



Worship is like water. (part 2)

Sometimes, it is like the water of the ocean. While the Ocean offers some blessings similar to those from a swimming pool, there are however some very different conditions to be experienced in the waves of an ocean. I was an adult when I first visited and experienced the beach. Since then I have lived in beach cities, and visited beaches in many states and countries. Its hard to deny that there is an allure to them. There, for me, is a wooing, a drawing, a 'come-hither-ness' to the waves as they roll in. Many times we would say "we're only going to walk along the beach, we're NOT getting wet." Yet, almost always, we leave carrying shoes and socks in our hands, pant legs rolled up, seashells in our pockets and sand in the car. There is something about the consistency, the subtle sounds, like white-noise, that captivates and beckons me.

There are also times when I fully intend to get into the water. I surrender completely to the call and dive into the waves. I love how I have extra buoyancy in the salt water and that, unlike my backyard pool, this is not a passive endeavor. I am held up by the water, refreshed by it even, yet, I am in competition with it somehow. There is a struggle of sorts. The waves, if given their will completely, would take me to where they would have me go, not where I want to go. They will and do pull me down the beach, away from my resting place, where I first entered. They will, and do, continually push me back to shore while pulling out further. If I don't struggle, wrestle, kick and squirm and swim, I will end up in a different place than where I started. Another interesting truth about swimming in the ocean is that the further you go out, the deeper the water, the calmer the experience. But, it is also much more risky and even a little dangerous.

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---|---------|
| • Sunday School for all ages(see page 12 for details) | 8:45am |
| • Prayer & Quiet Reflection, in Prayer Parlor | 9:15am |
| • Worship Service | 10:00am |
| • Children's Worship (begins in Sanctuary) | 10:00am |

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

8:30am– 2:30pm

(Monday-Friday)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Visit our website! www.rivertonumc.org
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Worship & Welcoming



**A Community Outreach
Musical Drama
Presentation for All Ages.**



Come watch the animals, browse the Bethlehem Village Marketplace, enjoy the Children's Happy Birthday Party for Jesus, be welcomed into the Living Room of Grandma & Grandpa, laugh at the Baa-Humbugs of Uncle Frank, witness the Nativity, hear & see the real meaning of Christmas; the message of Hope in Jesus.

**Saturday, December 6
Sunday, December 7, 2014
@ 7:00p.m.**

Riverton United Methodist Church

Presented by:

**Riverton UMC
Grace 101**

**Columbia Furnace Church of
the Brethren &
Greater Joy Baptist Church.**

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Front Royal, VA 22630
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*Chip Crawford
COME Ministries Lead*

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Church Council 2014

• <i>Pastor</i>	Marc Roberson
• <i>Chair</i>	Randy Moon
• <i>Secretary</i>	Betty Smith
• <i>Lay Leader</i>	Beth Smith
• <i>SPRC Chair</i>	Jeffrey Rodman
• <i>Trustee Chair</i>	Fred Boyer
• <i>Finance & Stewardship Chair</i>	Joan Burke
• <i>Annual Conference Delegate</i>	David Blanton
• <i>Director Riverfront CS</i>	Cindy Martin
• <i>COME (Worship & Welcoming)</i>	Chip Crawford/ Greg Hubbell
• <i>GROW (Training & Transformation)</i>	Trish Anderson/ Theresa Roberson
• <i>GO (Sharing & Serving)</i>	Bob Boulter/ John McKenzie
• <i>United Methodist Men President</i>	Ralph Smith
• <i>Administrative Assistant</i>	Beth Moon

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From the Pastor's Desk

Continued from page 1 ...

