

# 2015-2016 Annual Report

June 26, 2016

#### Pastor's Report

2015-2016 has been a year of transition for Riverside. In the past 12 months we said "goodbye" to Dar Muehlhausen (Director of Children's Discipleship), Becky Wellner (Director of Worship and Youth Discipleship), and Rick Whitlock (Director of Small Groups). After prayerful and thorough search processes we hired Megan Mills (Director of Children's Discipleship), Mike Tetrault (Director of Worship and Youth Discipleship), and Ralph Moller (Associate Pastor of Discipleship).

I am both extremely grateful for our former staff and their years of faithful service and very excited about our new staff and the experience and enthusiasm they bring to Riverside.

One of the passages that has been significant to me this year is Philippians 2:1-2, "Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind."

Throughout the year it has been necessary for us to seek a sense of God's unity through discernment. We certainly sought to find unity in God's Spirit during our search processes for new Riverside staff, but there have been other examples this past year too.

At the beginning of 2016 we completed a lengthy facilities' discernment process designed to help us find unity in God's Spirit as to whether we should stay in our current facility or build a new one. The decision culminated in a nearly unanimous vote to stay in our current facility for the foreseeable future. There was one "no" vote, but even that person expressed their full support for Riverside's leadership and the sense of God's Spirit that others were experiencing. This was an amazing show of unity with a very hard decision.

In my report last year, I mentioned that we would be spending the upcoming year working through the REVEAL assessment that we completed in early 2015. The Leadership Team and Staff have done this work and spent the past year developing plans for the Fall of 2016 to help Riverside more effectively become disciples of Jesus Christ who disciple others. We have greatly improved our leadership training opportunities, expectations for Riverside leaders, and our resources for ensuring that all Riverside discipleship opportunities are truly helping us

grow in Christ. You will hear lots more about these developments at the Congregational Gathering and Meeting and in the coming months.

This past year has required me to take on many responsibilities that had been handled by other staff in the past. This was a rewarding experience, but now that Riverside is fully staffed again I look forward to moving from "maintenance" mode to "development" mode again. I particularly want to help Riverside grow in our ability to share the Gospel with those that are not already followers of Jesus in our community. I believe that Riverside is uniquely positioned to draw more people to Jesus through our commitment to God's Word, authentic community, and deep mission at home and abroad.

In 2015-2016 Riverside welcomed 9 new members and I led weddings for Josh and Kati Meyers and Zach and Rhiannon Ryder. I also led memorial services for Marion Samuel, Avery Brown, Winston Green, and Ruth Nelson. Our current average Sunday attendance is 283. We peaked this past year on Easter with 384 in attendance. We baptized 10 people and dedicated 3 children to the Lord.

~Pastor Dan dteefey@rcovenant.org

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## Children's Discipleship

Hey Everybody! It's time for my first ever year in review. I have so much to tell you but such limited space. I must use

my words carefully.

Let me start with the general stuff. This year we made a few gigantic changes. First of all we changed our name to RiverKids. Followed by our first ever change in curriculum! These changes were preceded by a change in vision. We are not just doing

. Kids Ministry downstairs.

We are discipling children. This shift in purpose and desire to intentionally invest in the spiritual growth of every child at Riverside brought about our biggest change to date. In September, we moved to teachers teaching full semesters. Which al-

> teachers. And has allowed the teachers to develop deeper more meaningful relationships with the kids. You can ask almost any teacher and I believe they will tell you that it was hard. It required more time and more energy and a higher level of commitment. But the return far exceeded the investment. We saw kids who had no interest in being part of RiverKids downstairs join classrooms and

returning week after week. Teachers walked with kids who were dealing with really difficult stuff. They prayed for and with kids, encouraged them, and showed them what it means to follow Jesus.

One of my goals as the Children's Discipleship Director is to connect kids to as many spiritually-growing, Jesusloving, people-influencing adults as possible. Imagine a child covered with threads, hanging free and untethered. It is my privilege to take those threads and connect them to

They are teaching the young ones how to follow Jesus. They are taking their own faith and passing it down to the next generation. And they are doing a marvelous job. Being a teacher in RiverKids both in the nursery and in the elementary program requires a high level of commitment. Teachers are expected to spend regular time in God's word, growing in their personal relationship with Jesus. They are committed to teaching for the duration of the school semester while regularly attending an alternative worship service.

young children to themselves.

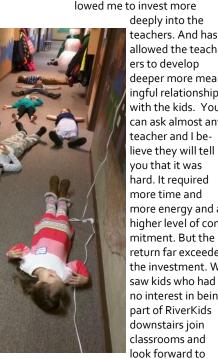
Many are preparing lessons during the week. And these High school and Young Adults are setting the bar. I just want to give a shout out to Ashley and Alyssa Yeoman who taught the PreK/K class, Shelby Robinson who served as an aid in the Preschool class, Megan Giltmier who is teaching the Preschool class this summer, and Caleb Yeoman who has been serving in the nursery

for several years.

