



The Riverchase Family

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Take Another Look

Are things about as bad as they can get? Do you have news overload? Do you think things are about as bad as they have ever been?

Well, no, they are not. We are actually living in pretty good times. So why so much negativity?

We need to take another look with a different perspective.

So did Elijah in 2 Kings 19.

Elijah had given up. He wanted to die. He begged the Lord to take his life.

Here is how he described his view of his life:

He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." (1 Ki. 19:10 NIV)

Things were bad but not as bad as he thought.

He needed God's perspective and he received it. He was given food and rest to take care of his physical body. He was given tasks to do for others. And , finally, he was told the truth which corrected the lie he was telling himself. "I have seven thousand who have not bowed down to Baal."

Maybe we need a different perspective. How about trying to see things as God sees them?

-Dewayne

Upcoming Events:

Adventure Club/Pre-Teen

- **Breakfast with Santa:** Saturday, December 2, 9:00 a.m. in the Reception Room.
- **Pre-Teen Devo:** Sunday, December 2, 6:00 p.m. in the Kid Cave.
- **AC/PT Supper:** Wednesday, December 12, 6:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

Teen

- **Feeding the Homeless:** Saturday, December 2, 7:00 a.m.
- **Teen Supper and Christmas Compassion Project:** Wednesday, December 5, 5:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center.
- **Caroling and Christmas Party:** Saturday, December 8, 4:00 p.m.

College

- **Dinner:** Sunday, December 2, following evening service at the home of Bill and Twyla Jones.
- **Volleyball:** Friday, December 7, 6:00 p.m. in the gym.



When: Saturday, December 1
Where: Reception Room
Time: 9:00 a.m.

Breakfast Food: pancakes, bacon, fruit

Breakfast with Santa is for all children, Adventure Club and Preteens. Come with your family for a wonderful breakfast and pictures with Santa. Kids can also write letters to Santa, create reindeer food, and take home a Christmas craft.

Children are encouraged to bring a toy donation for a child at Children's Hospital. Toy items can include: nerf basketball hoops, Microsoft gift cards, stuffed animals, Disney DVDs, journals, bead craft kits, sensory toys, children's books, etc. Please do not bring toys that depict violence, food products, or balloons.

For a further list of toys you can look up a list at childrensal.childrensmiraclenetworkhospitals.org.

If you would like to help with Breakfast with Santa please email eric@riverchasechurch.org



Life is Fast

Scott Pruitt

Who are those people in your life that you love to see coming and that you love to see going? Which category do you fall into and why?

Life can get a hold on you and not let go or you can get a hold on life, strap in, and stay focused on the destination. This morning on the way to take Tyler to school, I heard a story about a hang glider who made sure his video camera was strapped on properly and everything else necessary for a successful hang gliding experience except one thing...himself. He forgot to strap himself onto the guide and the hang glider itself. Talk about hanging on for dear life. At one point, he told the guide that he didn't know how much longer he could hang on! The guide assured him that they were almost there and that he could hang on a little longer. He did. In moments like this, we can certainly figure out how much strength, determination and focus we have to hang on to ensure that we arrive safely on solid ground.

We can play the blame game which NEVER accomplishes what needs to be accomplished or we can take responsibility each day moment by moment. All of us know that life is fast, and we all mess up or miss out on important things that we wish we had a do over. If we want life to slow down, I wish I could say, just tell it to slow down, but life doesn't work like that. We need to slow our lives down, take a breath, pause, pray, look around and share your thankfulness WITH the source of the one who created life.

If you want a strong, devoted, unified family, then be a strong, devoted, unified family member. **Invest.**

If you want to be more joyful, then fill your life with joy, which happens to be God Fruit. **Change your mindset.**

If you want to stop being sad, then get on your knees and ask for help. **Pray.** The consistent amazement to me about this one is that God doesn't put a toy in front of me when stress or disappointment hits, but he sends Godly people to help through this process.

If you want life to slow down, then slow down. Give hugs freely and generously. Smile. God is a storm calmer by uttering 3 words...Peace, **Be Still.**

Some Advice

Titus 2:7-8 Show yourself in all respects a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, gravity, 8 and sound speech that cannot be censured; then any opponent will be put to shame, having nothing evil to say of us. (NRSV)

Some of the best advice I got came from a drunk person long time ago. I was a teenager in middle school, walking to catch a bus to get back home. It was very late and by that time there were only a few buses to catch. This drunk man was sitting on the concrete by the bus stop. He was dirty, smelly and could barely keep his eyes open. He touched my leg and said "Don't be a sucker of the bottle." He was meaning don't be a drunk. I felt pity and remorse at the same time.

He reminded me of what I should not be, and what I hope I never become. Titus was teaching a new congregation of zealous Christians how they should be. These verses are more than just a set of nice thoughts to teach. This is what we should strive to be in order to grow closer to God and to bring people to Christ. Don't give anyone a reason to speak evil of you and of the Lord.

