



### The Power of a Whisper

In [1 Samuel 3:1-10](#) the Lord calls Samuel in the night. Samuel thinks that it is Eli calling him. Eli sends him back to bed. This happens two more times. *“Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, “Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’”*

If you were honestly to say, "God, I'm listening," what might your life become? Bill Hybels in ***The Power of a Whisper: Hearing God, Having the Guts to Respond*** offers seasoned, practical wisdom to help Christ-followers better listen for God's whispers of direction, challenge, and counsel — and act decisively in response. In March, we will begin a Four-Week Church Experience discovering how to:

- Discern the voice of God from others that vie for your attention
- Invite His input into your daily routine
- Allow Him to direct your life in order to make a difference in our world
- Summon the courage to follow God's voice as you live "wide open" to Him

"Obeying the Spirit instead of your own self-centered whims will lead you to places you've never been, challenge you in ways you have never been challenged and invite levels of sacrifice you never dreamed you could make. This is the power and the promise of full-throttle faith, of living a life fueled solely by God." – Bill Hybels

I will be preaching on how we can train our ears to hear God's whispers and let God's input direct our lives as individuals and as a community of faithful followers of Jesus. We will also be exploring these topics in Sunday School classes and small groups. If you do not participate regularly in Sunday School and would like to participate in a four week small group experience let me know.

If you have a story about how you have heard God's whisper and how you responded that you would like to share or just talk about let me know.

I look forward to sharing this adventure with God and with you.

Shalom in Christ,

John

**Birthdays and Anniversaries**

January...

3<sup>rd</sup> Laura Shadoin  
12<sup>th</sup> Jim Reese  
15<sup>th</sup> Kay Farling  
Joe Ervin  
16<sup>th</sup> Pauline Miller  
30<sup>th</sup> Joe Speece  
31<sup>st</sup> Jordan Murphy



February...

4<sup>th</sup> Mary Schumacher  
6<sup>th</sup> Bill Watson  
7<sup>th</sup> Darwin Keyton  
8<sup>th</sup> Shirley Modesitt  
9<sup>th</sup> Inga Hill  
10<sup>th</sup> Pat Terhune  
15<sup>th</sup> Joyce Kendall  
18<sup>th</sup> Terry Jacobs  
19<sup>th</sup> Bill Campbell  
21<sup>st</sup> Betty Bailey



February 26<sup>th</sup>  
Tom & Janet Schamp

## January-February Reminder

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Give thanks with a grateful heart for...

Pastor John for faithfully leading the Bibles and Bagels Group each Tuesday morning at Panera Bread.

Everyone that served on a Riverside committee during 2010 and to those that will be serving in 2011.

The One Month to Live group leaders.

Sandy Hunter, Diane Baldwin, Fred Wallace and the Worship Team for decorating the church for the Christmas season and coordinating the Hanging of the Greens.

The Master's Charges class for serving at the 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary celebration for Ron & Pat Brown.

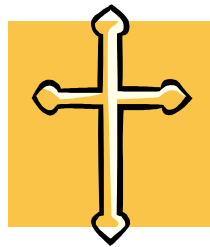
Everyone that gave of their time to ring bells for the Salvation Army.

Those that volunteer at and help pick up and deliver the bags to Covenant Partners Church each month on Community Partners Day.

Everyone that helped make the Kids Hope Christmas Party a huge success.

Everyone that volunteered on the Habitat for Humanity work day. Your work was certainly a blessing for the new home owner.

Those that prepare coffee and snacks for Sunday Morning Fellowship time.



*Ministry Support*

**Trustees' Corner**

**Above and Beyond-Preparing for the Future update:** The weather didn't cooperate so we weren't able to repair the cracks in the parking lot. We were only able to have the chuck holes at the north entrance repaired. The cracks will have to wait until warmer weather returns. The exterior of the north wall in Fellowship Hall has been repaired and, thanks to Ron & Pat Brown and their daughter Angie, the interior side of the wall is also repaired and painted. The wall behind the heater in the lower lobby was also repaired and painted by Ron and Angie.

We still plan on completing the Above and Beyond project list which includes purchasing additional heat pumps and filling the cracks, sealing and restriping the entire parking lot. Thanks to everyone that contributed and continues to fulfill your pledge.

**Welcome to your new Trustees:** We welcome Dale DeHaven, Bill Pittenger, and Mark Clevenger to the Trustees.

**Weather Related Church Closing Information**

The Trustees wish to advise you that if the city declares a snow or other emergency and requests that travel be restricted to essential or emergency travel only, Sunday services will be cancelled. This would also pertain to any meetings scheduled during the week. We, however, encourage you to use good judgment when the streets and roads are hazardous to travel on even when a State of Emergency has not been declared.

