



Issue Forty-one

e-News

Please join us
Sunday
Sept. 14, 2008

"The Dividing Wall"
by Pastor Chuck Holliday
Ephesians 2:11-22

If you missed a sermon, click
[here](#) to listen on-line or
download to your iPod.

Sunday Schedule

- 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 AM Worship Service
- 10:30 AM Worship Service.
- Nursery for all services
- Children's Programs for Pre-K through 5th Grade during 9AM & 10:30 AM services

YOUTH SCHEDULE

**MIDDLE SCHOOL (OBX)
YOUTH GROUP**
Mon. 6:30-8:30pm
Joey Redd
Joey@riverpca.org

**HIGH SCHOOL
YOUTH GROUP**
Wed. 6:30-8:30pm
Adam Young
Adam@riverpca.org

COLLEGE GROUP
Sun. 6:00-9:00 pm
Brandon Gantt
gantt.brandon@gmail.com

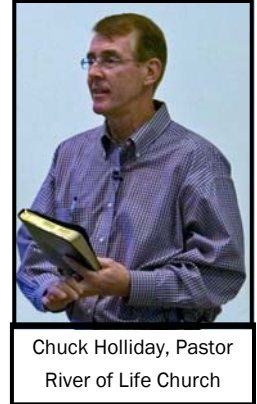
Message from our Pastor

Home Groups at ROL are a great place to make new friends, but friendship is not their purpose. Our purpose in offering home groups is to provide a context for you to progress along your spiritual journey and to help others on their journey. It is actually because we are aiming for something higher than friendships, that friendships are likely to occur.

C.S. Lewis writes "We picture Friends side by side; their eyes look ahead. That is why those pathetic people who simply "want friends" can never make any. The very condition of having Friends is to say that we should

want something else besides Friends. Where the truthful answer to the question *Do you see the same truth?* would be "I see nothing and I don't care about the truth; I only want a Friend," no Friendship can arise - though Affection of course may. There would be nothing for the Friendship to be *about*; and Friendship must be about something, even if it were only an enthusiasm for dominoes or white mice. Those who have nothing can share nothing; those who are going nowhere can have no fellow-travelers.

What unites us at ROL is something much



Chuck Holliday, Pastor
River of Life Church

greater than a passion for dominoes or white mice. We are bound together by our desire "to exalt Christ, love people, and serve for God's glory." I hope your participation in a home group will help each of you in that pursuit. As we unite in this purpose we can expect some deep friendships to emerge.

Pastor Chuck

Elections for Deacons and Elders

Officer elections will be Sunday, September 21st. Members look for a list of candidates to be emailed to you next week for voting on the 21st. You will be asked to vote yes or no to these nominations. If elected, installation to the offices of deacon/elder will occur on Sunday, September 28th.

Members should look for an e-mail listing candidates to be voted on Sunday, Sept. 21. Installation will be on Sunday, Sept. 28th.

For more information on the Selection Process for Deacon/Elder, go to www.riverpca.org and click the "more about us" tab on left side or [click here](#).

New Home Groups start September 21

New Home Groups start the week of Sept. 21. The group study is entitled Dignity Serves and Pastor Chuck will preach on each lesson topic.

The Dignity Serves curriculum was created to work in tandem with service participation and the study at ROL is timed to overlap with Fusion 2008 on Oct. 3-5. Fusion is an area-wide service weekend designed to mobi-

lize the Orlando region's Christians, and connect them with area ministries in need of volunteers.

If you have or know of a service ministry that could benefit from Fusion participation, e-mail Russell Russell@riverpca.org or e-mail Phil at philhis-som@gmail.com to add a project to the Fusion weekend. This is also a perfect time for us a churchgoers to

learn more about local efforts to love and serve others.

Each **home group** participating in our church-wide study will sign up to participate as volunteers for a service project over Fusion weekend.

To join a home group you can **sign-up** online by clicking [here](#), by calling the church office at 407-351-4333 or by e-mailing Rus-



Home Groups

Desperate need for monetary donations for food and water for the Haitian villages.

