
Riverside Christian Fellowship

2008

Vision

Riverside to be a place where:

- Jesus is really Lord of all our hearts
- There are frequent baptisms as more and more souls are won to Christ - Few or none leave or lose faith, because Christ is preached clearly.
- There is a real sense of family and belonging, because all the members are engaged in aspects of Church life, according to the gifts given them
- There is a vibrant teen and student ministry, with both the children of believers and their friends becoming Christians
- There is love marriages flourishing, weddings happening, friendships blooming, compassion shown to all

Core beliefs

- Man's sinfulness, since the fall, has separated him from God and left him subject to God's wrath and judgement [Rom 3:23; Is 59:1-2].
- Jesus has redeemed us from sin, by his sacrificial death on the cross. By substituting himself for us, he received our punishment and we have been credited with his righteousness and as such reconciled to God [1Pt 2:24; Rom 4:23 – 5:11].
- God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ [Acts 2:36].
- Salvation is only through faith in Jesus, repentance, baptism and living under the Lordship of Christ. [Acts 4:12; Acts 2:38 - 41].

Core values

- The Bible is divinely inspired and is the ultimate authority in matters of faith and conduct. It is a book about love and relationships. [2Tim 3:16 – 17]
- In Matthew 22:37-40: *"Jesus replied: '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. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*
- Simply stated, we are to love God and love people - our physical family, the church (our spiritual family), the lost and the poor.
- Our basic core convictions about what it means to live under the Lordship of Jesus Christ should reflect these priorities.

Leadership – Riverside Christian Fellowship

We believe in servant based leadership following the Golden rule of Matt 7:2

- Servants group
 - James Thomas (teaching; teens; small groups)
 - Paul Bateman (preaching; married ministry; services; finance & admin; LLG point person)
 - Rubik Ghalustians (children's ministry; benevolence; outreach)
- Larger group
 - Worship (Jon Flay)
 - House church leaders (Herbert & Diane; Per & Grace)
 - Teen leaders (Adrian Hill; Paul Mansell; Caroline Atkins; Becky Miller)
 - Women (Caroline Bateman)
 - Singles (Rob Swan)
 - Outreach to the poor (Toby Champeney)
 - Teaching (Per, Mark Walton, Adrian Hill)

Leadership – London church

- Mandate
 - Church-wide issues and ministries
 - Only making decisions inasmuch as local leaderships support
- Churches / representatives
 - North (Charles Elikwu)
 - NW (Malcolm Cox)
 - West (Chris Watkins)
 - Riverside (PB)
 - South (CJ Wakefield)
 - South East (Toks Sowuulu)
 - East (Mike DeSouza)
 - Surrey (Jeremy Musservy)

What's planned?

- Schedule run on a term by term basis
- Strong focus on building spiritual “one another” relationships
 - small groups
 - men’s events
 - women’s events
 - riverside retreat
- Emphasis on Biblical teaching and preaching
- Investing the “next generation”
 - children’s ministry
 - teen ministry
- Pastoral support, for those that want it, e.g.
 - dating; young married; married groups
 - parenting classes
- Focus on the lost
 - new teaching series
 - evangelistic events

Pastoral support

For those that want help and support.

Specific areas of interest

- ***Married ministry***
 - married's group (starting in the new year)
 - dynamic marriage class (8 week course, April onwards)
 - married retreat (planned for Feb)
- ***Parenting***
 - much greater interaction with children / teen ministries
 - parenting classes (including outside speakers)
- ***Dating***
 - general classes for those interested in dating
 - individual support for each dating couple

One another relationships

- Investment in Family Groups as a “safe place” to meet the needs of every Christian
 - provide support to everyone through family group network
 - outside help from JP
 - focus on Personal Growth and Relationships
- Developing prayer/discipling partnerships for those that desire this
- Continue to do things to encourage relationship building
 - food after church
 - retreat
 - hospitality

Teaching and preaching

2 Tim 2:15 *Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who **correctly** handles the word of truth.*

- **Preaching**
 - general focus on the centrality of Christ
 - expository preaching
 - each term focusing on a theme
 - Sunday sermons to last 30 minutes
 - honest feedback to those that preach
 - opportunities for others to develop the gift of preaching

- **Teaching**
 - new “guard the gospel” study series
 - Friday teaching materials to work through each term
 - prepared materials to support house groups
 - greater training and support for those that teach

Teen ministry

Goals for the Teen ministry:

- a thriving spiritual teen ministry
- encouraging and spiritual teen meetings on other days than Sundays
- teenagers to be with the church for sermons on Sundays
- a Teen service in the Riverside in 2008
- building relationships with teens around London
- strong one-on-one relationships between teens and older Christians
- Great Fun

Children's ministry

Goals for 2008:

- " Sound teaching of God's love (Prov 22:6)
 - God loves all children
 - truth and grace are key factors (John 1:14)