Kids discipling kids! It's happening. Every week in RiverKids. And this makes me so excited. We have upper elementary school kids helping in the nursery, again, tying their strings to those sweet young babies creating relationships and connections that will carry on as they all grow. All the while the adult teachers are ever so carefully tying their strings to those young helpers. I overheard one adult teacher praying with a student teacher who had an upcoming medical procedure. There is one sweet elementary school boy who waits outside on the porch bench almost every Sunday to greet a little two-year-old on her way to the nursery.

Continued on next page....







parents need help. We (I'm a parent too) need for our kids to see other adults and older kids who are living the way we are teaching our kids to live. Because kids listen to their parents, but they look to others to validate the ideas their parents are teaching them. This is happening at Riverside. Here's how: recently several high school students and recent graduates have begun teaching the preschool classes downstairs. Others have served as an aide for an entire semester. It is amazing. These teens and young adults are tying their own strings to the other teachers and adults serving downstairs. And they are tying the strings of those

people all over this church,

of connectedness. Because

until we are all one giant web

#### Children's Discipleship cont.

I'm already out of space, but I must tell you that moving forward we are exploring the possibility of creating a Kids Committee where kids would be invited to give us feedback and help us address problems and find creative solutions for their own ministry. We are also looking for ways and places for kids to serve on Sundays.

I could go on and on about the amazing things that are happening downstairs, and I would love to. Find me and I will talk your ear off. Or better yet join us and see for yourself.

I need more threads to tie together!

In Exodus God asked the Israelites to give freely of their

skills and treasures to build the tabernacle where God would dwell with his people. Exodus 36 says, "And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning...[until] the people were restrained from bringing more, because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work." This is the constant prayer of my heart

that Riverside would offer their skills and give generously of their time to RiverKids until what is given is more than enough. We have a place for you, you can join us in our kingdom building.

~ Megan Mills Children's Discipleship Director mmills@rcovenant.org

### Youth Discipleship

It feels a little strange to be writing the Youth Discipleship Ministry report, but it also is a great privilege. In July of 2015, Riverside's long time Youth Discipleship Director, Becky Wellner, stepped down and we began a nationwide search to fill her position. Becky had developed great relationships with the students over the years and left a legacy of approachability, relationships, and love for the students.

Last Fall Dana and I agreed to lead the Jr. and Sr. High Youth Groups during our search process for a new Youth Discipleship Director. We have loved the opportunity to invest in the students and to get to know them better, but we are also grateful that as we write this report, Riverside has completed our search process and Mike Tetrault has already begun serving as our Youth Discipleship Director. Mike is an experienced teacher and is passionate about helping our Jr. High and Sr. High students grow in their relationships with Jesus and each other.

Our goals for this interim year were fairly simple. We wanted to meet consistently, to encourage the students' walks with Jesus, and to have a lot of fun. The Jr. High met at the church building on Sunday afternoons from 4:30-6pm and

the Senior High met at our home from 6:30-8pm. We also mixed in some special trips to get ice cream, Exploration Acres, and a Jr. High winter retreat at Covenant Harbor Bible Camp in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Our May Youth Sunday was a highlight of the year and provided a wonderful opportunity for the congregation to see what amazing students Riverside has.

For the bulk of the year, the Jr. High students went through a discipleship curriculum called The Journey. It moved the students through the New Testament focusing on biblical texts, life application, and theological concepts. For instance, the students learned about the incarnation, Pentecost, baptism, communion, and many other aspects of Christian belief. The Jr. High generally ate snacks or candy during our time together and always played a game. Their favorite is a game called Grog. It is an active game of running and hiding using a flashlight and lots of screaming. Google

The Sr. High spent a good portion of the year covering various texts in the Gospel of John. We would read the text together and then have a discussion that helped students understand the text and apply it to their lives. In addition to

the Gospel of John we also covered various topics like creation in Genesis and the Holy Spirit. We would also spend considerable time sharing prayer requests, playing games, eating snacks,

and getting updates on the students' lives.

A special thanks to Jon Polk, Brian Russell and Esther Sintim for their help at various times during the past year.

We look forward to maintaining our relationships with the students and to encouraging Mike's work in any ways that we can. Thank you for trusting us with the opportunity to spend time with your students!

~Dan and Dana Teefey Interim Youth Discipleship Directors







## **Small Groups**

In January Rick Whitlock transitioned to full-time with CCO and Dan and Katrina Elliott took over his responsibilities for Riverside Small Groups. For several years Rick faithfully shepherded Riverside's Small Groups and created opportunities for leader collaboration and support. We are grateful for Rick's teaching gifts and passion for discipleship.

After a nation-wide search Riverside has hired Pastor Ralph Moller to be our first Associate Pastor of Discipleship. Ralph has just begun his work as I type this report and will be responsible for all of Riverside's discipleship groups and will assist with general pastoral duties.

We have been working on several modifications to our current Small Group model in recent months and we will share about these new changes for the Fall at the June congregational meeting. We have already met with current Small Group leaders and have held a group leader training to ensure that all of our current leaders are on board. Our leaders are very excited about our new plans and believe the changes will make our groups most effective in helping each other grow in Christ.

