

The River View

Riverside

Join the Journey

www.RiversideEPC.org

September 2018

From the Pastor—"Breathe"

When I was taking swimming lessons years ago, I remember being corrected by the teacher for my front crawl technique. I was somewhat miffed. I was in the highest level class, I was already working as an assistant teacher, and they wanted to tell me that I was doing the most elementary stroke wrong?

Apparently, there was virtually no aspect of my stroke that didn't need correction, but what I remember most is the breathing. They wanted me to breathe regularly—every other stroke! But I could hold my breath much longer than that—why come up for air so often? I don't remember the answer, but I'm sure it has something to do with fluid dynamics, keeping in sync, and maintaining oxygenation for optimum performance. Left to myself, I'd have attempted to cross the whole pool, gasped a breath of air, and continued. Something tells me the teacher's idea was better.

I think I have a tendency to do the same thing in life, and I suspect I'm not alone. We forge our way strenuously through a medium that saps our energy but only turn our heads for air when our lungs are burning with the effort of forward progress. This summer's sermon series, "An Inconvenient Discipleship," has reminded me often of the need for the clean, pure air of heaven in pursuing my course as a disciple of Jesus.

Jesus calls us to follow him all the way to the cross, to love with such selfless intensity that we could respond with kindness to those who hate us and forgive others for repeated offenses. We must use money without becoming enslaved by it, live in constant watchfulness in view of the unknown date of Christ's return, and respond compassionately to the needs of those around us. We must accept the exposure to mistreatment that identification with Jesus can bring, regarding as our true family the fellow disciples we share life with. We must trace the roots of anger to heart-bound idolatries. Finally, we were called to live as disciples who devote our lives to making disciples.

When I hear all of this, I feel myself gasping for air: it's too hard, it's too much! Yet all the while, miles of breathable atmosphere lie just above the surface. When Jesus invites people to follow them, he offers a light load, relief from heavy burdens, and soul rest (Matthew 11:28–30). I believe that one reason God calls his people to a weekly Sabbath rest is so that we can breathe the air of heaven as a regular discipline of life, like that regular turn for a breath in the front crawl. This rest comes not primarily from the recliner, but from the effort of gathered worship, the encouragement of fellow strugglers, and the comforting words of assurance from the living God who made our souls and knows what we need.

In the words of the amnesiac blue tang of *Finding Nemo*, "Just keep swimming!", but don't forget to breathe regularly.

Pastor Isaac

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September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9am Wor Team Prac 10 worship/ communion	3 Labor Day Office closed	4 6:30 Deacons	5 6:30 am MBS (Perkins) 6:30 pm Helping Hands	6	7 9:00 am MBS 9:00 am WBS	8
9 9am Wor Team Prac 10 worship 11:20 SS Kickoff	10	11 5:45 Finance 6:30 Session	12 6:30 am MBS (Perkins) Noon—RAYS	13	14 9:00 am MBS 9:00 am WBS	15 9-3 Craft Day
16 9am Wor Team Prac 10 worship 11:20 SS	17	18	19 6:30 am MBS (Perkins) 6:30-8:00 Nehemiah Study	20	21 9:00 am MBS 9:00 am WBS	22
23 9am Wor Team Prac 10 worship 11:20 SS	24	25 6:30 Family Ministry	26 6:30 am MBS (Perkins) 6:30-8:00 Nehemiah Study	27	28 9:00 am MBS 9:00 am WBS	29
30 9am Wor Team Prac 10 worship 11:20 SS 4:30-6:30 Bonfire/ cookout						

Key: **Children's Ministry** MBS—Men's Bible Study WBS—Women's Bible Study Youth Ministry Special Event

Youth

Watch the bulletin and your email for information about our new Fall activities! Our 1st Youth group meeting **September 5**. **After that we'll be doing a joint youth group with Harvest Fellowship on Wednesday nights - 6:30-8:00pm.**

Matthew Pennertz
Riverside Church Youth Director
320-405-8212
matthew_pennertz@hotmail.com
riversideepc.org

Nehemiah study begins September 19th. See page 5 for details.