- " Raise the profile of children's ministry and have better communication between parents and teachers
 - regular meetings between parents, teachers and children
 - support for parents, where requested, in raising the children at home, e.g. with devotionals
 - encourage involvement of the Teen ministry with the younger children

Evangelism

In line with similar initiatives across London, we aim to work on the following:

- " Mission focus within the Riverside Area
 - regular evangelistic opportunities in Kingston, Wimbledon, etc.
 - invitational services during 2008

- " Hand of friendship for those who were part of our group but have left
 - Friends of the Riverside scheme
 - teaching on restoration/judgement

- " Links with other groups in Christendom

- " Mission focus on global scale
 - opportunities to give towards mission work in India (and others if desired)
 - mission updates from around the world look to support a subscription to DT

Women's ministry

Titus 2:3-5 *Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.*

- 2008 to be a year that we focus on one another relationships
 - regular scheduled times to meet and pray together
 - monthly meetings (Friday nights)
- Women's Day
 - **not** a 3 month evangelistic push service, but an opportunity for women to worship God and celebrate Christ together
- Focus on helping create family in the Riverside

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Spring Acts:1-9			Easter	Summer	Acts: 10-18
Fri 11/Sat 12th - UK leadership conf.	Sat 2nd - Men's breakfast	Sat 1st - Women's breakfast	Sun 20th - Churchwide service	Sat 3rd - Men's breakfast	6th-8th - Mother & daughter 5-12
Sun 13th - Churchwide service	Sat 16th - Single's valentines evening	28th- 30th - Father & Son camp 8+	Post Easter - Marriage classes Fri pm (8 wks)	23rd-25th - Father & son camp 5-7	Sat 7th - Women's breakfast
Sat TBC - RCF LG retreat (with families)	Fri 22nd - Sat 23rd - Married Fri pm Parenting talk (external speakers)		Sun TBC - Evangelistic Event	Sat TBC - RCF LG retreat (with families)	Sat 14th TBC Family day out
Sun pm TBC - Small grp leaders mtg		Sat 15th TBC - British museum trip	Sun pm TBC - Small grp leaders mtg	Fri pm Parenting talk (external speakers)	
Fri pm TBC - Riverside prayer night		15-16th Mar-Teen leaders / Teen retreat	Fri pm TBC - Riverside prayer night	Sun TBC - Woman's day	
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	Summer break	Autumn Acts: 19-28			Xmas
Sat 5th - Men's breakfast	Sat 2nd - Women's breakfast	Sat 6th - Men's breakfast	Sat 4th - Women's breakfast	Sat 1st - Men's breakfast	Sat 6th - Women's breakfast
Fri 25th-Sun27th - UK conference	23rd-25th - Pre-teen camp	Sat TBC - RCF LG retreat (with families)	18th-19th - Mother & daughter 13+	28th-29th - CM & teen conf.	Sun 14th - Churchwide service
Fri pm TBC - Riverside prayer night	26th - 31 Aug - Teen camp	Sun TBC - Evangelistic Event	Sun 26th - Churchwide service		
	29th - 31st - Int. singles conf.	Sun pm TBC - Small grp leaders mtg	Fri 31st - UK leadership conf.		
	Fri15th -Sun 17th TBC - Riverside retreat		Fri pm TBC - Riverside prayer night		

Financial

	<u>Q1</u>	<u>Q2</u>	<u>Q3</u>	<u>Q4</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Q1</u>
Income						
UK Donations	9,111	9,944	9,636	12,670	41,361	15,458
Tax Reclaimed	2,328	2,682	2,389	3,253	10,652	3,496
Other	<u>100</u>	<u>1,619</u>	<u>4,341</u>	<u>525</u>	<u>6,585</u>	<u>229</u>
Total Income	11,539	14,245	16,366	16,448	58,598	19,183
Expense						
Church Retreats	1,700	6,452	5,300	95	13,547	1,044
Facility Hire	3,000	2,127	3,300	3,609	12,036	2,696
LUG Events	846	84	3,733	765	5,428	3,456
Training	2,080	239	0	67	2,386	0
ICCM Admin charge	2,322	2,295	2,421	2,019	9,057	1,599
KKY Charge	972	960	1,014	1,071	4,017	1,224
Other	<u>1,426</u>	<u>1,843</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>3,139</u>	<u>10,237</u>	<u>276</u>
Total Expense	<u>12,346</u>	<u>14,000</u>	<u>19,597</u>	<u>10,765</u>	<u>56,708</u>	<u>10,295</u>
Net Income	<u>-807</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>-3,231</u>	<u>5,683</u>	<u>1,890</u>	<u>8,888</u>
Balance at start of period	<u>15,429</u>	<u>14,622</u>	<u>14,867</u>	<u>11,636</u>	<u>15,429</u>	<u>17,319</u>
Balance at end of period	<u>14,622</u>	<u>14,867</u>	<u>11,636</u>	<u>17,319</u>	<u>17,319</u>	<u>29,504</u>

Eph 2:3-10

All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.