

The River View

Riverside

Join the Journey

www.RiversideEPC.org

February 2021

From the Pastor—

I think every time the month of February rolls around, I am shocked to find Lent nearly upon us. It feels like the Christmas season has just ended—and let's be honest, my Christmas lights are staying up until the snow on the roof has melted—and here we find ourselves on the way to Easter! C. S. Lewis suggested that we make such astonished remarks on how time flies because time is something that is not an essential part of our humanity. We were designed to **live free of the tyranny of time's swift flight.** He writes, "It is as strange as if a fish were repeatedly surprised at the very wetness of water. And that would be strange indeed: unless of course the fish were destined to become, one day, a land animal."

For the present, time is with us, and we can use its passage to good advantage if we take the opportunities afforded by the changing of the seasons. Lent, of course, is one of those opportunities. It is an ancient spiritual discipline of taking forty days to prepare for Easter. Historically this has involved fasting and prayer.

After nearly a year marked by stay-at-home orders, restaurant closures, event cancellations, social distancing, and the like, I suspect there is little appetite for additional "fasting." So be it. This is a practice recommended to us by our forefathers in the faith, not something dictated by Scripture. But I think there is wisdom in it for our present condition.

It's easy to set our hopes on the return to normal life after the pandemic. We yearn for intimate social gatherings, the noisy fun of an extended family restaurant visit, a parade, a concert, etc. But that's not where our true hope lies! Our biggest problem in life isn't the inconvenience of trying to avoid a virus; it's the debilitating pull of sin on our souls. We need something a lot better than the end of the pandemic: we need a resurrection.

As Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:32, "If the dead are not raised, 'Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die'" (NIV). A spiritual refocusing during Lent aims to set our gaze more firmly on the hope of Christ's resurrection and the promise of eternal life it confirms.

We still have some details to work out, but we plan to gather on Wednesday evenings throughout Lent for study and fellowship, in person and online. Look for further announcements and details. I pray that all of us can benefit, whether in person or remotely, from a time of spiritual refocusing beginning on February 17.

Pastor Isaac

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February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6:30 Deacons	3 6:30 am Men's Study 6:30 Youth Group	4 9:00 am Women's Study 6:30 pm Women's Study	5 10:00 am Men's Study	6
7 9 am Praise Team 10 am Worship and Communion	8	9 5:45 Finance 6:30 Session	10 6:30 am Men's Study	11 9:00 am Women's Study 6:30 pm Women's Study	12 10:00 am Men's Study	13
14 9 am Praise Team 10 am Worship	15	16	17 Ash Wednesday 6:30 am Men's Study 6:00 pm Lenten Study 6:30 pm Youth Group	18 9:00 am Women's Study 6:30 pm Women's Study	19 10:00 am Men's Study	20
21 9 am Praise Team 10 am Worship	22	23	24 6:30 am Men's Study 6:00 pm Lenten Study	25 9:00 am Women's Study 6:30 pm Women's Study	26 10:00 am Men's Study	27
28 9am Praise Team 10 am Worship						

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 – Janelle Daniel Tues- Fri 9:00-1:00
 Treasurer—Mark Johansen 253-0786
 Custodians—ServiceMaster (contact office)
 Prayer Line—Judy Swanson 320-240-9070

December 8th Session report

Session minutes are available from the office

Avg December Attendance—41

Budget Summary - as of December 31, 2020

	Actual	Budgeted
Dec. Income	32,336.58	22,787.00
Dec. Expenses	16,591.55	26,909.38
YTD Income	210,584.67	217,586.00
YTD Expenses	197,619.52	229,148.20
YTD Net Income (loss)	\$12,965.15	

Riverside Planned Mission Support - 2021

- Pregnancy Resource Center
- YFC—BRAID
- Haiti - Hope Orphanage
- EPC WO (Burdsall, Hamd, McKay)
- Chicago 720
- Arrive Ministries SENT
- Terebinth Refuge
- Place of Hope
- St. Cloud Christian School

February Birthdays

- 3 Rich Huls
- 7 Hanna Henderson
- 10 Andrea Mumme
- 11 Brenda Woggon
- 18 Brenna Zieske
- 19 Shawn Gordon
- 20 Doug Easterlund
- 20 Adam Patterson
- 23 Erlene Gallion
- 25 Marian Holte
- 27 Tom Fletcher