Currently, we have 7 Small Groups that average 12 adults each. Those groups do everything from sharing a meal and fellowship together to working through a book of the Bible together. Thank you to our leaders for their faithful service and commitment to their group members throughout the year.

It is clear that Sunday worship alone is not sufficient to help

us grow in Christ. We need a social context that can be more personal and where we can share the particular things that are going on in our lives with others. Riverside Small Groups take the hundreds that meet on Sunday and break that number down to smaller groups of 10-15 that meet each week. It is in those groups that we can discuss what we experience on Sundays and truly practice what it is that we are learning. This is why Riverside Small Groups are an essential part of Riverside's discipleship efforts.

A special thanks to Dustin Grove who helped connect new folks to a Riverside Small Group this year. Dustin was faithful to follow up with new folks and to work with them to find a group that would fit their needs and schedule.

~Dan Teefey



"And let us consider how we may

spur one another on toward love

and good deeds, not giving up

meeting together, as some are

in the habit of doing, but

encouraging one another—and

all the more as you see the Day

approaching."

Hebrews 10:24-25

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

## Stephen Ministry

Riverside's Stephen Ministry continues to provide one-onone Christian care to people in our congregation and surrounding community who are hurting and experiencing difficulty in their lives. Our ministry began several years ago and now consists of a team of 8 trained Stephen Ministers and 4 Stephen Leaders who administer the program. This year our Ministry Team began filled to almost capacity with nearly all ministers engaged in a caring relationship. At this writing, our numbers of persons receiving care has decreased. It is anticipated that there will be a natural ebb and flow of numbers as ministers and care receivers begin and end relationships. We expect

that we may again see a cycle of filling our program again later this year.

At present the Stephen Leader Team consists of four people. Lisa Harker functions as the Continuing Education Coordinator. Ann Amato handles Peer Supervision. Rita Riggenbach is the Referral Coordinator and Kevin Riggenbach is the Training Coordinator. Originally, the leadership team began with five members. We plan to add and send a fifth Stephen Leader to a training workshop later this year.

A new training class is planned to begin in September and run through early January. Stephen Ministers commit to 50 hours of intensive training on the many aspects of a healthy helping relationship. These include topics such as The Art of Listening, Confidentiality, Distinctively Christian Caring, Ministering to those Experiencing Grief, and Dealing with Depression among many others. Training takes the form of guest speakers, lectures, videos, discussion, and role playing. It is commonly expressed by Stephen Ministers that the training they received not only equipped them to help others in a Stephen Ministry setting, but also helped them to have better relationships with their own family and others in their lives.

Continued on next page...

### Stephen Ministry cont.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a difficult time and might benefit from a caring relationship to help cope and heal, contact stephen@rcovenant.org or 765-412-0222. We will immediately begin the process of connecting you to a Stephen Minister. If you feel the Holy Spirit's tug to be used in this ministry, contact a Stephen Leader to find out more.

~Rita Riggenbach Stephen Ministry Leader

### Community Outreach

Riverside's Community Outreach Ministry is how Riverside works as the hands and feet of Jesus to meet the needs of our local community.

Riverside has several strong ministries that made a significant impact on our community this past year.

Linda Bogan leads the Riverside Brew Crew in making laundry soap that is distributed to various distribution sites throughout our community. The Brew Crew collects empty and washed gallon milk jugs from the congregation then fills them with homemade laundry soap. 100's of gallons of laundry soap are distributed to our community every month and help low-income families clean their clothes and avoid the expense of purchasing laundry soap. Laundry soap is regularly provided for Lafayette Transitional Housing, Salvation Army, Family Promise, and the YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter. Clean and empty gallon jugs are always needed.

Julie Griffin leads a team of people that prepare a monthly meal at Lafayette Transitional Housing Center. This meal serves homeless in our community and provides an opportunity for Riverside to interact with and to get to know folks in our community that are facing a housing crisis. There

can be up to 100 men, women and children at this meal.

Riverside again hosted Jubilee Christmas under Lindsey Ford's leadership. For Jubilee Christmas Riverside hosts 15 families from our community that are unable to purchase Christmas gifts for their families. Riverside purchases Christmas gifts and then gives the families the opportunity to select gifts for their children. In addition, Riverside host families help the families wrap the gifts and distribute gift certificates and a ham to help the families to celebrate Christmas. Thanks again to everyone that helped out!

Riverside continues to work with Family Promise in partnership with Holy Trinity in Lafayette. Teams of Riverside volunteers provide food and support for homeless families quarterly. Homeless families are sheltered in Holy Trinity's building and Riverside volunteers prepare and serve their meals, spend the night, and often play with their children.

Funds that Riverside secured through a grant continue to be used at Jefferson High School in Lafayette to provide incentives for low performing students to complete basic level math classes that are necessary for graduation. This program is run by Zach Brennan

and we have been very excited to see the difference it has made in students' passage rates. In the coming years as the grant money is exhausted we will be looking for ways to make the program financially sustainable through private funding.

