deeper relationship with God as well as one another. To that same end, we hosted about 20 participants for *Before Amen*, a 4 week class on simplifying prayer by Max Lucado.

We have also encouraged people to intercede for specific groups of people. By providing prayer guides, we have assisted you in praying for persecuted believers, the unsaved, neighbors and community, and the Ecuador team. Likewise, we provide the monthly prayer calendar to prompt prayers for the Riverside body to around the world.

Furthermore, we maintain prayer teams for Dan and his family, the congregation, the church and its ministries, and the youth. We have 4 rotating teams that pray for the Teeveys one month at a time. Similarly, we have 3 growing congregational prayer teams that rotationally intercede for the requests that come to the

church. During each Sunday service, we have persons praying for the worship service and discipleship through our various ministries. Finally, each youth has a prayer partner that prays for him/her most days of the week. *A big thanks to all who faithfully serve on these various teams!*

Though we have prayer teams and prayer events, it is difficult to measure growth in prayer. However, we have grown in prayer during worship services and through our actions to pray "on the spot" when a need is vocalized. Likewise, as a church, our meetings are evolving from having prayer as

an agenda item to revolving around prayer.

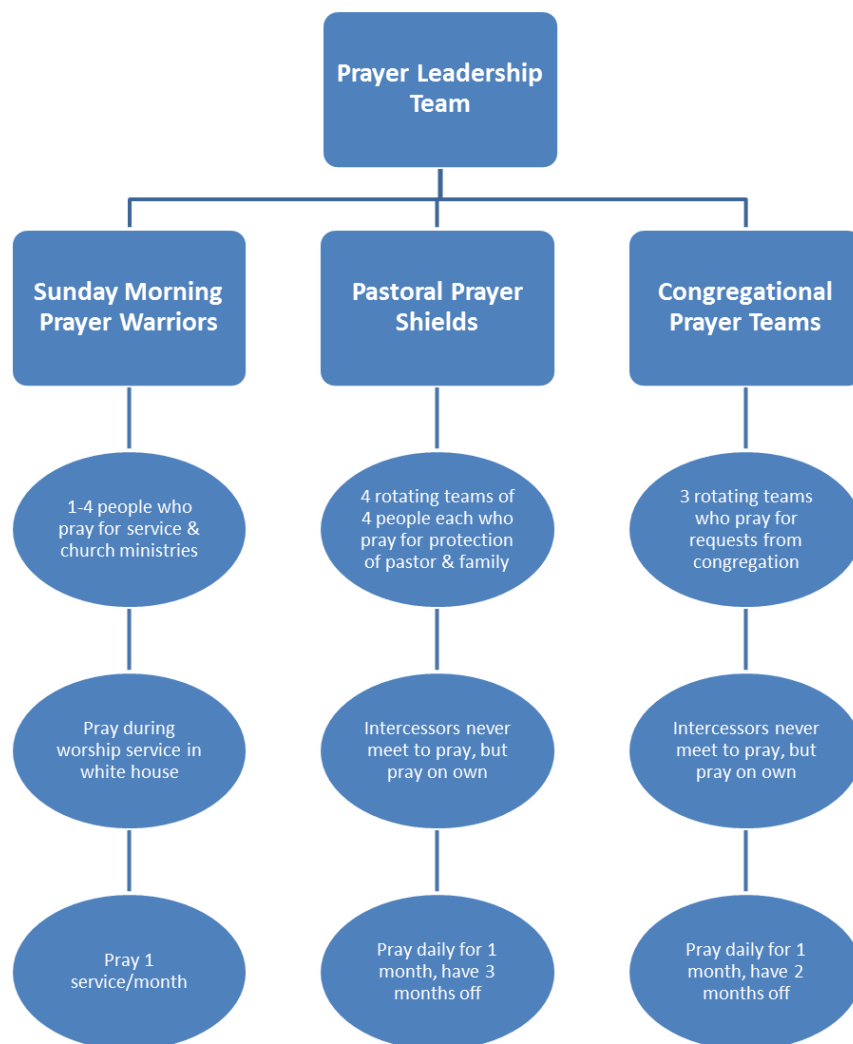
We will grow in prayer only as much as we are willing to grow in knowing the Lord. This takes discipline and time to sit with the Lord in His Word and just know Him more as we do with friends. As we do, He will become our first go-to—in praise, thanksgiving, confession, and intercession.

