

Riverside Covenant Church

Riverside Water Line

Thoughts From Pastor Dan

September Sermons:

- September 7 – Character of God and Heaven and Satan and Hell
- September 14 – Dave Timmerman preaches
- September 21 – Hosea
- September 28 – Joel

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In Genesis we read about God's creation of the world. Appreciating the profundity of human creation helps Christians recognize both our irrelevance in relation to God and our distinctiveness in comparison to the rest of creation.

God created everything, both seen and unseen, and because God created everything, everything can only be properly understood in relation to God. Through the Bible and the life of Jesus Christ we can learn who we are as creatures of God and what we are supposed to do with all our "stuff."

Most importantly, humans are to be coworkers with God in His divine purposes. Immediately after we are told in Genesis that we were created in the "image of God," God grants humans dominion over his other creation. Humans have been given the responsibility of controlling and harnessing the natural world so that God can better express His will. This is a significant responsibility. Uniquely, God has chosen to work through us and allows us to play a role in shaping the future of His world. How we shape

that future with what we have been given is the essence of our Christian journeys.

We must continually strive to be stewards of what God has entrusted into our care. God has clearly created each part of the created order for a purpose and we have no divine right to use our freedom to interfere harmfully upon that system. As God has generously given to us from His creation, we must be weary to hoard particular things for ourselves. All that we have is to be shared graciously with others.

Here at Riverside, God has given us an enormous blessing of human and material resources. Our never-ending task should be to prayerfully consider how best to use these resources to the glory of God.

Admittedly, it takes hard work to work together, but it is "good" work because we are maximizing what God has given us in an effort to love God and to love others. We have countless other resources at our disposal too, both personally and amongst our fellowship, and we must seek to figure out how

best to utilize them. No matter what we do, we must resist the urge to turn inward and hoard our gifts. God has given us dominion over His creation, but it is not ours. Our Christian duty is to be stewards of all that God has given us. We are not owners and possessors, but merely managers of God's abundant gifts to us.

How does our perspective change if we understand that we own nothing, but everything is on loan to us from God? How does our generosity grow when we realize that God provides for us so that we may have the opportunity to give to others?

The blessing in receiving is not that we get more "stuff," but that we have the opportunity to give to others. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35) Let us experience this truth both corporately and personally.

Promiseland Chatter

God is faithful!

As you may know, it has been a step of faith to believe we could staff a Promiseland Discovery Hour and a forty minute Children's Church starting September 7th. Trusting this was the direction God was moving Riverside towards, He has provided forty one volunteers to serve in our children's ministry and

twenty volunteers for the nursery ministry. To God be the glory for all He has done! Thank you to those listed to the right who have stepped up to serve. May you be as blessed as I am as you take part in leading the children at Riverside to be more like Jesus.

Serving Him Together,
Dar Muehlhausen

Christine Berkesch
Kelly Blanchard
Stephanie Brennan
Lane Custer
Anne Custer
Lisa Driskel
Jessica Evans
Trevor Evans
Emily Farley
Brenda Fassnacht
Amy Fisher
Kyle Hiestand
Ashley Hiestand
Rachel Johnson
Doug Keazer
Luci Keazer
Cyndi Kershner

Chris Kilgour
Melissa Kraus
Tim Madden
Lindsey Madden
Tara Madrid
Lexi Madrid
Kelli Mann
Megan Mills
Miranda Nelson
Lacey Nelson
Richard Pollard
Stacy Pollard
Maya Reyes
Yoland Reyes
Brisa Reyes
Sara Rottler
Kyle Rottler

Erin Rush
David Rush
Katie Sabel
Peni Satterfield
Gretchen Shook
Debby Smiley
Abby Springs
Rebecca Springs
Margie Story
Cathy Tanner
Dana Teefey
Deb Tillet
Polly Timmerman
Nancy Umbeck
Dawn Weisman
Terri Wright

Getting to Know the Kilgours

What are your full names and names and ages of your children?

David John Kilgour
Christine Marie Kilgour
Brian 24, Matt 25 and Jason 30

What are your occupations?

Dave-Controller
Chris-Cost Accountant

What brought you to West Lafayette / Lafayette?

Dave's job.

What brought you to Riverside? How long have you been here?

Our son Brian and daughter-in-law Kristin were attending Riverside and we visited several times with them. We were in the process of looking for a smaller church at the time and Riverside seemed to fit. We have been attending for over 3 years.

What do you do for fun?

Skiing, golfing, hiking, biking, attending live plays, attending music concerts, gardening & woodworking.

What is a fun fact or memory about you?