Lastly, Riverside distributed \$1.000's through our benevolence fund. We receive many needs requests from our local community and Riverside. We prayerfully consider those requests and work hard to provide help for gas and electric bills, rent, prescriptions, and other needs that arise. Riverside has developed an excellent relationship with local support agencies and leans heavily on their support and help in discerning the most helpful ways to encourage those that have needs and to ensure that our support is truly helpful.

Check the circle in the bulletin if you are ready to help us meet the needs of our local community!

~Dan Teefey dteefey@rcovenant.org '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)

### Missionary Support

The Velascos

Mark Kirgiss

**Emily Umulis** 

Riverside continues to generously support missions throughout the world! We are currently supporting 19 missionaries serving on 4 continents. Throughout the year we had the opportunity to hear from many

of them, and will continue to have them share during the service as they are available.

Many of our missionaries serve in places where we are unable to freely share their names/ locations due to restrictions in the country they serve. In those cases abbreviations or general descriptions have been used.

- A & B H serving in Asia.
- Justin and Kristen Gravitt serving Dayton, OH with The Navigators helping churches like us with leadership and discipleship building
- S&T G running the only Christian book store in East Asia
- Brandon Shurr leading Sacred Heart Covenant

- Church in Bloomington, IN
- Mandy Hjelm part of Covenant Merge Missions
- A W helping to grow local leaders in unreached people groups
- Joel and Kim Delp working in Ecuador near where we go each year
- Alex Velasco part of Covenant Merge Missions
- Mark & Linda Ridenour helping to provide bibles and Christian literature throughout the world
- C&K L serving in a North African county
- Blake & LeeAnn Holaday reaching foreign students on Purdue's campus with Bridges International
- Emily Umilis working with InterVarsity at Purdue
- Jenny and Caleb Hoover working with college students on Purdue's campus with Cru
- David and Sarah Halter serving in Tanzania at a hospital in the regon
- Mark Kirgiss leading

- Greater Lafayette Young Life and WyldLife
- G and B Chan serving with the Canadian arm of Cru and Bridges International
- Dylan Bertsch serving at Purdue through InterVarsity
- Tom and Ashley Carpenter helping to disciple
   Purdue students through
   The Navigators
- Hasso Pape developing software that allows the translators at Wycliffe to more efficiently and effectively translate

To stay up to date on what is happening with our supported missionaries please join our missions email list by visiting http://www.rcovenant.org/missions

~Everette Mills elmills@elmills.net



The Hoovers

Mandy Hjelm

## Men's Discipleship

The Men's Discipleship Ministry year began like it has for the past 4 years with our annual Carnivore Night held on the last Saturday in August at Steve Johnson's house. There was a great turn out for the event that gave us a chance to promote the Fall Men's Bible Study called The Ways of the Alongsider by Bill Mowry. Both Tuesday night (7pm) and Thursday morning (6:30am) groups participated in this study that began in September. The study painted a new picture of disciple-making, equipping all believers to participate in the great commission. This focus on discipleship

was both challenging and practical. The discussions provided opportunities for deep reflection on our biblical mandate to come alongside others to help them grow in their relationship with and obedience to Christ.

Our next Bible study began in January called High Quest: His Works. This study introduced the spiritual skill set of a daily appointment with God, providing opportunities to listen and talk with God on a personal and consistent basis.

Most recently in March, both Tuesday night and Thursday

morning groups began the second study in the High Quest series called: His Ways. This study is challenging the men to know Christ more deeply through biblical texts that focus on the ways Jesus calls us to be more like him. Both studies have helped the men of Riverside grow in daily study of God's Word and provided engaging conversations on Biblical principles and life application.

The Monday night (7pm) men's bible study spent the bulk of the year working

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### Women's Discipleship

Riverside is blessed with some AMAZING women, 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...

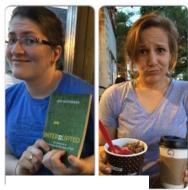
- Women's Discipleship Team...This fall, we are going to have our first ever WDT retreat. We are looking forward to a time of praying over the women of Riverside and casting a vision for our next year in ministry.
- Book Club...Last summer, several women took part in the summer book club. We read Interrupted by Jen Hatmaker in June, and we were challenged to look at how God might want to interrupt our comfortable Christian lives. In July, we read Bread and Wine by Shauna Niequest and had a lovely time sharing recipes and discussing the traditions surrounding them. Our last book of the summer was Peace Like a River by Lief Enger, which is a beautiful work of fiction. These books gave us a common ground that served as the foundation of some great spiritual discussions and connections with each other.
- Bible Study...In the last year, we have done three different Bible Studies.
   We took a journey through the Lineage of Christ in the fall. In the new year, we went through Francis Chan's Remembering the Forgotten God and were rocked by a new perspective on connecting with

