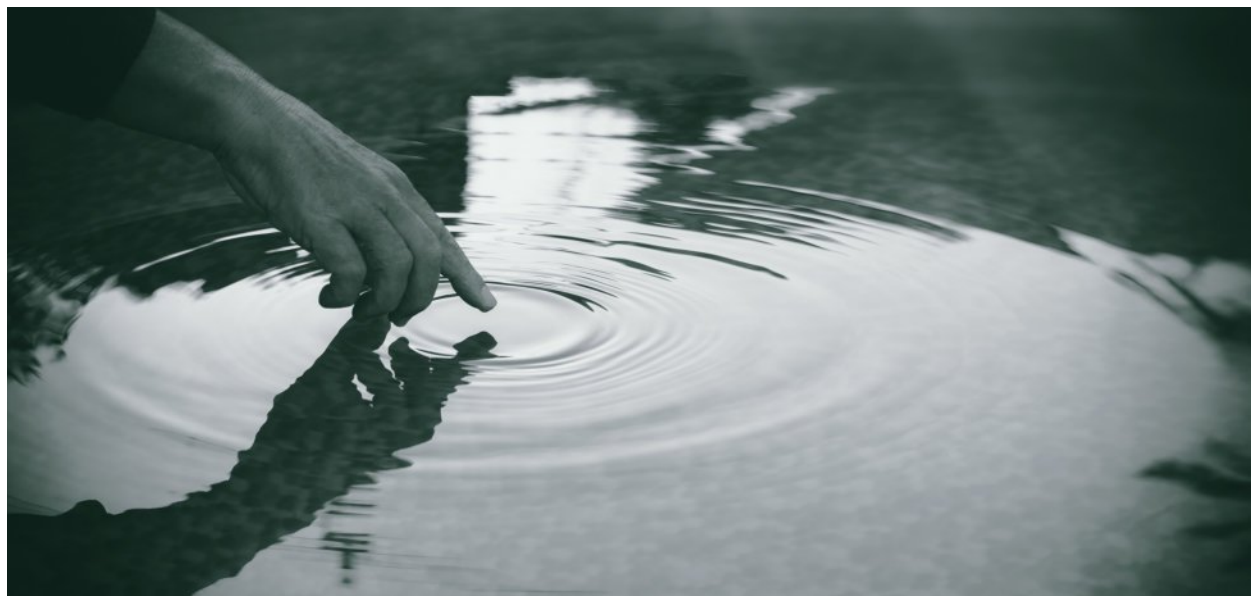


“God honors the one who serves with love... God rewards ripple makers.”



From the Pastor's Pen

Pastor Tom Maurer

Drop a single stone into still water and see what happens with the water. Small circles become bigger circles that expand beyond the point of impact. One word, one action, one movement has the power to spread across the lives of many. This is true in a negative sense but is also true in a positive sense. A kind word, a sweet smile, a loving gesture has the ability to affect and change those around us. They create ripples in people's lives.



Ecclesiastes 11:1 states, “Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shall find it after many days.” In ancient times, goods were shipped across the waters. It was a risky venture, but usually a beneficial, lucrative one. The result of putting your goods onto the transporter was one of significant reward. In a spiritual sense, our generous giving, our thoughtful actions, our kind service will have profound impact in at least two ways.

At first the movement may seem slow or even subtle, but as we invest our thoughtfulness, our kindness, our faithfulness, it will cause ripples”. There will be results. There will be positive effects that come from our positive actions. Cast

Ripple Makers | O Come, Let Us Sing...

your bread: your time, your resources, your talents, your testimony into the pool of life and see what God does with it. The subtleness of our deliberate actions causes real change in the lives of others.

Cast your bread upon the waters with complete confidence. There will be a result. There will be a reward. A generous act, a kind word, a benevolent gesture does not go unnoticed or unrewarded by our Great God. He promises payback. He promises a reward. He promised return. He promises grace in the moment and glory in the end. It will return.

