

Riverside Covenant Church

Riverside Water Line

Thoughts From Pastor Dan

July Sermons

- July 6 – Who/What/Where/Why is Church?
- July 13 – Back to the Future
- July 20 – I Love You, You Love Me
- July 27 – Lighten Up

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In July we will begin a sermon series on church. What is church? I believe we have to relearn what Jesus Christ intended the church to be. Often when we think of church we immediately think of a building. We think of a physical meeting place where a bunch of people get together and do churchy things.

The church, though, is not a building, but a people. The church is you, me and others that confess Jesus Christ as Lord and seek to live life together growing closer to God. Sure our group of people generally has a meeting place, but if that building were to burn down tomorrow the church would not have changed one bit. Only the meeting place would change.

I think this understanding of church matters. We **do not attend** Riverside Covenant Church – we **ARE** Riverside Covenant Church. This changes the way that we understand what we do. The church is not a stationary, inanimate object. The church is living, breathing, faithful Christians that are collectively worshipping God, fellowshiping with one another, and transforming the community and world by what we say and do.

The church worships God together. Each Sunday, and at various times throughout the week, we gather together to worship God through songs, Bible study, teaching and prayer. All of these things are important. In particular, the Sunday worship service is vital because the entire Riverside family gathers together to give God the glory He deserves and to remind ourselves why and for what purpose we exist.

The church lives life together in fellowship. We are a stronger body of believers when we are in authentic relationships with one another. Donuts and coffee are served prior to the worship service every Sunday to facilitate life sharing and conversation. We must make it a priority, though, not to be late to the service so that we can share in this opportunity for fellowship. We have Men's and Women's Ministries gatherings throughout the year that provide chances to build relationships. We also have small groups, fellowship meals and countless other occasions simply to live life together.

Lastly, the church transforms the community and world. We do not exist as believers gathered together merely for our own spiritual welfare. We have been

given the task of sharing the faith that we have found with those that have yet to find it. The church does this not only by sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through our words, but through our love. We care for those fighting cancer, depression, financial difficulties, and whatever other obstacles that no one should be forced to endure alone. Our goal, however, is not simply to be nice, but to share the unconditional love of God that we have experienced. We share God's love and articulate why it is that we do so.

Being the church is not easy, but when guided by the Spirit of God it is the closest thing on earth to the heavenly Kingdom of God. What we do together is not our work, but the work of God. What an honor!

"We, though many, form one body in Christ, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." Romans 12:5-8

Women's Ministry

Summer Book Club

Our final book for the summer book club is "Divine" by Karen Kingsbury. We will meet to discuss this book on Wednesday, July 23 at 6:30 pm at the home of Stephanie Brennan. Books can be purchased at church on Sunday morning. Please contact Lisa Harker at lisalisa.anne@comcast.net if you have questions.

Women's Retreat

Women's Ministry is inviting you to a National Women of Faith Conference called "Infinite Grace" right here in Indiana at Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. The Women's Ministry is planning a 3 day retreat leaving on Friday, August 1st and returning on Sunday, August 3rd. We have 25 tickets for sale on a first come basis. We also have reservations at the Marriott Downtown (Courtyard). The ticket price for the two day conference is \$45.00; the hotel price varies depending on the number of women per room. Each room is a double room with two double beds. This is a time for renewal, and to share in fellowship with other women from our area. There will be something for every woman. We hope to attend as a group and any woman is welcome to join us. If you need more information about the conference go to www.womenoffaith.com or Riverside's website www.rcovenant.org or call Rebecca Springs at 765-742-5995

or email at

malcolm.rebecca@verizon.com.

True Women Conference "Revive Our Hearts"

Coming to the Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center in Schaumburg, IL October 9-11th. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear some nationally known speakers; John Piper, Joni Erickson Tada, Nancy Leigh De Moss, and Janet Parshall. Worship leaders are Keith and Kristyn Getty. This promises to be a dynamic weekend. Riverside is **not** planning to take a group, because we have already planned to attend the conference in Indianapolis August 1-3. However, we did want to provide you with the information if you want to attend. The Pre-conference is Thursday, October 9, the conference is Friday 10-Saturday the 11th. Early registration is \$109 before August 1st and regular registration is \$139. You, of course, will have to make your own hotel reservations. If you desire more information contact Nancy Umbeck, 765-497-9270 or numbeck@yahoo.com.