After 27 years of marriage we have lots of facts and memories. Our favorite church story actually includes all of our boys and their Grandfather. We were members of an Episcopal church in Barberton, Ohio. Dave's Dad attended the same church and always sat with us. In the Episcopal Church, Sunday Communion is only available to the children after they complete Communion classes. Brian, being the youngest was always trying to rush things in life. One Sunday, the entire family proceeded to the Communion rail; Jason, Chris, Jason, Matthew, Dave, Brian, and Grandpa (in that order). The priest moved down the rail administering Communion. If you were not partaking in communion, the common practice was to simply cross your arms over your heart and the Priest would administer a blessing instead of a wafer. At the very last second and

unbeknownst to his Grandfather next to him, Brian uncrossed his arms and placed his palm out for Communion. Once the Priest gave him a Communion wafer, he promptly leaned out over the rail and in a fairly loud voice exclaimed, "I got one Matthew and Jason." Needless to say, the Priest promptly retraced his steps, retrieved the wafer, and gave Brian a blessing prayer instead. Unfortunately, everyone in the front third of the church heard and witnessed the scene. So the typically solemn and serious Communion process became the talk of the church for Sunday's to come.



Getting to Know the Wellners

What are your full names and names and ages of your children?

Susan Rebecca Wellner (aka Becky) and Ryan Lewis Wellner and Son River Lewis Wellner

What are your occupations?

Becky just finished as Store Manager at Starbucks and is now the Youth Director!!! Ryan works part-time at Jane's Gourmet Deli and Catering, hangs out with River and will be helping a lot with the youth as well.

What brought you to West Lafayette / Lafayette?

We've lived in Lafayette most of our lives with a brief departure for the

Blue Ridge Mountains in North Carolina and Indianapolis. Ryan spent several years in LA but found his way home to be close to family

What do you do for fun?

Ryan loves to sing, play music, write, fish, and hang out with River being crazy! Becky also loves to sing, paint, garden, and make sure that Ryan and River are behaving! River likes to dance, ride his dog, Eve, and read books.

What is a fun fact or memory about you?

We're a silly kind of family; our lives in general hang out in the humorous category!!

We are so excited to be working with youth. We would love to see a program that is exciting, relevant and consistent where kids can come as they are and meet a Jesus that will rock their worlds. We want to get out to the schools and connect with them and their friends to grow the ministry and then in turn have them reach out to the community. We're just amazed at God's goodness and want to share that with the youth!!



Youth Ministry

Hi all! I can't wait for the start of youth activities in September! Planning, planning, and more planning has been happening to get the youth program geared up for this fall. I'm really excited to see what the Lord has in store for us all. We will have Discovery Hour for the Junior and Senior high students where I'm hoping they will get some good, substantial Bible knowledge that will carry them through the weekly art of school, sports, music, texting (ha, ha), and life with parents! We will also have a Youth Group on Sunday afternoons for the Junior High, and Sunday evenings we'll meet at Greyhouse Coffee Co. with the Senior High. I will never lose my love of the coffeehouse and how it lends itself to open, honest conversations! Beyond that, on Wednesdays we'll have 2 separate meetings for the students so we can touch base and have some good fellow-

ship. I would love to have this at someone's home-if anyone would be open to having some youth involvement that would only require the use of a living room-let me know!!! Me and the youth volunteers will be getting out to the student's activities as well. The goal is to really invest time in their lives and build the relationships necessary to talk to them about what it really means to follow Jesus. Some fun activities already in the works....The Revolve Tour-where teenage girls can come as they are to encounter our really real God, a PAINT-BALL outing for our guys to be guys, fall camping retreat for the entire group, and, of course, a ski trip to top off the semester. We'll be out doing fundraisers and community projects as well, that support the idea of outreach and getting out of the church building to affect our community for Jesus! Please pray for this program-God is so good and given us a

wonderful church family that recognizes the need for guidance in the lives of these students-that they can choose today to love Jesus and be a lifelong follower if we can show them how! It takes a church....let's do it together! In Him,
Becky

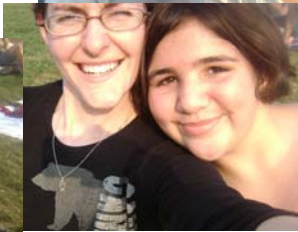
Fall Kick-Off

September 7 kicks off Junior High Youth Group at the church from 3-4:30pm and the Senior High will meet at Greyhouse Coffee Co. on Chauncey hill from 6:30-8pm! Get ready for some crazy times getting to know each other and getting real with Jesus! Questions? Call Becky at the church 765-463-4600 or 765-567-0000!

Check out the pictures on the next page from our trip to see Switchfoot and Third Day in concert...



Awesome trip to Indy to see Switchfoot and Third Day! But the highlight was the Gatorade chugging and PB & J's!!



Missions Committee

Riverside Family~

Our summer camp trips are now complete and the teenagers who began their relationship with our Savior are now being mentored and disciplined in their new walk with Jesus. Crystal and I are in our third week of serving at Castaway Club (camp in Minnesota) and are enjoying serving and leading the college-aged camp staff.

We are thankful for your partnership with us in this ministry in making Jesus know to teenagers.

Blessing to you,
Mark W. Kirgiss

On August 16, Trinity Mission hosted their annual "Taste and See" Festival. This is the second year Riverside has participated. The purpose of the festival is for area churches to come together to spread a little love to the surrounding Lafayette Community. The Festival is located in the Trinity Mission Outlet parking lot. Churches come and set up booths and pass out free stuff: food, drinks, candy, bracelets, pencils, stickers. They have games and a tent with music. Riverside rented a Big Bounce and passed out popcorn (thanks to Kurt Watt and his popcorn machine). Much like last year, the big bounce was a popular item. Most of the kids were repeat customers (repeated, and repeated, and repeated). Many thanks to those of you who volunteered your time for the event.

