

# RIVERSIDE WATERLINE

Riverside Covenant Church

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2009

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## Upcoming Sermons:

- February 15 – 2 John  
(Communion)
- February 22 – 3 John
- March 1 – The Old Way  
(First Sunday of Lent)
- March 8 – The New Way
- March 15 – One Final  
Sacrifice
- March 22 – For All  
(Communion)

## Thoughts from Pastor Dan

In the Gospels Jesus approaches those he has chosen to be his disciples and calls them to "come, follow me." The remarkable thing is that they do. They leave what they are doing and follow him.

The more I think about this the more odd it seems. We want to be leaders. We don't like to follow. We don't like others calling the shots for us. Although we say we desire to serve God, we want to serve on our own terms. We want to decide how we will live our lives as disciples. Notice though, that Jesus' first disciples were not called to "do" anything for Jesus, they were simply told to "follow."

Why does this distinction matter? If we are leading our faith lives then we are choosing which things to say and do for Jesus. These things are not likely harm-

ful, but they may be different than what God is calling us to do. Our faith journey should be about following Jesus. This means that we must seek to find God at work around us and then partner with God in the work He is already doing.

Said another way, we, as believers in Jesus Christ are God's team called to be witnesses to the world. We can *choose* to work at a local soup kitchen or build a house in Mexico, but what if instead God is calling us to invite our neighbor over for dinner. We are called as Christians to be less concerned about designing our own ways to serve God, and more concerned about hearing God's voice and following it to wherever it leads.

The first disciples did not have any notions of what it meant to "do" things for



Jesus, they simply walked behind him and watched and listened. How would our perspective of God change if we no longer thought of the things we could do or say for God throughout our day, but simply watched and listened for God at work around us? What if instead of thinking of things to do for God, we noticed God at work and allowed the Holy Spirit to show us how we could participate? Then we would truly be followers of Jesus Christ. We would truly be disciples.

## Youth Ministry

*“we had to think about our love for Jesus and commitment to him. Is it radical like it was in the early days of the church? Do we love Him more than anything else? Lots of thinking...”*



Fueling up...yum!



Falling on our faces playing broom ball



Do what?? With bananas?

What a month January was!! It feels like it has been forever and a day ago that we piled into vans and headed 12 hours (Mapquest promised us it would only be 8.5 hours!) up to Covenant Point for our amazing ski retreat with Battle Ground United Methodist Church as our guests. We took nearly 30 students to UP Michigan for 2 days of fun in the snow and 2 days of lots of driving and bathroom stops!! So...we got a big van stuck in the snow on the way there, we were 3 hours late, and the next morning we were told that skiing was going to be twice as expensive. BUT!!! We got the van out and Ski Brule honored the price that we were originally quoted. After that it was smooth sailing. We had a great day skiing, we went sledding, played broom ball, ate, a lot, did the ice hole dip, and had evening CLUB ANGST. We talked a lot about relationships-with parents, God, friends, significant others-and had follow-up cabin time to get deeper with our cabins. The last night Zach from the Battle Ground church spoke and we had a time where students could verbalize what things in their life hold them back from experiencing God to the fullest. The response

was insane. Students were prayed for and we grew so close as a group!!!! Praise God for a safe, wonderful trip where students were healed and able to draw close to our Lord!!

Later in the month I got the chance to introduce the Riverside students to one of the best 80's movies ever made, The Karate Kid. After several eye rolls and references made about my lack of taste we started the film-after 5 minutes they were hooked!! Hah! I win! We had an awesome time hanging out, eating lots of ice cream and popcorn, and of course, texting. On Sunday we had two newcomers to Senior High. Luckily they came on a night that everyone was hyper, loud, obnoxious, and all around CRAZY!!! It was so fun. Again, we ate a ton of junk and got caught up. Then came the good part-we've been studying the book Crazy Love, and Ryan and I had the chance to see the author, Francis Chan in person at our youth workers convention. We decided to show his talk to the senior high and wow, what impact. He spoke a lot about what the church looked like in the book of Acts and then just asked-is that what you look like?? It really stretched us-there were some tears-and we had to think about our love for Jesus and commitment to him. Is it radical like it was in the early days

of the church? Do we love Him more than anything else? Lots of thinking, lots of fun.