We should live this out personally as well as corporately. In our nation, we are blessed with many resources, yet they can also impede our dependence on God. The early church recognized the need to rely on

God together, and "they all joined together constantly in prayer," (Acts 1:14). We have recognized need for growth in this area and will seek to engage us more in corporate prayer.

To practice this individual and corporate reliance on God, each of us has been given the task to pray for discernment regarding our facilities issue. A Scriptural prayer guide has been provided for us to pray through this question—to stay or build or whatever else God would lead us into. Thank you for seeking the Lord on behalf of Riverside!

~Diane Kelley
dtkelley@frontier.com



Women cont.

message with some precious children of God who need encouragement just as much as they have physical needs.

- Discipleship Workshop...One of the biggest goals of the Women's Discipleship Team is to facilitate the formation of discipleship relationships among the women of Riverside. From past experience, we have learned that these rela-

tionships thrive most when they are formed organically. We decided to do a Discipleship Workshop to provide Biblical and practical instruction on discipling and being discipled. After we did this in May, a few discipleship relationships were formed, and we are left feeling encouraged as well as ready to keep this moving. We'll see where the Lord takes us next!

With summer in full swing and our first book club complete, I am excited to see where the Lord leads us with the Women's Discipleship Ministry. Thank you for your prayers as we listen for direction.

~Katrina Elliott
Women's Discipleship Director
kelliott@rcovenant.org

RIVERSIDE'S MISSION IS TO

"GLORIFY GOD BY

BECOMING

DISCIPLES OF JESUS

CHRIST WHO SHARE

LIFE IN AUTHENTIC

COMMUNITY AND

TRANSFORM THE

WORLD THROUGH

GOD'S LOVE, TRUTH

AND POWER."

Men cont.

side guys to get to know one another.

A new leadership team was formed last year including Todd Kelley, Chris Owen, Nels Bergmark and Pastor Dan. The leaders meet quarterly and

seek to plan 6 months out to provide structure to men's discipleship efforts. Currently, we are working on plans for a possible fall retreat in late October. Our main mission goals in this ministry are to equip men as spiritual leaders

of their home by: a) encouraging daily reading of God's word; b) building prayer warriors; c) and meeting together to discuss the word and pray corporately as well as break bread together (meals).

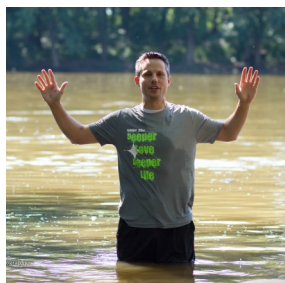
~Todd Kelley
dtkelley@frontier.com

Pastor's Report cont.

Ruth Pape.

Our current average Sunday attendance is 270. We peaked this past year on Easter with 390 in attendance. We baptized 9 people and dedicated 1 child to the Lord.