- the Holy Spirit. For the spring time, Susan Ely lead the women in a study that she wrote on 1 Corinthians 13. This sweet time we had together has lead to deep connections, support, and accountability. After we break for the summer months, we look forward to jumping back into the Word together.
- Sneak Peek...Something that we added to the Women's Discipleship calendar this year is the Sneak Peek dinners for the Bible Studies. They have been dual in purpose: drawing ladies into the next Bible Study and providing an opportunity for fellowship.
- Fall Retreat...One of the things most looked forward to every fall is the fall retreat. In September, we ventured out to Camp Tecumseh and spent the whole weekend with our speaker Sheila Wilimitis focused on our theme, "Abide In Me." Because we have this extended and concentrated time together, the discussions get to a level that is difficult to achieve in our usual shorter times together.
- Progressive Dinner...This spring, we held our second Progressive Dinner, and it was a great success! This event was designed as a nonthreatening event that we could invite nonbelieving friends or those who are looking for a body of believers to be a part of. It was a relaxed night of great fun and fellowship, laced with lots and lots of laughter! You can believe

that there will be another one of these in the future!

With summer in full swing and one book club under our belt, we are already working on plans for next year. Thank you for your prayers as we listen for direction.

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



Summer Book Club





### 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. Servers go out of their way to welcome people and to ensure that they feel like they belong. Servers say "good morning" with a warm smile. Servers introduce themselves to guests they do not know. Servers are quick to show guests around our building and to answer any questions they may have. Servers offer guests something to drink and eat (e.g., coffee and donuts). Serv-

ers introduce guests to other friends.

We held Server Orientation in February, 2016 and welcomed 6 new Servers to our team. We continue to look for new volunteers to be a part of this ministry. If you would like to help in this way please contact Stan Hickman.

~Stan Hickman stho3o552@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

#### Worship Ministry

During 2015-2016 Riverside's Worship team faced many changes and challenges. Our long time leader moved on to other opportunities just as Pastor Dan was coming back from sabbatical. However, Riverside was fortunate to have a number of lay leaders step up and serve us well during the nine months it took to hire our new Worship Leader, Mike Tetrault.

We as a congregation should give a special thanks to Shelly Anderson, Steve Johnson, and Matt Riebsomer. Who for nine months carried the torch of planning, coordinating, recruiting volunteers, and leading each Sunday. We want to also thank their families for allowing them to serve in this way. We should also thank others that helped stand in the gap, Rick Whitlock from August through December, Dan Zehner, and Katrina Elliott. With these willing and faithful servants what could have been a tough, difficult and confusing time, was a blessing of service and worship.

One of the other challenges of a transient population at times is that we lose worship team members to new opportunities in far off locations. We wish Luke Redington, Mike and Andrea Yough, and Will Collins God's blessing on their new adventures.

While change was the theme for this year, it didn't prevent growth. Four new people felt called to be part of the music/ vocal area of the Worship Team. With growth not being just number of people, but capability, we were able to provide a training session for all PowerPoint/Lighting volunteers so everyone had the same expectations and vision; including 3 new people serving in that area. In November Blake Holaday, Chuck Moeschberger, and Everette Mills were able to attend WFX in Nashville to learn more about sound & lighting, facilities maintenance and develop relationships with vendors that will be part of future Riverside efforts. Building off of this training we were able to hold a training session for all sound technicians, including one new person on the team, in February. This is building towards quarterly training sessions that will allow for a stronger, more effective, and capable team.

Please keep the Worship Team in your prayers as we lead you in worship each week and grow in our walk.

> ~Everette Mills elmills@elmills.net



## Men's Discipleship cont.

through the book of Genesis together.

In addition to the three core men's study groups, there were several men's Saturday morning breakfasts hosted by Chuck Moeschberger and Brian Russell. Nothing brings men together like bacon and eggs.

Several guys also joined ECC again this year for the annual Men's Retreat at Twin Lakes Bible Camp in Hillsboro, Indiana. This is always a wonderful time of connection, meals, and good conversation around God's Word. This year's teaching times were led by Rob Eyman, the Pastor for Discipleship at Covenant (EPC) Church

in West Lafayette. The topic was "A Firm Grip: Taking Hold of the Life That Is Truly Life."

> ~Todd Kelley Men's Discipleship Leader dtkelley@frontier.com

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."





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

#### **Prayer Movement**

The Lord continues to make Riverside a "house of prayer" as we strive to be a prayer saturated church. Prayer is simply communicating with God, which includes sharing ourselves with Him and listening to what He has to say to us. Studying and reflecting on Scripture is a significant way in which the Lord speaks to us. When He speaks to us through His Spirit using thoughts, impressions and other people, He will never contradict His Word. To Him we give our praise and worship, confess our sins, intercede for others, and petition Him on our behalf. We grow in prayer as we grow as disciples of Christ.

This past fall and winter, we offered several ways to grow in prayer. Tina Fleener led a study on the Prayer of Jabez which challenged participants to expand our borders of influence. We also had the opportunity to gather together to intercede for our nation. In November, Pastor Michael Washington returned to lead the Journey, a retreat on spiritual companionship. Participants were led through experiences to connect with the Lord and one-on-one with each other.