HOME GROUP STUDY -DIGNITY SERVES Part 3: The Importance of People

The Dignity Serves curriculum will begin at River of Life on September 21. The first lesson is titled "The Importance of People." Home groups will explore the concept that all people are God's image-bearers, and thus all people are valuable, have dignity, and deserve respect. Dignity Serves participants will also explore the basis on which they form their identity, and how they view and label others, with the goal of remembering all people's ultimate identity as those God created in His image. It is not too late to sign up for a home group and have the chance to both impact and be impacted by this new study. During the study, we will encourage you to give feedback to POLIS, the organization authoring the study. Their contact information will be in an upcoming e-News.

Read [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#) articles on the Dignity Serves home group study.

Desperate Need

Our Church partner, Great Commission Alliance, GCA, is in desperate need of monetary donations for food and water for the Haitian villages.

Recently the ROL mission team were at two orphanages in Haiti that normally have 250 children. Recently **300 more children** have been brought there for help! GCA is working with mission people on the ground in Haiti and have been successfully delivering aide with helicopters, boats and trucks. They are a group that can get the job done! Donations can be left with the Church office or made online at: www.GCANET.org

In addition, Pastor Brian Kelso is organizing a refugee camp with GCA and is collecting items to be shipped by container by the end of next week! These items include tents, linens, hygiene items, food, clothing, shoes. If you can help with this effort, please bring all items to the Church by Tuesday so that we will have time to deliver these items.

INQUIRER'S CLASS STARTS NEXT WEEK

This seminar is designed to introduce you to the heart and ministry of River of Life.

Led by Pastor Chuck Holliday, this weekend seminar is designed to introduce you to the heart and ministry of River of Life. Whether you are brand new to River of Life, considering membership, or somewhere in between, this class is for you! It is designed to help you get a good taste of what River of Life is all about.

We will meet **Friday, September 19, 6-9pm** (dinner provided) and **Saturday, September 20, 9am-Noon** (breakfast provided.) Child care is available upon request

We would love to have you join us for this upcoming class! Sign up on line by clicking [here](#), in the foyer after church, or by calling the church office at 407-351-4333.



INQUIRER'S CLASS

ROL VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT IS ROCK & SHASME GUARISCO

**Thank You
Rock & Shasme**

When Rock and I started to attend River of Life over three years ago, we really needed a time to rest and regroup. We had been a part of a church plant prior to moving to this part of town and were pretty much exhausted from the experience. "Just sitting" in church was "just fine"...for a while. The time of rest was sweet, but as our hearts really began connecting with what River of Life is all about and as we got to know people on more than just a "Hey, how are you?" basis, we got a little restless. It was time to start serving again.

Now as members of this wonderful body of believers, Rock and I have found great fulfillment in the opportunities we have had to serve. Currently, Rock serves as a deacon and has had an active part in the Chapter Two Campaign. He ushers monthly. I serve as a part of the Wor-



ship Team and planned this year's Vision Banquet. I also volunteered at this summer's VBS. Together, Rock and I really love to open up our home to others for Bible Study, fellowship, food, fun or a combination of all those things. We have many opportunities during the year to do this, and it is always a blessing.

Sometimes it's easy to lose sight of what it means to serve for God's glory. If we're not careful, our labors of love just become labors. We really try to be thoughtful about what we say yes to and how serving may affect our first ministry (our home and children). We want our children to see that serving is a way of life; a great way of life. The life lessons we learn through serving are really dear to us. In serving, Rock and I are constantly reminded of our need for Christ, His Grace and His strength.

Shasme

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

One of the most valued treasures we women have is friends. There is no better place to form and nurture those friendships than being a part of one of the studies that the Women's Ministry at ROL has planned for us. There are three women's studies planned for this Fall. Pick the one that fits your schedule and **sign up in the foyer after church on Sunday**. A workbook or book will need to be purchased for the study you attend.

Survey of the Book of Ruth

Debbie Holliday will be leading this small group study on Ruth.

- Where: Debbie's home Winter Garden, FL 321-217-5845
- Start Date: Tuesday, September 16, 2008
- Time: 7:30pm -9:30pm
- 10 sessions. We'll meet every other week.
- This class is limited to about 12 participants.

Survey of the Gospel of John

Dorcas Cepeda will be leading this study.

- Where: ROL Church
- Start Date: Sunday, October 5, 2008
- Time: 9am
- 9 sessions We'll meet every Sunday except Oct. 12



Believing God, by Beth Moore

Darby Blanchard will be leading this study.

