

Riverside Waterline



Riverside Covenant Church

Riverside Waterline

Thoughts from Pastor Dan

My Resurrection Story

April brings the Easter season and our celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is not just a celebration of a past event though. It is also a celebration of what Jesus has done to us. We all have resurrection stories that proclaim that “he is risen.” Here is mine. Good news!

My spiritual journey has been a testament to God’s persistence and steadfastness in molding individuals that seek after him into leaders who will labor for him. I grew up in a Roman Catholic Church and attended first through eighth grades at a private Catholic school. Although I learned the basics of the Christian faith, I was never pushed to study or think about how that faith should affect the way I thought and managed my life. My family was active in our Catholic church, but I never fully comprehended Jesus’ sacrifice and how that atoned for my sins.

I coasted through high school gaining athletic, academic, and leadership success and thinking little about spiri-

tual things except for Sunday visits to the Catholic Church and a Catholic youth group. I lived a “moral” life, but it was clear that I planned to drift through life on my own abilities and powers. I continued to view religion and Christianity merely as a rule-based foundation which dictated what “good people” ought and ought not do. This view prevented me from doing many of the harmful things that my peers were doing, but it also led me to believe that my actions alone dictated God’s love for me and my ability to enter into heaven.

It was not until my freshman year at the University of Illinois that I was confronted with a view of Christianity that affected every aspect of my life. One day a student on my dormitory floor asked if I would be interested in attending a bible study. I had never really read the bible on my own, but a bible study seemed like a “good” thing to do, so I agreed to take part. As the weeks went by, I learned that Christianity was less about trying to be perfect and more about acknowledging that

you could never be perfect, and thus needed Jesus’ atonement for sin. After the pastor leading the bible study shared with me the “bridge diagram” and explained to me my need for a personal relationship with Jesus, I accepted Christ into my life and began to learn more about God’s great sacrifice for all people. I immediately became involved in a campus church through Great Commission Ministries called Illini Life. It was there that I began to foster the character and ministry skills that are essential in impacting others with the message of Christ.



“...He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ’s blood on the cross.”
Colossians 1:20b NLT

Inside this issue:

<i>Women’s Ministry</i>	2
<i>Getting to Know</i>	2
<i>Mission’s Ministry</i>	3
<i>Community News</i>	3
<i>Mission’s Ministry cont.</i>	4
<i>Promiseland Chatter</i>	4
<i>Youth Ministry</i>	5
<i>Calendar, Birthdays and Anniversaries</i>	6

April Sermons:

- April 5, Palm Sunday—Mark 11:1-11
- April 12, Easter—Mark 16
- April 19—Dave Timmerman
- April 26—Luke 6:47-49

Women's Ministry

Ladies Spring Luncheon

Join us to celebrate spring at the Riverside Ladies' Spring Luncheon, **Saturday, April 18, from 12:00-2:00 p.m.** The theme is "Bloom Where You're Planted". This is a day that has been prayerfully planned to be inspiring, refreshing, and fun. We will have special music, three inspiring speakers, entertainment, fantastic food, other surprises, and a gathering of wonderful women in fellowship.

You can find a sign up sheet in the Welcome Center on Sunday. If you want to host a table, which doesn't mean you have to fill the seats just furnish and decorate the table top, then reserve a



"Bloom Where You're Planted"

spot and pick up a hostess sheet with the instructions for hosting. This is a opportunity to bring your friends and family to an event that will stretch you spiritually. We are asking our Riverside women to bring a salad or a dessert to share, and we want others to just come and be our guests. We are looking forward to seeing you there! Any questions can be answered by Nancy Umbeck at numbeck@yahoo.com or 497.9270.

Riverside Women's Retreat

Ladies, we have an opportunity to attend a national women's conference, right here in our own backyard. The "Women of Faith" conference is at the Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. Riverside's Women's Ministry is

planning a three day retreat and we want you to attend! This retreat is time away for inspiration, refreshment, instruction, and fellowship. We cherish such days because the time away can help us put the "things" of our lives into perspective - into eternal perspective.

We will be leaving Friday, August 7 and returning on Sunday, August 9. Currently we have 26 tickets @ \$55 each for the conference. Our hotel reservations are at the Comfort Inn and Suites West, the room rate is \$77 a night (inc. tax) for two queen size beds per room. They will allow four people to a room. Reservations will be accepted on a first come basis. Come to our Riverside office if you want to participate in a payment plan, Babby will be able to assist you. For more information on the conference visit the Women of Faith website www.womenoffaith.com, or contact Nancy Umbeck numbeck@yahoo.com.

Getting to Know the Brennans

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

Zachary, Stephanie, Nathan (2.5 yrs old), Cameron (7 months old)

What are your occupations?

Zach teaches mathematics to at-risk students at Jefferson High School. Stephanie teaches special education to students with moderate and severe disabilities at Tecumseh Junior High School.

