

The Riverchase Family

Volume 39

September 24, 2019

No. 39



Por Los Niños

Thank you so much for your generosity in the 2019 Por Los Niños coin bank campaign. This is a photo of Al Gardner presenting a check for \$12,285.56 to Lisa Steele, Executive Director of Family Life Missions. This is the amount that was collected from the Por Los Niños cans that are distributed throughout our church family.

Thank you for your generosity.

Upcoming Events:

Adventure Club/Pre-Teen

- **Pre-Teen Devo:** Sunday, October 6, 6:00 p.m. in the 6th Grade Classroom.
- **KidMin Family Supper:** Wednesday, October 9, 6:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

Teen

- **RUSH at Freed Hardeman University;** September 27-29; Departure: 4:00 p.m. Return: 3:30 p.m.
- **Teen Supper:** Wednesday, October 2, 6:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.
- **Campout:** Friday, October 11, at Oak Mountain State Park.

College

- **Volleyball:** Friday, September 27, 6:00 p.m. in the gym.

Look for the Helpers

Eric Gott

Have you ever had a day that did not go according to plan? Or maybe even an entire weekend? This past Sunday, I woke up feeling sick and running a high fever. On many days that would not be too terrible, but this past Sunday was a full day of church events. The children's ministry had a family picnic at Oak Mountain State Park and Sunday night our church celebrated the LTC Kickoff.

Leah and I love when we have events with the children's ministry and I was wanting so badly to be at worship, but realized I needed to stay home. Staying home meant Leah and I would not be able to complete all the tasks we had planned for Sunday: teach Bible class, organize the picnic, gather Adventure Club materials, complete Sunday night nursery duty, and attend LTC Kickoff.

Do you know what happened? All of these jobs were completed by awesome, willing church members. The picnic was well-attended. Several children's ministry parents made sure the food was prepared, and all the families enjoyed their time at Oak Mountain State Park. Nursery duty was covered by a couple of our amazing children's ministry moms, and even with short notice that I would not be able to teach. Bible class went as scheduled with our teachers .

Days like this past Sunday remind me how grateful I am to worship at Riverchase. This is a church family that will step in and step up when called to action. I appreciate the way each person volunteered and used their gifts to make sure each class and activity went as scheduled.

"Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another" I Peter 4:8-11.

May we always be ready and willing to help when needed!

Changes

Scott Pruitt

Can you feel the hint that Fall is on the way? I know, I know...it is only a temporary glimpse of what is approaching, but the cooler temperatures in the morning certainly are a relief from the smoldering summer heat. Two leaves on my 'October Glory' Red Maple even showed up in their brilliant reddish orange display for the change in season. Overnight, they changed!

I also realize that many people have not noticed the one or two leaves yet or will not be impressed until the entire tree changes colors, but I am. Why? Allow me to share a few reasons. Throughout all my horticulture classes at Auburn, the professors unleashed hundreds of trees into my brain that I still know their characteristics and scientific names. The College of Architecture, Design and Construction taught me a ton about seeing and being aware of everything around me. My dad and mom taught me just as much about applying spiritual lessons to the physical ones. So...here it goes.

About 18 years ago, my dad and I were doing this big landscape job, and the client didn't want the tree. It was "too small, a bit flimsy, and was already dropping its leaves creating a mess." they said. We dug it up, and I planted it in my front yard. I knew what that tree was capable of becoming. Recognizing potential was what I was trained to do. I also realized that the client wanted a full grown specimen but was not about to put in the effort to nurture, maintain and go the extra mile to ensure that tree would have everything it needed to grow and thrive. They certainly did not want to pay the price for the installation of a full grown tree that is alive. I believe they would be more content with an artificial one that had zero problems.

This is the thing... reread the paragraph above and insert your child's name for "tree." So often, we want things that we can't have or shouldn't have. Life and Growth require incredible effort, energy and an ability to recognize potential. Don't beat down. Build Up.

Consider Matthew 9:20-22 about the woman who had been bleeding for years. Jesus saw her and do you know what he said through his actions? "You Matter."

Faith... Trust... Hope...

Missed Field Goals?

Isaiah 43:18 "Do not call to mind the former things, or ponder things of the past" (NASB)

As a football fan, sometimes we don't focus on the kickers until they miss a field goal or an extra point. The best kickers have an average of 85% success in the NFL. Back in 2007 I had the fortune to watch Rob Bironas score 8 field goals in one game. His longest field goal was 52 yards. His record kick was 60 yards which still is an NFL record. With all of that, he still had an 85% average of success.

