



THE LINK

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River View Baptist Church

Volume 40 Issue 5

Awaken Our Hearts



**"...knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."
Rom 13:11**

It's easy to become indifferent and lulled to sleep spiritually. It can happen to the best of us and often does through the course of one's life. Our human tendency is to allow the cares of life to capture our heart and compete with our devotion and love to the Lord. We need our hearts awakened and the fires of love rekindled. We need revival.

Such is the theme in Romans chapter 13:11-14. The Roman Christians were in dire need of a spiritual awakening. They had been lulled to sleep, no doubt, by the cares of life and Paul calls upon them to wake up. Listen to his words in verse 11: "and that knowing the

time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed." Look closely at the two phrases involving time. Paul says, "knowing the time," and "now it is high time," wake up! The first phrase knowing the time, I think, references the times in which they were living, but also the time of our Lord's soon return. The second phrase, I think Paul is saying, you've been asleep long enough, wake up. The Romans were spiritually asleep and the times, and soon coming of the Lord, demanded that they awaken to loving the Lord and busying themselves doing His will.

If any generation ought to awaken to the times in which they are living it should be ours. We are living in some troubling times. Some would say perplexing. Certainly the Bible is being fulfilled right in front of us. And though we do not know when our Lord may come, we do know, it is closer than its ever been.

Church, these are not days to be asleep. We've been sleeping long enough. We need to wake up and rekindle our love and devotion to our Lord. He is coming and the world needs light like never before.

Pastor Ricky

The Buzz on AWANA!

It's hard to believe that this AWANA year is coming to an end. The Cubbie's and Sparks are finishing up their lessons and they both have had a boost in attendance lately. The Cubbies had 13 in that little room one night! The T&T boys and girls have a few more weeks to work

in their books to memorize scripture and earn more bucks! Also, spring fever has hit them all!

The last AWANA class will be Wednesday, May 26. Closing ceremonies will be Wednesday, June 2. This is open church wide and we hope that every-

one will make the effort to attend and support all the leaders and children.

Marty Peeler, AWANA Commander





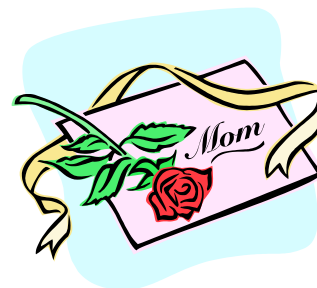
The Women's Ministry of River View invites all ladies over the age of 18 to join us for Beth Moore's "Loving Well" bible study.

This is a free event to be held at River View Friday, June 4th from 6-9p and Saturday, June 5th from 8a-4p. Meals will be provided both days and childcare will be available. Registration forms will be mailed, follow the RSVP instructions on the form so that we may plan accordingly. Please plan to join us for a weekend of fellowship and studying the Word of God together.

Mother's Day

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9th. As usual our service that day will be designed to honor all our Mothers. There is no greater way to honor them than to be in church with

them on their special day. We will also recognize a few special Mothers who will be in attendance that day. There will be no evening service.



Time to SADDLE UP for VBS!

Its that time again! VBS is July 18-23. The theme is Saddle Ridge Ranch. VBS motto is **Need Answers? Ask God!**. We have about finished "wrangling" up our ranch hands. Now it is time to

meet and plan our ranch and our ride. There will be a training meeting for the ranch hands that we will be teaching on Sunday, May 23 at 4p.m. in the fellowship hall. Supper will be served. As

always we covet your prayers for the next 3 months for the children and leaders.

VBS Trail Boss

Tiffany Peeler & Kelly Wilson

You now have another opportunity to get an engraved brick put in the Prayer and Meditation Garden. However, we must have an order of at least 10 bricks to place the order. If you would like to get a brick engraved, please send your order quickly along with \$50 for the brick. Order forms are on the table in the hallway outside the sanctuary doors, or call Peggy Coffey (704) 735-4812 or Vickie Wise (704) 732-8836.