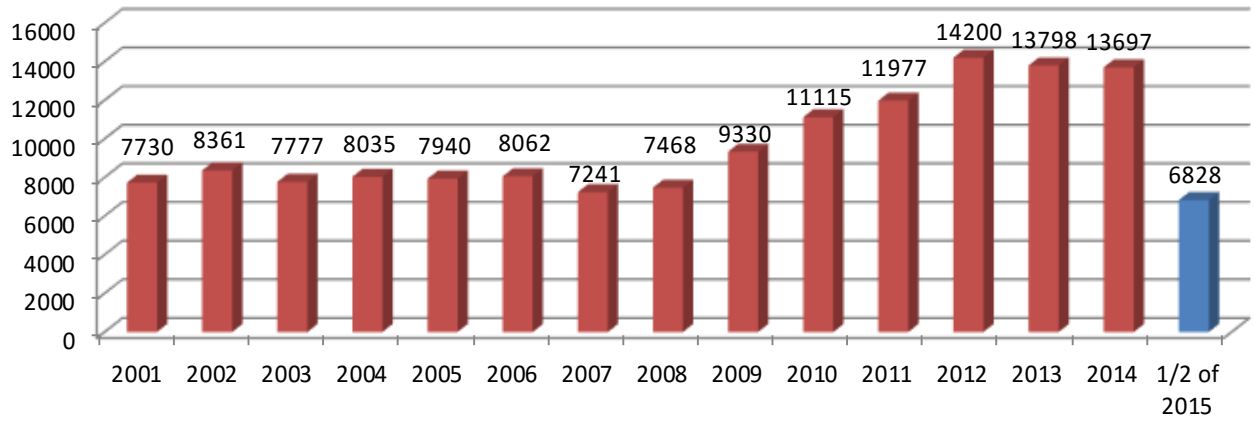
~Pastor Dan
dteefey@rcovenant.org



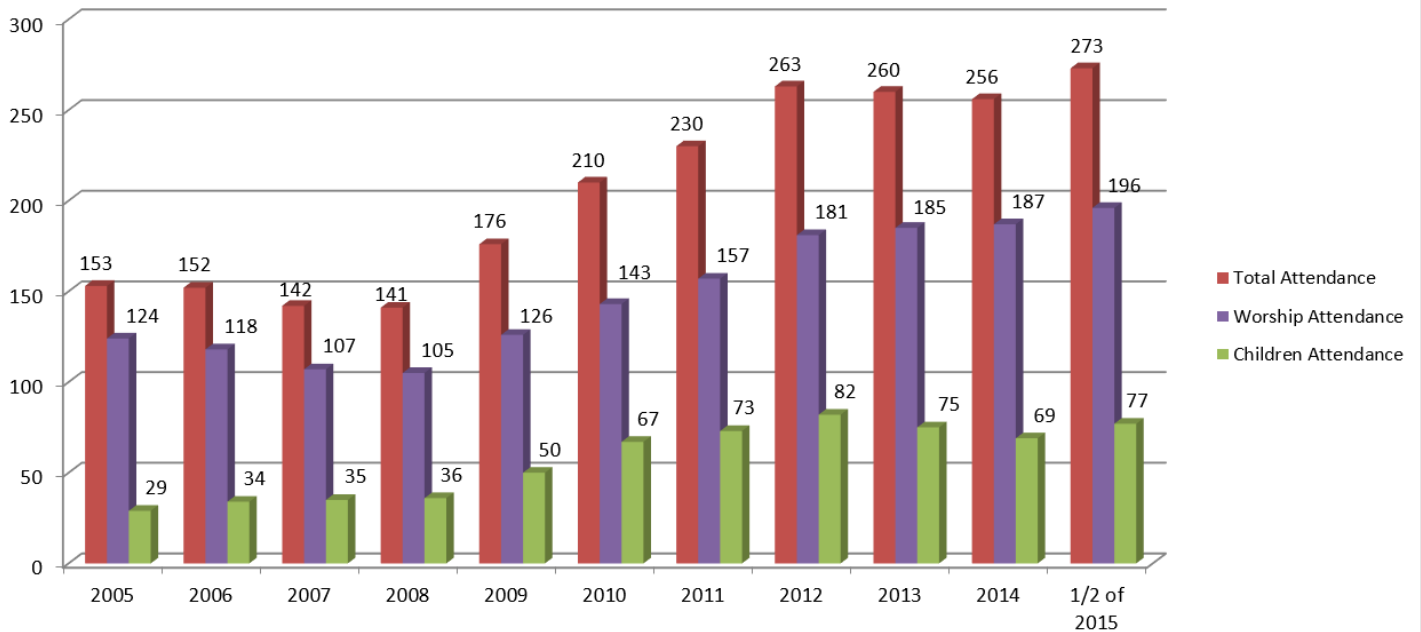
Worship service at the Fort Ouiatenon by the river. A day filled with water baptisms, a picnic, bounce houses and games