In the same manner, if we were to look at our success rate, if we can call it that, how good are we in our Christian walk? Are we missing the mark by 15% or are we better than the average Christian? But let's not go into that comparison. Let's think about you and just you. Isn't it true that most of the time you don't look at how good you are doing until you mess up? Isn't it true that you could be doing a lot of things great, but the one thing holding you back is what other people see and criticize? And what's worse, we do that to ourselves! We can have a lot of good things going for us, but we focus on the little things we do wrong. Stop doing that! You are not perfect, so, let's stop pretending. If you focus on the things you do right, you will feel better, and you will do better.

- David

From The Elders

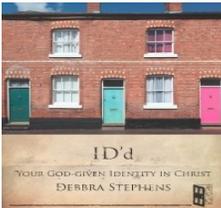
We are in the process of restructuring the responsibilities of some of our deacons. As a part of that process we offer for your consideration two men to be added to our list of deacons. They are Kelly Shebs and Matt Thompson. Kelly and Matt will work with Paul Dyer, Keith Strickland and Zach Steed as Youth Deacons. Should you have any scriptural concerns about either of these two men, Matt or Kelly, please let that be known to one of the elders in writing by Sunday, October 6.

New Wednesday Bible Class

A new Bible class will be offered for those who do not wish to drive after dark on Wednesday nights. The class will meet on Wednesdays, 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 pm. in classroom 151.

Ladies' Night

Cindy Herring and Alisa Van Dyke from Healing Hands International will be here Thursday, September 26, 6:00 p.m. to tell us about Women of Hope and Sewing for Jesus. The cost is \$2.00. Soup and salad will be provided for dinner.



Ladies' Bible Class

Ladies' Bible Class will be Tuesday, October 1, 10:30 a.m. in the Reception Room. Babysitting will be available. We look forward to seeing you in Ladies' Bible Class.

LiveWires! Events

- **Train Trip to New Orleans:** Wednesday - Saturday, October 2 - 5.
- **Men's Prayer Breakfast:** Saturday, October 5, 8:00 a.m. in the Family Life Center.
- **Game Night:** Friday, October 11, 6:30 p.m. in the Reception Room.
- **Vulcan Park Tour:** Friday, October 18, 10:00 a.m.
- **Trip to Opp, Gulf Shores & Pensacola:** Wednesday, October 30 - Saturday, November 2.

RCOC Ladies' Expo

RCOC Ladies' Expo this year will be on Sunday, October 20. If you wish to participate, fill out the form that is in your mailbox or come by the office and get a form and return it to the church office by Wednesday, October 9. Make your plans to see the displays and talents of your Christian sisters.

For the Record

Sunday, September 22, 2019

Bible Study	417
Early Worship	215
Late Worship	401
Total Sunday Morning	616
Sunday Night	329
Contribution	\$33,271.97
YTD Average	\$36,111.72
Budget	\$37,500.00

Dear Riverchase Family,

Thanks so much for all your prayers, cards and kind words during my father's failing health and recent passing. It is such a blessing to be part of such a caring church family.

*In Christian love,
Shauna Woloszyn*

Connection

with God, Yourself, and your Community through Jesus

Ladies Retreat Weekend

The Lodge at Gulf Shores

November 8 - 10, 2019

Speakers Include:

TWYLA JONES AND JEANNE SIMPSON

Register Now!

<http://group.hilton.com/churchchrististers>

Event Registration Deadline is

Monday, September 30

Please contact Dana Keith or Nancy Mount if you plan to go and if you would like to ride the bus.

A cord of three strands is not easily broken
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.

Upcoming Events

- **Ladies' Night:** Thursday, September 26, 6:00 p.m. in the Reception Room.
- **RUSH:** Friday - Sunday, September 27-29.
- **Volleyball:** Friday, September 27, 6:00 p.m. in the gym.
- **Ladies' Bible Class:** Tuesday, October 1, 10:30 a.m. in the Reception Room.
- **Teen Supper:** Wednesday, October 2, 6:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.
- **LiveWires! Trip to New Orleans:** Wednesday - Saturday, October 2 - 5.
- **Men's Prayer Breakfast:** Saturday, October 5, 8:00 a.m. in the Family Life Center.
- **Bridal Tea for Lillie Whitaker, Bride Elect of Christopher Willingham:** Sunday, October 6, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Reception Room. They are registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, Anthropologie, Target and Magnolias in Chelsea.

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This week at Riverchase:

Thursday, September 26

- Ladies' Night

Friday - Sunday, September 27 - 29

- RUSH

Friday, September 27

- Volleyball

Tuesday, October 1

- Ladies' Bible Class

Wednesday, October 2

- Teen Supper

Please continue to remember in prayer:

Patricia Anderson (former member), **Greg Case** (Penny's husband), **Tommie Cleghorn** (Jay's mother), **Celia Dorantes** (David's mom), **Brenda Forehand** (Joyce Bowen's sister), **Joan Harris** (Betz's friend), **Jim Hollon** (Clemmons' friend), **Richard Howe** (Steve's dad), **Butch Johnson** (Dana Jones' brother), **Martha Manwarring** (former member), **Jay Odom** (Kevin Arvin's brother-in-law), **Claudia Sibert** (John's mother), **Barbara Stetler** (Howe/Sims mother), **Kristy Tatum** (Rardin's neighbor), **Roger Thomas** (Fabray Turner's uncle).