Many times worship can be like an Ocean swim for me. For those of us who lead worship as an occupation, or even those of you who have been extremely faithful to your local church for a long, long time, sometimes we go looking for something a little different, a change of venue, change of music style, change of location. When I get an opportunity to experience a worship service outside of my congregation I often look for a youth-oriented service. One with a full praise band, lots of people, and very loud, repetitious and familiar music. I usually come late, sit in the back and pick a seat that will be easiest to leave from without anyone noticing me. I intend not to stay long, you know, not get wet. I prefer to be lost in the crowd and swallowed up by the sound. I have experienced intimacy with Christ in settings like this that remind me of the ocean. The energy and volume of the music is overpowering. I cannot drift off in my mind, or temporarily forget why I'm here. The music, like the waves, is relentless, it keeps on coming, it hits hard and direct and in my face, and though there may be a brief pause for reflection or scripture the next wave hits just as hard, and another and another, until I feel like I can no longer just 'enjoy the singing' as some have said. I am now in a struggle with it or I am competing against it. The music demands that I sing, the lyrics I sing make powerful and compromising promises and declarations about me, about my life, and about my God. If I fight against this Holy Spirit *tractor-beam* and demand to stand my ground, stay where I am, not be tossed around and manipulated and to remain 'in-control', then I will leave the water-I mean sanctuary-in the same place I went in. I will be a little bruised, perhaps a little shaken but essentially unchanged. But, if I surrender to His will and go where the Holy Spirit will take me, I will end up leaving in a different place. I may go deeper yet. Fear has always kept me from the deep water of God's presence. Stories of 'holy-roller' activities, mindless and embarrassing utterances, emotional breakdowns, etc, have kept me "safe in the shallow water".

Sometimes I experience worship as a series of unrelenting waves of grace. Each wave rolling over me, exposing me, turning me around only to allow me enough time to stand before the next wave hits. If I stay in long enough I become completely broken. This is not that gentle, refreshing spirit I thought it was. Christ is not the tender healer I assumed would come.

"Aslan is NOT a tame Lion, after all."

I leave with sand burns and scrapes, tired legs, spent emotions and tearless eyes, having given everything I could just to remain there, just to survive there. And now, as I lick my wounds and bind my heart, I begin to see how much stronger I've become. I now see how much more there is waiting for me in Christ. My horizon is stretched, my boundaries expanded, my possibilities multiplied and my Hope secured. Like standing on the shore and trying to imagine just how much water there really is before me, God takes on a grandeur and largeness that shrinks all my fears and conquers all my foes!

Waves of Mercy, waves of Grace, oh my God, this love, how can it be? Amazing Love, how can it be? That You, my King, should die for me?

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ bless and keep you today.

See ya Sunday,

Pastor Marc

Reverend Marc Roberson

marc.roberson@rivertonumc.org

Financial Update



What does this Brick Mean?

**We Praise God for You!. October's Giving is up over
25% from August and September**

And now so that EVERYONE understands;

The Poster of our church building on the stand in the Gathering Room is a symbol of who we are and the huge step of faith that we have taken to honor and serve the Lord Jesus in this community.

When it was unveiled at the end of September, it had 200 magnetic bricks lined up along the bottom. These bricks represent our giving to God's Kingdom work through Riverton UMC. We are asking everyone to take a brick or bricks to represent your monthly contributions. So, if you normally give \$200 per month, then you should remove 1 brick and place it somewhere at home to remind you that you are part of what God is building. If you normally give \$400 or have decided to increase your giving then you should remove 1 (one) brick for every \$200. Your normal giving includes all tithes, offerings and special giving that you have or intend to give each month by God's grace.



You and I can see by the display how many bricks are left and how far we are from our goal of \$200 from 200 people for 200 days. If this was unclear to you before, please update the poster the next time you are in the building.

Thank you and God bless you. The Finance Committee

Grow Ministries

(Training and Transformation)

... "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment." Matthew 22:37-38

Classes for Everyone—Come Join Us!

There are a variety of ongoing classes on both Sundays and Wednesdays at Riverton. Studying together is one of the ways we grow deeper in our relationship with Jesus and *learn to love the Lord our God with all your Mind*. It's also a great way to get to know others in our Riverton family whom you might now normally meet by just coming to church. Come out on Sunday morning or Wednesday evening and be together and you will be blessed by the support you find as you grow and become equipped to share your faith with others.

Riverton's Surge 120

Youth Group

Surge 120 for the Youth grades 6-12 meet every Wednesday from 6:15 to 8. Surge 120 combines fun with the study of God's word to prepare youth to meet the challenges they face and be equipped to share their faith.

Wednesday Evening Class for Women, 6:30

Calm My Anxious Heart: A Woman's Guide to Finding Contentment
Facilitated by Sherry Williams

Even though we want to be content and trust God, we can still feel overwhelmed by worry. Filled with encouragement and practical help for overcoming anxiety, this 12-session Bible study for women explains what God says about contentment and offers ways to apply it to daily life.

Wednesday Evening Children's Program

Children ages 4-11 meet from 6:30 to 8 for fun and to Grow in their relationship with Jesus.