If a meeting is cancelled, please contact Tom Schamp (765) 749-4410. He will contact WLBC 104.1, WTHR Ch 13 and Fox59 Ch 11. An e-mail will be sent to those who have given their e-mail address to the church. If possible, an announcement will also be placed on the church's answering machine. If in doubt, please call the church 288-4257 or Pastor Young at 288-3826 or his cell at 278-8733. Committee Chairs may also consider establishing a telephone chain calling procedure for their committee.

If a snow or other emergency prohibiting travel is not declared we will have church for those who can make it safely to Riverside. If you do not feel safe traveling to church, please stay home. If you have a responsibility at church for the Sunday in question, please stay home, but notify the church of your decision to do so. That will keep us from worrying about you being stuck in the snow and allow us to recruit a replacement among those who are able to travel.

You don't have to be in church to worship God. Jesus in John 4 tells the Samaritan woman that location doesn't matter. We are to "worship the Father in spirit and truth" (John 4:23). However, Luke tells us that "on the Sabbath day [Jesus] went into the synagogue, as was his custom" (Luke 4:16). And Hebrews 10:25 admonishes us "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

## COVENANT PARTNERS COMMUNITY DAY

**Community Day** continues in 2011 on the fourth Thursday of the month. Please bring your bags of supplies by Tuesday, January 25th for the next event on Thursday, January, 27th. **Here is the updated list of items to include: unscented hand soap (1 bar or bottle), laundry detergent (small bottle or box), dish detergent (16 oz), Kleenex (1 box), and toilet paper (4 rolls).** Also, please see Susan Reno or Mary Schumacher if you would be willing to share part of your day on those Thursdays from 10-2 with the people at Covenant Partners. You will be blessed.

## AN ENDOWMENT THOUGHT

The Kids Hope Christmas celebration was sure a fun and touching time for our Mentors and Prayer partners. As I observed the kids having a great time and saw how many Riversiders were involved, I couldn't help but think of the Margaret Hoover endowment and how it aided in funding the Kids Hope project. I think her soul approves of the use of her legacy.

What legacy will I leave? And you?

## PRAYER WALKING

Will not be walking the months of January and February

We will resume in March.

## THERAPY DOG TRAINING

Will take place at Riverside in 2011, with sessions being beginning in March, June, July, August and October. Please contact Deb Dolak [765-288-2514 or 2sibes@comcast.net] for more information about this wonderful course and ministry possibilities following.

## *Passionate Worship and Radical Hospitality*

### **Fellowship Time**

Coffee and snacks are being served each Sunday morning in the Joseph W. Rankin Library. Volunteers are needed so this ministry can continue. A sign up sheet is available in the library. Just let Amy Clevenger know if you have any questions or need to know how to operate the coffee brewer.

### **New Service**

Barry Turner, Tom Schamp and Pastor John are researching the possibility of starting a new service later this year. They attended a workshop in Indianapolis recently called Exploring the Longevity Revolution: Ministry with Older Adults. If you have an interest in this area of ministry please let Barry, Tom, and/or Pastor John know.



### **A Christmas Gathering & Christmas Mosaic – the Cantata**

Due to snow storm predictions and icy parking lots on December 12th the Christmas Gathering was postponed. Please keep January 9<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for “A Christmas Gathering” and the cantata, “Christmas Mosaic” performed by our combined choirs at Gethsemane UMC. Dinner will begin at 5:00 p.m. followed by the cantata at 6:15. Although our calendars will have passed December 25<sup>th</sup>, we can still hold Christmas in our hearts and be thankful for the love and peace given to us in the form of that tiny babe! We look forward to seeing you there!

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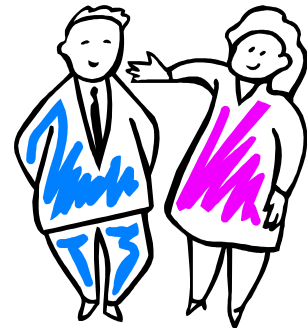
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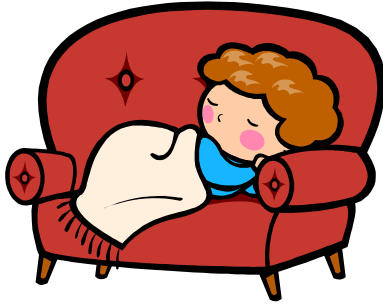
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### January and February Hosts and Minglers

DATE	OUTSIDE DOOR	INSIDE DOOR	LOBBY MINGLER	SANCTUARY MINGLER
1/02	Fred & Bob Wallace	Sandy Abbott	Janet Schamp	Wilma Grile
1/09	Diane Baldwin & Sandy Hunter	Kay Farling	Mary Schumacher	Cindy Miller
1/16	Herb & Karen Blank	Jo Clevenger	Judy Turner	Nancy Campbell
1/23	Jack Stanton & Jim Reese	Beverly Reese	Susan Reno	Pat Ashcraft
1/30	Terry Jacobs & Jack Richardson	Ann Beouy	Margaret Ann Deboy	Viv Jacobs
2/06	Rex Pittenger & Harry Shelby	Wilma Carney	Odessa DeHaven	Virginia Sharp
2/13	Jack Richarson & Mark Clevenger	Amy Clevenger	Betty Lacey	Florence Shelby
2/20	Joe & Judy VanWinkle	Susan Reno	Cindy Miller	Lynn Wright
2/27	Jack Stanton & Dorothy Bowman	Marlene Boyer	Nellie Campbell	Janet Schamp

Having Greeters each Sunday is an important ministry at Riverside. If you are unable to serve when scheduled please ask someone to fill in for you.





