



The River Report

With News of Happenings And Conditions On The River

March/April 2010

Mission and Vision Statement

Living Life
Deep And Wide

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

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Easter Sunday

We will once again gather the whole congregation into one service at 10 am. As we did last year, the sermon and worship set will be split into two sections to allow all our children's workers to have a worship experience too. A little different this year, we will begin with our nursery through elementary children checked into their special Easter morning programs without first entering the sanctuary (beginning with our children in their Easter kids program will make certain that there is enough comfortable seating).



Then, near the end of the service and for our last worship set, we will bring all our kids back into the service, as all the generations sing "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" and we blow the roof off our building! A great service for you to bring friends!

Children's Baptism and Dedication

Here at River47 we leave the question on whether to baptize or dedicate children to the parents. If you would like to bring your children forward for either of these rites, your first step is to make an appointment with our Senior or Children's Pastor to learn more about the Biblical basis and set a date for celebrating this time with your child(ren).

SPRING FORWARD!

Don't forget! Daylight Savings time begins Sunday March 14. Be certain to move your clocks forward an hour. Yes! That does mean that your wake up call will feel an hour earlier that Sunday morning. Be sure to get to bed early Saturday night so you can arrive refreshed and ready for what God has for you at church on Sunday.

Get Baptized at River47

While any time is a great time for a new Christian to be baptized, Palm Sunday - the Sunday before Easter, is a time that Christians throughout the world often celebrate their baptisms. This year at River47, we will have the baptismal pool warmed up and ready to celebrate your baptism on Sunday, March 28, for the morning service. If you have made a commitment to Jesus Christ and have not yet been baptized as a believer or confirmed your infant baptism, Pastor Frank will be offering a baptism class the Sunday before, on Palm Sunday, (March 21) in his office during the Sunday School hour. If you are interested, sign up on the clip board in the church lobby or fill out a baptism response card and place it in with the morning offering.

Good Friday Service

On Friday, April 2nd, we will meet to remember our Savior's crucifixion and death for us as we worship and prepare ourselves for Easter. On this evening, you will hear about the crucifixion as well as give thought to Christ's last words on the cross. A somber service, more like a funeral really, we meet in the gloom of the evening that the reality of the Easter Morning may be even more striking and triumphant. This year our Good Friday service is set for 7:00PM. Child care will be available.



Sunday Mornings

Series: What's Your One Step?

All right, so we all know that the Lord has asked us to partner with Him in bringing people to salvation. Called evangelism, we often have challenges spelling the word, let alone doing it. In this four-part series (Just before Easter!) we'll help break that down for you step by step. While you still may have problems spelling evangelism, you may find that taking a step to help someone know Jesus Christ has become a whole lot easier!

- March 7 One Step of Introduction
- March 14 One Step of Prayer
- March 21 One Step of Care
- March 28 One Step of Share
- April 4 Easter

Series: Roving Through Romans

In the 80's and 90's as your pastor was beginning his ministry, it seemed that almost every church was preaching through Romans and that the majority of Christians had been through this great book of the Bible. Wanting to broaden people beyond Romans, Pastor Frank chose to spend his time in the other epistles. Fast forward 25 plus years, and he realizes that a majority of our people have never been through one of the greatest teaching books of the Bible! It is time for us River47 to Rove through Romans. As we begin this verse by verse exploration of this letter the seasons will move through Spring and Summer, deepening us and readying our congregation for the next great thing God has in store for us.

- April 11 Romans 1:1-17
- April 18 Romans 1:18-25
- April 25 Guest Speaker Dr. Boaz Johnson (We Won This Guest Speaker in a contest!)

Actually, Eric Delawder won Boaz Johnson, Professor of Theology at North Park University this last Summer at CHIC by being the only person to correctly answer where John wrote the book of Revelation. Keeping over 5,000 high school students and adult workers in rapt attention, we are excited over our ability to welcome Dr. Johnson to River47 April 24 and 25.

Boaz Johnson grew up in the slums of New Delhi and remembers many friends who vanished over night. It wasn't until much later that he realized those children had been forced into labor in the carpet industry or sold into outright slavery. From this horrific background to one of our Covenant Professors, Boaz has an incredible story to tell that you will not want to miss.

As we head into the weekend, we will host Dr. Johnson for three separate times of teaching that we encourage all students and adults to attend.

Saturday Evening April 24

7:00 PM Hear Boaz Johnson's incredible story and the truth about child slavery in our world.

Saturday Morning April 25

- 9:00 AM Combined Youth and Adult Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Preaching

Happy Birthday!