What brought you to West Lafayette / Lafayette?

Zach moved to West Lafayette in 1998 to attend Purdue University. He studied mathematics education and didn't think about changing his major one time. Once he graduated from Purdue, Zach decided he enjoyed the area and began looking for a teaching job in the Lafayette Area.

Stephanie graduated from New Albany High School and decided to attend Purdue University the following fall. She began studying computer engineering, but she soon changed her major to special education when she felt led to educate students

with special needs.

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

Our friends, Isaac and Emily Seevers, invited us to Riverside one weekend because they found out we had been attending different churches trying to find our home. We loved the welcoming family, modern music, and real sermons.

What do you do for fun?

Zach enjoys anything having to do with sports. He spends much of his time in the summer golfing and playing basketball. That has changed a lot over the last three years and majority of Zach's time is now spent playing with his two sons.

Stephanie enjoys doing creative activities, including arts and crafts, painting, or even coloring with crayons. Reading is another hobby that Stephanie wishes she had more time to complete.

Nathan loves playing with trains, trucks, swords, and pirate ships. He also loves



Stephanie, Cameron, Zach and Nathan

putting together puzzles, playing in his sand table, and his new skills in corn hole. When the weather is pleasant, Nathan likes to ride on the back of the bicycle.

Cameron has just learned how to crawl, so his new hobby is to explore the house from ankle level. He also likes to taste everything except food.

What is a fun fact or memory about you?

Zach and Stephanie met while she worked at the Purdue Recreation Center. She was the new girl in the bowling center and he had just begun teaching mathematics after graduating from college and his job as the student manager of the Recreation Center. Oddly enough, Zach's parents also met in a bowling alley. Zach and Stephanie both have their own bowling balls, tie dye, leopard, print and sparkly ones.

Missions Ministry

Young Life Rent-A-Kid

Exciting things are happening at Greater Lafayette Young Life/ WyldLife! Plans are underway for our summer camps coming up in June. We plan on taking 25 middle school teens to Timber Wolf Lake in Michigan and 50 High school teens to Rockbridge Alum Springs in Virginia.

Due to increases in costs, we are providing several opportunities for teens and adult leaders to raise some funds towards their camp fees and that's where you come in! Do you have any jobs around your home or office that you have been putting off? Here is your chance to help send a kid to camp and get your work completed at the same time! For \$100, you can **RENT-A-KID** and receive 6 man hours (one leader and one kid for three hours together) of work. Pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center for details.

Please notify the Young Life Office 765-429-8988 with any of your job needs or you can contact Mark Kirgiss at kirgoyl@nlci.com. We will gather the specifics of your job and connect the right individuals to your job. All jobs are to be completed between now and May 23, 2009. If you have any questions, feel free to call the Young Life Office at 429.8988 for more information.



If you don't have any jobs and would prefer to make a donation to our Camp Scholarship Fund, opportunities for kids to work to earn that money will be available to them. All gifts are

tax deductible and checks should be made out to Young Life and mailed to the Young Life Office at PO Box 2630, West Lafayette, IN 47996.

Operation Elim

Friday March 27th, a Lafayette postal carrier got a serious workout. They picked up forty-four Large flat rate shipping boxes and nine regular flat rate shipping boxes, all headed to Elim, Alaska...

You may (or may not) remember several weeks ago Everette shared the vision for "Operation Elim". Our desire was to send boxes to every family in the tiny town of Elim, Alaska. Boxes filled with food, toys, games, etc. with a personal touch. There were 46 families on the list. Those of you Smarty-Pants-Math Whizzes have already put two-and-two together. But for the rest of you (like

me), I will spell it out for you. We had seven extra boxes!!! Many of you sent two boxes and several of you packed boxes even after all the families had been assigned.

We decided to send the extra boxes to the Terry and Therese Allen (the pastor of the only church in Elim) so that they can use what they need and distribute the rest as they see fit. I got a chance to peek in a few boxes, and I was so moved by the time and effort many of you put into packing your boxes. I am confident the recipients will be also. I would be remiss if I let you think this project went off without the tiniest of hitches. Not on your end! You were all awesome about getting your boxes in by the deadline. The hiccup occurred when we (the Mills Family) tried to print the shipping labels.



Boxes heading to Elim, Alaska

Everette waited until we got all the boxes in before we paid for the shipping- because it is cheaper that way, and because we needed

to know how many boxes of each size to order. We thought we could do it quite easily through Paypal, just click, and ship! Oops. Not so. Paypal is having some sort of contract dispute over the price of the large Continued on page 4

Community News

Focus on the Family Garage Sale

The date set for the Focus on the Family Garage Sale is Saturday, June 13. As you do your spring cleaning, keep the garage sale in mind and save all your treasures to donate. You may drop off your items at 906 Northwestern Ave. starting June 1st. If you can't wait until that date or if you have any questions, contact Nancy Umbeck (765-497-9270).