DIVORCE *Care*

Please join me in giving God all the Praise, Honor and Glory for the four wonderful ladies who attended our Winter **DivorceCare for Adults** sessions. I trust that God used the 13-week experience, and the information each lady received, in order to help them in their journey through this most difficult time in their lives. Please continue to pray for

each DC participant and their families.

My heartfelt thanks and appreciation to **Barbara Dudley, Brittany Jenkins** and **Parris Fisher** for their dedication and assistance with child care over the past 13 weeks, and for their continued commitment and assistance with this life-changing ministry.

I am very thankful and grateful for Pastor Ricky, my church family and the continued prayers for and support of this ministry outreach.

Love and Blessings,
Kim Fisher

DivorceCare Ministry
Leader

Memorial Day

Memorial day, originally called "Decorations Day" is a national holiday that is celebrated on the last Monday in May. A day of remembrance, the tradition goes back to the end of the American Civil War

when women put flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers.

On this patriotic holiday, we honor servicemen and women who have died in war in the U.S. and every

country where Americans are buried. We celebrate these people who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Have a heart for **children** who are **hurting** because of the devastation of family divorce? Have a **passion** to help **children** heal through **Christ**? Are you an **adult child of divorce** who would like to help **children** who are suffering from their parents' divorce?

If this describes you, please pray about becoming involved in our **DivorceCare for Kids** ministry.

You do not need to be a counselor, teacher or have a degree. You do not need to have a close, personal relationship with Jesus Christ, have a **heart for children** and be led by God to help. We will provide you with the training you need. You will not do this ministry alone, but will be part of a team. We will give you continued support.

If you feel God is leading

you to help these **children**, please e-mail Kim Fisher at: kfishernc@yahoo.com, and she will be happy to meet with you and explain what **DC4K** is all about.



Recap

Looking back over the month of April cause us to pause and give God great praise. God is always faithful and I am thankful for His work among us. We started April with the Good Friday Communion Service. We had a good number of River View Faithful's to join us in this remembrance of our Lord's passion. The Lord's Table is also a special time but especially special on His crucifixion day.

On Saturday we celebrated Easter with all our children. As I looked around we had children of all ages everywhere. A wonderful day was planned for them and I believe enjoyed by both the children and parents. Thank you Tonya, and others who made this a special day.

On Sunday we celebrated the glorious resurrection of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. The celebration started very early in the churches cemetery as Danny Martin led us in a

sunrise service. This service was followed up with breakfast prepared by Michael Lancaster. Our resurrection celebration concluded as we worshiped together in our 11:00 a.m. service. Truly we have much to celebrate. He is Risen!

On Monday, April 12th our DivorceCare ministry wrapped up for the Summer break. I had the privilege to sit in on the closing session for a time of question and answer. It was a very rewarding time for me personally. Thank you Kim for your heart and concern for this ministry. Anyone looking for a place to serve might want to talk to Kim.

On Tuesday our Happy Hearts went over to Hickory to eat and shop. We always have a good time together. I really want our Senior Adults to join us in our times of fellowship. Tuesday evening, Peggy Dellinger opened her home to a number of us, who met there to pray.

In anticipation of our Spring Revival we are meeting in homes to pray. Please join us as we seek to "Awaken Our Hearts."

On Friday, April 16th, Terry Pfeifer invited the Brotherhood over for a time of fishing and a cook-out. Not many fish were caught but we all had a great time. Thank you Brotherhood leadership for activities that engage our men. Then on Saturday 24th our Brotherhood led our church in "Operation In As Much." This is a mission opportunity with the purpose to engage our community. We walked the streets around River View praying for those who live around us.

As you can see April was a busy time. May God bless all that we do in Jesus name. Thank you church for your faithfulness in serving our Lord.

Pastor Ricky

Spring Revival

Our Spring Revival is scheduled for May 16-19. Rev. Herb Hodges, from Memphis, TN will be our revival speaker. We want to encourage everyone to

be in prayer for this meeting but also plan to be faithful in attendance. Please reserve these days so that you may attend. Come and bring

someone with you as we seek to "Awaken Our Hearts."