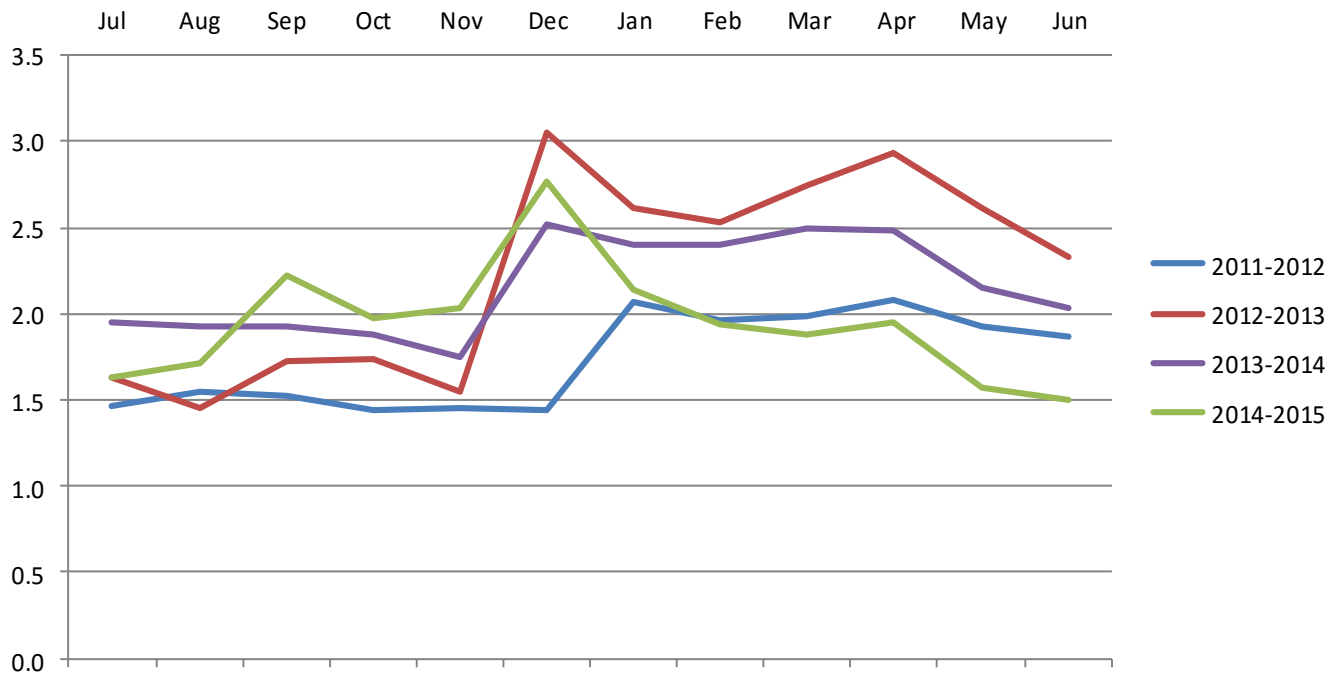
Total Attendance Per Year



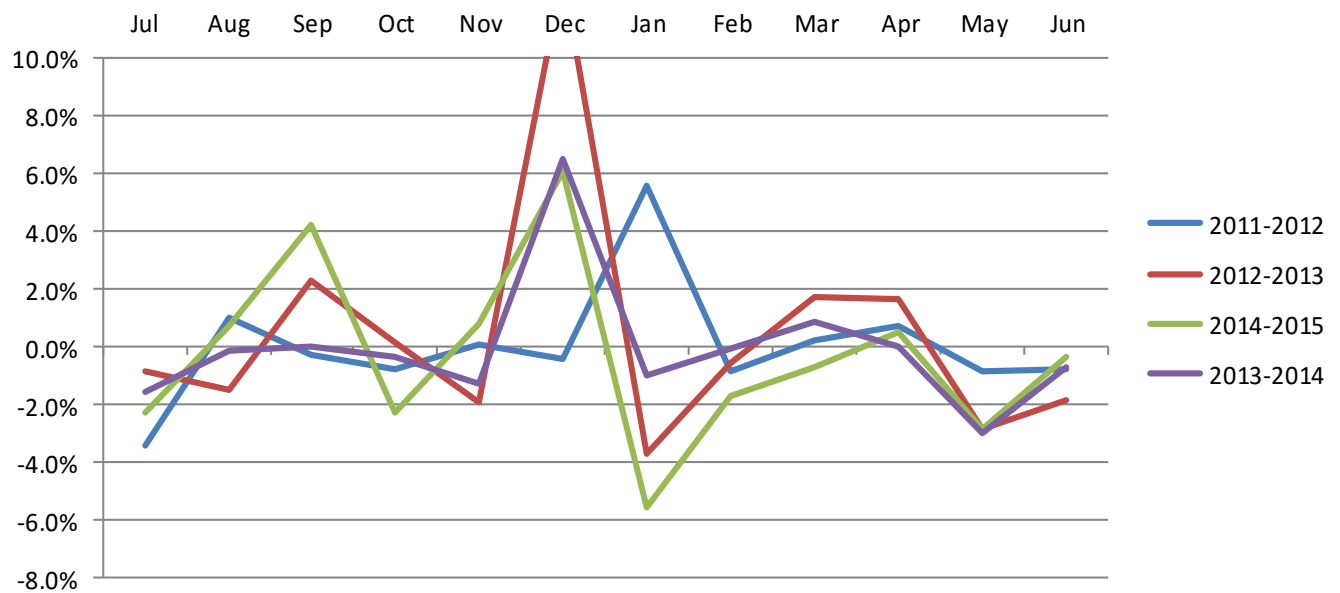
Average Attendance Per Year



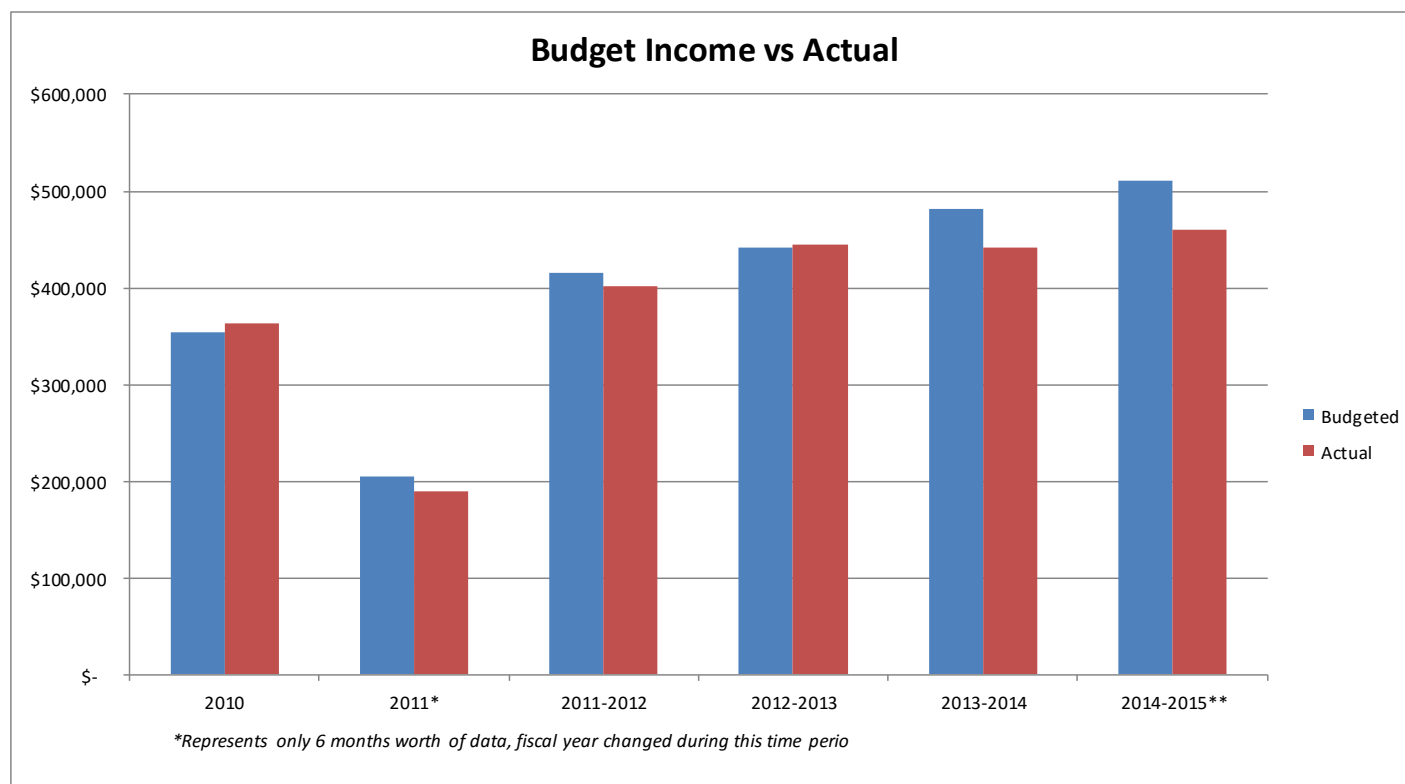
Cash Months on Hand by Fiscal Year



Net Income Per Month by Fiscal Year

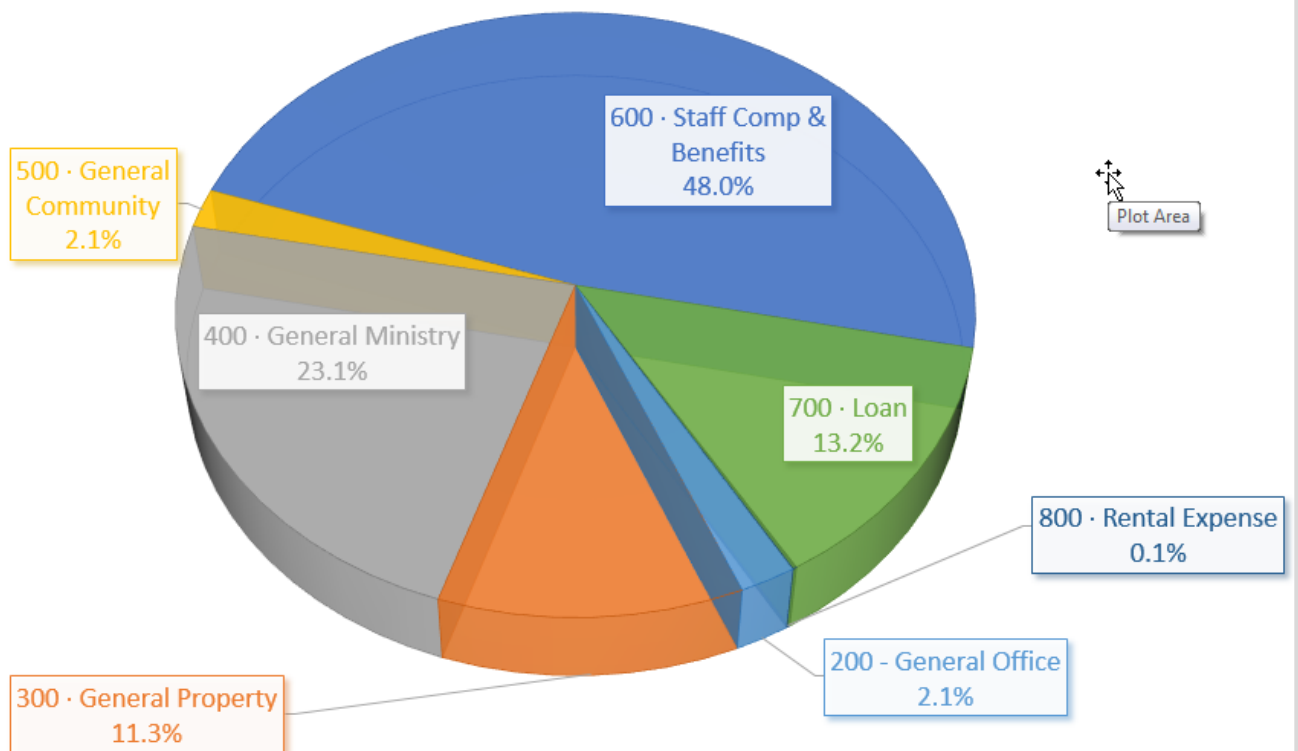


** Includes estimated June 2015 income and expenses, which have not been fully reconciled with bank statements.

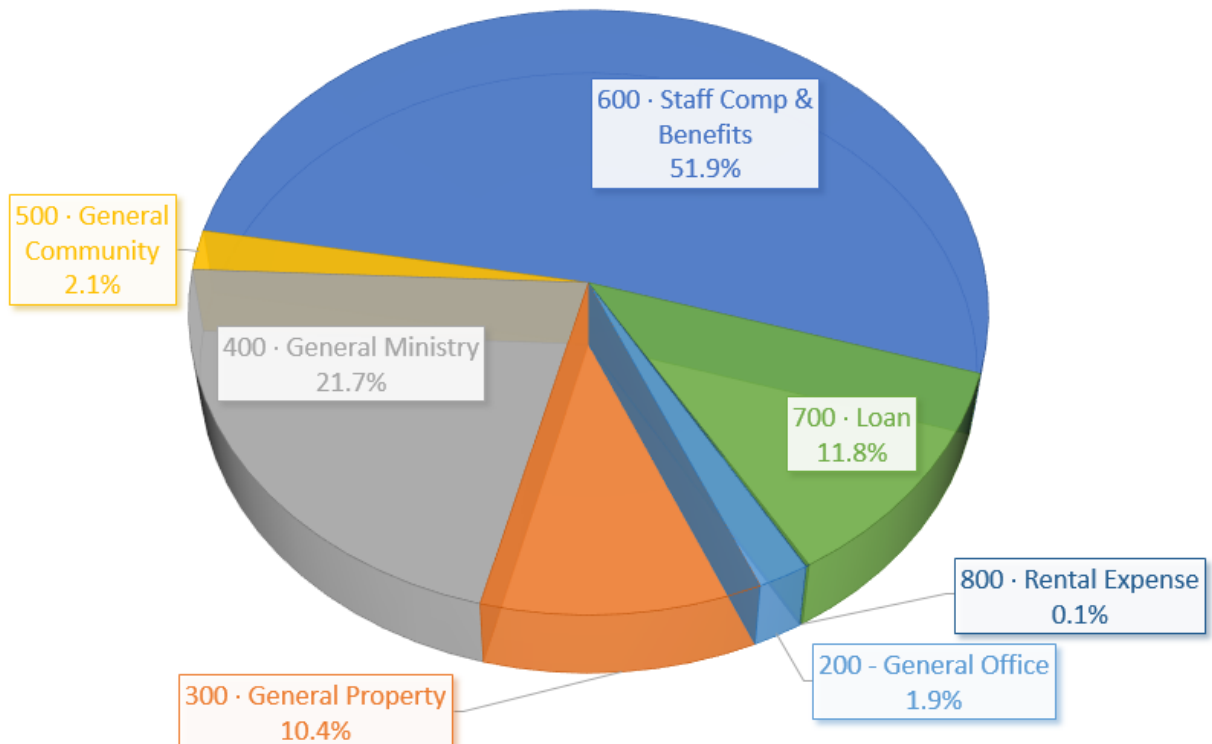


** Includes estimated June 2015 income and expenses, which have not been fully reconciled with bank statements.

2014-2015 APPROVED BUDGET AMOUNT



2015-2016 PROPOSED BUDGET



	2014-2015			2015-2016		
	Budget	% Change		Budget	% Change	