Beginning November 5, we will be focusing on the meaning of thanksgiving and spiritual blessings God has given to each of us. Please come and join us.

Please bring your children and invite your friends. There's something for the whole family on Wednesdays at Riverton!

Wednesday Evening Class on Prayer, 6:30

Encounter: A Blueprint for the House of Prayer
Facilitated by Cecil Pullen

Finally, there is a study to teach and model effective prayer. Prayer assignments, discussion questions and 10 different prayer models make this write-in workbook a one-of-a-kind resource. The Encounter is great for Sunday school, small group discussion or personal study. The sessions are designed for easy lesson preparation.

Sundays in November

Overview of the Bible: Facilitated by Trish Anderson. We will begin in the Old Testament and look at the major themes and the different types of writing genres we find in the Bible, look at the authors, and stop to look at the major stories along the way through the New Testament.

Colossians Facilitated by Larry Moore. This is a verse by verse look through Colossians.

Sunday classes begin at 8:45, including classes for the Children and Youth.

Don't forget that Life Group sign-ups are on-going. There is always room for you to join a group and connect.

Trish Anderson

GROW Ministries Lead

Surge 120

Riverton Youth

November, 2014

*What we've been up to...
And what's coming up...*

Coming Up...

November 2

Hike – Pack a lunch and meet us at 12:30 right after church RUMC parking lot. Parents are welcome to join us!

November 9

Leadership meeting – 11:45-1:15

November 19

Deposit for \$40 due for ATF for those who missed the first deadline.

November 26

No Youth Group – Happy Thanksgiving

Youth Group

Wednesdays from 6:15-8:15 PM

Youth Sunday School

Grades 6-12 from 8:45-9:45 AM.

Volunteer Opportunity

We want to express our “Heartfelt Thanks” to Beth Moon for serving as our Communication Coordinator these last 4 plus years. As she moves into new areas of service we are in need of a new Communication Coordinator. We are looking for someone creative who can make our correspondence “**Youth Friendly**”.

The responsibilities include:

- * Updating forms
- * Managing the email distribution list
- * Creating the monthly newsletter Articles with info from Youth Director
- * Youth announcements for Bulletin

Acquire the Fire – Jan. 30-31

Don't miss out on this Fun event in Richmond. We already have 17 youth going. Pick up a permission slip at Youth group on Wednesdays or the Welcome Center on Sunday. The total cost is \$110 through Nov. 19, then the cost goes up to \$120.

Riverton's Children

Children's Ministry Events



What do you enjoy about Thanksgiving? You might say the vacation from school, or the chance to go hunting with your dad or mom; how about those visits from your grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins? Maybe you enjoy the Thanksgiving dinner. Better yet, how about the afternoon football games on TV? All of these things are in our lives because our Heavenly father has blessed our families and our nation.

During November the Riverton children are learning Bible Stories for Children. There are crafts and fun activities to enjoy and times of children's worship. Beginning November 5, the Wednesday evening Children's Ministry outreach will be focusing on the meaning of thanksgiving and spiritual blessings God has given to each of us. Please come and join us.

The children's ministry's wishes to thank Mr. Dick Rutledge for providing the hayride, Sharon McKenzie for the game ideas, piñata, and other donations, Jane Reynolds, Sharon Coleman, Stephanie Brandon, Josh Brandon, Betty Smith, Susie Thomas for providing the dinner, and to all the anonymous contributors and helpers with the Harvest Party. Your gifts and time made this a very special event for the Riverton children.

PLEASE NOTE!

First Aid/CPR Training for Children's Ministry Volunteers is on November 23, 2014 at 1:00

* All children's ministry volunteers need to have First Aid/CPR training.

Riverton's Children

November is a very special month for Riverfront Christian School!

Alert:

Students will have classes on November 4 and 11.

Field Trip:

On November 7, our children in grades 3 - 5 will be enjoying a field trip to Blandy Farm for a STEM adventure. The children will be involved in studying about plants and animals through creative hands-on projects that might utilize mathematics, science techniques, engineering or a form of technology.

The field trip will cost \$4.00 per child. Children should pack a lunch.




November Chapel:

The November Chapel will be held on November 12 at 9:00 am. Parents, families and friends are welcome to attend chapel services

50th Day of School:

Students will be celebrating the 50th day of school on November 13. Students may dress up in a 50's outfit!