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

February Anniversaries



- Dennis & Brenda Woggon 2/14/76
- Steven & Rose Johnson 2/17/73

Your 2021 Elders/Deacons

Elders

- Patrick Farrell (19-21) B, W 320-232-3643
- Linda Paulson (19-21) M, N 320-420-2921
- Matthew Pennertz (19-21) F 320-405-8212
- Bruce Glanzer (20-22) F, M 320-290-6818
- Dave Jones (20-22) N 320-267-1054
- Mark Olson (20-22) P, WC 320-252-7242
- Rick Petersen (21-23) P, B 320-774-5006
- Ruth Tidd (21-23) WC, CE 320-387-2980
- Matt Zieske (21-23) CE, W 320-249-5253

Deacons:

- Mike Beltinck (19-21) UG, CP 320-363-4238
- Deanna Petersen (19-21) CP, MM 320-774-5005
- Gean Wiltgen (19-21) CS, MM 320-290-2798
- Jay Blomquist (20-22) FL, FS 320-229-2766
- Dave Markgraf (20-22) S, RS 320-493-2720
- Angelina Holte (21-23) T, V 503-841-9603
- Josh Mumme (21-23) DL, CH 320-266-7101
- Julie Pennertz (21-23) H, UG 320-333-8270

Key:

Key:

- B Building/Grounds
- CE Christian Education
- M Missions/Outreach
- P Personnel
- WC We Care
- F Finance
- N Nominating Committee
- W Worship

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

Our Riverside Community

You are welcome to join us in person at 10am on Sundays or you can join us online at riversideepc.org/sunday or on our [YouTube channel](#) to view our worship in a live stream format.

If you are unable to view our service online, the audio portion of the sermon will be available on our website, usually by the following Tuesday. We can also provide CDs (audio only) or DVDs (audio/video) of the sermon. Let us know if you need a copy and which format works for you.

Volunteers are needed!

We need volunteer ushers, sound techs, and projection/streaming techs. Training is available for these jobs. Please sign up for a Sunday you can help on our SignUpGenius [Sunday Servants](#) page. Blessings to you!

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

Riverside wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

[Online Giving](#) lets you go to RiversideEPC.org at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office.

Mail Giving—If you prefer to mail your contributions to the church, or use your bank's Bill Pay option, please use our PO Box number rather than the street address:

Riverside Church
PO Box 139
Sartell, MN 56377-0139



Bible Studies

(at the church unless noted)

Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study
6:30 a.m. weekly

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study
9:00 a.m.—Sept-May

Friday Morning Men's Bible Study
10:00 a.m.—Sept-May



P R A Y E R C H A I N

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

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

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



It is time to rebuild our Children's Ministry volunteer roster. Please contact the office to let us know you are ready to serve as a Children's Church teacher or helper. We hope to have opportunities for you to minister to our dear covenant children soon!

Our Larger Community

Baby Bottles for Change

What can you do in the fight for life?

By filling a baby bottle with change or creating a virtual bottle to fill with friends and family, you are taking a stand for men and women in the community who need the support of Pregnancy Resource Center. You support our mission to share the love of Jesus Christ by preserving the lives of unborn children and meeting the specific physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of our clients through medical, educational, and counseling services. Our vision as a Christ-centered ministry is to reach more abortion-vulnerable women, empower both men and women to make informed decisions, and encourage spiritual growth and godly community.

For over 30 years, Pregnancy Resource Center has provided over 21,000 free services to men and women because of the prayers, support, and financial donations of people like you!

Through the years, our services have grown and expanded to include the following:

- Pregnancy Testing
- Pregnancy Follow-up and Support
- Ultrasounds
- STD testing
- Consults with a Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant
- Mentorship
- Life Coaching
- Material Resources During and After Pregnancy
- Support After an Abortion
- Abstinence Education in Area Schools

Pregnancy Resource Center

305 5th Ave. S., #170

St. Cloud, MN 56301

320-253-5333

Donor site: PregHelpFriends.com

Client site: PregHelp.com



PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTER
• MEDICAL CLINIC



Drive-Up Communion at Riverside— February 7, 12:00-1:00

Are you participating in our live stream worship and interested in taking communion? The EPC Book of Worship states that communion must be administered "in conjunction with the reading and preaching of the Word, with the prayers of the people accompanied with hymns of praise" (W.3-3F). In recognition of the complexity of the present time, the Session has decided to offer communion to live stream participants in the parking lot after worship.

From 12:00-1:00pm on February 7, those who have joined the worship service live stream may receive communion at their vehicle with health precautions taken. Pull in from 1st Ave N, and head over toward the church where Pastor Isaac or an elder will meet you with the elements.



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 (working from home) 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Secretary—Janelle Daniel 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.

Sartell, MN 56377-0139

405 Riverside Ave. N., PO Box 139

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