**Bonfire at Ruth Tidd's Farm,
9250 95th Ave NE, Foley**

September 30 from 4:30-6:30pm

**Come enjoy fellowship, games, & a bonfire
cookout in the countryside!** Please bring a side
dish to share. You may also bring roasting
sticks, chairs, a blanket, and lawn games.

At about 5pm the fire will be ready for roast-
ing hot dogs. The church will provide
hotdogs, buns, condiments, drinks, s'mores,
plates, etc. Please RSVP to the church office,
320-251-5801, or office@riversideepc.org, by
Wednesday, September 26 so we can plan for
appropriate amounts of food!

Who to Contact

Church Office 320-251-5801 Office Hours
 Pastor Isaac Gould M, T, Th 9:00-4:00
 W 12:00-4:00
 320-428-5784 (cell)
 Financial Sec.– Pam Dille Mon. 9:00–12:00
 Secretary – Jane Borrón Tues.-Fri 9:00-1:00
 Treasurer—Mark Johansen 253-0786
 Custodians—ServiceMaster (contact office)
 Prayer Line—Judy Swanson 320-240-9070

September Birthdays

- 1 Kim Koopmeiners
- 2 Willem Zieske
- 4 Tod Paulson
- 6 Keith Koltes
- 7 Linda Christiansen
- 9 Beth Pennertz
- 11 Jim Swanson
- 12 Brian Maturi
- 16 Rose Johnson
- 17 Dave Jones
- 18 Dennis Woggon
- 21 Rick Petersen
- 24 Jessica Markgraf
- 26 Lucas Moorlag
- 27 Audrey Newhouse
- 28 Aubrie Skudlarek
- 29 Steve Umbarger
- 30 MayBelle Gordon



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, or got it wrong, please call Jane at 251-5801 and let her know so we (hopefully) won't make the same error in the future! Thanks!

Stated Session Meeting—August 14, 2018

Minutes are available from the office on request.

June/July 2018 Stewardship/Worship Summary

Sunday	Offering	Attendance
June 3	1,611.00	103
10	3,806.00	114
17	2,510.00	105
24	2,093.36	101
Online	3,368.74	
Month Total	13,389.10	Avg 106
July 1	3,503.26	70
8	762.00	100
15	5,497.40	95
22	3,053.00	96
29	9,667.55	104
Online	4,595.91	
Month Total	27,533.72	Avg 93

General Fund as of 7/31/18

REC Checking Acct (EOM)	38601.48
Debit card account	189.19
Petty Cash	58.03
TOTAL General Fund	38,848.70

Special Accounts

General Savings Acct	84,121.10
Barnabus Acct	6,827.20
Development Fund	11,615.52
Haiti Fund	16,676.34
Projects/Memorial Account	10,414.70
Gordon Scholarship fund	40,932.12

Total Special Accounts 174,714.12,

Total Current Assets 213,562.82

Designated Gifts—June/July 2018

VBS Kids (for Haiti)	\$462.50
VBS	120.00
Haiti trip/Projects	6,288.28

Missions Disbursements—June/July 2018

Pregnancy Resource Center - June	291.66
YFC—BRAID - June	166.67
JWM June	100.00
EPC WO (Burdall) - June	200.00
Pregnancy Resource Center - July	291.66
YFC—BRAID - July	166.67
JWM - Jly	100.00
EPC WO (Burdall) - July	200.00

September Anniversaries

- Bob & Cheryl Pogatshnik 9/1
- Richard & Sharla Huls 9/8
- Dave & Mary Grundahl 9/11
- Tod & Linda Paulson 9/14
- *Tom & Ruth Fletcher 9/25

**50 or more years*



Your 2018 Elders/Deacons

Elders: Responsibility Areas

- Matthew Pennertz (16-18) (F, B) 320-492-1976
- Linda Paulson (16-18) (A, M) 320-252-7210
- Deb Johansen (18) (FM, W) 320-253-0786
- Dave Jones (17-19) (WC, N) 320-267-1054
- Mark Olson (17-19) (WC, P) 320-252-7242
- Dennis Woggon (17-19) (FM, A, N) 320-393-2709
- Joe Newhouse (18-20) (F, B) 320-469-1038
- Rick Petersen (18-20) (W, P) 320-774-5006

