

RiverTree Connect



“So where
the river flows
~~~~~  
**EVERYTHING  
WILL LIVE**”

**Ezekiel 47:9**



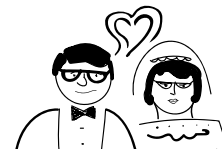
We believe God wants RiverTree Jackson to be a people who are so filled with God's Spirit that He overflows like a river into the streets of our neighborhoods and our cities, bringing new life throughout Jackson Township and its neighboring communities.



## NEW LIFE *Has Been Made Available*

to all people through Jesus Christ, yet there are still people all around us—in our neighborhoods, our work places, and our social networks—who are stuck in the trap of spiritual darkness. We have all seen and experienced how this trap of spiritual darkness leads to:

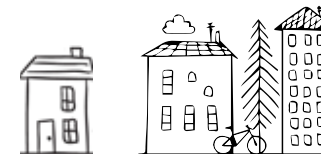
**MEDIOCRE**  
*marriages*



**DYSFUNCTIONAL**  
*families*



**DISCONNECTED**  
*communities*



**FRENZIED**  
*living*





**A MISSIONARY**  
*on every street and a*  
**MISSIONAL**  
**COMMUNITY**  
*in every neighborhood*



3 YEAR OBJECTIVES



Encounter *the Spirit*



Enlist *for Saturation*



Equip *New Life*



Embrace *the Dream*

## A *simple* WAY

you can help  
put this God Dream  
into action  
in your  
neighborhood



### BLESS

Provide a person with something good or desirable.



### *eat*



Intentionally share a meal, snack or drink with someone who God is placing in your life.



### PRAY

Walk around your neighborhood intentionally talk to or listen to God about what His heart is for your neighbors.

## RIVERTREE *Story*

For almost 60 years, RiverTree has been reaching out to Stark County and beyond. RiverTree, formerly Jackson Christian Church, began on Easter Sunday 1964 as a church plant of Canton First Christian Church to serve the surrounding area of Jackson Township. That's one of the reasons that church planting is so important to us!

*Then the angel showed me a river* with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. On each side of the river grew a tree of life and the leaves were used to heal the nations. —Revelation 22

# RIVERTREE *History*

**1964**

Planted by  
First Christian Church  
in Canton as Jackson  
Christian Church

**1978**

RiverTree Christian  
School started

**1999**

Building Expansion

**2005**

RiverTree Massillon Launch

**2006**

RiverTree Lake Launch

**2012**

RiverTree Canal Fulton Launch

**2018**

ONE Center For  
Leadership Launch

**2021**

Red Oaks Launch

**2000**

Name changed to  
RiverTree Christian Church

**2017**

God Dream Launch

**2020**

RiverTree Fairless Launch  
Rubber City Church Launch



## What We *Believe*

- There is ONE GOD who is the source of everything
- The Bible is the ABSOLUTE TRUTH
- The Bible is COMPLETELY RELEVANT to life
- Jesus is the ONLY Son of God, the ONLY way to heaven
- We believe what the Bible says about Jesus is ENTIRELY TRUE
- Every human being is made in the IMAGE OF GOD and is also a SINNER
- Salvation is by GRACE through FAITH
- Faith is MORE than just believing
- Baptism is the PERFECT EXPRESSION of your faith
- God lives IN YOU
- The LOCAL CHURCH is the hope of the world
- Jesus WILL be back
- Heaven and hell are REAL

For supporting Bible verses, go to  [rivertreejackson.com](http://rivertreejackson.com)

## CORE *Values*

LIVE *supernaturally*

INVEST *in the next generation*

INSPIRE *through weekend gatherings*

DISCIPLE *through missional communities*

DEVELOP *and send leaders to plant churches*

## INSPIRE *through weekend gatherings*

**Weekend Gatherings are about helping to usher people into the presence of God every weekend— that they would have an encounter with the risen Jesus and be transformed in His presence.**



Jeremy Redman  
Jackson Campus Pastor

We want everyone who worships with us to leave our gathering inspired to live for God in every area of their life. The primary way we seek to inspire people to live for God is by celebrating with them how our God is at work in our world.

Therefore, the songs we sing, the stories we tell, and the messages we preach are all designed to celebrate what God has done for us, what he is currently doing in our lives, and what we know he is going to do in the future.

When you worship at RiverTree Jackson, you'll leave with a fresh sense of hope in God's purposes and a new desire to live for those purposes everyday.

### Stop By and Say Hi!

The Welcome Center is where to go for all the info, coffee and the guest reception area.

## LIVE *supernaturally*

We are put focused effort into creating space at RiverTree Jackson to hear from the Holy Spirit in our different spaces. We are intentionally carving out time during weekends, within our missional communities, and with our staff to hear from the Holy Spirit and live naturally supernatural.