Nelda Snow	Mar 2
Rachel Verdugo	Mar 2
Vern Crocker	Mar 3
Laura Rice	Mar 8
Sami Davis	Mar 8
Bill Jones	Mar 9
Terry Jackson	Mar 10
Nick Delawder	Mar 14
Vince Brown	Mar 21
Noah Burke	Mar 27
Suzanne Molar	Mar 28
Dylan Crocker	Mar 29
Ben Stenson	Mar 29
Rebecca Wooden	Apr 1
Kenneth Carlfeldt	Apr 3
Jeff Eggleston	Apr 6
Esther Strom	Apr 9
Desiree Malecki	Apr 10
Michael Molar	Apr 12
Andrew Whitton	Apr 12
Ian Thomas	Apr 13
Kacie Bayles	Apr 14
Sierra Pederson	Apr 15
Madeline Verdugo	Apr 15
Paul Norling	Apr 17
Juli Wooden	Apr 19
Amy Thomas	Apr 24
George Morgan	Apr 25
Pat Strom	Apr 26
Jennifer Harvey	Apr 29

Happy Anniversary!!

Kris & Julie Almgren	Mar 28
Vince & Cherie Brown	Mar 30



Attendance & Finances

Date	Attendance	Gen. Fund
01/3	193	\$ 2,908.26
01/10	212	\$ 5,552.25
01/17	200	\$ 4,718.01
01/24	190	\$ 4,662.00
01/31	188	\$ 4,373.10
02/7	226	\$ 10,742.00
02/14	172	\$ 4,289.01
02/21	191	\$ 5,559.00
02/28	200	\$ 9,538.00

Weekly Offering Needed to Make Budget:
\$6,000.00

Giving

The months of January and February found us falling short of our weekly giving need by some \$500 per week. While we are still able to cover all of our expenses at present, as we approach and move into the summer, our financial picture may become more tenuous. Over the course of January, we found that 163 households attended and of those only 68 (42%) contributed financially to God's work at River47. Further, if only 30 of those remaining households were to give \$100 per month (equivalent tithe for a family making \$15,000 per year) we would be able to make budget each week without any difficulty. If you have not yet begun to excel in what the Bible calls "this grace of giving," let us encourage you to consider it. In so doing, you will be a blessing to your brothers and sisters at River47 and to the work God desires to do in and through us.

Miscellaneous News and Events On The River

Sanctuary Seating

It is time for new seating, carpeting and painting in our Sanctuary, as we head toward the summer and look toward our next season of ministry. Believe it or not, it has been nearly 30 years since our present pews and upholstery and carpeting were new. If you have not sat in them yet, a mock up, including seats and carpeting is located near our instrumental section. During the months of March and April we will begin our capital fund drive to raise the dollars needed for this project. In the meantime, give thought to what you might be able to give over and above your regular weekly contributions to help us have a seat for all newcomers and regular attendees.

River Ladies

We meet twice a month for lunch and dinner at different restaurants. Ladies of all ages are invited, so come join us and meet the ladies of our church! This month we are meeting at Alé Roma Cucina located at 3544 E. Chapman Ave., Orange. Dinner is March 4th at 6:30 pm and lunch is March 18th at 11:30 am.

In April, we will be meeting at the Olive Garden, located at the Village in Orange on Tustin Ave. Dinner is April 1st at 6:30 pm and lunch is April 15th at 11:30 am. Hope to see you there!

For more information call Diann Smith at (714-633-1514) or email her at timdiann@surfside.net.

Council and Church Officer Nominations

Beginning Sunday, March 21, your River47 Nomination Team will begin taking nominations for a number of Council and Financial Officer Positions including: Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Adult Ministries, Missions, Outreach and Connection (Evangelism), Congregational Care, and Property.

Please be in prayer as to who you believe would be great additions to our church leadership team.

New Small Groups

Our final 5 session small group experience before the summer break begins right after Easter. During our sessions together we will be exploring verse by verse through Peter's first letter, found near the back of your New Testament. We will be taking sign ups for our new groups in March, with groups forming to begin the week of April 11th. Groups meet in homes or here at church every-other-week on their designated evenings. Be sure to fill out a Small Group Interest Card, and place it in the offering plate during the service any of the first three Sundays in March. Please note, our final small group experience is only 5 sessions vs. the normal 6 sessions. Give it a try. This is a great chance to test the waters with an even easier commitment and to prime your pump for resuming Small Groups in October!

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Each year the membership of the congregation meets to elect new Council Members and Financial Officers, approve an annual budget, and discuss other issues pertinent to the congregation. Following the worship service on Sunday, June 6, we will hold the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. Please mark your calendars.

Membership Class Sunday April 11, 5-7PM

Ready to become an official member of River47? The steps are quite easy: 1) Be a strongly committed believer of Christ, His Church and His Word, 2) Have been baptized as a believer or have confirmed your infant baptism in this or another Christian church, 3) Take the Connecting with River47 Membership Class, 4) Fill out a membership application, 5) Meet with a Council Member to hear their story and share yours, 6) Be welcomed officially into membership at River47 on a Sunday morning.

