



***“The heavens are telling of the glory of God and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.”***

***Psalm 19:1***

***This*** brand new year is filled with exciting possibilities from the Lord. We look up at His heavens and are amazed by the work of His hands. We stand in gratitude for all the blessings He has poured out on us in this last year. I'm personally thankful for each of you and your commitment to the testimony of Christ. I want to encourage you to stay focused and consistent in the Word of God this year. Now is the time for a deep devotion to the things of God and to move forward in His mission for River's Edge. The Lord has positioned our church family in a strategic area for His glory. We have all the resources we need to lead people in our community to a transforming relationship with Jesus. I began asking you last week to carry an [\*\*Operation Andrew Card\*\*](#) on which you can record 5 names that you will be praying for to find peace with God and new life in Christ. These five persons can be anyone you know from school, work, your neighborhood or family. As we continuously pray for the Lord to work in these lives, it is certain that we will see God at work among us to lead people to Him. We will also experience continued growth in the church family. Have you picked up your card yet? They are located in the church welcome center. Start now by compiling your list of names and praying for each person to come to know Jesus. God cares about us all. This is why He gave us such a beautiful place to live and share His blessings.

***Have*** you taken your place of service? All of us have unique gifts that the Lord desires to use in His kingdom. Today there are needs for the Sound/Video Team, the Fellowship Team and the Security Team. Could you help with any of these teams? Contact me if you're interested.

***The [Angelfood Ministry](#)*** has gotten off to a good start. I appreciate Kristen Ryan for leading out and directing this important food ministry. Please remember that the next deadline for ordering is **January 15<sup>th</sup>**. The distribution day is **Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**. A special thanks to teams A and B for your work in these first few months of this new work.

***Let*** me remind you that our **Vision Team** meets this **Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm**. We will discuss the 2010 Ministry Budget, new Ministry Team leaders and plans for this new

year. Our **Church Family Discussion** will take place **Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm**. Please mark your calendar and plan to be present.

*Two* new opportunities for Bible Study begin this month. The [Men's Bible Study](#) starts **Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**. The study is by Tony Dungy and is called "Quiet Peace." All men are invited to join us at the church building for this great Bible Study. Also, we will have a **One Day Women's Conference** at River's Edge on **Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 am**. Draw closer to the Lord as you participate in this great event for our ladies.

*I* want to say a big thanks to everyone who helped here at home while Julie and I were on our vacation in December. We had an absolutely awesome time and we were very peaceful about things here while we were away. Our leaders did a great job and I appreciate all of you so much for allowing us to have the time on vacation. You have a much more rested and happier pastor and wife these days! We praise the Lord for each one of you!

*I* look forward to seeing you all this Sunday for worship and Bible Study. Make your church family a commitment in 2010. God has wonderful things in store for us as we seek His will for our lives and for River's Edge!

**I love you all,**

**Pastor Stephen**