Our RiverTree Care Team recognizes that life comes in seasons, both difficult and joyous. Whether you're experiencing a need for prayer, death, a wedding, or welcoming a new baby, our team wants to come alongside you and serve you in the season you're in. The best way to begin the process for either area is to simply send an email and we'll guide you from there!



All kids from birth through fourth grade are invited to be a part of TreeHouse Kidz. You want the best for your children. So do we.

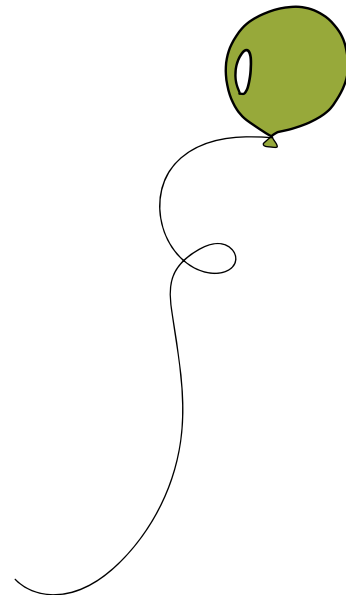


## INVEST *in the next generation*

We know that no one has more influence in a child's life than their parents. We want to collaborate our efforts to maximize the spiritual impact in your child's faith.

**TREEHOUSE KIDZ** is a secure environment and offered during all weekend gatherings. If you have any questions, stop by our kiosk in the Welcome Center and talk with one of our friendly volunteers in the yellow shirts. Don't worry—we'll let you know if your child needs you at any point during the gathering.

**A LOOK INSIDE TREEHOUSE KIDZ** is the best way for parents new to RiverTree, and those interested in volunteering, to discover the vision, meet the staff, take a tour, and ask any questions. This is a one-hour, one-time class offered during regular worship gathering times so your child can attend their TreeHouse Kidz class while you attend this session.



## TREEHOUSE KIDZ Birth-4th Grade

### NURSERY

Birth to 3 years old (not fully potty trained)

### PRESCHOOL

Preschool (3 years old & fully potty trained) - 5 years

### ELEMENTARY

Kindergarten-4th Grade



### CONTACT US!



[treehousekidz@rivertreechristian.com](mailto:treehousekidz@rivertreechristian.com)



## STUDENT MINISTRIES

We believe relationships change lives. Our hope is that every student finds friends and leaders to have a connection with, and that these relationships help them figure out Jesus, life and all the hard stuff in between.



## INVEST *in the next generation*

### STUDENT MINISTRIES GRADES 5-12

We are all about relationships. We desire to see students transformed by three relationships they have. Their relationship with Jesus, with leaders who are modeling the way, and with other students who are discovering Jesus.

In 1 John 5:12 it says “Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God’s Son does not have life.” We believe this 100%. Jesus brings life and He does this through relationships.

All of our student ministry environments and experiences are designed to help students bolster these three relationships.



[jaxstudents@rivertreechristian.com](mailto:jaxstudents@rivertreechristian.com)

## Middle School

**NRG** Is a Wednesday gathering for middle school students from 6:30-8:30PM.

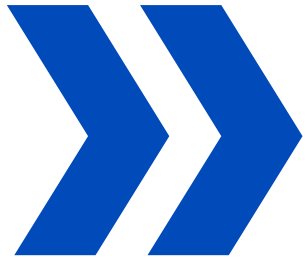
It is so crazy-fun that it is easy to invite friends, discover worship, experience Jesus, feel unconditional love, and build relationships with leaders that will help disciple students.

**FUSE** - A weekend gathering service for middle school students at 9:15 and 11AM. We gather each week to connect with friends, leaders and with God. We learn how to respond to God in while building relationships with leaders that model the way.

**High School** Being in community with other students on the same journey and having leaders go on the journey with them can play an integral role in the spiritual growth of students.

**Student Section** During the 11:00AM Sunday gatherings, we'll be in the auditorium front and center as a group to worship together with other high school students and leaders.

**SENT** creates opportunities to equip high school students for life by connecting them into positive Christ-like relationships. Students will get connected to adults and peers building lifelong relationships transforming families and communities through weekly gatherings, prayer, service projects, and trips.



## DISCIPLE through missional communities

At RiverTree Jackson, our missional communities are called GoCommunities. These groups are a great way to grow closer with God, connect to other believers and love the people He has placed in your life.

These mid-size groups of 20-50 people focus on discipleship, connection and mission. GoCommunities help to make the larger church experience feel smaller and more like an extended family so that you can get to know people and take steps to grow as a follower of Jesus.

### To Find Out More About GoCommunities:

Check out the current GoCos on the RiverTree App, RiverTree Jackson website and on our GoCo Wall in the East Hallway.



[gocommunities@rivertreechristian.com](mailto:gocommunities@rivertreechristian.com)



Jason Lantz, Vision Leader

## DEVELOP & send leaders

RiverTree is a part of something bigger that God is doing uniquely in Northeast Ohio. Through our organizational partnerships, missional communities, and church planting efforts, we hope to catalyze a regional church movement filled with practitioners that multiply the church at every level. We will be churches who equip all our people to be disciple makers of Jesus Christ and we will work strategically with other churches and organizations to start new churches that make Northeast Ohio a bright light for Jesus Christ for many generations to come.