- Where: Darby's home Winter Garden, FL 407-574-2763
- Start Date: Wed. September 24, 2008
- Time: 10am-12noon
- 10 week study. We'll meet every other week unless we decide to meet weekly after our first meeting.

Childcare will be provided.



Girlfriends

Message to the Ladies of River of Life

Please accept our invitation to join us for the **ROL Women's Retreat Fall 2008**, on October 10th, 11th and 12th. The Retreat will be held at Mainsail Suites Hotel & Conference Center in Tampa. The \$175.00 cost includes: 2 night stay in a 2 BR/2BA suite with 4 double beds, meals (3 on Saturday and Sunday breakfast), conference speaker and worship leader, all materials. The theme is "Women in Real Life".

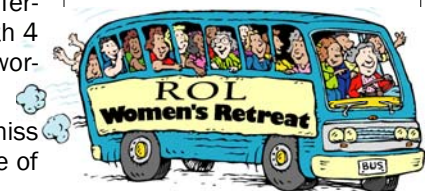
Many women have already signed up to attend, but we don't want anyone to miss out! We have a gifted team lined up and a great facility. This weekend will be a balance of spiritual growth, relationships and relaxation. We are busy women and we need REST!

Our speaker, Angel Richard, is returning by popular request. In addition, this year we will be privileged to have a worship leader. Tammy Jensen has traveled with Travis Cottrell's Worship team for Beth Moore's Living Proof events for 9 years. For more information on Tammy, click [here](#).

You may be thinking, "I've missed the deadline" or "I can't commit at this moment" or "I'm not sure of finances." NONETHELESS, you still have an opportunity to sign up!! We understand you may have concerns or are unsure about the particulars. The women's leadership is committed to helping you work through any concerns. If God is nudging you to attend, but you are not sure of the details – please sign up and let us know that you are considering. Together with God all things are possible. Sign up online by clicking [here](#), email Susie at office@riverpca.org or call the church office at 407-351-4333.

The business side of planning the retreat causes River of Life to contractually commit to room counts with the hotel by September 22nd, for guaranteed pricing. Therefore, **we need your deposit by Sunday, September 21st**. After that date, we will do everything in our power to work with you and the hotel for late booking.

Please call Patricia Schreckengost at 407-704-0823 or the church office at 407-351-4333 for more information.



COLLEGE GROUP AT ROL



If you are a college student, then you definitely will want to be a part of this new group. We meet at 6 pm every Sunday night for a meal and Bible study. For more details and meeting location, email Brandon Gantt at gantt.brandon@gmail.com or call at 334-669-1130.



Chapter Two Campaign

Marriage Conference, "6 Secrets to a Lasting Love"

Saturday, September 13, 2008 from 9am - 3:30pm
 Windermere Community Church, 8464 Winter Garden Vineland Road, Orlando
 The cost is \$90 per couple. Late registration accepted Saturday morning between 8:30am - 8:40am, and they suggest that people bring their own lunch. For more information [click here](#).

CHAPTER TWO CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The Chapter Two campaign, having been launched at the beginning of the summer, has made significant progress since it was first announced. We have now collected more than \$90,000 in our quest to collect \$200,000 by the end of 2008. More importantly, we have total pledges of \$140,000. At this juncture, there are two important questions for each of us to answer:

- 1.) Have we contributed? (only about half of our ROL families have made a pledge)
- 2.) When can we turn our pledge into cash? (making

good on our pledges is very important)

Although you have not heard much about the campaign over the summer, there has been a lot of activity behind the scenes. You will be hearing more about the campaign and the search to find and employ an Executive Director in the coming weeks. Several candidates for the position have emerged and are being screened by the hiring team. This team would like to move quickly to secure the candidate, once chosen. As a result, it is imperative that we all support the campaign so that we can hire our new director by

the end of the year. If you have not made a pledge, would you prayerfully consider this question? If you have made a pledge, can you fulfill that pledge as soon as possible?

Thank you for your support. The Director is a crucial part of our strategic plan as we implement our mission at River of Life: Exalt Christ, love people and serve for God's glory.

For more information about the Chapter Two Campaign, please [click here](#) to see [Chapter Two details](#).

Financial Report

