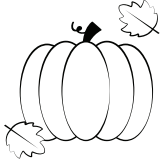


NEW
FOR
OCTOBER

Welcome



Fall Festival / October 13 / 4-6PM Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to our annual family-friendly event with food, a trunk or treat, pumpkin painting, live animals, a hayride, and s'mores. We need your help! We need 25 vehicles for our trunk or treat and 20 additional volunteers to help with the event! Sign up at the table in the community room to help.



Bible Study Extension / Begins October 20 / 6:30PM Have you ever been frustrated with prayer or have questions about what prayer is or if it really matters? How does our prayer life with God really affect our everyday lives? Join us for a 4-week study and discussion on what the Bible says about prayer. Questions? Email massillon@rivertreechristian.com.



Men's Breakfast / November 9 / 8AM An enjoyable time of food, fellowship and testimonies. All men are welcome, and encouraged to bring a friend! Help us prepare for food and let us know you're coming! Email massillon@rivertreechristian.com or sign up in the community room.



Thanksgiving Harvest Meals / November 28 Every Thanksgiving, we partner with other area churches to bless people in need. This year, our church plans to provide 425 hot meals to the surrounding community. But we can't do this alone! We need donations of cookies and turkeys, and volunteers who can help with meal assembly, and delivery drivers. This is a church-wide outreach opportunity. Donations will be collected in November and volunteers will help the morning of Thanksgiving Day.



RUOK / For grades 5-8/ October 18-20 A weekend of 72 amazing hours spent with friends, leaders and God! There will even be a giant mud pit! Details and sign up at rivertreemassillon.com/ruok2019. Don't have a student going, but want to support our students? Purchase a Power Card! Email Ben Eberly at eberlyb@rivertreechristian.com or get info at the Welcome Center.



ALL IN / For grades 9-12 / November 15-17 A weekend full of fun and an incredible opportunity for high school students to connect with God, one another and leaders who want to invest in them. Details and sign up at rivertreemassillon.com/allin2019. Questions? Email Ryan and Erica Hollinger at hollingere@rivertreechristian.com. Welcome Center.

PARABLES: Small Stories With Big Truth

When you read the gospels, you often find that Jesus speaks in a secret code language called “parables.” In fact, approximately 35% of Jesus’ teaching used parables. These were small stories that contained HUGE truths about who God is, what his kingdom is like, and even about our relationship with God and other people. Jesus’ parables covered a large array of different topics that intersect with our daily lives. Join us as we study six of these parables to discover Jesus’ teachings, and what they mean for our lives.

The Lost and Found

READING / Luke 15:1-10

Jesus teaches these two simple parables to reveal something special about the heart of God. The self-righteous, religious elites have misunderstood God’s love for all people – including the sinners and outcasts. Here, Jesus reminds us that God is on a search and rescue mission for all people.

The Sower and the Seed

READING / Luke 5:4-15

In an agricultural world, Jesus gives a parable about farming. The seed is planted, but only some of the seeds grow into healthy plants that produce fruit. In the same way, when the message of the gospel goes out, not everyone receives it. For many people, the message is rejected, and Jesus gives us some reasons why this happens.

The Unmerciful Servant

READING / Matthew 18:23-35

Jesus teaches on a very difficult topic – the issue of forgiveness. In this parable, a master forgives a massive debt of one of his servants, only for that same servant to refuse to show compassion or forgiveness towards someone that owed him. Jesus shows the importance of forgiving because God has chosen to forgive us.

The Unwise Investment

READING / Luke 12:13-21

A man tries to bring Jesus into a debate that he is having with his brother over money. Jesus tells a parable about a rich man who was concerned with his stuff, but not concerned with eternity. Jesus was showing this man and others to be careful with being consumed by greed and possessions. We should be investing, not just in temporal things, but eternal things.