Thanksgiving Word Search



1. Apple	5. Feast
2. Bread	6. Indians
3. Corn	7. Thanks
4. Fall	8. Turkey

FEASTCEI
HKMPUVFN
TZRBREAD
HAUFKOLI
APPLEWLA
NEIXYQTN
KYSONLGS
SDJCORN B

Thankfest:

Riverfront will host our annual Thankfest on November 21 for K4 – 12th grade students. Parents and grandparents are invited to share in the Thanksgiving celebration.

Thanksgiving Break:

Riverfront will be closed November 24 – 28 for the Thanksgiving break.

Riverton's Children

Little Sheep Preschool

In October, we studied Noah and the Flood in the Bible. Noah was a righteous man whom God chose to build an ark and rebuild His kingdom. How big was the ark you may ask? Look in Genesis 6:15-16. All the animals obeyed God and boarded the ark, two by two, male and female along with Noah and his family. What a journey that must have been! What sign did God give us to remind us of His promise? Genesis 9:12-17. To celebrate God, we went on a field trip to Hill High Farm on the 20th and 21st to pet the cows, bunnies, horses, goats, chickens, and a donkey. We also went on a hay ride, through a maze, and picked a pumpkin. We even met Cowboy Vernon on his horse named Bo. Fun was had by all!

Enjoy coloring the picture!





Holidays @ Riverton

Make your plans now.

This Holiday Season, Riverton will be a place
of Memories, Celebration and Song.

Sunday. November 23	Basket Day
Sunday, November 30	1st Sunday of Advent - HOPE
Saturday, December 6	"Heart of Christmas" <i>Drama</i>
Sunday, December 7	"Heart of Christmas" <i>Drama</i>
Sunday, December 7	2nd Sunday of Advent - PEACE
Sunday, December 14	3rd Sunday of Advent - JOY
Sunday, December 21	4th Sunday of Advent - LOVE

Christmas Eve

Family/Children's Service 3:00PM

Candlelight & Communion Service : 7:00PM

November 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 7:30 AM Girl Scouts Training
2 Daylight Saving Time (Change your clocks) 8:45 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Prayer 10:00 AM Children's Worship In Sanctuary 10:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Women of Riverton	3 8:30 AM Little Sheep Preschool Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:30 PM Girls Scouts 7:00 PM Trustees Meeting	4 8:30 AM LSP Parent-Teacher Conferences 9:00 AM UMM Breakfast 10:00 AM WARM 10:30 AM Prayer Team 5:30 PM Trinity's Branches 6:00 PM RCS School Board Meeting 7:00 PM Praise Team	5 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship Circle 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Meal 6:15 PM Youth Group 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Classes	6	7	8 7:00 AM Pancake Breakfast
9 8:45 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Prayer 10:00 AM Children's Worship In Sanctuary 10:00 AM Worship 11:45 AM Youth Leader Meeting	10 3:30 PM Girls Scouts 7:00 PM Church Council	11 9:00 AM UMM Breakfast 10:00 AM WARM 5:30 PM Trinity's Branches 7:00 PM Praise Team 7:00 PM Strategic Planning Team Meeting	12 RCS Chapel 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Meal 6:15 PM Youth Group 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Classes	13 3:00 PM RCS Fall Sports Banquet 6-8 PM Food Pantry	14	15
16 8:45 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Prayer 10:00 AM Children's Worship In Sanctuary 10:00 AM Worship 11:45 AM Mission Group Meeting	17 3:30 PM Girls Scouts	18 9:00 AM UMM Breakfast 10:00 AM WARM 5:30 PM Trinity's Branches 7:00 PM Praise Team	19 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Meal 6:15 PM Youth Group 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Classes	20 P3 Thankfest 11:00 AM Full Sugar Gang	21 6:00 AM K4-12 Thankfest	22
23 8:45 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Prayer 10:00 AM Children's Worship In Sanctuary 10:00 AM Worship 1:00 PM Children's Ministries CPR/1st Aid	24 RCS Thanksgiving Break 3:30 PM Girls Scouts 6:00 PM UM Men Supper/Bible Study 4-6 PM Food Pantry	25 RCS Thanks.Break 9:00 AM UMM Breakfast 10:00 AM WARM 2:00 PM Blood Drive 5:30 PM Trinity's Branches 7:00 PM Praise Team	26 RCS Thanks.Break	27 RCS Thanks.Break	28 RCS Thanks.Break Break	29
30 8:45 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Prayer 10:00 AM Children's Worship In Sanctuary 10:00 AM Worship	1					

