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## May 2016 | Quarterly Newsletter



### **Hey There, Riviera Family!**

I hope you're having a great spring. Nothing's better than seeing the trees in bloom this time of year. It's so beautiful and it gives us hope that better weather is on the horizon.

As I think about the plans for summer, I'm getting really excited. On April 3rd we had our spring business meeting, and I had an opportunity to share Vision RBC 2016. This has been a vision that God has put on the hearts and minds of Riviera's leadership, and we've been praying about this for several months. The RBC 2016 vision statement is: "Through the empowering and leading of the Holy Spirit, Riviera will seek to go deeper with God and each other and increase our community witness in 2016."

Believing this is God's vision for our church, we know God has some great things in store for us. Let me give you a quick run-down of some things on the schedule for the summer. In the area of increased community witness, we will be doing The Community Spiritual Health Survey. On Saturday morning, June 4th, a group of us will be going door to door in our community, asking people questions

about their spiritual health, and inviting people to come to church. Some other churches from our region will be joining us for this initiative.

For the kids, we will also be doing Vacation Bible Adventure June 27th - July 1st and Sports Camp July 18th - 22nd. Youth Summer camp at Triangle Lake will also be July 18th - 22nd. And this year will be our first Riviera Block Party, Saturday August 20th. This will be an evening where we will invite our neighbors to join us for a night of music, food, and activities for the kids.

As you can see, there are great things planned for the summer. We're looking forward to joining God in his work of building the Kingdom of Jesus Christ in Santa Clara. Mark your calendar, and get involved.

Lastly, as you look at the summer and think about your vacation plans, I hope you will take the time this summer to grow in your relationship with the Lord. We can only be fruit-bearing branches as we continue to abide in the Vine.

See you soon!

*Pastor Toby Gallego*

## INSIDE

Winter Recap  
Flashback Photos  
Current Events  
Coming Soon  
Service Spotlight

## OUR MISSION

The mission of Riviera Baptist Church is to bring God glory through loving Him, loving one another, and sharing God's love with our world both locally and globally.

## LEADERSHIP

**Senior Pastor**  
Toby Gallego  
**Worship Director**  
Annie Pasquinelli  
**Children's Ministry**  
Michelle Goetzinger  
**Head Deacon**  
Chuck Cole  
**Treasurer**  
Barb Dopkus  
**Office Assistant**  
Tina Averill

**Newsletter Editor**  
Annie Pasquinelli  
April-May 2016

# Where The Spirit Has Moved: Winter Recap

## A Letter from the Collinses

Dear Riviera Baptist Church,

I hope all is well in the Eugene/Santa Clara area for you. More than anything, I hope God is most glorified in and throughout your lives. I hope you all know that the opportunity I had in serving the church was an experienced blessing I will never forget and I want to give my gratitude to the members of Riviera Baptist Church for your prayers and encouragement.

As Alex and I are getting settled in Washington, God has deeply provided for us every step of the way. The day after we moved to Tri-Cities, we were provided with career opportunities in the child care industry. I was offered a full-time School Age Lead Teacher position at a before- and after-school program where I mentor, teach, and plan activities with elementary age children. As for Alex, she was offered a full-time Pre-School Teacher Assistant job at a local preschool. We are getting plugged into a local church, Crossview Community Church, which is a gospel-centered church that constantly deepens our motivation in striving to grow our relationship with Jesus. To make this letter sweet and simple, we are doing awesome and it's only because of Jesus.

As we conclude this letter, we want to encourage you with something we have learned in the past month. If your faith feels dry, that God has simply moved on and forgotten about you, or your motivation to simply get in the Word to grow your relationship with Jesus, remember this: God chose you and invited you to be a part of His family. He has not forgotten about you, because our God is a loving and graceful God who does not forget His children. He wants unison with us and as believers who were dead in sin and now alive only because of Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross.

To those in the youth group, we want to encourage you with this: Jesus is enough. He is all that you will ever need, should ever want, and will always be there when everything and everyone else drifts away. Jesus is enough. We miss and love you guys and have been praying for you, and will always be praying for you.

We love you to those at Riviera Baptist Church. Thank you for all you have done for us.

*In Christ,*

*The Collins Family*



## Easter Invitations

This March, the RBC K. I. D. S. helped to create mini-Easter baskets that served as invitations to let our neighbors, friends, and family about RBC's Easter services.



