

NEW
FOR
MAY

Welcome



Next Steps If you are new around here or haven't filled out a Connect Card, grab one at the Welcome Center so we can thank you for coming and keep you in the loop. If you want to get more involved, fill out an orange card, we'll get back to you. If you've chosen to follow Jesus or you want to get baptized, fill out a green "We Care" card at the Welcome Center.



Community Garden Info Meeting / May 5 / 10:10AM

For anyone interested in gardening or helping to grow organic vegetables, relationships, and opportunities to serve our neighbors in need. Meet in the NE corner of the Community room in between services to learn more.



Men's Breakfast / May 18 / 8AM Food, conversation and a chance to hear stories of how God has moved in their lives. If you plan to attend, or if you want to help us, please RSVP. Sign up in the community room, text 330.806.0447 or email massillon@rivertreechristian.com.

IMPACT
MASSILLON

Impact Massillon / June 1 / 8AM If you signed up to serve, your team leaders will use your contact information to give you further instructions soon. Questions? Email massillon@rivertreechristian.com.

IN THE
WILD

In the Wild VBS / June 10-13 / 6-8PM For ages 4-year-old through 4th grade. Register to attend at rivertreemassillon.com/vbs. VBS Volunteers needed to serve, make food, and to borrow animal props. If you are willing to help, email Bethany reppb@rivertreechristian.com. VBS **prep day is May 19** following the 10:30AM service if you can stay to help.



rivertreemassillon.com



RiverTree Massillon

TOGETHER WE BELIEVE Essentials of the Christian Faith

May 5 / He will Judge the Living and the Dead

READING / Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 20:11-15; Hebrews 9:27

SUMMARY / Jesus is not only Savior and Lord of all, he is also the final Judge, who all people will stand before and give an account. The story of Scripture says that at the end of time, those who have trusted in Christ will not be condemned, but all who have rejected him, and continued in sin, will be condemned before the judgment seat. The righteous, who belong to God, will receive eternal life, but those who reject him will be eternally separated from God.

REFLECTION / Does the judgment of God scare you? What are the hardest parts to accept? How can we be encouraged by the good news of Jesus in light of the coming judgment?

May 12 / I believe in the Holy Spirit

READING / John 14:15-26; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6, 11

SUMMARY / The Holy Spirit, who he is, what he does, and how he works, is often times forgotten in the lives of many Christians. Yet, Jesus taught that the Holy Spirit would be essential for our lives as disciples. The Holy Spirit dwells in all Christians, and empowers us for life, godliness and witness. He leads us to the truth of God's Word, convicts us of our sin, gives us gifts to serve, and empowers us to show Christ to the world in word and deed.

REFLECTION / How do you see the Holy Spirit at work in your life? What ways do you need the Holy Spirit to work in your life? Take some time to pray and ask him.

May 19 / The Church and Communion of Saints

READING / Galatians 3:26-29; Acts 2:42-47; Revelation 7:9-11

SUMMARY / The Church is not a building, but a universal people who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ. In short, the Church is the called out, gathered people of God in the world. The Church consists of people from every nation, tongue and tribe, and yet are all counted as one in Christ. The Church gathers for worship and prayer, learning God's word, and is committed to one another and to fulfilling the great commission to make disciples.

REFLECTION / When you hear the word "church", what do you normally think about? Has your view changed after this message/readings? How might you need to respond?

May 26 / The Forgiveness of Sins

READING / Exodus 34:5-9; Romans 3:21-24

SUMMARY / Many people often view God has a vindictive, wrathful deity. However, Scripture, from the Old Testament to the New Testament, reveals a God who is compassionate, patient, gracious and forgiving. Though it is true that God hates sin, and because he is just, cannot simply ignore it, it is also true that God made a way of forgiveness. Though God couldn't clear the guilty by ignoring our sin, he could forgive our sin through the cross of Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION / How does it encourage you to know that Jesus intercedes for you? How can the promise of Christ's return empower us for the struggles of today?