

RIVERLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
DECEMBER Issue 2008 Volume 37 Number 12

insight

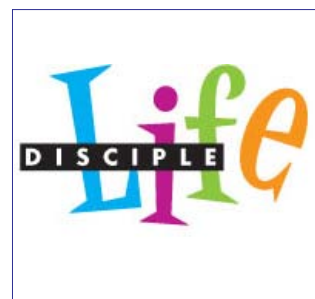
Images of Christmas

Dec. 7th, 2008 – 7:00 pm

An incredible musical celebration
of Christmas featuring internationally renowned,
professional piano duo “Nielson & Young”
and our own 125-voice choir and orchestra.



LADIES' NIGHT OUT
February 2, 2009 – 6:30 p.m.



DISCIPLE LIFE
New semester begins January 11!



**LOTTIE MOON
CHRISTMAS OFFERING**
Sunday, December 14

riverlandhills.org

Be Present This Season

by Dr. Ed Carney, Senior Pastor



Dr. Ed Carney

WHAT IS THE "REASON FOR THE SEASON?"

Paul was on his way to see his friends in Rome. He wrote he was coming so "...that you and I may be mutually encouraged while among you" (Romans 1:12). Paul's writing skills were not enough. He needed (they needed) physical presence.

When Jesus Christ was in the Garden of Gethsemane before His Crucifixion in agonizing prayer, He wanted His friends, His disciples, to be WITH Him. There was something about them, as flawed as they were, that brought Him comfort and encouragement.

A nurse took a marine to the bedside of his dad, "Your son is here!" She repeated the words several times before his dad opened his eyes. The patient could hardly see or talk because of the sedation, but reached out his hand. The marine wrapped his fingers around the extended fingers and squeezed gently. The nurse brought a chair.

All night the marine sat by the bed. From time to time he would say a few gentle words, but there was no spoken response from the dying man in the bed.

Towards sunrise, the man died. The marine released his hand and the nurse began to offer words of sympathy. He interrupted, "Who was that man?" She responded, "Your father." "No," he said, "I've never seen him before." She asked, "Why didn't you say something to us." He responded, "I knew it was a mistake from the beginning, but when I realized that he was too sick to know if I was his son or not, I stayed. He needed me. No one should ever be alone."

Your writing skills over the season are not enough. Someone needs you to be there. Your best gift this season (or anytime) will be your physical presence with family, friends and this congregation. After all, aren't we celebrating Christmas because God came to visit with us physically in Christ?

RIVERLAND HILLS UNIVERSITY

Equipping Believers For Priority Living

MEMBERSHIP CLASS 101

Room 5 (during ABF / Worship)

9:00 a.m. -11:15 a.m.

Sunday, December 7

Sunday, January 4

Sunday, February 1

New church members must complete this class. Anyone considering membership is also welcome.

Call Chris at 772-3227 to register.



G.R.O.W. holiday schedule

G.R.O.W. "God Rewards Our Witness" will not meet during the month of December. G.R.O.W. resumes on January 6, 2009.

Adult Bible Fellowship Leadership Huddles

ABF TEACHER HUDDLES

are cancelled in the month of December.

Weekly Huddles resume on Jan. 7 at 6:45 p.m. in the Hospitality Room.





Celebrate Christmas

AT RIVERLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship Sunday Mornings

Traditional - 9 a.m., 10:15 a.m.
Contemporary - 11:30 a.m.
Worship Center

Special Music Presentations in the Worship Center

HANGING OF THE GREENS
November 30, 6:30 p.m.

HOLIDAY HANDBELLS
December 10, 6:45 p.m.

"IMAGES OF CHRISTMAS"
2008 Annual Christmas Concert
Presented by our 125 voice choir & orchestra, featuring International Recording Artists: Piano Duo Nielson & Young. Experience incredible music & worship, artistry and visual images. Stephen Nielson & Ovid Young, from Dallas, Texas, will amaze you with their talent, and inspire you with their sacred music. One night only - December 7th 7:00 p.m.

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHOIRS
December 14, 6:30 p.m.

CONTEMPORARY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
December 17, 6:30 p.m.

HOLIDAY MEMORIAL SERVICE
December 21, 4:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES:
CHILDREN'S SERVICE
December 24, 5:00 p.m.
COMMUNION SERVICE
December 24, 11:00 p.m.