So what difference will membership make in your participation here at River47? Only in two areas really. First, you will have a vote at congregational meetings. Second, members can be elected as Council Members or Church Financial Officers.

Interested?? We would love to have you join us for our next membership class.

Women's Retreat

Save the date!!
This year's women's retreat is the weekend of October 1 - 3!!

You don't want to miss it!!



The Creek Preschool News

Preschool News



Open Enrollment:

In-House Enrollment has begun at The Creek Preschool and Kindergarten! We are accepting registrations for the 2010-2011 school year. We currently have room in our classes which range from 2 ½ years old through Kindergarten. Classes are filling up fast so please come by and check out our preschool programs. We would love to enroll your little one in our preschool program!

Chancy & Bruce Developmental Assessments:

March 2nd and 3rd: Chancy and Bruce associates will be at the Creek to do Developmental Assessments for those children who are eligible to enter Kindergarten in the fall. The cost is \$45.00 and you must sign up by March 1st. There will be a follow-up parent meeting March 15th at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Open House:

March 18th is Open House at The Creek! You are invited to come and visit our classrooms and see what the kids have been doing all year. Join us at 6:30pm. There will be a Spring Boutique in the Fellowship Hall, Kids print fingerprinting with volunteers from the Orange Police Department, a used book sale, and Mrs. Karen our Music teacher will be here too so you can see some of the fun things the kids do in her classes! Don't miss this event!

Chapel Services:

March 3rd & 4th: The Blue and Red Rooms will be leading a special chapel service at 11:40am. Mrs. Jolene and Mrs. Elizabeth will be reading the story "Joshua and the Big Wall".

March 25th and 26th: Frank Riley, the Senior Pastor of River47, will lead chapel and tell the story of "A Sad Day and a Happy Day". This story will introduce the Easter Story and tell about the sad day Jesus died for our sins, and the happy day when he rose again! Chapel is at 11:40am.

April 28th & 29th: The Yellow Room will lead the Chapel service. They will tell the story of "The Man who was too little". These Chapel services will begin at 11:40.

Easter Vacation!

The Creek Preschool and Kindergarten will be closed March 29th - April 9th for Easter vacation. School resumes on April 12th.

Parent-Teacher Conferences:

April 26th & 27th: The Creek Preschool will be closed due to conferences. Make sure you sign up for a conference with your child's teacher! Sign up sheets are in the classrooms. (Mrs. Debi's Jr. Kindergarten class WILL have class on 4/27)

High Seas Expedition Spring VBS:

At High Seas Expedition, kids will explore the mighty love of God on a journey that will change them forever! High Seas Expedition is filled with incredible bible learning experiences kids will see, hear, touch, and even taste! Bible Point crafts, team building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the High Seas Expedition activities that help faith flow into real life. Join us April 5th - 9th, from 9:30am-12pm, and join the adventure! The cost is only \$25.00 for the entire week of fun. Call Kacie Andrews at (714) 633-0402 to register today!

Spring Break Camp:

March 29th - April 2nd: Kids 2 ½ years old - 3rd grade are invited to sign up for our Spring Break Camp! Kids can sign up for our wildly fun Preschool Camp or the high-energy Sports Camp with Coach Joel! Either way, kids are sure to have a blast! Call Coach Joel at (714)728-3237 for more information. You can download registration forms off the Creek Preschool's website www.thecreekpreschool.org.

Children's Church and Sunday School



High Seas Expedition Spring VBS

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Easter Egg Hunt

Our Children's Ministry Department is having an Easter Egg Hunt on April 4th! This is going to be a huge celebration that you won't want to miss! We will have games, yummy snacks, an egg hunt, and most importantly, we will have an interactive Bible Lesson where the kids will experience the real reason we celebrate Easter!



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Students Ministries

Junior High

Junior High Tuesday and Wednesday Nights

Students 6-8 grade, join us for Youth Group on the following nights and times:

Tuesday, March 2,	7:00-8:30PM
Wednesday, March 10	7:30-9:00PM
Tuesday, March 16	7:00-8:30PM
Tuesday, March 23	7:00-8:30PM
Wednesday, April 14	7:30-9:00PM
Wednesday, April 21	7:30-9:00PM
Tuesday, April 27	7:00-8:30PM

* Note: Wednesday Nights in the schedule are Combined Junior and Senior High Meetings. We will also break for Spring Break.

