



# The River Report

With News of Happenings And Conditions On The River

January/February 2008

## Mission and Vision Statement

Living Life Deep And Wide

- \*Relationship
- \*Commitment
- \*Mystery
- \*Care
- \*Growth
- \*Tapestry

## Church Newsletter Going Digital

Beginning in the new year you will be able to receive the River47 newsletter via email! You will need to download the "free" Adobe Acrobat Reader software, install it to your computer and open the newsletter as an attachment. Yes, it's that easy! Better yet, you will also be able to view the current and prior newsletters on the River47 website ([www.river47.org](http://www.river47.org)). Just click on the "Newsletter" menu selection in the "About Us" section of our website. (You will also find a link for the "free" Adobe Acrobat Reader software for downloading.)

## Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> we will meet to discuss and vote on the call of Jeremy Ryan to be our Minister to Youth. Included in these terms of call is a partnership with Young Life. We are excited about this possibility of using kingdom resources to strengthen our own youth ministry while helping Young Life gain a firmer foothold. Congregational meeting packets are available on the tables located in our Sanctuary Narthex/Lobby. The meeting will take place immediately following the morning worship service on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Prior to that meeting at 9AM on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, a question and answer session will be held with Jeremy to answer any questions you might have about our candidate, his faith, life, or ministry goals. Jeremy and his wife Dasia have also made themselves available to the congregation by attending services during December.

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## Last Sunday For Pastor Frank

As we are all aware, our pastor will soon be deploying to Iraq for 12 months. He will be heading out with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Air Wing – United States Marine Corps Air Group (MAG) 16. His will be the flight line chaplain for the squadrons stationed at Al Asad Air Base. You can actually Google Earth the base – head down to the south runway and you have found our pastor's home. Our pastor's last Sunday with us before going forward to Iraq will be January 13<sup>th</sup>. During that service he plans on encouraging us as we take on the mission here at home, while we encourage him as he heads forward to care for Marines and Sailors in Iraq. This

## Mosaic Mission Trip in February

Do you have a heart for a mission trip? If so, here is an opportunity that requires just a three-day commitment. It starts in Oakland and ends at the Los Angeles Mission, Downtown. The goal is to explore the diversity that makes up our world and our congregation, hence the "Mosaic". All details and itinerary can be found at [www.pswc.org](http://www.pswc.org). The cost is \$250.00 per person.

For more information call John Verdugo (623-0923) or email him at [contractorenterprisesinc@gmail.com](mailto:contractorenterprisesinc@gmail.com)

## Calling All Tables and Chairs!!!

We are missing tables and chairs, so if you have borrowed any, please return them to the church. (Thanks!!)

## Sunday Mornings

### Ed Rybarczyk to Fill Pulpit

Dr. Ed Rybarczyk has agreed to bring our weekly sermons until we can identify an interim pastor for River47. We are so blessed to have Dr. Rybarczyk with us! On those Sundays when he is not available, the River47 pulpit will be filled with other great teachers and speakers.

#### Preaching Schedule:

January 6	A Little Epiphany	Pastor Frank
January 13	Going Forward	Pastor Frank
January 20	Great Biblical Themes: Creation	Dr. Rybarczyk
January 27	Great Biblical Themes: Creation	Dr. Rybarczyk
February 3	Great Biblical Themes: Fall	Dr. Rybarczyk
February 10	Great Biblical Themes: Fall	Dr. Rybarczyk
February 17	Great Biblical Themes: Redemption	Dr. Rybarczyk
February 24	Great Biblical Themes: Redemption	Dr. Rybarczyk

### Interim Pastor At River47

We are in the process of seeking an interim pastor for River47. Our hope would be to find a full time pastor to lead us during Pastor Frank's deployment to Iraq. In the meantime, we are in great hands with our present staff and council. If you have need of help or an answer see the leader that most fits with your question: **Ed Hess**, Church Chair & Administration; **Dave Holland**, Congregational Care, church directory, membership, ushers; **John Verdugo**, Missions, outreach, connection, newcomers; **Rick Masciana**, Property; **Sarah Jones**, Adult Ministries; **Mike Delawder**, Children and Youth; **Diann Smith**, Fellowship, special events, coffee and donuts; **John Lautsch**, everything else.