We maintain (and seek to grow) our various prayer teams as charted to the right. The congregational prayer teams have prayed for scores of requests throughout the year. We have seen many affirming answers to our intercession for healing, jobs, and relationships. It is exciting to participate in the work of the Lord through prayer. Pastor Dan and his family are thankful to know they are covered in prayer by people willing to take time to intercede for them on a regular basis. Did you know on Sunday morning,

we have intercessors praying for you, your children in their classes and every ministry of Riverside? We also have Youth Prayer Warriors whose commitment is to pray for an assigned youth several times a week. Building a relationship is also encouraged, though prayer is the primary purpose. Several youth have been helped and encouraged by his/ her partner's prayers and relationship. An enormous thanks goes out to all our prayer warriors on these prayer teams. You are such a blessing to Riverside!

I've described what can be organized and documented in regards to prayer at Riverside. However, prayer is most often unseen and unplanned. We are thankful for the increasing prayer occurring within the Riverside body during worship services, RiverKids, small groups, Bible studies, and in fellowship with one another as we share our lives. Our Heavenly Father wants to hear from us and cares enough to sit with us and speak to us. Growing in communication with the Lord is imperative to growing in relationship with Him. This relational growth produces an overflow of sharing life, service, love, and truth. Jesus said it well in John 15: 5. . . "'I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.""

As God's Prayer Movement has moved among us at Riverside, Pastor Dan has been the shepherd of this movement with the Prayer Leadership Team (PLT) being the coordinators of prayer growth opportunities. However, now that we are fully staffed and prayer is more well-rooted within us, the staff will take over com-

plete leadership of prayer through our focus on discipleship. Consequently, this is my last Prayer Movement report although we, the PLT, will always advocate for prayer and Diane will continue to manage the various prayer teams.

~Diane Kelley dtkelley@frontier.com

# Riverside's Organized Prayer Teams

#### Sunday Morning Prayer Warriors

- 1-4 people who pray for service & church ministries
- Pray during worship service in white house
- •Pray 1 service/month

#### Pastoral Prayer Shields

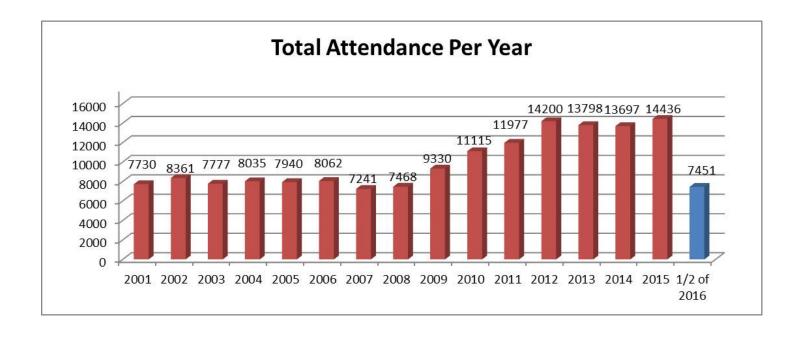
- 4 rotating teams of 4 people each who pray for protection of pastor & family
- Intercessors never meet to pray, but pray on own
- Pray daily for 1 month, have 3 months off