The Easter baskets were made out of simple Styrofoam cups and colorful tape, and filled with empty Easter eggs and grass made from construction paper. Why empty eggs? Because, as the accompanying invitation card explained, Jesus' tomb is empty! The eggs not only symbolized our new life in Jesus, but also that He has been risen, and His body is no longer here on Earth.

The little baskets were used to "egg" other houses and invite people to come find out more at our services. RBC also participated in an Easter advertising campaign (pictured above) that included posters and signs unveiled across the city.

Riviera hosted a Good Friday service, which started with special music from the Youth Worship Team, and then continued with a series of stations where attendees could examine Biblical passages closely and pray for the story of Jesus to impact their hearts.

Our Easter Sunday services were also well attended. The YWT led worship for the opening number on this, as well.

# RBC Leadership Retreat

By Denise Cole

The Riviera Baptist Church Leadership Retreat was February 5-6, 2016. It was graciously hosted by Mike and Cindie Lentz at Shady Oaks in Cottage Grove. We had a wonderful time of fellowship, laughter, worship, prayer time and breaking bread together.

During the weekend, Pastor Toby introduced a new study, The Emotionally Healthy Church by Peter Scazzero. The first study group began in March with the intent of offering the class several times throughout the year for everyone to have the opportunity to participate. We discussed and shared the importance of being a spiritually mature body of believers and in continuous growth for His purposes. We prayed with purpose for RBC as we build on our values as a Bible centered, prayer guided, hospitality focused, and community concerned church.

We also calendared the following events for 2016:

- More family-oriented activities (this evolved into 5th Wednesday program)
- All Church Prayer Night (took place last Friday!)
- Community Spiritual Health Survey (May/June)
- Continue Vacation Bible School, Sports Camp, etc. (summer)
- Block Party Concert / Celebration (August 20th)
- Kickoff Sunday (September)
- Trunk or Treat (October)
- Veteran's Day - Dinner for Vets (November)

We are very excited about what God is doing at Riviera, our surrounding community and churches. God is on the move and we are grateful to be journeying with Him and with each of you. May our Lord and His Love continue to be the guiding light that shines from each of our hearts as we seek His will, His way and His purpose.



## Playground Work Day

Members of our congregation, both young and old, pitched in to clean up the RBC playground and get it ready for spring classes!

# Current Events: What's Happening at RBC

## Concert of Prayer

By Karen Glenn

What happens when God's people pray? 2 Chronicles 7:14 says, "If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face... then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins and heal their land."

Our Concert of Prayer on Friday, April 15th, was an invitation to humble ourselves in prayer and seek God's face for Riviera and Lane County. Seeking His face is seeking Him, which is essentially seeking His will for our congregation. It's a deeper prayer than to just make plans and ask God to bless them.

Close to 20 people gathered to petition God and to seek His will. We worshiped God, interspersing worship with prayer and seeking God for the city and RBC.

What happens when God's people pray? Prayer is the muscle that moves the hand of God. If we want to see a move of God in our midst, to see all God has for us in this generation, we have to seek Him in humility and prayer. The world is not impressed with us doing anything in our own power, but they will be amazed and drawn to what God does through us by His power.

We hope to have a quarterly Concert of Prayer on our regular One Hope prayer date. We are laying a foundation for God to do a great work at RBC as we submit to His plan and purposes.

Our next Prayer Vigil is May 20, and the next Concert of Prayer will be scheduled this summer. You are invited to be part of the prayerful solution!

## Women's Ministry Relaunch

By Vanessa Gallego

The RBC Women's Ministry has relaunched! We are in the beginning phases of praying for and piecing together a new vision to connect the women here at Riviera. After a brief hiatus, we have regrouped and are ready for God to start something amazing! If you weren't able to join us for the last movie night, craft day, or Bible study, don't worry! There will be more opportunities to join us this summer. We will work hard to keep you posted!

This Month:

- ⇒ Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> — Mother's Day Brunch (open to everyone)
- ⇒ Secret Sisters — There is still time to sign up if you haven't already. Please talk to Cindie Lentz or Vanessa Gallego if you are interested.
- ⇒ Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm — Women's Ministry Planning Meeting. We will be discussing summer and fall events in detail, plus deciding on a place and time for a women's retreat!