GO TELL
the story of Jesus

Go Pray...
Season of Prayer for International Missions
November 30 - December 7, 2008

Go Give...
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
Sunday, December 14
Church Goal: \$30,000
Challenge Goal: \$35,000

Order Your Red Poinsettias

Poinsettia Memorials / Honorariums
During Advent and Christmas, the Worship Center will be decorated with beautiful poinsettias. Please reserve a poinsettia this year:

IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

GIVEN BY:



Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ (\$11 each). Payment must accompany the order. Pick up your poinsettia(s) following the 11 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. Return this form to the Church Office no later than Friday, December 12th or return by mail to:

Poinsettia Memorials/Honorariums
Riverland Hills Baptist Church
201 Lake Murray Blvd.
Irmo, SC 29063

Experience Riverland Hills

preschool and children's ministry Sunday Mornings

For preschoolers and children. Sunday School is offered for boys and girls ages birth through 6th grade at 9 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. During the 11:30 a.m. service we have classes for birth through 4 years old. This is a time for children to have fun and learn in a wonderful Christ-centered environment.

Awana is for children ages 3 years old through 6th grade. Awana meets on Sundays 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Awana blends Bible teaching, Scripture memorization and tons of fun! Contact Merri Christy Tolar at 772-3227 or mctolar@riverlandhills.org

Mission Friends, GA's and RA's provide mission education for preschoolers through 6th graders on Wednesday evenings from 6:45 – 7:30.

Christmas Parties!

1st – 5th graders: December 12th, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the gym. We'll eat pizza, hear the Christmas story and have fun with Mad Science! You'll make and eat cotton candy, snowball slime, and lots of other neat stuff! Cost is \$10. Contact Susan Banks at 772-3227 to sign up.

6th graders: 6th graders- December 12th 7:00 p.m. – midnight in the Attic. Join us for lots of fun at this mini lock-in! You'll eat pizza, go to Frankie's Fun Park and have a bean auction. Cost is \$20. This covers 5 attractions and a \$5 arcade card at Frankie's and pizza. Contact Susan Banks at 772-3227 to sign up. **Preschoolers, 2 years old – Kindergarten:** December 13th, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Children, meet in your Sunday School classroom. Join us for lots of fun as we play games, sing Christmas carols, hear the Christmas story, make crafts and have a fun snack! **As a part of all of our Christmas parties, we are bringing gifts for the children at Hannah House. If you would like to bring a gift for a child, please stop by the preschool hallway and pick an angel off of the Christmas tree. Bring the gift with you to your Christmas party.**

Children's Christmas Eve Service - December 24th at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This service led by children is for children and their families. Join us as we sing Christmas carols, tell the Christmas story and have birthday cake for Jesus!

Having "The Talk" with Your Child. As our children grow and develop, some topics are difficult for us, as parents, to discuss with our children. Passport 2 Purity is material designed to make this conversation simple and meaningful for both you and your child. Preview these materials (boxed CD set with journals for both you and your child designed for children in the 4th – 6th grade) along with an in-depth explanation on December 14th in Room 110 at either 9:00 or 10:15 a.m. If you would like this material, the set will be ordered for you for \$20. Contact Merri Christy Tolar at 772-3227 or mctolar@riverlandhills.org for more information.

youth ministry

Youth Bible Fellowships

Get connected on Sunday morning! 9 a.m., 10:15 a.m. Middle School & High School, The Attic. **Sundays** – Youth Choir - Sundays at 4:30, 5:30-7:00 p.m.; CRAVE (Will resume in January). **Wednesdays** – 6:30-7:30 pm D-Groups (September 3 - December 17).

Middle School Winter Retreat, December 30, 2008 – January 1, 2009. Coastal Retreat Center, Isle of Palms, SC, Cost \$75 due by Sunday, December 14, \$85 after Sunday, December 14. Come celebrate New Years in style! Parent/Student Meeting, Sunday December 14, 11:20 a.m., The Attic

High School Ski Retreat – January 15-18, 2009 Winterplace, West Virginia, Alpine Retreat Center Cost is \$350. Price includes lodging, skiing, ski rentals, some meals, and t-shirt. Spaces are limited! Remember money reserves your spot!