Please pray for our active duty deployed military:

Riverchase Family:

John Bearden (#2) will have knee replacement surgery on Monday, September 30 at Grandview. MRI showed a growth in his sinus cavity.
Morgan Carter (#6) stage 3 brain tumor.
Sue Crane (#2) recovering at home from pneumonia.
Don Genry (#6) stage 3 Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.
Peggy Hendley (#7) knee surgery went well and will come home on Thursday.
Clay Lewis (#4) recovering from knee surgery.
Candy Parker (#7) surgery went well and will be recovering at home.
Scott Sims (#4) recovering from retinal detachment surgery.
Beverly Strange (#5) thyroid cancer. Radiation and Chemo.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS:

FTG #1: Rejetta Balentine, Lynda Cardwell, Angie Dickinson, Keith Dunn, Judy Ingram, Chris Mayfield, Ollie Scott, Michelle Whitaker
FTG #2: Glenda Arnold, John Bearden, Pat Bearden, Victor & Glinda Boone, Vonda Cook, Nina Pitchford, Lance Rushing, Bob Smith
FTG #3: David Bath, Ruth Bath, Becky Carter, Martha Johnston, Nona Miller, Thelma Moon,
FTG #4: Jeff Carroll, Elaine Evans, Gary Evans, Bill Hester, Alan Jackson, Martha Mann, Doug Mears, Everleigh Self, Cindy Snider
FTG #5: Jake Cole, Ron Waddell, Shirley Wilson
FTG#6: Zane Armstrong, Erick Boggs, Michelle Dichiara, Shirley Genry, Don Greer, Grover Jackson, Sarah Wolford
FTG #7: Don & Jan Haefner, Peggy Hendley, Lori Lambert, Candy Parker, Tim Parker

ADD TO YOUR PRAYER LIST OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:

Noreen Anderson (Jina O'Clair's mother) health issues.
Zachary Bath (Bath's grandson) rare chronic kidney disease.
Don Blackwell (Brent McCaleb's friend) paralyzed.
Toby Blackwood (friend of Ollie and Mary Scott) cancer.
Teresa Bondurant (Jeanne Wamack's friend) metastatic breast cancer.
Patsy Burks (Rhonda Ball's mother) eye issues.
Jessica Brown (Glenda's daughter in law) breast cancer.
Cathy Crittenden (Dee Davis' friend) brain tumor.
Jerry Earnest (Handley's friend) cancer.
Bob Edwards (Ron Steen's cousin) MDS.
G. Estes (friend of Pitchford's) chemo.
Teresa Evans (friend of the Peters') breast cancer
Sam Gray (Ward's neighbor) cancer.
Jan Hall (Helen Haskew's sister - in - law) health issues.
Jane Harrison (Peggy Hendley's sister in law) heart issues.
Bob Hull (Howe's brother-in-law) cancer.
Mildred Martin (Kristi Sibert's mother) breast cancer
Tonya Masoner (Judy Masoner's daughter) radiation.
Jackie McKenzie (Vaughn's cousin) health issues.
Paul Meacham (member at Panama Street) brain cancer.
Becky Morris (Rodney Morris' sister in law) cancer.
Kim Morris (Rodney & Sue Morris' daughter) health issues.
Lauren Nudo (Friend of the Coehoorn's) stage 4 cancer.
Lauren Orth (David's sister) health issues.
Gary Pemberton (Jane Spivey's brother-in-law) health issues.
McKenzie Ray (friend of Amber Henderson) leukemia.
Ronnie Rogers (CJ Rogers father - college student) brain cancer.
Margaret Seagrest (long time visitor) health issues.
Mary Ella Sirmon (The Sirmon's granddaughter) seizures.
Matt Snow (Mark & Diane's son) continuing treatments.
Paul Strength (Cindy Thompson's cousin) kidney tumor.
Patrick Styles (Donya Sanford brother) recovering from neck surgery.
Randy Turrentine (Donnie's brother) recovering from heart surgery.
Nicole Valentine (Ward's friend) cancer.
Cindy Van Beck (friend of Posey's) cancer.
Lisa Wallace (Bath's niece) breast cancer.
Carol Watson (Fred Langdon's sister) lymphoma.
Raymond White (Cindy Thompson's cousin) health problems.
Judy Wiley (David and Sarah Akers sister-in-law) pancreas cancer.
Ann Winsett (Brett Moran's grandmother) heart issues.
Joseph Wright (Stephen Wright's father) health issues.