Key: **A** Adult Ed/Small Group **B** Building/Grounds
FM Family Ministry **F** Finance
M Missions **N** Nominating Committee
P Personnel **W** Worship
WC We Care

Deacons:

- Deb Koltes (16-18) (RS,MM) 320-253-3763
- Ruth Tidd (16-18) (DL,FL,T) 320-387-2980
- Jess Markgraf (18) (CS) 320-291-3109
- Scott Gallion (17-19) (UG,CP) 320-202-9655
- Cindy Glanzer (17-19) (V, T) 320529-8636
- Jay Blomquist (18-19) (UG) 320-229-2766
- Josh Mumme (18-20) (CH, CP) 320-266-7101
- Stephen Pennertz (18-20) (S,H) 320-237-1445
- Nadine Sagen (18-20) (V) 320-980-9395

Key: **DL** Deacon Liaison (Head Deacon)
CH Coffee Hour **CP** Communion Prep
CS Corresponding Sec. **FS** Food Shelf
FL Funeral Luncheons **H** Hospitality
MM Meals Ministry **RS** Recording Sec.
S Sanctuary **V** Visitations
UG Ushers/Greeters **NC** Nominating Committee
T Transportation

Our Riverside Community

Can you volunteer your time? Use the link on our website to visit SignupGenius.com or click here to volunteer as a [Sunday Servant!](#)



Sunday mornings provide some of our best fellowship opportunities each week. Can you help in one of the following ways?

Ushers/Greeters

Come a little early and be a friendly face, providing bulletins to guests and regulars, pointing folks in the right direction when needed, and collecting the offering.

Coffee Prep Team

Come early (once every 4-5 weeks) to make the coffee. Easy instructions. Call the office to be added to the rotation.

Coffee Hour Hosts

Coffee hosts keep things running smoothly after worship. While hosts are responsible for both areas below, feel free to partner with friends, or contact a **deacon if you need help and can't find someone to team with.** (Adding a note that you'll need help on SignupGenius is an easy way to do that.)

Responsibilities:

Hosting- set out juice, creamers, cups, napkins, treats, etc., and put away creamers, straighten up at the end of fellowship time including rinsing out the coffee airpots and wiping down the tables and counters.

Treats- bring treats (6-8 doz.—purchased or homemade) for fellowship time after worship.

*Coffee will already be made.
Feel free to sign up with friends.*

See the signup sheet in the kitchen serving window or go to SignupGenius.com to sign up.

Can't make a large treat commitment? Consider bringing a dozen or two freezable cookies/bars in dated Ziploc bags (with your name, please) to keep on hand for **"forgotten treat emergencies"** or when the crowd is larger than expected. No need to sign up—just bring when convenient and put in the kitchen freezer.

Thank you!

September/October Coffee Host signup is now happening. Use link above or on our website or sign up at the kitchen serving window if you can bless your Riverside family in this way.



Bible Studies

(at the church unless noted)

Wed. Morning Men's Bible Study

6:30 a.m. weekly—Sartell Perkins

Fri. Morning Men's Bible Study

9:00 a.m.—Sept-May
Begins September 7th

Fri. Morning Women's Bible Study

9:00 a.m.—Sept-May
New Study - "The Lord's Prayer" by
Begins September 7th



If you, or a loved one, are in need of prayer, please contact

**Judy Swanson, 320-240-9070 or
Ruth Tidd— 387-2980**

to have your prayer request included on
Riverside's confidential prayer chain.

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In-Home Communion offered
In-Home Communion will be offered for those who are homebound and unable to attend worship. Please contact Pastor Isaac to make arrangements for a visit.

Hope Orphanage sponsorships:

If you would like to sponsor one of the children at Hope Orphanage in Haiti:

1. Visit haiti-missions.com/sponsorship. Click the picture of the child you'd like to sponsor and follow the on-screen prompts.
2. You will be taken to a PayPal donation form. You do not need a PayPal account, only a credit card or bank account information. Fill out the rest of the required information.