Parent/Student Meeting, Sunday, January 4, 11:20 a.m. in the Attic. (This is a very important meeting to attend)

Parents of Teens in ABF Class, Sunday Mornings, 10:15 a.m., Meet in the gym. Teachers: Roger and Kitty Spires. For more information or if you are interested in being a part of this class, please contact the church office or Roger and Kitty Spires at rkspires@bellsouth.net.

Parents in Prayer, Meeting weekly to pray for our youth, leaders, parents, and staff. Sundays, 4:45-5:30 p.m., Conference Room. "Pray without ceasing" 1 Thessalonians 5:17. To get involved contact Lisa Simmons (749-1003 or csimmons42@sc.rr.com).

Please see the Youth Newsletter or visit our website at www.rhbcyouth.org for more details about these events!

college ministry

Weekly Bible Study

Wednesdays, 8:00 p.m., Room 207. Free dinner provided.

young professionals ministry

Weekly Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Contact Bart Cook at bart@riverlandhills.org.



Singles40+Ministry

Fellowship Meeting

Tuesday, December 2
6:00 p.m. at RHBC

Brian Center Visit

Saturday, December 20, 10:00 a.m.
Host: Elaine Green

"Lights Before Christmas"

Saturday, December 6
5:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Host: Martha Carter

"This Man Called Jesus"

Sunday, December 20, 1:00 p.m.
Host: Martha Carter

Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 9
6:30 p.m. at RHBC

Christmas Dinner

Thursday, December 25
Time: TBA at Mike Keyes's House
Host: Martha Carter

Thursday Nite Dinner

December 11
6:30 p.m. at Longhorn Steak House
Host: Lou Vosbrinck

Fellowship Team Meeting

Tuesday, December 30
6:00 p.m. at RHBC

"Columbia Christmas Pageant"

Friday, December 12
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Host: Mike Keyes

New Year's Eve TBA

Wednesday, December 31

Game Night

Saturday, January 3
7:00 – 10:00 p.m. at Georgia's house
Host: Georgia Johnson

Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13
7:00 – 11:00 p.m. at Trena's house
Host: Trena Beckham and Martha Carter

Tel-A-Single

Paul Taibi (238-2524)
Call Paul and he will get the word out to all class members.

Please see Singles 40+ weekly announcements for more details about these events!

2009 Women's Lifestyle Evangelism Conference

unashamed to Proclaim the Gospel

January 31, 2009 – First Baptist Church, Columbia.

Registration deadline in Church Office – December 15

\$5.00 for ticket MUST be paid at time of registration.

Sign up if interested in bus/van transportation - \$2.00

donation. Contact Laura Mohr at 781-0829 for more info.

End of Year Giving

Go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. John 15:3-4

Christmastime is always a time of reflection. It's a time to consider the promise of the future and the blessings of the past. It is also a perfect time to consider a charitable gift. We thank those who have already given this year. The fruit of your generosity can make a difference in the life of your church, mission, or building fund. At the same time you can enjoy tax advantages from gifts given at year's end. In addition to cash, charitable gifts of stocks and bond are also accepted.

If tax savings for your gifts, as in any calendar year, they must be postmarked by midnight on Dec. 31st.

Thank you for bearing fruit, so that others may know Christ.

Missions Update: Campbell's Products Update

Thank you for your continued support of this great ministry!

We are currently still mailing our Campbell's Products UPC Codes/Lids to North Valley Baptist Church in Columbia Falls, Montana. Please continue to collect UPC codes and lids from Campbell's products. A complete list of eligible products is available at the Mission Center outside of Fellowship Hall. You may give your labels/lids to any greeter on Sunday morning, or put them in the Sunday School room or church office.

For additional information, contact Deborah Kelly at 932-2251.

This is a WMU sponsored project.

December AT A GLANCE

WEEKLY

SUNDAY MORNING

Traditional Morning Worship 9:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.

Contemporary Worship 11:30 a.m.

Adult Bible Fellowships 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m.

Middle School Bible Fellowships 9:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m.

High School Bible Fellowships 9:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m.

College Bible Fellowship 10:15 a.m.

Nursery & Preschool Sunday School 9:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School 9:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Youth Choir 4:30 p.m.

DiscipleLife 4:30 p.m.

AWANA 4:30 p.m.

MONDAY EVENING

Foot Movements 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY MORNING

55+ Prayer Team 10:00 a.m.

OASIS 11:30 a.m.

TUESDAY EVENING

PRAISE BAND 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY MORNING

Men's Fraternity 6:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / EVENING

Wednesday Night Meal 5:00 p.m.