- David

Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to **Kenneth Rhoden**, in the death of his wife and our dear sister, **Connie Rhoden**. The funeral was Monday.

Congratulations

Charles and Donna Herring proudly announce the birth of their grandson, **Waylon Colt Herring**. He was born November 16. **Waylon** weighed 3 lbs, 14 oz and was 16 inches long. **Jacob and Amanda Herring** are the proud parents and **Adley** is the proud big sister.

GRIEF AND LOSS SEMINAR

If you are interested in attending a grief and loss seminar presented by **Robby Owens** in January, please let the church office know.



AGAPE Pecan Sale

Just in time for Holiday baking! Pecans are \$15.00 for pieces and halves. Please make checks out to AGAPE. They are being sold in the West Wing Foyer.

Clothing for the Homeless

We will begin our clothing drive the week following Anniversary Sunday. The teens will deliver over 200 backpacks and sleeping bags to the homeless in downtown Birmingham on Saturday, December 1. We have purchased all clothing / hygiene items in bulk, and if you would like to make a monetary donation, please earmark your check "homeless clothing." The **cost per backpack is \$50** and includes the following: Backpack, Sleeping Bag, Winter Coat & Hat, Long Sleeve Shirt, Socks, Underwear, Hygiene Kit with deodorant, toothpaste & toothbrush, soap, shampoo, comb, chapstick, & hand sanitizer. We will also have special hygiene kits and a few extras for the homeless ladies.

LIVEWIRES! CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 2

After late service

In the Family Life Center

Please bring your favorite covered dish.



ORNAMENT EXCHANGE

Monday, December 17, 6:30 p.m.

NEW LOCATION!!!!!!

At the Preserve Club House

Bring a wrapped ornament to exchange and your favorite appetizer/dish to share!

For the Record

Sunday, November 25, 2018

Bible Study	360
Early Worship	228
Late Worship	355
Total Sunday Morning	583
Sunday Night	303
Contribution	\$27,814.10
YTD Average	\$34,880.05
Budget	\$37,500.00



Ladies' Bible Class

Ladies' Bible Class will meet on Tuesday, December 4, 10:30 a.m. in the Reception Room. We will be studying "Behold the Birds". Baby sitting will be available. This will be our last Bible Class for this year.

LiveWires! Events

- **Trip to Athens/Decatur:** Friday - Saturday, December 7-8.

Christmas Caroling for the Shut-ins

Sunday, December 9, we will be singing Christmas Carols to the shut-ins. There is a sign up sheet on the Bulletin Board in the West Wing Foyer. Buses will leave at 2:00 p.m.



Upcoming Events

- **Teens Breakfast for the Homeless:** Saturday, December 1, 7:30 a.m.
- **Breakfast with Santa:** Saturday, December 1, 9:00 a.m. in the Reception Room.
- **LiveWires! Christmas Party:** Sunday, December 2, after late service in the Family Life Center.
- **Pre-Teen Devo:** Sunday, December 2, 6:00 p.m. in the Kid Cave.
- **College Dinner:** Sunday, December 2, after evening service at Bill & Twyla Jones.
- **Ladies' Bible Class:** Tuesday, December 4, 10:30 a.m. in the Reception Room.
- **Teen Supper and Christmas Compassion Project:** Wednesday, December 5, 5:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center.
- **Volleyball:** Friday, December 7, 6:00 p.m. in the gym.
- **LiveWires! Trip to Athens/Decatur:** Friday - Saturday, December 7-8.
- **Teen Christmas Party and Caroling:** Saturday, December 8.
- **Church Wide Christmas Caroling:** Sunday, December 9, 2:00 p.m.



1868 Montgomery Hwy.
Birmingham, AL 35244
www.riverchasechurch.org

This week at Riverchase:

Saturday, December 1

- Teens feeding the Homeless
- Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, December 2

- *LiveWires!* Christmas party
- Pre-Teen Devo
- College Supper at Bill & Twyla Jones

Tuesday, December 4

- Ladies' Bible Class

Wednesday, December 5

- Teen Supper and Christmas Compassion Project

Friday, December 7

- Volleyball

Please continue to remember in prayer:

Patricia Anderson (former member), **Greg Case** (Penny's husband), **Tommie Cleghorn** (Jay's mother), **Bonnie Daniels** (Turner's friend), **Celia Dorantes** (David's mom), **Brenda Forehand** (Joyce Bowen's sister), **Joan Harris** (Betz's friend), **Jim Hollon** (Clemmons' friend), **Richard Howe** (Steve's dad), **Butch Johnson** (Dana Jones' brother), **Martha Manwarring** (former member) **Nancy Marlo** (Tami Picantine's sister), **Charles Mills** (Robert and Michelle's father), **Dell Moody** (Jane Windam's cousin), **Jay Odom** (Kevin Arvin's brother-in-law), **Claudia Sibert** (John's mother), **Barbara Stetler** (Howe/Sims mother), **Kristy Tatum** (Rardin's neighbor), **Roger Thomas** (Fabray Turner's uncle), **Olen Vickery** (Kim Ledingham's brother-in-law).