You don't always see the payoff right away. Sometimes it takes "many days". What you release with wisdom and kindness has a way of returning – often in ways that you do not expect. Often the reward comes in small and subtle just like those ripples but that is how God works. He works over time, not in instant results.

Love when it's risky, do good even when it goes unnoticed, invest effort even when the results are not foreseen. But know as we make ripples in the water, as we invest in God's works, when we cast our bread upon the waters a result is generated. God honors the one who serves with love. God blesses those who perform intentional acts of kindness. God rewards the "ripple makers".

So, give, serve, love - - cast your bread upon the waters, they will return, you will be rewarded after many days. Ripples bring reward.

"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." ~ Jeremiah 33:5

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O Come, Let Us Sing Unto the Lord!

Pastor Terry Easter

"O COME, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods." Psalm 95:1-3



This Psalm is filled with adoration to our God. The key verse in this chapter is verse 3. "For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods (rulers)". The word "great" in this verse means "exceedingly far greater than man. A man may think he is great. He can state emphatically to all around him that he is great. He may even convince many people that he is great. But when compared to the greatness of God, man's greatness is a mere spec on the canvas of life.

The verb "come" (v2) means "to go to meet God face-to-face, to be in His presence." Most

O Come, Let Us Sing... (cont.) | A Midweek Melody...



religions of the world say “work” to appease your god. They are void of joy. Our God says, Come into my presence and fellowship with me. We are to come into His presence with singing and with joyful noises to the rock of our salvation. He alone is our foundation. He alone gives us sure footing in this unstable world. What an awesome privilege to come into His presence.

We come with thanksgiving meaning we come with an extension of the hand and adoration (v2). We come with shouting. Verses 1 and 2 “joyful noise” means to shout triumphantly. Joy, peace, and contentment are the end result of coming into the presence of our Lord. Psalm 16:11 says, “Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.”

The challenge for believers is to prepare for worship. Just as we prepare for special guests in our home, effort should be made to prepare our hearts and minds for worship both in our personal and corporate worship. May it be our desire to enter our worship

times prepared to give glory and honor to our great God!

Each time Riverview Baptist gathers for worship may we be reminded of this great truth. We are coming into His presence. We are worshipping the God of the universe. We are praising the King of Kings. O COME

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A Midweek Melody You Wont Want to Miss!

Aidan & Gracyn Williams

Looking for a joyful, meaningful way to help your children grow in their faith—right in the middle of the week? The Wednesday Night Children’s Choir Class is buzzing with music, Scripture, and smiles, and we’d love for more families to join us!

Each Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m., children gather in the China/India Room for a lively hour designed especially for kids in Kindergarten through 7th grade (give or take!). Whether your child loves to sing or is just beginning to find their voice, this class is a welcoming place to learn, worship the Lord, and have fun.

This year, we’ve been continuing a journey through the entire Bible using a wonderful curriculum called “The Biggest Story.” Each week features an engaging lesson, a short video, and a hands-on activity that helps kids see how all of Scripture points to God’s great plan of redemption. It’s big truth, told in a way kids can truly understand and enjoy.

Of course, it wouldn’t be choir without singing! Every week, the room is filled with joyful noise as the kids sing fun and familiar songs like “The Fruit of the Spirit” and “Be a Missionary.” And

A Midweek Melody...(cont.) | JCA's Student Led Chapel

there's more music on the way—Miss Gracyn will soon begin teaching the children a new Easter song that they'll share in both morning worship services. One of our favorite parts of this ministry is giving children the chance to sing in front of the congregation a few times each year, reminding all of us that worship has no age limit.

Speaking of special moments—last December, our children joyfully presented “Do Not Be Afraid Parade,” our annual Christmas program. The kids did a fantastic job, and we celebrated the success of the play with a Christmas party on January 7 (check out the photo if you haven't yet!).

Each night also begins with something especially meaningful: our ACTS prayer time. Together, we pray through Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication, helping children learn how to talk with God in a thoughtful way focused first on Him.

