



...a church in community...

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the river community church is about helping others discover and strengthen their journey with Jesus.

Friday, February 19, 2010

Brothers and Sisters of The River Community Church:

The River's Finance Team is inviting each of us to participate in the financial support of our congregation and its ministries. We know administrative letters, even ones labeled as an invitation, can be tempting not to read, so we will give you an overview of what we will cover:

- Why should we participate in God's economy?
- What are the needs of The River and its ministries are for 2010?
- Who can heed His call and make a difference?

So, with no further adieu, your invitation to continue to participate in 2010!

Why should we participate in God's economy? God calls us to participate in supporting the local church, and supporting the missions of Christ. He tells us to store up our treasures in Heaven (Matthew 6:20), to trust Him for provision (too many references to note here!) and to test Him in giving to the work of the Lord, and see if He will not open floodgates of Heaven to rain down blessing upon you. (Malachi 3:8-12). *Pastor Bruce will preach on what the Bible teaches about giving on Sunday, February 21st – don't miss the chance to learn from God's principles and be blessed!*

What are the needs of The River and its ministries are for 2010? The accountant in several of us causes us to go directly to the numbers! The weekly expenditures to support the most basic expenses of our Church are approximately \$2,650; the average weekly giving in the breadbox has been averaging \$1,700. Through 2009 the difference between these two numbers was being subsidized by grants from the Christian Reformed Church and from other friends of the Church. During 2010, we need to make up that difference by increased giving by members, fundraising, reduction in costs, or draw down on savings. Please prayerfully consider where you and your family might be able to contribute to any in any of these areas. *The River will meet on Sunday, February 28th after service to review 2009 results and 2010 budget. Please attend so that you can see exactly where our funds are being used and decide how your family might be able to participate!*

Who can heed His call and make a difference? All of us. We believe that there is enough creativity and resources in the families of The River that through giving, fundraising, or cutting costs we can make Our Church financially independent during 2010, fund the Kenyan water pump, and give to Haiti.

It occurs to us that most of us have in our possession things that we do not use or things that are in excess of our needs. A community yard sale could bring in funds as well as create extra closet space. The teenagers could hold a carwash, offering the washes for free but accepting donations. We could host "Dining Out by Eating In" nights at our new space in the barn, and instead of paying the restaurant and tipping the waitress, the check could become a donation to the Church and its ministries. Also, we could choose to not purchase wants that are in excess of our needs, so that we might be able to provide for others.

We look forward to partnering, with God's help, to help others discover and strengthen their journey with Jesus!

Grace and peace,

The River's Finance Team
Darrell Baker, Sally Broggi,
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