We also have **Dave Burke**, Worship Ministries; **Kacie Andrews** Children's Ministry and Pre-school; and a possibly to be called **Minister to Youth** (see article).

Each of these persons has the preview for their ministry area. So match up your need with the description above knowing that each of these servants is here for you.



Cora Riley	Jan	2
Stefanie Carlson	Jan	3
Meghan Thomas	Jan	7
Greg Gremling	Jan	10
Frank Riley	Jan	14
Jack Riley	Jan	18
Ed Hess	Jan	31
Elizabeth Maranon	Feb	7
Mina Maranon	Feb	10
Bo Wooden	Feb	11
Sharon Aguilera	Feb	15

## Congratulations



**Births:**  
Hope Almgren

**Baptisms:**  
Morgan Abrahamson, Jared Hanson, Jenna Hanson, Robin Hanson, James Patterson, Cloe Krencik, Lori Woolston, Leo Woolston, Mary Gutaskus, Dan Starr

**Dedications:**  
Hope Almgren, Jeremiah Almgren, Jonathan Almgren, Isabella Gazzeny-Jones

**Confirmations:**  
Rachel Verdugo, Lucy Bochoynzki, Cora Riley

**Deaths:**  
Emma Churnock, Ron Rentel



**\*\*Get us your special dates:  
New to the congregation??  
Call the church office with  
your birthday and anniversary.**

### We Need Your Email Addresses

If you have not been receiving our weekly River47 Updates, we are missing your email address. With our newsletter going electronic, it is even more important for us to have your email address. To be included send us an email [life@river47.org](mailto:life@river47.org). Be sure to title the subject "My Email Address."

### Attendance & Finances

Date	Attendance	Gen.Fund
11/04	255	\$ 6,463
11/11	202	\$ 4,741
11/18	200	\$ 4,085
11/25	252	\$ 6,455
12/02	224	\$ 17,690
12/09	202	\$ 4,152
12/16	236	\$ 8,866
12/23	309	\$ 9,066
12/30	177	\$ 20,425

Weekly Offering Needed to Make Budget:  
**\$5,565.00**

## Miscellaneous News and Events on the On The River

### A Note From Our Pastor

Brothers and Sisters,

It seems the Lord has ordained that I should leave you and my family for one year to bring pastoral care to Marines, Sailors and others in Iraq. As I prepare to deploy, let me remind you that River47 is the Lord's church. He can not only take care of us, but grow us during these next months, if we will truly trust him and remain steadfast.

River47 is a wonderful congregation. I have seen such growth in so many of you over this past year. More than my care, you have always been in the care of the Lord and of one another. Keep it up!

As I go, let me encourage you to take the following top ten list to heart:

1. Be here! Your presence encourages your brothers and sisters by knowing that you are committed to River47. Your absence, especially when added to that of others, makes people wonder if we are ok.
2. Encourage One Another! If you notice that someone is absent or know they are not doing well, call them. Let your friend know that they are cared for.
3. Give Financially! There is great ministry happening here that could be destabilized if giving were to dip. Your continued giving will help keep everything running smoothly. If you move or are transferred to another location, please consider keeping the same giving to River47 to keep us stable until I return.
4. Greet Newcomers! Make it your mission to make sure that no visitor can come to church without being warmly greeted. This is more than a handshake in the service. Go up to people, find out about them. Introduce them to people that you know who have common interests. If a group of you is going to lunch afterward invite them to come too. Remember what you have asked and follow up with them the next time you see them.
5. Bring Friends! Just because the pastor is deployed doesn't mean this still isn't a great church. The whole body of Christ is more important and infectious than any one pastor. C'mon. Grow this place while I'm gone.
6. Volunteer! Find a hole and fill it. Ask a leader where they need help. Pay attention to announcements in the bulletin or elsewhere asking for volunteers. Helping is not only a great way to get to know people, but also a way to grow yourself while you are encouraging others involved in service.
7. Be Consistent! If you say you are going to be somewhere, be there. Never make people wonder or have to scramble to fill a hole that you said you would fill.
8. Pray! For your pastor in Iraq
9. Pray! For all leaders here at 47
10. Pray! For your brothers and sisters in this congregation

If we remain faithful, this next year will be incredible. If we remain faithful, you will see the Lord move in ways that will astound you. It cannot be only a few who remain faithful, the Lord needs each of us. Each one is important. With each person who says, "Look at me Lord, I am here and with you; faithful to the end!" one more piece of what Jesus Christ wants to do in and through our church will be in place for Him to work His plan for us.