The class is led by Aidan and Gracyn Williams, so please text/call them with any questions.

If you're looking for a place where your children can worship the Lord through song, study His Word, and grow in prayer, this is it. Come join us on Wednesday nights—we'd love to welcome your family!

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Program Spotlight Student Led Chapel at JCA

Adam Jeffers, School Administrator

Timothy 4:12 “Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in

conduct, in love, in faith and in purity”

Sometimes we underestimate what young people can do. We have a negative experience with one student, and we apply that to every other student we meet. It is a risk to let students' study, plan, and resource a chapel. They may say the wrong thing, sing the wrong song, or break things. At JCA we believe it is a greater risk to teach them that Christianity is static belief that requires more sitting and less action. As we say in Bible class, why put on the Armor of God if you're not going to fight.



After five months of observing chapel the 6th-12th grade students are divided into teams and are assigned one chapel. The chapel must include prayer, a song, scripture, a personal testimony and an explanation of Salvation. Three teams have gone so far, and the results are amazing. Students that struggle with confidence move to the front of the room lead songs and read scripture. Students work together as a team to make sure that everyone contributes and that no one is left behind.

None of the chapels are perfect, sometimes the

JCA's Student Led Chapel (cont.) | JCA Spotlight | Children's Summer Program

notes are wrong, the lesson needs tweaking, and sometimes nerves create a hiccup. Still, no one has quit. Every student, despite the potential embarrassment of being mocked by friends, stood tall during a random stutter, a note that did not go just right, and even the challenges of dropping something heavy. We couldn't be prouder of the successes and the mistakes, because both help students grow.

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Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Rebekah Bacoka

Adam Jeffers, School Administrator

Favorite Verse: 3 John 1:4 "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth"



Mrs. Bacoka is our reading specialist at JCA. She works with students to help them break through the blocks that can challenge us as we start reading. Her favorite part of teaching at JCA is when she "sees the light turn on" in a student that is struggling. Helping a student learn to read and learn to read at a higher level is what drives Mrs. Bacoka. We are

excited for this program and the impacts it will make at the school.

"If you could change one thing: Stop giving kids so much sugar!"

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Children's Summer Program

Ivan Paynter

The children's summer program started off great. Ages 2 through 6th grade meet in China/India for start of class with welcome and music. Roxann and helpers then take 2-5 years olds to Puggles classroom in the nursery wing for lesson time. Ivan and helpers stay in China/India for a lesson on Basic Theology for children, after lesson time both classes meet at the playground for snacks and play time together then parents pick children up at the playground. Parents, we invite you to bring your children and join us!

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Faith Promise

Pastor Shahn Wilburn

I was asked to write an update on our Faith Promise giving. I immediately thought of the request made by the disciples "Lord increase our faith." Then Sunday morning Pastor Tom spoke on having the faith the size of a mustard seed. There are few things perhaps that increase our faith like our giving.

Yes, all who give in the general offering at Riverview participate in giving to missions, as designated each year in our annual budget. Faith Promise is the means to expand our mission outreach. As we give Faith Promise and needs and opportunities arise throughout the year, we can be a part of meeting those needs. Faith Promise removes the budgeted cap on our missions giving and allows the Lord to direct our

Pastor Shahn's Missionary Report | Guatemala Funding

participation.

On a more personal level, Faith Promise giving is a vehicle that is used by the Lord to increase our individual faith. It is between each person who participates, and the Lord. As we pray and ask the Lord what or if we should give and then ask Him to supply that amount above our normal giving. Story after story indicates amazing ways the Lord supplies and each time our faith is increased.

If you have not yet participated, it is simple. Faith Promise envelopes are available in the foyer and anything placed in those envelopes is directed toward missions throughout the year. You too may be amazed at how God supplies and how your faith increases.

Missionary Update

On Christmas day Juanita and I traveled to Vijayawada, India to speak at the 75th anniversary conference of our missionary Luther Chatla who leads the Baptist India Ministries. The conference concluded with an eight and half hour night service with three thousand in attendance.