This project benefits so many. Last year we sent a check to Focus on the Family for \$6,425.70, gave baby items to Matrix, books to Clinton County Prison, and West Lafayette Book Sale. We gave Ty animals to South African and Kenyan orphanages, gym bags and backpacks to a Dallas inter-city mission, as well as donating \$655 in vouchers to different local groups to shop at Goodwill. You are an important part of this ministry!

St. Mary's Neighborhood Association Tea

You are invited to attend this tea on Thursday, April 16th at 3:00 p.m. at Cumberland Pointe Health Campus (formerly George Davis Manor) 1051 Cumberland Ave., West Lafayette, Suites Lounge. There will be a preview showing of Out of the Trunk Wedding Treasures. Please RSVP to Judy Puetz at 463-2571.

Mission's Ministry cont.

flat rate shipping boxes. Ironically, with the company Everette used to work for. So we jumped over to the USPS website, no problem, we could import the addresses and do batch labels. We could only do 10 at a time but that still wasn't too bad. Until we realized that this function was busted. Everette and his computer "geekiness" tried to work around the system and get it to do what he wanted. No success. So we were stuck entering them one-by-one. To top it off our noble credit card company froze our card due to suspicious activity (yes, 53 flat rate shipping charges to the post office qualifies as suspicious)! In the end it all worked out, price wise too, but had we been prepared for this we could have simply printed the labels out as they came. Thank you all for your participation, it was awesome, and we are looking forward to doing it again.

So the next thing to do is pray. (See the list to the side.)

As soon as we hear from the Allen's we will let you know! Thanks again for everything!

Megan Mills

Promiseland Chatter

Conspire, Connect, and Inspire for the spiritual growth of every child God sends our way was the focus of the Children's Ministry Conference Dana Teehey and I attended in March. The three-day event, hosted by Willow Creek Church in South Barrington, Illinois, was both educational and encouraging for Dana and me.

Phil Vischer, creator of Veggie Tales and Jellyfish Labs, painted a vivid picture of the way culture is influencing children and presented practical suggestions for better serving both children and parents in the spiritual formation process.

Mark Holmen and David Teixeira, pastors from Ventura, California, shared passing faith along to our chil-

Pray for these things:

- *All the boxes would make it and even on the same day!*
- *That even though these boxes came from far away and we have never met the people receiving them, the love of Christ would pour from those boxes and cover the people in Elim.*
- *That God would give Terry and Therese the words to respond to the townspeople who may have questions or thoughts, that they would have opportunities to share the Good News of Christ because of these boxes.*
- *That God would meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the people in Elim through these boxes.*
- *That Paypal will settle their dispute and next year we can just click and ship!*



"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..."
1 Peter 1:3 NIV

dren has to be the responsibility of the entire body of Christ. Their "faith at home" movement teaches practical ways to connect parents, senior leaders, and other ministries to accomplish this effort.

Dana attended sessions on spiritual formation in toddlers, understanding how the way we discipline can help or hurt a child for the rest of his life, and music and motion in early childhood. I attended sessions on creating sets for kids without blowing your budget, creative environments on a budget and with volunteers, and when you unexpectedly find yourself leading a children's ministry.



*He is Risen!
Happy Easter!*

Last of all, we were blessed by a concert from Sarah Groves as she shared her heart for serving the Lord through her music.

It was a privilege to attend this conference and I pray God will use this experience for us to better serve the Children's Ministry at Riverside.

Serving Him together,
Dar Muehlhuasen

Youth Ministry

March started off with a little Mexican fiesta at the Wellner house-the senior high girls all gathered to hear God's thought on sex and dating sprinkled with a few quesadilla's and lots of Sunny D!! It was a great night of getting personal with what their plans are for purity. Everyone had had a pretty rough week so we also prayed for each gal individually, laying hands on her and just letting her stand in the Spirit! That Saturday evening Ryan loaded up the ol' Suburban and took all the boys down to Indy to see a hockey game and had wonderful man time!! Then the stomach flu hit our house and that was that. Praise God for family and friends that helped as I recovered! We got to celebrate Abby's birthday with a little ice cream cake the following week-let's just say it was the best cake since Baskin Robin's train cakes back in the 80's!!