**ONE** CENTER FOR  
LEADERSHIP

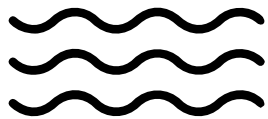


[onecentercanton.com](http://onecentercanton.com)

# baptism

## *What is it & why does it matter?*

Baptism is included in Jesus' final command for His followers (Mt. 28:19-20). It is the normal, expected physical act that is commanded by God to accompany your internal faith decision. It's a gift!



**Matthew 28:19-20** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

**Do I have to be baptized to be saved?** Read Mark 16:16. The short answer is no. Faith in Christ saves you. However, baptism is commanded and modeled by Christ and shown to be the normal practice by every Christian in the early church. If you are a follower of Christ, why would you not do it?

**What if I was baptized as an infant?** First of all, be thankful for parents who cared about your spiritual life. Baptism in the Bible is the companion to a person's faith decision to follow Christ. Apart from faith in Christ by that person, baptism has no power. It needs to be the companion to your faith decision to trust Christ.

**Why be baptized by immersion?** The word used for baptism in the New Testament means to dip or plunge under water. Also if you read the meaning of baptism (e.g., Romans 6) it seems to make the most sense if you assume the writer is referring to immersion.

# communion

It is our practice at RiverTree to participate in communion during our gatherings every week. Communion is open to all believers—that is anyone who has accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord.



**Matthew 26:26-29** While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

If you're a follower of Jesus, we invite you to take part in communion with us. At RiverTree, we celebrate the Lord's supper by either:

- Passing the trays—please take the bread and juice as it is passed
- Intinction—dipping bread into juice at stations around the room

# Serving *at RiverTree*

For more information on ways to serve,

## GOCOMMUNITIES

- GoCommunity Leaders

✉ [gocommunities@rivertreechristian.com](mailto:gocommunities@rivertreechristian.com)

## GUEST SERVICES

- Greeters
- Communion Offering
- First Impressions
- Library
- Parking Team
- Chair Setup
- Grounds Crew

✉ [info@rivertreechristian.com](mailto:info@rivertreechristian.com)

## TREEHOUSE KIDZ

- Nursery or Preschool Classroom Leaders
- Nursery or Preschool Classroom Helpers
- Elementary Large Group Leader
- Elementary Small Group Leader
- Greet Squad
- Weekday Behind the Scenes
- Weekend Behind the Scenes

✉ [treehousekidz@rivertreechristian.com](mailto:treehousekidz@rivertreechristian.com)

## STUDENT MINISTRIES

- Leaders (NRG, Fuse, SENT)
- Behind the scenes parent helpers

✉ [jaxstudents@rivertreechristian.com](mailto:jaxstudents@rivertreechristian.com)

## CARE

- Prayer
- Visitation
- Life on Life Mentoring
- Food Pantry

✉ [care@rivertreechristian.com](mailto:care@rivertreechristian.com)

## TECH TEAM

No experience required.

- Weekend Services (training provided)

Contact Gary DeSantis at

✉ [desantisg@rivertreechristian.com](mailto:desantisg@rivertreechristian.com)

## WORSHIP TEAM

- Musician
- Vocalist

✉ [info@rivertreechristian.com](mailto:info@rivertreechristian.com)

# Giving *at RiverTree*

We give joyfully in response to Jesus' generosity.

Your generosity fuels the incredible life change that we get to experience together.

Our support comes from the regular tithes and offerings of those who love contributing to the kinds of things they see God doing in our church and community.



**Web** [rivertreejackson.com/give](http://rivertreejackson.com/give)



**App** RiverTree Christian Church



**Weekends** Drop tithe in back of church at weekend services



**Text:RTJAX** to: 77977



**Mail** 7373 Portage Street NW, Massillon OH 44646

# Jackson *worship times*

## SUNDAYS

**In Person - 9:15 & 11AM**

**Online - 11AM**

THK / Birth-4th grade weekend classes  
available during each service

## FUSE / MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Classes available**

Sunday 9:15 & 11AM

## HIGH SCHOOL

Join the student section in the  
auditorium during Sunday 11AM service

**Want help getting connected?**

 [rivertreejackson.com/welcome](https://rivertreejackson.com/welcome)



## WEBSITE

*[rivertreejackson.com](https://rivertreejackson.com)*



## OUR APP

Search “RiverTree Christian Church” in app store



## FACEBOOK

*[RiverTree Jackson](https://www.facebook.com/RiverTreeJackson)*

*[facebook.com/rivertreechristian](https://facebook.com/rivertreechristian)*



## TWITTER

*[@rivertreejax](https://twitter.com/rivertreejax)*



## INSTAGRAM

*[rivertreejackson](https://www.instagram.com/rivertreejackson)*