Birthdays



Anniversaries

- 1 Bo Boyles
- 2 Wyatt Andrews, Michael Guercio, Janice Long
- 3 Matt Cuff, Stacy Lindsey, Zach Wooddell
- 5 Bill Richardson, Jenna Cook
- 6 Valery Eller, Jason Pinker
- 7 Berkley Turner
- 8 Jessie Moore
- 9 Justin Lee
- 10 Dylan Midkiff
- 11 Tripp Bradd, Agnes Rutherford
- 12 Laura Creekmur, Amber Carper,
Scott Glascock, Debbie Gousse, Glen Smith
- 15 Bert Stanton
- 16 Justin Sexton, Jessica Walker
- 17 Amanda Williams
- 18 Alice Neff
- 20 Nina Partlowe, Tommy Shell
- 21 Nick Crump, Edie Reil
- 23 Kendall Redmond
- 24 Kim Jenkins
- 25 Amy Jamison, Dorothy Knupp,
Tammy Richardson
- 26 Michele Frederick, Mark Phillips
- 27 Alexandra Rodman
- 28 Trey Kirkland, Thomas Madden
- 29 Gary Harper-Mueller, Jessica Rishel

- 1 Scott & Alice Lacy
- 2 Larry & Beth Smith
- 5 Dan & Kristy Lenz
- 12 Michael & Sherry Williams
- 14 Randall & Rebecca Schuldt
- 15 Dick & Rita Rutledge
- 20 Michael & Christina Tharp
- 23 David L. & Pat Tharpe





Women of Riverton

Kick-Off Meeting: Sunday, November 2, 2:00 PM

Have you never heard of this before at Riverton? A few times in the past, we have tried to organize, but for whatever reason, the time wasn't right. Now seems to be the right time. When we all gathered to welcome Te Roberson to our church, we all had a wonderful time. Everyone left the tea saying "We ought to get together more often."

This is our opportunity to join together for fun and fellowship. This invitation is to all of the women of our congregation. We are optimistic that this group will form a bond that, in turn, will strengthen our whole congregation.

The plan is to have a gathering quarterly. The reasoning was that most women are already busy with responsibilities to home, work, and church. Meeting quarterly seemed to be do-able for everyone. Since this is a new group, the future plans are only "penciled in". It is just in the planning stages and will continue in whatever format the group decides.

All Riverton women are welcome.....no secret handshakes, nothing to memorize, no hoops to jump through. Our biggest goal is Fellowship and Fun.

Once we meet for the first time, we will be forming small interest groups that will meet as often as they require. These groups may include Arts & Crafts, Lunch Bunch, Widows, Mothers of Toddlers.....you get the idea. Groups will form based on your desires.

If you miss this meeting, the next one will be **Sunday, February 2 at 2:00**. We hope to see you there. If you would like to help plan these meetings, contact Pastor Marc, Pat Derflinger, or Connie Fretwell.



Congregational Care Gets Refreshed

What is Congregational Care? It is Christians helping Christians. We all attend Riverton UMC because we love the other people who attend here. Sometimes our friends need a little cheering up and we don't always have the time to do it. The volunteers who have signed up for the Congregational Care Committee are willing and able to send cards, make phone calls, visit in homes and care facilities, minister to the grieving, and help out in any other way that will deliver the message that "Riverton Cares."

Recently we have had a campaign to refresh the list of those members who want to help in this way. We got a very nice response and want to thank those who submitted their names. Jane Kenney has stepped forward to coordinate this committee. If you would like to help her, just give her a call or leave your name with Beth Moon (in the office). Jane will contact you when a need arises.

If you are a busy person, this is the committee for you as it only requires your attention occasionally and your service can be worked into your schedule.

If you miss this meeting, the next one will be Sunday, February 2 at 2:00. We hope to see you there. If you would like to help plan these meetings, contact Pastor Marc, Pat Derflinger, or Connie Fretwell.

Receive the Riverton Newsletter by Email

The Riverton Newsletter, STREAMS is best viewed electronically.

If you would like to start getting the STREAMS Newsletter via email OR your email has recently changed, please
contact the church office by emailing: riverton@rivertonumc.org.

Church Office Contact:

Phone: (540) 635-3878

Fax: (540) 636-4418

Website: www.rivertonumc.org

Email: riverton@rivertonumc.org

**Riverton United
Methodist Church**

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