Another fun week was spent with the Riverside students going to everyone's school events! Miranda had a half-time dance show at Benton Central so we drove, and drove, and drove and finally got out there-it was awesome. I did get some funny looks from some farm kids with my purple hair though!! We also went ice skating and learned that the Fisher's mom is AMAZING and has taught lessons and can do those cool "spinnny" things!! Even though it was freezing we had a great time. We started planning for spring break and the summer as well-I wanted to get their feedback on camps and mission trips-interestingly enough they almost unanimously voted for a mission trip. It's really encouraging that they would give up a week at a five-star camp to serve people!! We also launched our devotional challenge-one month until the 30-Hour Famine so whoever gets their daily devotional done every day until then gets a prize. It's really with the intention of getting their hearts prepared for the Famine and hopefully to create a habit of talking to God every day! We ended the month with a little twist on communion. We served bagels with grape jelly and

## Youth Ministry Cont.

grape juice boxes instead of bread and a sip of juice. They served each other-we made them really uncomfortable and had them say- "this is the body broken for you" to each other, the same with the juice-it was really cool-we had candles and music-they enjoyed seeing communion a

little differently, and hopefully it spoke to their hearts as well! God continues to work every week in the hearts of the students-I am seriously blessed by this ministry and hope you are too!! Coming up...babysitting for Parent's Night Out, LOTS of fundraising for our 30-Hour Famine, March 13-14, a new

study from Dare to Share Ministries on how to spread the Gospel to all different people with all kinds of religious backgrounds, and our ongoing Devotional Challenge to prepare our hearts and minds for what God is going to do at our Famine!!!



"Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him."  
Psalm 34:8

## Nursery Ministry

If you've been downstairs during Sunday morning worship anytime in the last few weeks, you may have noticed that the Guardian Angel position has been restored. The Guardian Angel follows the children downstairs when they are released from the worship service and remains in the hallway, on call, to summon any parental help needed or to

replace any teacher who needs to take a child to the restroom. Hopefully, soon our numbers of volunteers for this position will be great enough that no angel will need to guard more than once a month .

Another need we have in the nurseries is to fill a position in the walker nursery on any 5th

Sunday or to serve as a substitute when those on duty have a conflict. This position begins at 8:45 and lasts till about 11:25.

If either of these positions sounds like a way you would like to serve Riverside, please contact Rebecca Springs (765)426-7917 [malcolm.rebecca@comcast.net](mailto:malcolm.rebecca@comcast.net)

## Promiseland Chatter

Hello, from the busy rooms of Promiseland!

As I look out the window today, everything looks different. There are about six inches of white fluffy stuff all over everything. This reminds me of how thankful I am that every day when I get up I can choose to be different that day. With God's help through the Holy Spirit, I can choose to be more like Christ that day. This is our goal for your children: that we can help to grow that desire for them to choose every day to

be different for Christ.

Our 3-to-5-year-olds are following a sequential view of God's story from the Bible throughout the year. During this third unit of the winter quarter, our children will hear miraculous stories from Jesus' life that show He can do anything. They will relive the time when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, healed a centurion's servant, stilled a storm, and gave sight to the blind Bartimaeus.

The K-through-3<sup>rd</sup>-graders are

learning how Jesus teaches us to live. They will hear the salvation message and be invited to ask Jesus to be their Forever Friend. The Good Samaritan story will show them Jesus wants us to treat others as we would want to be treated. They will hear the Lord's Prayer and learn that they can praise God and ask Him for things they need, for help to obey, and for forgiveness.

The children in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will learn about spiritual gifts and how they are used to

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*"...our goal for your children: that we can help to grow that desire for them to choose every day to be different for Christ."*



## Promiseland Chatter cont.

serve and build up the Church. They will learn the Holy Spirit gives gifts to Christians and how each gift is vital to the growth, health, and welfare of the Church.

Some new and exciting things are happening this year in Promiseland. I am in the process of developing a ministry support team. We have had our first meeting and it was very encouraging to me.

Thank you, Kelly and Dana for being a part of this team. Parents, please feel free to come to any one of us with your ideas or concerns for Promiseland. We value your opinion.

We have a group of women who pray for Promiseland weekly. Thank you, Melissa and the "prayer ladies", for faithfully lifting Promiseland up to God each week.

I feel so blessed with God's faithfulness to this ministry. As we step out in faith to implement new ideas and ministry areas, He is faithful to provide all we need to move forward. Hebrews 11:1 says, "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

Serving Him together,  
Dar Muehlhausen



*Yes, I am the vine; you  
are the branches.*

*Those who remain in  
me, and I in them, will  
produce much fruit.*

*For apart from me you  
can do nothing.*

*John 15:5 NLT*

## Women's Ministry

### *Bible Study*

Our Women's winter Bible study has been meeting on Wednesdays 6:30pm - 8:30pm at Riverside. We are doing a 7 week study entitled "Stepping Up" by Beth Moore. "Stepping Up" is a journey through the Psalms of Ascent. It explores Psalms 120-134. Traveling pilgrims sang these psalms both on the way to the great festivals of the Jews and as key elements of the worship at those festivals. During the study, we have also been collecting personal items (shampoo, deodorant, soap, etc.) to donate to the women and men of

Trinity Mission.