Children's Choirs 6:00 p.m.

Youth D-Groups 6:30 p.m.

Children's Mission Groups 6:45 p.m.

ABF Leadership Huddle 6:45 p.m.

Mid Week Bible Study 6:45 p.m.

Adult Choir 7:00 p.m.

College Bible Study 8:00 p.m.

THURSDAY EVENING

***Young Professionals Bible Study** 6:30 p.m.

Orchestra 7:15 p.m.

FRIDAY MORNING

Men's Open Basketball 6:00 a.m.

Foot Movements 10:00 a.m.

December Usher Team Schedule

December 7	Usher Team 1
December 14	Usher Team 2
December 21	Usher Team 3
December 28	Usher Team 4

* Off site



55+ MinistryNews Oasis

Every Tuesday, Fellowship Hall, 11:30-1:00 pm.

The OASIS group will continue their study of the book of Mark entitled, "Mark: Jesus on the Move." Study is led by Dr. Tim Phillips and continues each Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The cost for the meal is \$2.00 per person. Please join us for a time of fellowship and Bible study.



Oasis holiday schedule:

December 16 – Mission Project to Nursing Homes/Christmas Party

December 23 and 30 – Oasis cancelled

January 6 – Oasis resumes

55+ Retreat at White Oak March 6-8, 2009 / Leader: Jean Padgett Theme: "A Journey Through the Shepherd's Psalm"

Cost: \$110.00 (2 per room – includes transportation, registration fee, lodging, meals, materials) \$20 non-refundable deposit due by Feb. 3, 2009. Room for 50 people.

Saturday concert: Devon Shelton

**For further information contact
Dr. Tim Phillips at 772-3227.**

JOY Club.

Just Older Youth Dinner and Entertainment, Thursday Dec. 11th. 6:30 p.m. Cost \$2.00 each, payable at the door. Enjoy an evening of singing and fun as RHBC's own Sonrise Trio brings in the season. RSVP sign up sheet is available at Oasis, ABF, the JOY Club display in hallway on Sundays, or call the church office 772-3227. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., come join in the fun and bring along a friend.

Alzheimer's Support Group meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Hospitality Room.

Memorials / Honorariums

OCTOBER 26, 2008

TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **June Rosemary Smith** by Jo and Marion Stephenson. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Roseanna Smith's mother, Ike French's sister, and Jerry Maldonado's mother** by Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Mathis. TO BENEVOLENCE in memory of: **Jim Hughes, June Smith and Betty Cassidy** by Ike and Frances French. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **June Smith** by Ron and Jeannie Feaster. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Jim Hughes** by Max Brandes and Jack and Ann Burks. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Wendell Mohr's brother** by Jack and Ann Burks. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in honor of: **Our Ministers** by Ed and Ellen Younginer, Jr. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in honor of: **Dr. Tim Phillips** by Kent and Georgia Metz.

NOVEMBER 2, 2008

TO BENEVOLENCE in memory of: **James Lasher, Anne Snipes' brother** by Faith ABF Class, and Irene Wright. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **K. C. Hynds** by Van and Delores Gullledge. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **June Smith** by Caughman-Harman Funeral Home. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Jim Hughes** by Ron and Jeannie Feaster.

NOVEMBER 9, 2008

TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Robert White** by Jim and Pat Watson. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Betty Brazell** by Terry and Elizabeth Swindler. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Barbara Buchanan** by Jeff Clark and Gayle Imbimbo. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Buzz Busby, Karl Hagemeyer's mother, and Ruth Mason's father** by Ron and Ann Hill. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Marcella McDowell's sister** by George and Rose Ellen Magruder. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Wendell Mohr's brother, Joye Hughe's husband and Annette Kirby's brother, Leata Parrott's mother, and Don Parrott's brother and sister-in-law** by Joe and Sandra Turbeville. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Missy Carnaggio's grandmother, Jerry Maldonado's mother, and Leata Parrott's mother** by Ed and Jean Taylor. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Jim Hughes** by Al and Gail Miller.

NOVEMBER 16, 2008

TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Shannon Stratford's father** by George and Charlean Harvey and Charles and Ruth Harvey. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **George W. "Bill" Harvey** by Bron and Lynis Spivey. TO RIPPLE EFFECT in memory of: **Barbara Walker's father** by George and Rose Ellen Magruder.

