



3071 River Road
P. O. Box 40248
Eugene, OR 97404
541-688-2915
www.RivieraBaptist.com

November 2016 Quarterly Newsletter

Hey There, Riviera Family!

on this fall day I'm in awe of the beauty of Creation. Fall is my favorite time of year. I love it when the temperature starts to drop, the leaves start to turn, and of course college football is on the television. I have so many fond memories of years gone by and gatherings with family and friends.

As the weather gets harsher and activities outdoors become less seldom, it's also a time that I find myself reflecting more. This year I have reflected much on God's faithfulness to our family and to our spiritual family at Riviera. In 2016 we have seen God do amazing things at Riviera. We have had incredible opportunities for corporate worship and prayer. We have seen people come to Christ and be baptized. New friendships were established, and we have seen our church share the love of Christ with our community. Whether it was Vacation Bible School in June or the Block Party in August, Riviera has shined the light of Christ on North Eugene. Before the year's end, we will have more opportunities to gather together for worship, enjoy each other's company, and offer a helping hand to

As I sit
at my
desk

a person in need.

As we come to the end of the year, I want to remind you of the **Vision Statement for 2016**: *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.*

By the grace of God, we can tell stories of how this vision is being accomplished at Riviera. But I don't want us to become complacent. I want to encourage you to continue pursuing a deeper relationship with God by setting aside time to meet with Him on a regular basis. I also want to encourage you to build relationships with people in our church by opening up your home or inviting them out for a meal. And lastly, pray about how you can be witness in your family, neighborhood, or place of employment this holiday season. God is always working around us, and we need to look for opportunities to join Him.

I hope that you and your family have a great holiday season celebrating God's faithfulness and the greatest gift ever given on Christmas day!

In Christ,

Pastor Toby Gallego

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

Director of Youth and Discipleship

Cody Aucoin

Worship & Media Director

Annie Pasquinelli

Children's Ministries Director

Michelle Goetzinger

Head Deacon

Chuck Cole

Treasurer

Barb Dopkus

Office Assistant

Tina Averill

Where The Spirit Has Moved: Summer Recap

EAST ASIA: MISSION SUCCESS!

By Michelle Goetzinger

"Thank you" is not enough to express the gratitude I have for my Riviera family after my East Asian Mission this summer!

While I was away, I worked alongside a team from the Pacific Northwest to serve workers and their families from all over East Asia. My role was to be in charge of the team of teachers who worked with the 4th grade students. Our team of eight represented four churches, four different cities, and two countries—as well as two different generations.

It was one of the most unique and challenging tests of leadership that I have ever experienced. Fortunately for me, my team was amazing! Their hearts truly reflected Christ and the call of the Great Commission, and they were able to roll with all of the changes that happened.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



PREPARING FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

By Cody Aucoin

During the last weekend of August, One Hope coordinated an outreach event known as Project Hope, in which local churches adopt neighborhood schools and help to prepare their facilities and grounds for the new school year. On Saturday, August 27th, Riviera was able to partner with the principal of Awbrey Park Elementary School to do some painting on doors and trim.

The next day, we worked with other local churches at North Eugene High School to give away backpacks, shoes, and school supplies to families in need. This took place not just at North Eugene, but actually at a total of five different locations!

One Hope is a network of pastors, leaders, churches, and ministries with a purpose of unity. It is a collaborative effort to love each other in such a way that all people would know Christ. Christ alone enables unity, and His fame alone is the purpose of unity. In His high-priestly prayer, Jesus' motivation was one of global intent—"that the world may believe" (Jn. 17:21). Jesus longs to be known. He is thoroughly aware of the reality that a heart-knowledge of His love and lordship is all that will bind us to Himself for all of eternity—and that is exactly what He longs for.

As an organization, One Hope understands that power comes only through unity. Practically speaking, this is demonstrated in many of their collaborative efforts, including the annual Project Hope initiative. By the grace of God, our connection with One Hope will be strengthened—partnering with Jesus-believing churches for the glory of God.



Photo Flashback: River Baptisms at RBC

Page 2

BAPTISMS AT THE RIVER

On August 14th, Riviera went down to the river to pray—and to baptize five people into God's family! We started with a picnic and testimony sharing, and then they took the plunge. What a beautiful day to celebrate God's love for us!



SUMMER BLOCK PARTY

This year, Riviera decided to implement a huge new outreach event: the Summer Block Party. And, despite the inclement weather, it was a huge success!

The goal of the Block Party was to bring people together from the community for a fun afternoon in the sun—with lots of great music from local Christian bands and worship teams! We had a few musical ensembles take to the newly made RBC outdoor stage, including our very own Youth Worship Team, who closed out the night with a choreographed flash mob-style dance routine.

Additionally, we had lots of great food and activities. There were delicious hot dog baskets, various

sides dishes, pop corn bags, and even snow cones—which were a huge hit that steamy hot afternoon! Back in the Kids' Corner, we had not one but two bounce houses, a face painting booth, and a caricature artist.