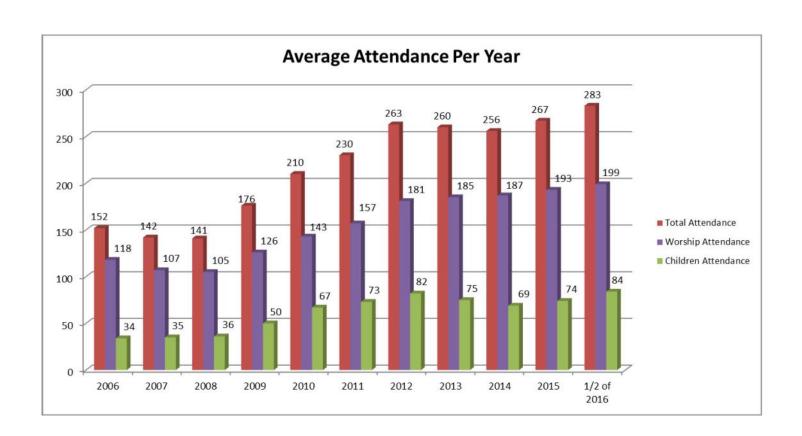
#### Congregational Prayer Teams

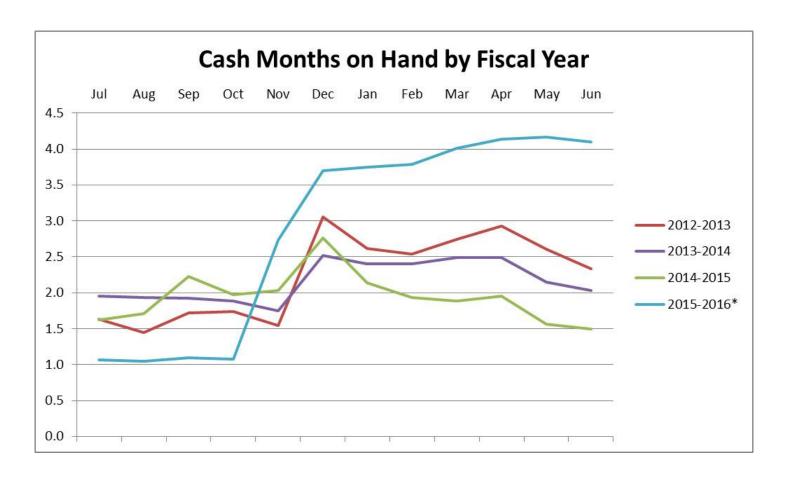
- 3 rotating teams who pray for requests from congregation
  - Intercessors never meet to pray, but pray on own
  - Pray daily for 1 month, have 2 months off

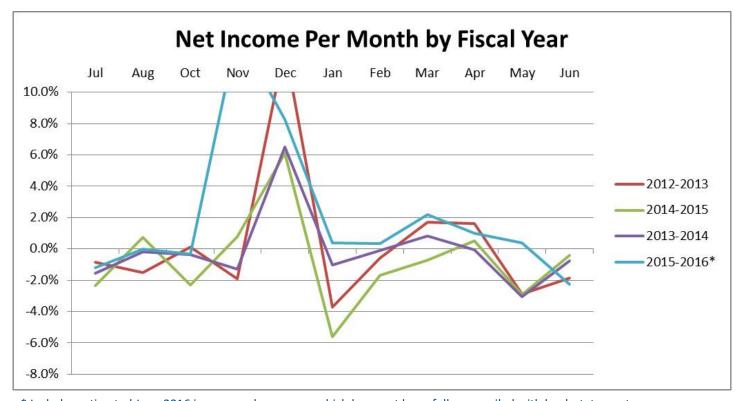
#### Youth Prayer Partners

- Adult paired with youth with commitment to intercede for him/her
- Intercessor prays on own with general & specific requests from youth
- Prays for one year about 5 times 5:5 minutes a day, 5 days a week

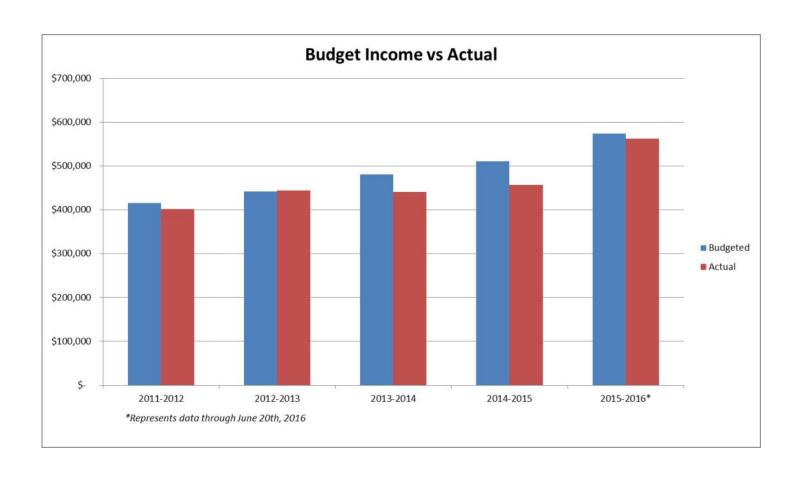




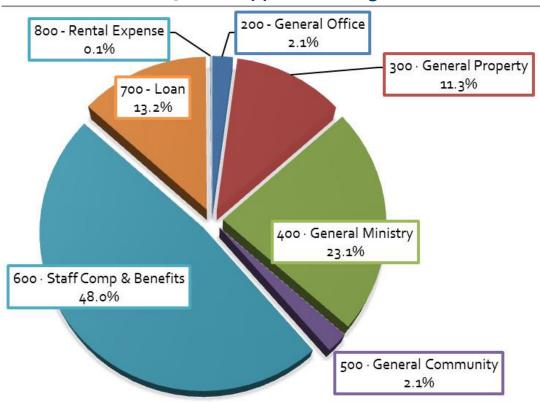




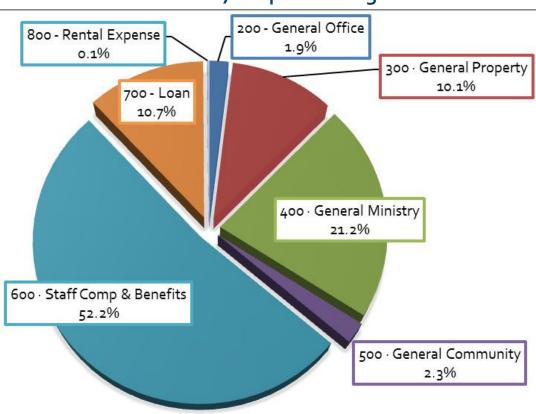
<sup>\*</sup> Includes estimated June 2016 income and expenses, which have not been fully reconciled with bank statements.