Next we geared up to starve!! What an amazing weekend we had doing the 30 Hour Famine! I have to say, fasting is not something that readily comes to mind when I think of fun youth activities...BUT our students lasted all 30 hours with little to no complaining. We started the weekend getting to know each-other and then we had a good friend, David Hawkins, lead us in worship. Even though it took me 45 minutes to figure out how to turn up the microphone, God was good and met us all during this time. After a brief period where students could check in with their texting buddies we set out for Purdue where we prayed over the fire house, Bar Barry Liquors, Greyhouse Coffee Co., and the bank just to name a few. As we walked we encouraged the

students to be silent and reflect on our abundant lives in Lafayette. We even had a little persecution for some partiers, but we were in good company! To top off the evening we lit 600 candles and had the students sit in silence as the leaders blew one out every 3 seconds. When one candle remained lit we let them know the candles stood for a person that died of hunger-600 in the 30 minutes it took to blow them out. Wow was it powerful!! The next day we slept in a little and then headed out to collect cans of food around the neighborhood. We ran into some really wonderful people that blessed us with over 100 cans of food! We also sent students to



On the third day he will rise again.
Luke 18:33 NIV

the local Starbucks where we sold plates that had hunger facts on them for a dollar or whatever someone wanted to give. We received \$75 in an hour!!! That will

feed a child for 3 months. We threw in a fun game of ding dong ditch where we went and prayed for people we love around the city, left them an encouraging note, rang the doorbell and ran-it was a hoot! To end our time we made 1,028 crosses for our front yard symbolizing how many children would die during our worship service the next morning from hunger. On Sunday we shared a little from our weekend. Zhanna brought tears to our eyes as she shared what the weekend meant to her, and our Riverside family responded in a huge way...giving over \$1000 to World Vision!!! What an amazing testimony to the hearts of God's children and what a blessing to our hearts in the youth program!

During West Side's spring break I had the chance to get to know the Swift twins really well as we served at 2 of our local shelters. On Thursday, we worked at the Women's Emergency Shelter where women and children in abusive situations can stay for up to a month as they work out their home lives. We moved donations out of the basement and washed windows. The shelter coordinator was awesome and invited us back. They get some state funding but to keep up their building it takes hundreds of volunteer hours! We took the afternoon off and went on an adventure around the Tippecanoe Battlefield and then stayed up way too late watching Mama Mia☺ We got up at 4:30am the next morning, picked up the Mann twins, and made our way to Lafayette Urban Ministry where we made a pancake breakfast for the homeless guests. It was awesome-we made sausage and 3 kinds of pancakes including chocolate chip!! One of the guests shared that they hadn't had a breakfast of more than a granola bar in over a year, it was heart-breaking but totally made getting out of bed early worth it. We topped off the morning with breakfast at Christos and then all went home to catch a little more sleep before everyone else at home woke up. The kids sacrificed spring break time to help others and were more than willing-no one made them-they were fantastic examples of Christ's hands and feet!!!

In April we will wrap up our Dare 2 Share Gospel Journey Maui series at youth group and focus on fundraising for our mission trips to Birmingham, AL and Cass Lake Native American Reservation, MN. Get ready for some hot pink birds in your front yard, compliments of the Youth Group!! As you pray for the students at Riverside, pray for their courage to be different, to love the Lord at church, home, and school, and also for God to raise up people that love Jesus, kids, messes, and desire to walk alongside our youth so that we can multiply and create deeper relationships and bring them along in their faith!!

Riverside

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



April Birthdays

1 Tim Fisher
2 Caleb Hurley
2 Landon Hurley
2 Colleen Swift
2 Kelly Swift
6 Nathaniel Irvin
10 Doug Wright
11 Anthony Springs
13 Leo Rush
16 Lindsey Madden
17 Reece Farley
18 Ethan Watt

19 Paul Seebald
21 John Umbeck
22 Melissa Kraus
24 Troy Wittke
25 Debby Smiley
30 Nikki Hurley

Anniversaries

1 Tom & Debby Smiley
6 Wayne & Rhonda Ausk
17 Craig & Nikki Hurley
20 Stan & Kathy McDowell
27 James & Kelli Mann

April Schedule of Events:

- Sunday, April 5
 - No Discovery Hour
 - Worship @ 10:15 a.m.
 - Jr. High meets @ 3-4:30 p.m.
 - Sr. High meets 6:30-8 p.m.
- Sunday, April 12
 - No Discovery Hour
 - Worship @ 10:15 a.m. (children go directly to Children's Church)
 - No Jr. or Sr. High youth meetings
- Sundays, April 19, 26
 - 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.
- Sunday, April 26, 12-3:30 p.m. — Discovering Riverside 101 Class
- Mondays, April 6, 13, 20, 27— Men's Bible study at Riverside, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 7 — Youth soup night at LUM
- Tuesday, April 14, 6:30 p.m.— Leadership Team meeting
- Thursdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 — Men's Bible Study at Riverside, 6:30 a.m.
- Thursday, April 9, 6:30 p.m. — Maundy Thursday Service
- Saturday, April 18, 12-2 p.m. — Women's Spring Luncheon at Riverside



Maundy Thursday Service on April 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Nursery provided for children 0-2.

APRIL 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	29	30		