For those of you who were unable to attend, we hope you can join us next year. "Taste and See" is one of the neatest events happening in the Lafayette Christian Community. Area churches come together with no other agenda except to minister to the downtown area. Kids and whole families come from nearby neighborhoods to enjoy the festivities. As you can imagine the Big Bounce is very popular. We are looking forward to next year already and plan to bring the Big Bounce and the popcorn, but we are always open to additional ideas. If you have some let us know! Contact Everette Mills elmills@elmills.com



Above: Kids having fun in the Big Bounce.

Below: Kurt Watt & John Wade serving up some popcorn.



Women's Ministry

Fall Bible Study

It's time to mark the women's fall Bible study at Riverside Covenant on your calendars!

Wednesdays, September 3 - October 22 at 6:30 pm The sign-up sheet is at the church and workbooks are available for \$13.

The Fingerprints of God, by Jennifer Rothschild

Author, speaker and recording artist Jennifer Rothschild understands that God guides us on pathways we cannot navigate alone. God's essential touch separates us from all other created beings. His touch warms, affirms, and guides us; it communicates value and self-esteem.

Fingerprints of God: Recognizing God's Touch on Your Life teaches us to recognize six things we can experience because of God's touch: honor, intimacy, shelter, guidance, redemption, and refinement.

Please pray about attending. This will be a great way to dive into the Word with your Sisters-in-Christ!

Report on Women's Retreat

By Debby Smiley

When I agreed to attend the Women of Faith conference August 1-2 with about 30 women and friends of Riverside, not only had I never been to a church retreat of any kind, I had never been on a ladies' only week-end. What I discovered involved inspiration, an uplifting team of speakers, comedy, dynamic music, a variety of emotions, great food, friendship, and a wee bit of shopping.

When we entered our hotel rooms, we saw that Riverside elves had anticipated our needs and had provided us goodies for our stay. Next came a great Italian meal and a dash to Con-seco. Despite my fear of heights, I found myself relaxing, laughing, and even shedding a few tears as I enjoyed the conference from my seat HIGH up in Con-seco. Hearing Sheila Walsh sing her amazing "When I Get to Where I'm Going," the pragmatic skits of Nicole Johnson (a look into the everyday lives of women with no sugar-coating or facade), and the phenomenal voices of Sandi Patty

and her family members **alone** would have made the conference worth the price for me. However, there were also inspiring, God-honoring tales of elation, loss, hope, and grace by the speakers, known collectively as "the women (okay, 7 women, 1 man) on the porch".

The bonus to this wonderful week-end was getting to know the other Riverside attendees better through dining, playing games, keychain making, and worshipping together. We learned many new things about each other, but Rhonda could never have known when she assigned roommates that **my** roommate's driver's ed teacher was my dad!

Riverside has already purchased tickets for next year! Make plans to join us!



Making key chains was part of the fun at the women's retreat.



Having lunch at a Mexican restaurant while at the women's retreat.

A "getting to know you" activity at the women's retreat.



Men's Ministry

Bible Study

The men's Bible study will begin on Monday, September 15 at 7:00 p.m.

The Insider: Bringing the Kingdom of God Into Your Everyday World by Jim Petersen and Mike Shamy.

As a citizen of God's kingdom, you are already uniquely positioned to live out your kingdom citizenship among the people you relate to every day. God has called you to be an "insider" to your family, neighborhood, and workplace. As

you adopt the winsome patters of a kingdom lifestyle, people in your life will see that there is, indeed, a better way to live. In *The Insider*, the author helps you:

- See your family, neighborhood, and workplace through kingdom eyes
- Discover God's eternal purposes and the strategic place of the insider
- Overcome the obstacles to fruitfulness
- Form new kingdom lifestyle patterns

Year-to-Date Financial Update

Year-to-Date Giving Needed	\$ 186,660
Year-to-Date Giving	\$ 169,707

September 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				

September Birthdays

1 Quinton Custer	15 Yolanda Reyes
4 Terri Wright	15 Zachary Brennan
5 Stephanie Brennan	20 Caroline Blanchard
9 Crystal Kirgiss	20 Jonathan Mills
10 Kelli Mann	20 Richard Johnson
13 Ella Sabel	22 Tim Wiggins
13 Maddie Holder	25 Brenda Swift
14 Austin Mann	30 Jeff Farley
14 Shelby Mann	

Schedule of Events

- September 3, 10, 17, 24 — Women's Bible Study *Fingerprints of God* at Riverside, 6:30 p.m.
- September 5 & 19 — Reading Group @ Einstein's, 7 a.m.
- September 7, 14, 21, 28 — Discovery Hour, 9 a.m.
- September 7 — Communion Sunday
- September 7 — Youth Fall Kick-Off
- September 12, 6 p.m. — Riverside Game Night
- September 15, 22, 29 — Men's Bible Study *The Insider* at Riverside, 7 p.m.
- September 21 — Mission's Committee Meeting @ Riverside, 11:15 a.m..

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