So to my faithful brothers and sisters... The Lord Be With You!

Your Pastor and Brother

Frank Riley

LT Chaplain United States Navy

Flight Line Chaplain

3 Marine Air Wing – Marine Air Group 16



# The Creek Preschool News

## Preschool News

### Chapel Days

We have a lot of fun at chapel! From our "Creek Kids Cheer" to the high-energy music videos, the kids have a blast learning more about Jesus at Chapel! Each class will have a turn leading the chapel services.



**January 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>** - The Orange Room will lead Chapel and tell the story of Noah's big boat!

**January 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>** - The Red Room will lead Chapel and tell the story of Joshua and the big wall!

**February 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>** - The Purple Room will lead Chapel today at 11:40 after our Valentine's Day Parties! They will read the story of Jonah and the big fish!

**February 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>** - The Blue Room will lead Chapel today and read the story of David and the biggest man!



### Music

Mrs. Karen, our beloved music teacher will be here on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. She will also be here on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Library

A librarian from Orange will be coming to The Creek to host a fun story time here at the Creek! She will be here January 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Please check with your child's teacher for the time her class will be attending.

### NO SCHOOL

January 21<sup>st</sup> is Martin Luther King Jr. Day - The Creek will be closed.

February 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> are Presidents Days - The Creek will be closed.

### Daddy and Me Night

February 12<sup>th</sup> is our Daddy & Me Night! This is a fun evening for your little ones to bring their Daddies (or special friends - Grandpas and Uncles are fun too!) to school to make a special craft, eat some munchies, and show off their classroom and all the things they have been doing in school!



### A Visit From The Lizard Lady

We are very excited about this upcoming field trip! On February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> the Lizard Lady will be coming to The Creek and bringing all her reptile friends! "Wild Things and Animals of Prey" will be hosting a hands-on program where kids will be able to hold, touch, and feel the magic of the Rain Forest and Deserts. They will bring up to **30 animals** including their **12 foot python!** Snakes, Lizards, Spiders, Scorpions, Frogs, Turtles and a Macaw are all ready to visit our school! There will be a show at both 9:30 and 10:30a.m. Please check your child's classroom for the specific time your child's class will be attending this program.



### Party Days

February 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> are Party Days! We will have our Valentines' Day parties at 11:15. Please sign up to bring something for the party!

# Children's Ministry

## Nursery Schedule

9:00 AM	10:00 AM
1/06 - Debbie Licata, Jaclyn Padin, Elizabeth Rice, Savannah Brewer	1/06 - Diann Smith, Marsha Burke, Cherie Brown
1/13 - Angelica Torres, Eva Luttrell, Dan French	1/13 - Karen Abrahamson, Joy Greenlee, Glenn Thomas, Susan Richardson
1/20 - Val Yungblut, Chris DiCato, Kate Pham	1/20 - Lori Singer, Tawnya Rybarczyk, Theresa Young
1/27 - Diann Smith, Marsha Burke, Cherie Brown	1/27 - Debbie Licata, Jaclyn Padin, Elizabeth Rice, Savannah Brewer
2/03 - Glenn Thomas, Susan Richardson, Karen Abrahamson, Joy Greenlee	2/03 - Dan French, Angelica Torres, Eva Luttrell
2/10 - Lori Singer, Tawnya Rybarczyk, Theresa Young	2/10 - Chris DiCato, Kare Pham, Val Yungblut
2/24 - Elizabeth Rice, Savannah Brewer, Debbie Licata, Jaclyn Padin	2/24 - Cherie Brown, Diann Smith, Marsha Burke