Create a Card Night

Do you enjoy crafts or interested in learning how to create your own cards for your family and friends? As part of the Encouragement Team Women's Ministry, the Card Ministry extends congratulations during births and special occasions, and encouragement during illness or difficulty. Because we feel the women at Riverside are special to

us, we like the idea of giving the cards we send a "personal touch". We need help creating our supply of cards for this ministry. This is an excellent way for you to serve and have fun and fellowship all at the same time! If you are interested, please join us on Wednesday, July 9 from 6:30 - 8:30 at the home of Dar Muehlhausen. Directions can be provided or we can meet at the church for any that want to car pool. Card stock, supplies, and snacks will be provided. If you have any "tools" you'd be willing to share (stamps, crimpers, scissors, etc.) please bring them! Extra snacks are also welcome! There is a sign up sheet at the Women's Ministry table, or you can contact Gretchen Shook by phone at 464-8918, or by email at gretchenshook@hotmail.com. Hope to see you there!

"Mary Madison was a child of unspeakable horrors, a young woman society wanted to forget. Now a divine power has set Mary free to bring life-changing hope and love to battered and abused women living in the shadow of the nation's capital. Mary is educated and redeemed, a powerful voice in Washington, D.C., both to the politically elite and to other women like her. But she also has a past that shamed polite society. Her experiences created in her paralyzing fear, faithlessness, addiction, and promiscuity. At the crossroads of her life, only one power set Mary free and gave her a lifetime of love and hope. A power that could only be divine."

Promiseland Chatter

Why We Do What We Do

Promiseland began at Riverside Covenant Church seven years ago and since then many people have come and gone. I thought it would be beneficial for those who are new to give some background on why we are called Promiseland and what our goals are.

Willow Creek Community Church, near Chicago, created the Promiseland curriculum we use. Because we use only their Promiseland curriculum we are allowed to use their Promiseland name for our children's ministry. This is how we came to be called 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 are 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 friendships 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 that all they have belongs to God and **desire to use** their resources and time for His purposes.

We desire that the Promiseland hour each Sunday is one of the best hours of your child's week.

Dar Muehlhausen

Youth Ministry

Riverside's Youth Stays Connected

Regularly scheduled youth group meetings have taken a break over the summer, but Rick and Paula Johnson generously invited the youth to their cottage on Lake Freeman Sunday, June 22nd for an afternoon of intense tubing. After several hours of bouncing behind a speedboat, the Johnson's fed the youth pizza and a desert of brownies and ice cream. It was another great day of fun in the sun!

While this was the second summer the youth got a chance to spend a

day on Lake Freeman at the Johnson's, it will be our third summer to take an overnight trip to Cedar Point. The plan is to drive to the Boyers' fun house in Archbold, OH on Friday, July 18th, and spend the afternoon and evening playing in their very special swimmin' hole. Saturday, the youth will continue their travels to Sandusky, OH to ride roller coasters all day at Cedar Point Amusement Park, returning to the Boyers' house that evening, and driving home Sunday morning. Watch for more details, including times and cost of this very infamous trip!

Very recently, the weekend of June 28th and 29th, the youth met and spent time with the Youth Pastor candidate Becky Wellner and her husband, Ryan.

Malcolm and Rebecca Springs

Getting to Know Carol Kuebler

I am Carol Kuebler and my husband, David, and I have been married 12 years, and together we have four children. Our children live in fun places which gives us the opportunity to travel and have fun visits.

Oldest son, Greg and his wife Kelly, (and grand-dog Hartley), have their careers in Raleigh N.C. and live and play golf in Bald Head Island. Second is son, Kurt, who has a very exciting life working in W Hollywood, CA. Our last visit with him included tickets to the Jay Leno show. Daughter Kelly, husband John and their two boys, Milo 3 and Henry 6, live in Sherman Oaks, CA. We manage visits to California as often as possible to visit schools, meet teachers, and play Indiana basketball with the boys. And youngest son, Shawn, and wife Amy, live here in Lafayette and are blessing us with grand children. Scout Michael is approaching one and their household will add another baby in the fall. Scout attends grammie day-care each day and we are excited to be hands-on grandparents.

I served as Court Reporter for Tippecanoe County for 27 years. During this time I attended evening classes at Purdue University and received my degree in Organizational Leadership and Supervision in 1992. My husband, David,

after retiring from the United States Air Force, returned to Lafayette and started the Tippecanoe County Community Corrections Alternative Sentencing Program. We each have recently retired and are enjoying our time together and added time to travel.

I came to West Lafayette in 1962 through Purdue University. I was born and raised on a farm in Morrison, Illinois, a small farming community in northwestern Illinois. All my family still lives in Morrison. Lafayette/West Lafayette is home to my children, it has been a big part of my life, and I am very proud to be a part of and call this community my home.