Ongoing Adult Fellowship OpportunitiesR A Y S

R.A.Y.S.—Riverside Always Young Seniors—
2nd Wednesday at Noon. If you've retired (or just have your lunch hour free!) join us for a potluck lunch and fellowship each month. New members are always welcome!

Contact: Ruth Tidd (320) 387-2980.

Couples or Singles

Riverside believes that small groups are a great way to grow lasting friendships, as well as grow in our relationship with God. We have several small groups that meet in members homes or at Riverside. If you're interested in joining a small group we'd be glad to work with you to either plug you into an existing group or begin the formation of a new one. Contact Pastor Isaac

Men's Opportunities

Wednesday Morning Study - Currently about eight men are meeting at 6:30 AM at Perkins in Sartell. We order breakfast, and go through various Christian studies while we eat. Sometimes we're in perfect agreement with one another, sometimes we couldn't disagree more, but we always get along.

Contact: Dave Jones (320) 267-1054.

Friday Morning Study - This study meets in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 AM. (Sept—May) Donuts and coffee are served as we study the Bible together. Men of all ages are welcome.

Contact: Wally Hitchcock (320) 253-7724.

Women's Opportunities

Friday Bible Study - On Fridays at 9:00 AM (September-May) several women meet here for a time of prayer and Bible study. This study is offered from fall through spring - all women are welcome.

Contact: Ruth Tidd (320) 387-2980.

Helping Hands meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. Treats provided. Women of all ages and life stages are welcome.

Contact: Beth Pennertz, (320) 405-8211

Riverside's We Care team would appreciate your input on members or regulars that might need or appreciate a visit from one of our team members. Contact Mark Olson or one of the We Care team members: Ruth Tidd, Nadine Sagen, Dave Jones

Mission updates—

Pregnancy Resource Center -

Dear Riverside Evangelical Church,

Thank you so much for your donation to PRC. I am thrilled to share with you that we recently had a Muslim client and her husband come in with their 2 day old baby girl, they already have 3 boys. They came in for our Cradle of Hope program. They picked up the bed and an incredible conversation about Jesus took place. The gospel was presented to them and she was prayed over for healing. Please pray that the Spirit of God will continue to touch them and that they become more curious about Jesus.

Thank you so much for praying for F... and her husband!!

Blessings,

Julie Spore, Executive Director

New Small Group Study - Nehemiah Beginning 9/19

"The joy of the Lord is your strength"
Nehemiah 8:10

Is the joy of the Lord your strength? How is that joy affecting your daily life? Come join us for an eight week study of Nehemiah led by Matt Chandler via Rightnow Media.

The book of Nehemiah looks at God's redemptive plan for the world. God's providential protection of His people. God's power to restore broken lives and the need for prayer.

Tod and Linda Paulson's small group will be facilitating the study here at the church beginning Wednesday, September 19, 6:30-8:00. Childcare will be provided.

Any questions, please contact Linda at 420-2921.

Ph. (320) 251-5801
office@RiversideEPC.org

Office Hours

Pastor—Isaac Gould Mon., Tues., Thurs . 9:00-4:00
320-428-5784 (cell) Wed. 12:00-4:00
pastor@riversideepc.org

Financial Secretary—Pam Dille
Monday (except bank holidays) 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Secretary (Jane Borron) office@RiversideEPC.org
Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
(additional hours possible with prior arrangement)

Riverside Vision Statement

Riverside Evangelical Church is called to build a community of saints empowered by the Holy Spirit. We exist to glorify God in all areas of life by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Riverside Mission Statement

Our mission at Riverside Evangelical Church is to further the gospel of Jesus Christ by:

Worshipping and celebrating the presence of God Psalm 16:11

Discipling that brings us to maturity in Christ Matthew 28:19

Equipping us to live our faith in every aspect of life Eph. 4:12

Please contact the church office if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter or if your address is incorrect.

405 Riverside Ave. N., PO Box 139
Sartell, MN 56377-0139

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