## MISSIONS UPDATE

Fall was a busy and giving time for Missions, thanks to the help of our Riverside family. We have been collecting for the Heifer Project during December. Summary of our totals for this will be given later. We also had several bell ringers for the Salvation Army collection stations at the mall. Thanks to all who did this. Barry will give an update on this later as well.

We collected domestic goods for the YWCA in November. Thanks to you, we were able to collect and donate 8 pillows, 2 twin blankets, 1 twin comforter, 1 twin pad, 3 twin sheet sets, 8 towels, hand towels and wash cloths.

In December we got word of an emergency need for Christian Ministries for blankets and food. Again, Riverside was there to help out with 15 blankets and 11 bags of canned goods!

Other mission-related giving came from the Harvey Bible Study group who collected \$334 in December with which they purchased food and blankets for Christian Ministries, coats, hats, scarves and gloves for two ladies and baby items for another lady at A Better Way, and made a donation to Salvation Army. The Master's Charges class purchased a Christmas for a needy family and delivered it prior to Christmas. The Thursday Morning Men's group made a donation to Christian Ministries as did two other individuals of which we are aware.

The above is all in addition to our monthly giving to Covenant Partners and Christian Ministries, so thank you, Riverside for your generous heart!

The Missions Committee





Message from Dr. Roger, KHUSA Child Psychologist

**How important is it for a KIDS HOPE USA mentor to maintain a relationship with just one child?** I rediscovered this again this year when my KHUSA director asked me to fill in for a mentor who was unable to continue after four years with a student. My new student, a very independent 11-year-old fifth grader, asked his teacher every day when he would be getting a special person to be his friend. Since he had experienced the value of having just one person show up every week for four years, he was not afraid to ask, without embarrassment, for that to continue his last year in elementary school. Last year I didn't have the time to mentor, so I jumped at the chance to once again be that special person to one child. I am amazed at how I look forward to our visits, even when it means I'm in 30 degree weather at one of his after-school football games. The secret to making a child feel special is to do things that even family members are not always able to do. And guess what? During our one hour together, he leaves his peer group and allows me to feel that he's only there for me. This kind of two-way caring is what makes our relationships with these children so powerful. I'm becoming more convinced that this two- person feeling of "only me" is what makes these KIDS HOPE USA relationships thrive. And let's not forget the prayer partners who are praying for just one child. Jesus often took time to bless one at a time and so should we.

## **FUNDRAISER FOR KIDS HOPE DAY CAMP**

We will be selling 6" Sub sandwiches on Super Bowl Sunday, February 6, 2011. We will be taking orders for your sandwiches on January 23rd or January 30th through the bulletin. Your choice will be Ham-- Turkey-- or Ham and Turkey. The cost will be \$5.00 per sandwich.

Please be ready to place your order on January 23rd or January 30th. The sandwiches may be picked up after church on February 6th. You will pay for them at this time.

Thanks,

The Kids Hope Day Camp Committee

## Intentional Faith Development We Wish You A Wonderful New Year Filled With Blessings

The disciples must have clearly seen that Jesus' power and ministry came from his prayer life, for he asked them, "TEACH US TO PRAY". They did not ask him to teach them to teach, or to speak, or to do miracles, but to pray. It was apparent that if they could learn his secrets in prayer, the rest would follow as they had need. Realizing prayer's priority, let us follow their example and say, "Lord, teach us to pray".

There come times when I have nothing more to tell God. If I were to continue to pray in words, I would have to repeat what I have already said. At such times it is wonderful to say to God, "May I be in Thy presence, Lord. I have nothing more to say to Thee, but I do love to be in Thy presence". O Hallelujah

"But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father secretly. Then your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you". Matthew 6:6

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. Isaiah 53:4-5

The Intentional Faith Development group believes that God's work through believers will not be effective without our regular prayers offered in faith.

I thank everyone who prays for our church leaders, staff, pastor, and others regularly. Your PRAYER SUPPORT FOR RIVERSIDE IS VERY IMPORTANT...Fred

Please pray for the Church Council to have the wisdom they need in their decision making during 2011.

Colossians 4:2 DEVOTE YOURSELVES TO PRAYER, BEING WATCHFUL AND THANKFUL.