Income						
100 · General Fund Income						
101 · Loose	10,000	0.0% --		10,000	0.0% --	
102 · Checks	490,000	6.4% ▲		553,000	12.9% ▲	
103 · Interest Income	1,000	0.0% --		1,000	0.0% --	
Total 100 · General Fund Income	501,000	6.3% ▲		564,000	12.6% ▲	
150 · Rental Income	10,000	0.0% --		10,000	0.0% --	
Total Income	511,000	6.1% ▲		574,000	12.3% ▲	

Expense					
200 - General Office					
Total 200 - General Office	10,800	36.7% ▲		11,000	1.9% ▲
300 · General Property					
Total 301 · Insurance	7,350	1.9% ▲		7,500	2.0% ▲
Total 302 · Building Maintenance & Repairs	10,000	0.0% --		10,000	0.0% --
Total 303 · New Furniture	1,000	0.0% --		1,000	0.0% --
Total 304 · New Equipment	10,000	7.2% ▲		9,750	-2.5% ▼
Total 305 · Capital Improvements				0	
Total 306 · Equip. Rental	250	-50.0% ▼		250	0.0% --
Total 310 · Utilities	11,630	-0.8% ▼		11,630	0.0% --
Total 311 · Custodial Service & Supplies	10,400	10.6% ▲		10,400	0.0% --
Total 312 · Landscaping	3,000	11.1% ▲		5,000	66.7% ▲
Total 313 · Vehicle	2,000	0.0% --		2,000	0.0% --
Total 399 · Property Tax/Misc Expenses	2,000	0.0% --		2,000	0.0% --
Total 300 · General Property	57,630	3.2% ▲		59,530	3.3% ▲
400 · General Ministry					
Total 401 · Children's Ministry	7,050	72.0% ▲		7,740	9.8% ▲
Total 402 · Youth Ministry	7,880	-10.2% ▼		5,160	-34.5% ▼
Total 403 · Adult Formation	500	0.0% --		1,000	100.0% ▲
Total 404 · Small Groups	3,026	202.6% ▲		3,178	5.0% ▲
Total 405 · Women's Ministries	3,440	-5.2% ▼		3,950	14.8% ▲
Total 406 · Men's Ministry	1,450	163.6% ▲		900	-37.9% ▼
Total 407 · Worship Ministry	4,480	43.5% ▲		5,100	13.8% ▲
Total 408 · Outreach/Evangelism Ministries	4,500	11.1% ▲		3,650	-18.9% ▼
Total 409 · Missions	76,965	5.9% ▲		84,420	9.7% ▲
Total 410 · Benevolence Fund	3,600	16.1% ▲		4,200	16.7% ▲
Total 411 · Nursery Ministry	325	-61.8% ▼		325	0.0% --
Total 412 · Prayer Ministry	1,500	7.1% ▲		1,500	0.0% --
Total 413 · Server Ministry	200	0.0% --		200	0.0% --
Total 414 · Stephens Ministry	3,290	56.7% ▲		3,440	4.6% ▲
Total 400 · General Ministry	118,206	11.4% ▲		124,763	5.5% ▲