# 2015-2016 Approved Budget



# 2016-2017 Proposed Budget



	2015-2	2016	2016-	2016-2017	
	Budget	% Change	Budget	% Change	
Income					
100 · General Fund Income					
101 · Loose	10,000	0.0%	10,000	0.0%	
102 · Checks	553,000	12.9% ▲	610,200	10.3%	
103 · Interest Income	1,000	0.0%	1,000	0.0%	
Total 100 · General Fund Income	564,000	12.6% ▲	621,200	10.1%	
150 · Rental Income	10,000	0.0%	1,000	-90.0%	
Total Income	574,000	12.3% ▲	622,200	8.4%	
Expense					
200 - General Office Total 200 - General Office	11,000	1.9% ▲	12,100	10.0%	
	,				
300 · General Property					
Total 301 · Insurance	7,500	2.0% ▲	8,150	8.7%	
Total 302 · Building Maintenance & Repair	10,000	0.0%	10,000	0.0%	
Total 303 · New Furniture	1,000	0.0%	1,500	50.0%	
Total 304 · New Equipment	9,750	-2.5% ▼	11,750	20.5%	
Total 305 - Capital Improvements	0		0		
Total 306 · Equip. Rental	250	0.0%	250	0.0%	
Total 310 · Utilities	11,630	0.0%	12,370	6.4%	
Total 311 · Custodial Service & Supplies	10,400	0.0%	10,400	0.0%	
Total 312 · Landscaping	5,000	66.7% ▲	5,400	8.0%	
Total 313 · Vehicle	2,000	0.0%	2,000	0.0%	
Total 399 · Property Tax/Misc Expense	2,000	0.0%	2,200	10.0%	
Total 300 · General Property	59,530	3.3% ▲	64,020	7.5%	
400 · General Ministry					
Total 401 · Children's Ministry	7,740	9.8% 🛦	6,580	-15.0%	
Total 402 · Youth Ministry	5,160	-34.5% ▼	6,000	16.3%	
Total 403 · Adult Formation	1,000	100.0% 🛦	2,000	100.0%	
Total 404 · Small Groups	3,178	5.0% ▲	3,500	10.1%	
Total 405 · Women's Ministries	3,950	14.8% ▲	3,400	-13.9%	
Total 406 · Men's Ministry	900	-37.9% ▼	900	0.0%	
Total 407 · Worship Ministry	5,100	13.8% ▲	5,000	-2.0%	
Total 408 · Outreach/Evangelism Ministry	3,650	-18.9% ▼	4,500	23.3%	
Total 409 · Missions	84,420	9.7% ▲	92,492	9.6%	
Total 410 · Benevolence Fund	4,200	16.7% ▲	4,800	14.3%	
Total 412 · Prayer Ministry	1,500	0.0%	350	-76.7%	
Total 413 · Server Ministry	200	0.0%	200	0.0%	
Total 414 · Stephens Ministry	3,440	4.6% ▲	3,825	11.2%	
Total 400 · General Ministry	124,763	5.5% ▲	133,547	7.0%	

	2015-2016			2016-2017		
	Budget	% Change		Budget	% Change	
kpense						
500 · General Community						
Total 501 · Fellowship	7,150	16.3%	$\blacktriangle$	9,520	33.1%	•
Total 502 · Leadership/Staff Development	5,000	11.1%	<b>A</b>	5,000	0.0%	
Total 500 · General Community	12,150	14.1%	<b>A</b>	14,520	19.5%	
600 · Staff Compensation & Benefits						
Total 601 · Senior Pastor	65,512	0.00%		67,477	3.00%	
Total 602 · Administrative Assistant	18,197	0.00%		18,743	3.00%	•
Total 603 · Worship Director	7,121	0.00%		0		
Total 604 · Childern's Disipileship Director	18,552	0.00%		18,552	0.00%	
Total 607 · Youth/Worship Discipleship Director	37,594	0.00%		42,000	11.72%	
Total 608 · Pastor of Discipleship	45,000	50.00%	$\blacktriangle$	50,000	11.11%	
Total 609 · Women's Discipleship Director	9,277	72.36%	$\blacktriangle$	18,552	99.98%	•
Total 695 · Staff Benefits	79,891	57.49%	$\blacktriangle$	97,873	22.51%	
Total 697 · Staff Search	1,500	200.0%	$\blacktriangle$	0		
Total 698 · Payroll Expenses	15,396	32.1%	$\blacktriangle$	16,472	7.0%	•
Total 600 · Staff Compensation & Benefits	298,039	21.5%	<b>A</b>	329,669	10.6%	
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%	<u> 2020</u>
800 · Rental Expense						
Total 800 · Rental Expense	750	0.0%		750	0.0%	
Total Expense	573,792	12.3%	<b>A</b>	622,166	8.4%	Δ
Net Income	208			34		