## Children's Church Volunteers

- 1/06 - Rachel and Jon Verdugo, Kathryn Rice, Eric Delawder, Roni Yurek
- 1/13 - Lisa Masciana, Jill Eggleston, Jon and Mary Roberts, Benji Sutherland
- 1/20 - Brad and Amy Nygren, Paul and Dorene Gomez, Paul Norling, Daniel Spitzer
- 1/27 - Rachel and Jon Verdugo, Kathryn Rice, Eric Delawder, Roni Yurek
- 2/04 - Lisa Masciana, Jill Eggleston, Jon and Mary Roberts, Benji Sutherland
- 2/03 - Brad and Amy Nygren, Paul and Dorene Gomez, Paul Norling, Daniel Spitzer
- 2/10 - Rachel and Jon Verdugo, Kathryn Rice, Eric Delawder, Roni Yurek
- 2/24 - Lisa Masciana, Jill Eggleston, Jon and Mary Roberts, Benji Sutherland

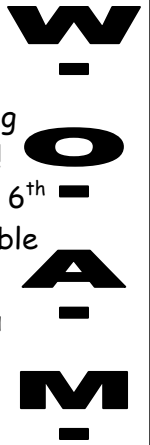
## Winter Camp



January 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> our 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be heading to Camp Alpine for a winter week-end of fun! It's not too late to join us! Our campers will be heading out to camp on Friday at 4:30p.m. so call today if you want to come with us!

## W.O.A.M!

(Wednesdays Once a Month)



You asked for it. You got it! Now coming back due to popular demand is W.O.A.M! This is a fun night for kids 8 years old - 6<sup>th</sup> grade to come and play games, hear a Bible lesson, and spend time growing in relationships with others and with God. You don't want to miss these super fun events. Join us Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.

## Sunday School

Sunday School is a great time for the kids to experience an intense hour of Bible teaching where they will be challenged in their Bible basics and knowledge. What could possibly be more important than teaching our children about the great God we serve? Not to mention the fact that the kids have a blast! They all start the morning together for a time of group songs, games, and Bible quiz, followed by 40 minutes of deep Bible learning. The kids will have a blast learning more about our incredible savior, making exciting crafts, and deepening friendships as the classes gather together each week. If you haven't started joining in on Sunday School yet - now is a GREAT time to start!



# Student Ministries

## Junior High Confirmation

Each year we gather together our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders for a program we call "Confirmation." In the traditional sense, this would be a class of study readying students who were baptized as infants to confirm the vows their parents made at infancy on their behalf for themselves. Here at 47, we have students who were baptized as infants, students who have never been baptized and students who have already been baptized or confirmed their infant baptism. That said, our program addresses all three groups, gathering them together for a time of growth, fun and meeting. This year's confirmation will be taught by Jenny Riley in the absence of our pastor or interim pastor. Your student will learn The Apostle's Creed, How to Use a Concordance, How to Move Through a Devotional Book, The Meaning of Baptism and they will memorize some key verses from the Bible. The class meets once a month during the week, includes 1-2 field trips, one extended evening of study and Christian movies, in addition to a celebration in the Sunday service in May. We will send out a schedule shortly, together with the opportunity to register for this great time together.

## High School Winter Retreat:

19 Students and Counselors will be heading up to Alpine Conference Center January 18-21 to grow in their faith and have a blast doing it. At this moment we have hit our maximum registration. Still, should you want to go, there is a chance that some spots may have opened. Give us a call at the church office to check availability. Cost is \$183.00 plus \$10.00 for gas. Scholarships are available.

## Junior High Youth Group

Junior High should plan on meeting with High School January 9 – January 30. Depending on where we are with our youth minister search and call, we will be jump-starting our full Junior High outreach in no time at all.

## High School Wednesday Nights

High School Students, we meet together every Wednesday Night January 9 – February 27<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-9:00PM. If the congregation votes to call Jeremy Ryan as our Minister to Youth, his first Wednesday with you will be on January 9<sup>th</sup>. If not, Pastor Frank will lead you on the 9<sup>th</sup> and another great local church has promised to send some of their key leaders to help grow us while our search for a youth worker continues.