I attended Riverside during its first year and was invited by a member to attend the Christmas eve program. Because I grew up in a Dutch Reformed church I was attracted to Riverside for its structure but still allowing each individual the freedom to worship on a spiritual level that is both personal and limitless. I also feel Riverside is a church family that shares and cares for one another.

Although I am retired I am still a working artist. The past five years I have been a member of the art co-op, Artists Own at 518 Main St, Lafayette, IN. I am an off-loom weaver in fiber sculptures, basketry, gourd

weavings, and jewelry. Come visit us!

David and I are enjoying our many travels together. We enjoy visiting the National Parks hiking, biking, and kayaking. My next trip is a photography workshop on horseback through the Yellowstone, and together, Costa Rica.

I enjoy walking the woods and taking my camera on nature hikes. Identifying wild flowers has become a passion, along with photographing them.

I believe my friends who know me well remember me for my deep desire to travel. I have visited almost every state and although each trip has been educational and memorable, my most accomplished has been backpacking alone through Europe.



July 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



July Birthdays

- 2 Everette Mills
- 3 Andrea Bube
- 6 Alexis Madrid
- 8 Shelby Robinson
- 8 Tom Guipe
- 11 Rebecca Springs
- 20 Deacon Rottler
- 20 Eric Wittke
- 22 Kathy McDowell

Congratulations!

To Steve & Rachel Johnson on the birth of their son, Caleb Stephen Johnson. Born on Friday, May 16th weighing 7lbs 12oz and measuring 21 inches long.

To Brian & Kristin Kilgour on the birth of their son, Cooper John Kilgour. Born on Saturday, May 31st weighing 7lbs 10oz.

To Dan and Dana Teefey on the birth of their daughter, Miriam Leigh Teefey. Born on Thursday, June 5 weighing 6 lbs 0oz and measuring 19 ¾ inches long.



Schedule of Events

- July 4 — Independence Day (church office closed)
- July 6 — Communion Sunday
- July 9 — Create a Card Night @ Dar Muehlhausen's
- July 7, 14, 21, 28 — Men's Bible Study @ Riverside, 7 p.m.
- July 11 & 25 — Reading Group @ Einstein's, 7 a.m.
- July 18-20 — Youth trip to Cedar Point
- July 20 — Mission's Committee Meeting @ Riverside, 11:15 a.m..
- July 23 — Women's Summer Book Club @ Stephanie Brennan's, 6:30 p.m.
- July 27 — Discovering Riverside Class 101 @ Riverside, 11:30-3:30

Upcoming Events

- August 1-3 — Women's Retreat
- August 16, 10a.m.-4p.m. — Trinity Mission, Taste and See Event

Riverside

COVENANT CHURCH

1850 Woodland Avenue
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Phone: 765-463-4600
Fax: 866-766-8492
E-mail: office@rcovenant.org
Website: www.rcovenant.org

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

Year-to-Date Financial Update

Year-to-Date Giving Needed	\$ 142,740
Year-to-Date Giving	\$ 125,577

Missions Ministry

Don't forget that Riverside is participating in Trinity Mission's Taste and See Event on Saturday August 16th from 10AM to 4PM. We will be providing a big bounce, popcorn, and activity books for children. We will need volunteers to staff our booth and interact with the kids. For more information contact Everette Mills elmills@elmills.com

Community News

You Are a Blessing!

Thank you for contributing and shopping the 23rd annual Focus on the Family Garage Sale! We were blessed with contributions from 120 families. This year we had difficult weather, but God protected us and the tents through the strong winds and numerous heavy rains. By a complete and total miracle from God we were able to send a check to Focus on the Family in the amount of \$6,425.70. This will help provide ultrasound machines for crisis pregnancy centers. Also, we do-

nated 33 boxes of books to the West Lafayette Book Sale, baby items to Matrix Lifeline Pregnancy Center, books to the Clinton County Prison Ministry, Ty animals to South African and Kenyan orphanages, and 15 gym bags and backpacks to a Dallas Inner-city mission. In addition, we will be donating \$655 in vouchers to shop at Goodwill to patrons of Matrix Lifeline Pregnancy Center, Life-care Services Pregnancy Center, the Salvation Army, It's My Closet and Love, INC.

YOUR donations were a blessing to many, and I thought you should know!

Thank you for passing along your Treasures, and look for this sale next year. Same time (first Saturday in June), same place!

To God be the glory!
Nancy Umbeck