Even though the Block Party ended up taking place on one of the hottest days of the year, we still had a great level of attendance. Approximately 80 community members came by—people who had no previous affiliation with Riviera—and there were at least 45 volunteers over the course of the day who helped make the event possible.

All in all, it was a rousing success, and we hope to be able to do it again next year! Great work, Riviera!

Where The Spirit Has Moved

(Continued)

Spotlight on Service: Chuck and Denise Cole

If anyone knows the ins and outs of Riviera Baptist Church, it's the Coles. Chuck and Denise have helped in almost every ministry the church has had for more than thirty years (except preaching). Because that's just how they roll.

Chuck Cole is originally from the Santa Clara area. He grew up a mere three blocks from Riviera, not even realizing that his future church was there! He joined the military when he was young, and through this he met his wife, Denise, who was also a service member. After they were married—and about to have their first child—the two moved from Fort Stewart in Hinesville, Georgia back to Eugene, where Chuck had a job waiting for him.

Though Chuck wasn't a Christian at that time, Denise was. "She's been one since childhood," Chuck explains. So when Denise started looking



around for a new church to call home, they found the only Southern Baptist church in the area at the time and settled in.

After a few months attending Riviera, a deacon by the name of Gene Ballard visited the young family at their home, and Chuck came to know the Lord! Later, Chuck became a deacon himself, and they've been committed here

ever since.

During that time, their list of serving activities in the church has grown exponentially. Besides being a deacon, Chuck has served as men's ministry leader, church business and finance committee person, building and grounds committee leader, and more. Denise has been a Vacation Bible School director, helped with the hospitality team, liaison and personnel committees, and was even a secretary at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2: MISSION TRIP

And what a number of changes we had! It seemed that every day a new challenge presented itself, and we had to make adjustments to the plans we had made the day before. Even more than the plans and the finances, we could not have accomplished what we did had we not been covered in prayer. There were more than a few times in which we could not have made it through a day without the power of the prayers of those who were back in the states.

One of the many benefits of the trip was the lasting relationships, not only between team members but also with the families we ministered to. Part of my desire for the children's ministry at Riviera is to create a global

mindset. My plan to accomplish this is to connect our K.I.D.S. with children overseas so that they can learn about and pray for each other. Several of the families I met there were more than willing to connect with our students and to share what they are working on overseas with us so we can join them in prayer.

You can read about our trip from the article written by our sending agency, the Northwest Baptist Witness, at www.gonbw.org or in the latest copy of the Northwest Baptist Witness publication.

The team that we worked with in East Asia was so proud and delighted with our service that they have asked us to return again in 2018! I hope to be able to be a part of that team—and to have some of you a part of it as well!

Current Events and Coming Soon: The 2016 Holiday Season



New Colors and More!

Thanks to the Frees family for their hard work in repainting the church building! The new green color scheme has been greeted with a lot of enthusiasm. It looks fresh and fabulous!

We've also been adding some additional safety measures all around the building. We now have a security camera system that we hope will help deter vandalism and theft on our campus.

There are also steel cable gates going into place at the entrances to the parking lot. Look for notices and more information coming soon. We're always working for God's kingdom!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4: SPOTLIGHT

one point. Both have also helped with youth group.

One thing that both Chuck and Denise love to do is serve as growth group leaders. Their most recent class is called STEPS. The curriculum is designed to meet people where they're at, whatever their current situations, life struggles, or victories, and bring them closer to Christ. It addresses the hurt, the guilt, the shame, and the unseen areas of life that we all live in. "It's an awesome class," Chuck confirms. Though it's almost wrapped up for the season, both Chuck and Denise hope that it will be taught at Riviera again, because it's invaluable to anyone, no matter what their spiritual maturity level.

Chuck and Denise are very encouraged by the current leadership at Riviera, and say they are doing an awesome job. It's important that leaders "get to know each other [and the congregation] on a personal basis," Chuck explains, and he adds that this is a great example for us to maintain ongoing growth with one another.

We are so blessed to have this dynamic team at Riviera, and we know that God has good works in store for them in His kingdom here on Earth!



HOLIDAY SEASON

The holiday season is once again upon us—and we've got a lot of holiday cheer to spread around this year!

Our annual Thanksgiving potluck with EJBC will be happening after the 11:00 service on Sunday, November 20th. Bring a dish and tell us how many people you'll have in your party by putting your name on the Events Board.

That day will also be the deadline to turn in shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. See the display in the foyer for more information!

Our Christmas services will be different than usual. We'll have a Christmas Eve service on Saturday, December 24th and just one Christmas Day service at about 10:45am.

And don't forget our seasonal giving and benevolence opportunities. God has blessed us greatly, and we want to share those blessings!



3071 River Road
P. O. Box 40248
Eugene, OR 97404



4	5	6	7	8	9	10
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
20 Potluck Thanksgiving	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
6	7	8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day	12
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

RBC Calendar—November/December 2016