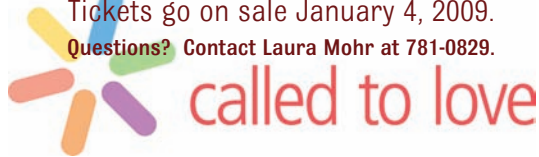


Ladies Night Out

"Called to Love"
 February 2, 2009
 6:30 p.m.
 Fellowship Hall

Our guest speaker will be **Cherie Nettles**, comedienne, author, cancer survivor, and mother of teenagers. Cost is \$10 per ticket. Tables may be reserved with the purchase of 7 tickets per table. Tickets go on sale January 4, 2009.

Questions? Contact Laura Mohr at 781-0829.



Winter / Spring 2009 Semester

DiscipleLife courses at Riverland Hills will help you take the next step in your Christian journey. No matter your walk in life, there is a **DiscipleLife** course just for you.

DiscipleLife offers you concentrated, practical, Bible-based study in a number of areas including Biblical Studies, Parenting, Marriage, Finances, Evangelism, Theology, Women's and Men's Studies. If you are looking to extend these areas of your life, there is a course to meet this need.

Schedule & Classes

The Winter/Spring 2009 Semester begins on Sunday, January 11. Classes meet each Sunday beginning at 4:30 p.m. and concluding by 6:30 p.m.

This semester includes:

- Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman – 10 weeks
- Men's Fraternity: The Great Adventure (Semester 2, Sessions 12-20) – 9 weeks
- *Crown Biblical Financial Study – 10 weeks
- The Truth Project – 13 weeks
- Introduction to Cults and World Religions – 8 weeks
- 2 Thessalonians: So You Won't Be Deceived (Precept Upon Precept) – 7 weeks
- Fireproof Your Marriage – 6 weeks
- Effective Parenting in a Defective World – 9 weeks

Visit the church office or riverlandhills.org for course descriptions, leaders, and fee information. *The Crown Biblical Financial Study has a required orientation meeting on Sunday morning, Dec. 14, during regular worship service hours, in Room 5.

Ways to Register

Pre-registration is required and class size is limited. Register online at www.riverlandhills.org. Pay fees with your credit/debit card. Complete a registration form and pay fees at the church office. Registration ends January 5 or whenever a class is full. **So register early!**

For the Family: Birth to 2-years-old: Child-care is provided at no cost for DiscipleLife participants. 3-years-old to 6th grade: Awana - material and uniform fee applies. 7th grade to 12th grade: Youth Choir (4:30) and Youth Crave (5:30 – 7:00 p.m.) Contact the church office for family programming details.

Questions? Please contact **Tim Hawkins, Minister of Education, at 772-3227.**

"Ring in" the New Year!

Coming soon is your opportunity to join a Riverland Hills handbell choir. The first meeting/rehearsal of this new adult group will be Sunday, January 4, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 202. Ringing experience will be appreciated but not required. **Call Cindy Burn for more information and join the handbell ministry for our Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 10 at 6:45 p.m. in the Worship Center.**

Music Ministry Studios The Music Ministry Studios is accepting registrations for the 2009 year. Private lessons in piano, organ, guitar, voice, violin, cello and percussion are offered. **Call Cindy Burn at 772-3227 for more information.**

upward

It's time to tip-off the Upward season! As we move into the season, please keep in mind the following key dates:



- December 1 – First Practice Week*
- December 15 – Referee Training
- January 10 – First Game Day
- March 5 – Awards Night Celebration

*There will be no Upward practices the weeks of December 22 & 29.

Sign up to volunteer for Upward Basketball & Cheerleading game days at riverlandhills.org/upward-vol.asp. Opportunities include: referee, scoreboard operator, greeter, devotion leader, prayer partner, first aid, etc. **Your help is needed and appreciated!**

Get Connected!

Foot Movements

Mondays, 6:30 p.m. and Fridays, 10:00 a.m.
 Contact Elaine Marlow at 625emarlow@bellsouth.net

Men's Pick-up Basketball

Fridays 6:00 a.m. in the gym. Contact Richard Ouzts at 261-8186.



TELL ME!

the story of Jesus

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Sunday, December 14

Church Goal: \$30,000 Challenge Goal: \$35,000

**Riverland Hills
NEWSLETTER**

Riverland Hills Baptist Church
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