**Regular Weekly Meeting Times**  
**Sunday 9 am (Prayer at 8:45 am)**  
**College Mondays 7:30 pm**  
**Junior High Tuesdays 7:00 - 8:40 pm**  
**High School Wednesdays 7:30 pm - 9:10**

## Adult Ministries & Miscellaneous

### *Life Groups !!!*

"So where the River flows everything will live." Ez. 47:9 Taking our cue from our theme verse, LIFE Groups are small groups of 8-14 adults meeting in homes on a regular basis each month to study God's word together, pray for each other, play together and usually share some kind of snackage. If you are not now part of a LIFE Group, consider what night during the week you might be available and make a commitment to be a part of this great growth opportunity. Many groups are kid friendly, with children playing upstairs or in the back yard as the adults meet to share. It's not too late to join a group. Don't miss out on this time of growth and fellowship. Call the Church Office if you need more information and we will help you get plugged in!

## Adult 9am Class Offerings

*We will be having two exciting adult Sunday school classes starting on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Do you want to go deeper into the Bible? Check them out! These classes are every Sunday at 9:00am. See you there!*

**Ed Hess:** Come join Ed as he teaches on "Masters and Servants." This is the study and profiling of slaves in Scripture and how we are all called by God to be servants of all. You don't want to miss it!

**George Morgan:** Continues his verse by verse study of the Bible. This study is for anyone who would like to go through the Bible in its entirety. Whether you are just beginning in your faith or have been a Christian for years, this study has a lot to offer. The class started in the book of Genesis and is now nearing the end of Exodus. It's a great opportunity, not only to learn more about God's word, but to explore our relationship with the Lord. Come join us! You will find this class in the Creekside Room.



The River Report  
River47  
250 S. Prospect Ave.  
Orange, CA 92869

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**Dated Material**

Sunday School: 9:00 am  
Worship: 10:00 am  
Office Hours: M-F 9:00am-2:00pm  
Phone: (714)633-6464 Fax: (714)633-6496  
E-mail address: [life@river47.org](mailto:life@river47.org)  
Web site: [www.river47.org](http://www.river47.org)

#### CHURCH STAFF

Frank Riley, Senior Pastor  
David Burke, Music Minister  
Kacie Andrews, Minister To Children  
Jenny Riley & Roxanna Morgan, Ministry Assistants  
George Morgan, Intern  
Ed Hess, Chairman

## Fellowship And Fun

### **Supper 8s:**

Do you have a desire to get to know each other better here at the church? Well, here's your chance! Supper 8 sign ups are coming again in February!! What is Supper 8? A Supper 8 group will consist of 8 people, it may be a combination of couples and singles, all singles, or all couples. Each month a different person/couple in the group will "host" the event by planning when and where it will take place. It could be a potluck at a home, or dessert and coffee at a local coffee house. It can be as simple as meeting for lunch after church, or as detailed as planning an outing for the group. Each group can decide what "fits" best for their group. Groups will be together for four months. At the end of the four months, we will form new groups and begin to meet other River47 people. The idea is to get together for fun, food and fellowship! Our hope is that through this interaction, our fellowship here will become stronger! Please watch for sign ups! If you have questions or want more details, please call John and Debi Mitchell @ (714) 998-5361, or Rick and Cathy Masciana @ (714) 289-2422.

### **B-I-N-G-O!!!**

Please join us on Saturday, February 9th from 7-9 pm in the Fellowship Hall for an evening of fun, fellowship, food and first-rate prizes! Actually the prize part is up to you. Please bring a wrapped "white elephant" item (this is your chance to re-gift that item you got for Christmas), a snack to share and a highlighter or your lucky dauber. We'll provide the drinks and all the BINGO supplies. This is really a fun, all age event - hope to see you there!

### **River Ladies:**

We meet the fourth Thursday of each month for lunch at different restaurants. All ladies are invited, so come join us and meet the ladies of our church! For more information call Diann Smith (714-633-1514) or email her at [timdiann@surfside.net](mailto:timdiann@surfside.net).

### **Watch for More Information on These Upcoming Events:**

March 16th — Palm Sunday Pot O'Luck  
May — Annual Ladies Tea

*If you are interested in assisting with planning of fellowship events, Sunday morning coffee service, or have a great suggestion, please contact Diann Smith (714-633-1514).*