	2014-2015		2015-2016	
	Budget	% Change	Budget	% Change
Expense				
500 · General Community				
Total 501 · Fellowship	6,150	0.8% ▲	7,150	16.3% ▲
Total 502 · Leadership/Staff Development	4,500	50.0% ▲	5,000	11.1% ▲
Total 500 · General Community	10,650	17.0% ▲	12,150	14.1% ▲
600 · Staff Compensation & Benefits				
Total 601 · Senior Pastor				0.00% --
Total 602 · Administrative Assistant				0.00% --
Total 603 · Worship Director				0.00% --
Total 604 · Children's Discipleship Director				0.00% --
Total 607 · Youth Discipleship Director				0.00% --
Total 608 · Pastor of Discipleship				50.00% ▲
Total 609 · Women's Discipleship Director				72.36% ▲
Total 695 · Staff Benefits	50,728	7.67% ▲	79,891	57.49% ▲
Total 697 · Staff Search	500	0.0% --	1,500	200.0% ▲
Total 698 · Payroll Expenses	11,655	1.5% ▲	15,396	32.1% ▲
Total 600 · Staff Compensation & Benefits	245,241	4.7% ▲	298,039	21.5% ▲
700 · Loan				
701 · 1850 Interest Expense	21,500	0.0% --	21,500	0.0% --
702 · 1850 Principle	8,500	0.0% --	8,500	0.0% --
711 · 1841 Interest Expense	8,760	0.0% --	8,760	0.0% --
712 · 1841 Principle	3,600	0.0% --	3,600	0.0% --
721 · Land Interest Expense	17,550		17,550	
722 · Land Principle	7,650	0.0% --	7,650	0.0% --
Total 700 · Loan	67,560	0.0% --	67,560	0.0% --
800 · Rental Expense				
Total 800 · Rental Expense	750	0.0% --	750	0.0% --
Total Expense	510,837	6.1% ▲	573,792	12.3% ▲
Net Income	163		208	



THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

December 1, 2014

Dear Central Conference Churches:

Thank you very much for a good year of ministry in our conference. It was full of challenges and opportunities.

We were able to receive another five churches into our fellowship of churches. We continued with our efforts to assist churches in their efforts to become healthier and more missional. This even included six churches coming together for two different Navigate sessions. We participated in the denomination's Annual Meeting, which was in Chicago, by hosting what was called "Experience Chicagoland." We didn't plant any new churches but spent the year in activities to strengthen the fellowship between our existing new plants. We had a special sharing of information gathering for our Hispanic churches. We also Co-hosted a gathering with North Park University for all of our churches in the Chicago area. The purpose was to share information with those churches in an effort to promote better collaboration between the Conference and the University community.

I want you to know that I am very excited about what I believe God has in store for us as a conference in this coming year. We look forward to the new churches that will be planted, and the participation of our existing churches in making this happen. We have new ministry initiatives that we are currently working on to bring to fruition.

On behalf of the Conference staff and the Conference Executive Board, I thank you for your partnership with us in the work that God has given us to do. And as you prepare for your Congregation's Annual Meeting, please remember to select delegates to our Central Conference Annual Meeting. It will be held on April 24-25, 2015 and hosted by Batavia Covenant Church, in Batavia, IL.

May God bless you richly,

Rev. Jerome Nelson
Superintendent