Junior High Summer Camp

If you will be in grades 6-8 next fall, make plans to join us at Alpine this summer for an week of incredible junior high camp! The dates are August 1-6 with a cost of \$329.00. Scholarship help is available up to 50% of the cost of camp. For those with balances in their CHIC accounts, your funds can be used for this camp. We are planning on starting regis-

High School

High School Wednesday Nights

We meet every Wednesday 7:30-9:00PM in March and April except March 31 and April 7 when Orange Unified School District is on Spring Break.

Boaz Johnson Coming to River47

Yes! This incredible speaker is coming our way Saturday and Sunday April 24-25. Check out the article elsewhere in this newsletter to get the details!!!!

High School Spring Leadership Camp

We're heading up to Alpine Conference Center April 30 – May 2 for Camp Mosaic.

What can I expect from Camp Mosaic?

Our mission is: *"Equipping the next generation of servant leaders with a vision of the kingdom of God (Eph. 4:11-13)."* Therefore, you will receive training/mentoring in the development of your personal leadership potential with a vision for the kingdom of God in all its diversity. A Leadership Network will be established to assist you with your ongoing leadership development after Camp Mosaic.

What is expected of me?

You will be asked to make a commitment to learn and grow in your commitment to the Lord and in your service/leadership in the body of Christ, community, and family. Total cost for the weekend is \$140.00, but major scholarship help is available if needed. This is a leadership weekend, so you must come with a firm commitment to grow in your faith and in your vision to make a difference for His kingdom.

Adult Ministries & Miscellaneous

Sunday School Classes

Irene Pham's series, "How to Pass Your Faith on to Your Children" concludes the first week of March.

Check your bulletins and the River47 Updates for information on the next set of adult Sunday School class offerings.

Missions

Who knew that a few weeks could so radically change a person's life? I feel like I've been transformed in the 18 days since I arrived in Thailand and I know that there is no going back. I feel like I've been so exposed, so taken out of my comfort zone that there is nothing else I can do but to rely fully on Jesus.

Thailand is a country of astounding beauty, but also of great pain. I live on the border of Burma and Thailand and there is a lot of hurt in the lives of the people in my community. The Burmese army has gone on a killing spree, a racial cleansing of sorts. I was privileged to visit a community of the Karen people and I was so overwhelmed by their situation. The Burmese army is burning them out of their villages and homes; killing, torturing, and raping the people. Thousands of Karen hide in the jungles of Burma, stepping carefully to avoid the many landmines that were planted by the army. Thousands more have found refuge in Thailand in NGO camps or on the streets of border towns.

More than 40% of the Karen people are Christians and I find it astounding that even after such trial and misfortune they are still able to trust in the providence of God and believe that He is good. They are truly an example of trusting in God, even when misfortune comes.

My everyday life here in Mae Sot changes every week. I spend a lot of time getting to know the staff and the people that we minister to. I am about to begin learning Burmese (I'm saving Thai for later), but in the mean time I love making hand motions to communicate with the kids and using the few words and phrases I've picked up. Over all I love being here. God is growing me to trust and love Him more each day. This is one of the greatest gifts I've ever received, to be welcomed into a culture, and loved with no reservations. God Bless you for supporting me River 47! If any of you care to visit let me know! You would be more than welcome to join me.

With Love from Him who first loved us,
Kate



Don't forget to mark your calendars on March 14th as Daylight Savings Time begins. We will be setting our clocks ahead one hour, and don't want you to be late for church!



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

Dated Material

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
Web site: www.river47.org


CHURCH STAFF

Frank Riley, Senior Pastor
David Burke, Music Minister
Kacie Andrews, Minister To Children
Jenny Riley and Roxanna Morgan, Ministry Assistants
Darren Scott, Chairman

Fellowship And Fun

Bowers Museum Day Trip – March 6: Orange County's largest museum devoted to the history of Orange County and cultural history from around the world. Meet at the Bowers parking lot 2002 N Main St, Santa Ana @ 10:30 am. Cost is \$12 adults, \$9 students and seniors, kids under 6 are free.

March 14 - Spring Potluck: Right after service we'll enjoy a potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Look for the announcement to see what to bring.

March 20 - Bunco Night: A night of frenzied dice rolling, laughs and prizes. Everyone is welcome to play this fast-paced dice game. If you've never played before, we can teach you how in just a few minutes. Bring a snack or treat to share. Cost is \$2. 

April 17 - The Ghetty Museum Trip with Dr. Ed Rybarczyk: Dr Ed will once again lead us through the history of the church as depicted in the medieval art from the period. The Getty Center in Los Angeles houses art exhibits from the Middle Ages to the present against a backdrop of dramatic architecture, tranquil gardens, and breathtaking views. Dr. Ed's tour will be limited to 20 people. Admission to the museum is free but parking is \$15 per car.

**Come and join the Fellowship Team, helping with special events or serving coffee!
If you are interested, please call Brad Nygren, Council Chair for Fellowship, at (714)
633-7622.**