Please pray for our active duty deployed military:

David Scott Vise (Larry and Jeanne Vise's son)

Riverchase Family:

David Bath (#3) recovering from a fall.

Morgan Carter (#6) stage 3 brain tumor.

Rick Franks (#2) will have knee replacement surgery Monday, December 3, at St. Vincent's.

Grover Jackson (#6) health issues.

Chad Leverett (#4) will have out patient surgery on Friday, November 30.

Jackie Mathews (#2) will have rotator cuff surgery on Friday, November 30, at Homewood surgical center.

Doug Mears (#4) in room 4115 at Shelby Baptist with health issues.

Denise Newton (#7) will have ankle surgery on Tuesday, December 4.

Margaret Segrest (longtime visitor) in room 1017 at Grandview with cerebral hemorrhage.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS:

FTG #1: Rejetta Balentine, Lynda Cardwell, Angie Dickinson, Keith Dunn, Sandra Hunt, Judy Ingram, Michelle Whitaker

FTG #2 Glenda Arnold, John Bearden, Victor & Glinda Boone, Vonda Cook, Vivian Parker, Nina Pitchford, Lance Rushing

FTG #3: Martha Johnston, Becky Carter, Nona Miller, Thelma Moon, Jean Oglesby

FTG #4: Jeff Carroll, Elaine Evans, Gary Evans, Bill Hester, Alan Jackson, Martha Mann, Norma Thomas

FTG #5: Jake Cole, Norma Nabors, Ron Waddell, Shirley Wilson

FTG #6: Erick Boggs, Michelle Dichiara, Shirley Genry, John Gibson, Grover Jackson, Doug Mears, Ollie Scott, Sarah Wolford

FTG #7: Don & Jan Haefner, Lori Lambert, Candy Parker

ADD TO YOUR PRAYER LIST OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:

Family of Wesley Abernathy (Boggs' friend) health issues.

Kristin Adams (friend of Peggy Jackson) brain tumor.

Noreen Anderson (Jina O'Clair's mother) health issues.

Toby Blackwood (friend of Ollie and Mary Scott) cancer.

Patsy Burks (Rhonda Ball's mother) recovering from surgery to help clot bleeding above her eye.

Jessica Brown (Glenda's daughter in law) breast cancer.

Becky Carr (Danny Hill's sister) liver cirrhosis.

Cathy Crittenden (Dee Davis' friend) brain tumor.

G. Estes (friend of Pitchford's) chemo.

Teresa Evans (friend of the Peters') breast cancer.

Sam Gray (Ward's neighbor) cancer.

Jonathan Griggs (Vaughn's friend) recovering from amputation.

Jan Hall (Helen Haskew's sister - in - law) health issues.

Michelle Howze (Mindi Belmont's friend) throat cancer.

Bob Hull (Howe's brother-in-law) cancer.

Kent Ingram (Anthony Dotson's uncle) colon cancer.

Vicki Love (Mary Smith's daughter) breast cancer.

Tonya Masoner (Judy Masoner's daughter) radiation.

Jackie McKenzie (Vaughn's cousin) health issues.

Paul Meacham (member at Panama Street) brain cancer.

Lowell Newton (Michael's dad) prostate cancer.

Lauren Nudo (Friend of the Coehoorn's) stage 4 cancer.

Mrs. Prine (friend of McKenzie Bassett) hospice.

McKenzie Ray (friend of Amber Henderson) leukemia.

Kay Ryan (friend of the Gaines) recovering from surgery.

Mary Ella Sirmon (The Sirmon's granddaughter) seizures.

Jenny Slaughter (The Slaughter's daughter-in-law) breast cancer.

Matt Smith (Beason's friend) colon cancer.

Matt Snow (Mark & Diane's son) continuing treatments.

Keith Spivey (Dewayne and Larry's brother) broken hip.

Paul Strength (Cindy Thompson's cousin) kidney tumor.

Nicole Valentine (Ward's friend) cancer.

Cindy Van Beck (friend of Posey's) cancer.

Carol Watson (Fred Langdon's sister) lymphoma.

Junius Wells (Jeneen Anderson's father) recovering from heart surgery.

Raymond White (Cindy Thompson's cousin) health problems.

Judy Wiley (David and Sarah Akers sister-in-law) pancreas cancer.

Ann Williams (friend of Georgia Vaughn) breast cancer.

Ann Winsett (Brett Moran's grandmother) heart issues.