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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER | JANUARY 15, 2021

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### A NOTE FROM THE ELDERS

#### **Masks: Back to "Recommended"**

For five weeks in a row the numbers in the Fox Valley have been trending down. Both hospitals in Oshkosh were full to capacity (25-35) when we made masks a requirement. The report from both hospitals in town is 1-3 patients. We

effects of the pandemic at the state and national level. **We are moving back from requiring masks to recommending masks.**

- We recommend that people continue to practice what they have concluded is the best response for them given their situation (health and concern wise).
- We again recommend the continued use of masks as a widely practiced form of potentially limiting spread of COVID-19, flu, colds, etc., along with other reasonable health protecting practices like frequent (not paranoid or compulsive) hand washing, use of hand sanitizer, etc., while at the same time stating that we will not enforce mask use for those attending. We expect those attending our live services to be comfortable in the company of others wearing or not wearing masks.
- We recommend self-quarantining in all cases of anyone feeling sick and potentially suffering any number of illnesses.

We will continue to monitor and adjust our course as numbers dictate. As always we ask you to be gracious and mindful of each other.

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## RVC | kids

The 3rd - 5th grade boys' area is in need of two male leaders. We would like to open this class the first Sunday in February. The class will take place every other Sunday. If you previously served or are feeling called to serve with this age group, please reach out to Tracy.

Also, Tracy is looking for an outgoing, bubbly personality to partner with her in creating kids videos for our Facebook page. If you are interested in tag teaming this together, please reach out to her.

**RVC Moms,**

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and seek sisterhood. There are just a few questions to answer before joining, so check us out.

## Giving Up or Giving In?

I recently took an interest in bread making. I attempted a few times years ago, but I didn't have the patience (truthfully, I failed, and I hate failing-so I gave up and went to the store). Recently, I decided to try again. I began by making my own starter, which took a good two weeks to do right. I read and watched videos; I became invested. My daughter called it my new pet (ha-ha). She was right, though. It needed a special kind of attention and needed to be fed every day. I became disciplined in taking care of this starter. My first two attempts at actually making bread failed miserably (like, don't even ask miserable). I wanted to give up, and it would have been easy to give up. But, something was different this time. I didn't want to give up, rather, I felt more like a "giving in" or "surrendering". In that moment, my attitude changed. I really did want to know what I was doing wrong. Before, I was so caught up in the "not doing it right" that I forgot to learn what happened and try again. To me, there is such a different feeling in giving up and giving in.

Some develop the attitude "if God doesn't answer my prayers, I give up" and seek other 'gods' to answer the way I want. We see this often played out in the Old Testament. I think of Naomi's family moving to Moab when God strictly said it was off limits. There was a famine and Elimelech needed to provide for his family. Did he give up and decide to take matters in his own hands and move? Was there an option to give in and wait on God to see how He would provide and protect? How about your own life? Can you think of times when you gave up and did your own thing rather than giving in and waiting on God to reveal Himself to you? Are you about to give up and go your own way and do your own thing, or are you giving in to God and His plan for you?

Tracy

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Our next RVC Men meeting will be on Saturday, February 13, at 7:00 a.m. My guess is you have noticed that we are living in a volatile age. One day we are getting stimulus checks and the next the Capital building is being breached. Most churches have one-third or less of their people back worshipping together. The current cultural trends are blaming Christians and the church for more and more of their problems. We don't know how long the church will look like it has for the last few centuries. But, with that said, we are not afraid. The gates of hell shall not prevail against the church.

The Great Commission tells us to "go and make disciples". We will begin in February to focus on making disciple-makers. That means we will be studying the Scriptures on how Jesus made disciples who made disciples. We will be training you to come alongside someone else and help them develop their relationship with Christ. We will be working at training and releasing an army of disciple-makers. We hope you'll plan to join us on Saturday, February 13, at 7:00 a.m.

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## PRAYER AND PRAISE

At our January Prayer & Praise Night on Sunday, January 31, we are planning on doing baptisms. If you haven't been baptized as a believer and would like to publicly proclaim your faith, contact Pastor Wyatt or the church office. We hope to see you there. The service will go from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. and, just a reminder, there is no child care.

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## HELP WANTED

We are looking for people to fill a few volunteer positions.

## Compassion Team Members

In January we will be restarting the “Compassion team”. Jeff Gorr will be heading up this ministry. If you are interested in helping RVC make an impact on our community, contact Pastor Dave or Jeff Gorr (info@allseasonspe.com).

Compassion Team Purpose:

To show God’s love to our community for the purpose of God’s glory.

Key Verse:

*“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.  
Matthew 5:14-16*

Specifics:

1. To increase RVC’s awareness and impact on the needs of our community
2. To plan 2-4 (one time) community-impact projects annually

## Building and Grounds

This team is headed by Colin Lee and handles maintenance of and improvements to the physical structure of the building and the surrounding grounds, including the parking lot and green spaces.

## Miscellaneous

Greeters / Ushers - Contact Heather Patrick or Bill Gogolewski

Security Team – Contact Pastor Wyatt Fisher

Tech Team / Camera Team – Contact Danny Linse

Kids Ministry – Contact Tracy Fettner

Student Ministry – Contact Steven Blader

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## SERMON NOTES AND SPACERS

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you enter the Worship Center. They are located in a basket under the missions map.

As a reminder, we also have Spacers available for you under the missions map. (Spacers are 8.5" x 11" pieces of paper that you can use to let people know you want one or two spaces between you.) So, if you'd like to use a Spacer, please pick one up before entering the Worship Center. You will see that we have more chairs in the rows in the middle section, because we have some large families that need more seats.

Note: If you don't use a Spacer, then you can't give the "Stink Eye" when the ushers put people in the row next to you. I am actually teasing a little. I have noticed that people assume they are getting the stink eye sometimes when they aren't, but with masks it's hard to tell. Remember, lots of grace.

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## 2021 GIVING ENVELOPES AND STATEMENTS

Giving envelopes for 2021 are available for pickup in the Café. If you are new since last year and don't have giving envelopes but would like some, please let Kathi Miller know. Also, if you prefer to give online and no longer need envelopes, you can let her know that, too. Kathi can be reached at (920) 231-2265.

Also, Kathi will be handing out 2020 Giving Statements between Sunday services January 24th and January 31st. Please contact Kathi with questions or if you would prefer your statement be mailed to you.

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## THIS WEEK AT RIVERVALLEY

(Best viewed in landscape orientation on mobile devices)

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Sunday Service (Worship Center)	10:45 a.m.
High School Youth Group	6:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

**Wednesday, 1/20**

Beth Moore Bible Study (Café)	9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Middle School Youth Group	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Thursday, 1/21**

Ladies Bible Study	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Prayer Team	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

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## GIVING UPDATE:

**YTD Giving 5/1/20 - 12/31/20**

Actual: \$531,818.86

Budget: \$467,740

**Weekly Giving 1/4 - 1/10/21**\$15,113.04

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