### *Crafting Event*

The January Craft Event for the Women's Ministry was a success in learning the fundamentals of knitting, crocheting, and scrapbooking. Needles and hooks were provided as well as yarn to start learning both crafts. Ladies learned basic stitches in knitting and crocheting to move toward projects like scarves, slippers, and a plarn bag. For scrapbooking, ladies got some lessons in us-

ing online picture hosting websites to create digital scrapbooks as well. Keep your eyes open for the February Craft Event date and time to be announced soon.



## Men's Ministry

### *Men's Retreat*

The 2009 Indiana Covenant Men's Retreat will be held at Camp Tecumseh **Friday, March 6-Sunday, March 8.**

This year's theme is *Being a Man of God...Spring Training!* Mike Rasmussen with Mission Uprising will be the speaker.

There are various costs for the retreat depending on the

number of nights you stay. Scholarships are also available. For more information about the retreat or to register, pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center. Pastor Dan Teefey (dteefey@rcovenant.org) and Dave Timmerman (dtimmerman@rcovenant.org) are your Riverside contacts if you have any questions.



**Mike Rasmussen speaker for this year's Indiana Covenant Men's Retreat. Mike is married and have 2 children ages 12 and 10. His passion is for advancing the Kingdom. He also enjoys God's creation through fishing, hunting, camping, running and biking and riding in his Jeep with the top down!**

## Getting to Know...

Would you like to be featured in this column in an upcoming issue of the Riverside Waterline? Or do you have someone you would like to see featured? Submit your suggestions to Babby by email to office@rcovenant.org or by phone 463.4600.

## Maturity Class 201

The Riverside Maturity Class is a course designed to help Christ followers progress in their Christian lives through the study and practice of spiritual disciplines. The class looks at Biblical principles for spiritual growth and

the process of growth, and explores sixteen spiritual disciplines including Bible study, prayer, fellowship and fasting.

The class will meet Sunday, February 22 from 11:30 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. and lunch will be provided.

Sign up by checking the appropriate box on the back of the Welcome Card in the bulletin and turning that in through the offering.

The class will be taught by Dave Timmerman.



**"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."**

**Galatians 5:22-23**

## Community News

### *The United Tour—Michael W. Smith & Steven Curtis Chapman Concert*

On Sunday, March 29, 2009 at 7 p.m. Michael W. Smith and Steven Curtis Chapman will perform in concert at Elliott Hall of Music. Group discounts are available. Dead-

line to reserve group seating is **February 9 at noon.** Call 765-496-1977 for details or pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center.

### *ECC 2009 Marriage Seminar*

ECC's marriage seminar, "I Promised..." will be held Saturday, February 21st, 9:30a.m.-5:00p.m. at ECC. Guest speak-

ers will be Bill and Lisa Orris. Cost per couple is \$30 and lunch is provided. Registration is due by **February 8.** You can register online at ecclife.net or contact the church office at 474-4842.

For more information, pick up a card at the Welcome Center.

*For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.*

**Genesis 2:24**

RIVERSIDE COVENANT  
CHURCH

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

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February Birthdays

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1 Elijah Stanley   | 22 Brisa Reyes   |
| 3 Jerry Romjue     | 22 Jerry Tanner  |
| 4 Tory Kirgiss     | 22 Megan Mills   |
| 6 Eric Jonas       | 22 Laura Nick    |
| 7 Kurt Watt        | 23 Carol Kuebler |
| 7 Missy Watt       | 23 Kurt Harker   |
| 16 Hannah Davidson | 24 Wayne Ausk    |
| 19 Thomas Fisher   | 25 Becky Wellner |
| 19 Tim Madden      | 27 Judith Wade   |
| 20 John Wade       | 27 Karen Hickman |
| 21 Denise Smith    | 27 Marion Samuel |

FEBRUARY 2009

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

**February Schedule of  
Events:**

- Sundays, February 1, 8, 15, 22
  - ⊕ Discovery Hour @ 9 a.m.
  - ⊕ Worship @ 10:15 a.m.
  - ⊕ Jr High meets @ 3-4:30 p.m.
  - ⊕ Sr High meets 6:30-8 p.m.
- Mondays, February 2, 9, 16, 23 – Men’s Bible study at Riverside, 7 p.m.

- Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 – Women’s Bible study at Riverside, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 – Men’s Bible study at Riverside, 6:30 a.m.
- Friday, February 20 – Parent’s Night Out at Riverside, 5:30-9:30 p.m.
- Sunday, February 22, 11:30-2:00 – Riverside Maturity Class 201

**Upcoming:**

- Friday, March 6–Sunday, March 8 – Covenant Men’s Retreat at Camp Tecumseh
- Saturday, March 21 – Men’s Breakfast at Riverside