## Spotlight on Service: Phil Jessing

Phil Jessing isn't someone you'd find leading a growth group class or hosting a fellowship event by himself, but that doesn't mean he's not an active servant here at Riviera—and in the areas he serves, he shines.

Phil and Nancy Jessing were married just over 45 years ago on April 19th, 1971, which was the same year that Nancy started attending events at RBC. Phil didn't officially join the church for a few years, but he often attended church functions. Eventually he followed his wife, and he has been an active volunteer ever since, finding his niche in behind-the-scenes ministries.

Most of his involvement has been in maintaining the building and grounds of the church. He, Nancy, and the Osbornes did regular maintenance and took care of custodial duties every week for years—until they needed **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

# Coming Soon: Looking Forward to Summer 2016

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3: SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE



help to take care of the growing church. Phil has used his skills as an electrician to improve on the building. He and Kyle Milton, a previous member of

the church, took advantage of their connections with a local electric company to install the energy efficient fluorescent lighting inside and out.

Phil's other projects at the church have been more entertaining, as well. Back when Ricky Scott was pastor here, he helped run the RBC co-ed baseball team. RBC's team played four other churches in the area, including Gilham and Friendly. "We played back when the baseball diamond was nearer to the parking lot," Phil explained, "before it was moved to the back corner of our lot." He enjoyed spending sunny evenings out on the field with the congregation.

Today, Phil continues to help around the church where he's needed. He has been part of the Building and Grounds Committee, has led church work

days like the playground cleaning day this spring (see page 2 for photos), and on clear days he can be seen riding the lawn mower



around our massive property.

When asked what he would like to see from our church, he said it's the same thing he and Nancy have always dreamed for us: Continual growth. "We've got to get to the young people in the area," he said.

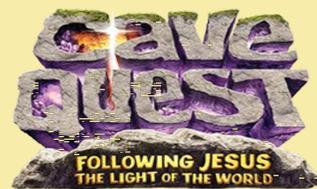
With the beautiful, expansive property that we have, which Phil has helped maintain for nearly half a century, it's clear that God can surely use us—and dedicated servants like Phil—to do just that!

## Vacation Bible Adventure

By Michelle Goetzinger

We're gearing up for an over-the-top underground adventure from 9:00am to 11:30 am **June 27th through July 1st**. We're grounding kids in the rock-solid foundation of God's love, a love that takes us through life's dark times.

Kids will spend each day spelunking through activity stations with their Cave Crews.



Our desire is that during our Cave Quest, kids will experience God's Word in surprising and unforgettable ways! Each

day, the leaders will reinforce one simple Bible truth, which will make it easy for the kids to remember and apply to their own lives.

We are looking for volunteers in a variety of functions: Activity Station leaders, Crew leaders, Decorators to turn the church into a cave, and Volunteers to gather supplies and snacks for each day.

Please watch the bulletin and the Cave Quest Table for more information about volunteering, as well as upcoming trainings. Our director this year will be Michelle Goetzinger. We are excited for the opportunity to share God's love with our community—and we invite you to join with us in prayer as we prepare for our awesome spelunking adventure!

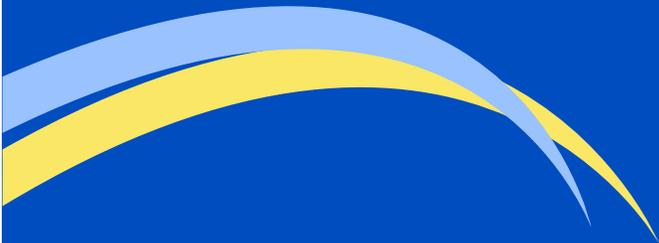
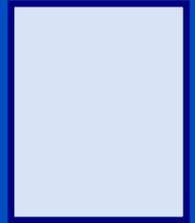
## Kids' Sports Camp



Our annual sports camp will take place in July 18th-22nd. Kids can participate in cheerleading, volleyball, and baseball—and learn about the Bible! More info coming soon.



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# RBC Calendar May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Welcome to RBC Class	2	3	4	5	6	7 Mother's Day Brunch
8 Mother's Day Lord's Supper	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 Prime Tim-ers Luncheon	18 YWT rehearsals begin	19	20 OneHope Prayer Vigil	21
22 Kids Minis-try Sunday	23	24	25 Last spring Rk2 program	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4 Spiritual Health Survey