Luther was very encouraged and requested

our prayers for a vehicle. Reliable transportation is necessary for him not only to travel among the six churches he and his congregation have planted, but also as he travels among the four hundred plus churches in the fellowship.



His wife Ratna continues to work in the government hospital and they have started a clinic in their hometown that she serves in the evening as the need arises. The Chatlas are so appreciative of our partnership together through the years and continue to pray for our church family at Riverview.

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Guatemala Pastor's Conference Funding Envelopes

Mark Perkins

If you would like to support a Guatemala Pastor, please pick up one of the envelopes in the RBC Foyer and place the envelope in the offering plate or giving box in the foyer. Also, you can use the QR code on the envelope that will take you to the RBC homepage to give online. Just scroll down the page until you see Guatemala Pastor's Fund. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Perkins at 540-922-5570.

AWANA | ADO

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AWANA

Clay & Cindy Stafford

AWANA has wrapped up another great year at Riverview Baptist Church with an Awards and Ice Cream Fellowship. This year we were blessed to welcome many new families and children to our AWANA program. We averaged 75 clubbers each Sunday night with many of the Clubbers completing their books and several were awarded Perfect Attendance trophies (no absences) and Attendance trophies (no more than 2 absences).



Each club from the Sparks Club through the Trek Club were named as clubbers receiving the Clubber of the Year trophy recognition and Honorable Mention trophy recognition, which were big achievements for each of these clubbers.

We always provide clubbers an AWANA Certificate for attending AWANA Club regardless of completing a book. We are so thankful for each Director and Leader in

AWANA for their faithfulness and dedication and for being present to teach and guide every clubber each Sunday night to grow in their relationship with Christ and sometimes even leading clubbers to salvation in Jesus Christ.

There are always many helping hands that are present and supportive every Sunday from the bus driver, security team members, those that help with sweeping the gym floor, and many others. Thank you to everyone for loving and supporting this wonderful ministry to our children!

Upcoming training information: 8/13/26 at Harvest Baptist in Blacksburg (meal provided at 6:00 pm and training completed by 8:30 pm). Please let Clay or Cindy Stafford know if you are interested in attending training and we will register you to attend by emailing Clay at claystafford4@gmail.com or text 5405999617

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ADO Youth Ministry

Zane Williams

It's an exciting time in the ADO world! We're thrilled to welcome a new wave of teens into the group, while at the same time feeling bittersweet as we look ahead to saying goodbye to an incredible group of seniors—we're hoping to hold onto them as long as we can!

We've got a great summer lineup planned. We kicked things off with Carowinds on June 19th, and our second annual Water Warz is set for July 12th. There are even more events coming up, so be sure to stay tuned for updates.

We would love for you to join us!

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Leaders | Deacons | Trustees

RBC Leadership

Pastor Tom Maurer
email: PastorTom@RiverviewToday.org
Phone: 308.539.1764

Pastor Terry Easter
email: PastorTerry@RiverviewToday.org
Phone: 304.921.0468

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Deacons

The deacons of Riverview Baptist Church are a great asset to the ministry of the church. These men are faithful to the Lord and to the congregation of RBC. They are here to serve, helping the pastors and the congregation.

Shannon Lucas – Chairman
540.599.1056

Adrian Williams
540.599.7476

Keith Reese
304.753.6279

Johnny Adkins
540.726.2121

Aidan Williams
540.599.5351

Ivan Paynter
304.994.0836

Greg Caldwell
540.998.4090

Jason Wall
540.808.3015

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Trustees

The Trustees of Riverview Baptist Church are another great asset to the ministry of the church. These men are faithful to the Lord and to the congregation of RBC. They are overseers of the grounds, buildings, maintenance and construction.

Jubal Powell
540.922.9660

Bobby Smith
540.599.0877

Buddy Shaver
540.599.0514

Darrell Blankenship
540.921.4625

Bobby Flack
540.934.9454

Stephen Phlegar
540.235.2900

Alvin Crotty
540.921.7182