

Stewardship Report to the Congregation

For the Twelve Months ending December 31, 2009



Tough times like 2009 have the greatest opportunity to really be the church that God has designed us to be. So we wanted to give you a sense of the impact that your generosity is having on the people around you.

For those of you who watch the numbers, attendance is roughly equal to 2008's and giving remained strong throughout majority of the year but began to drop 4th quarter. Spending remained below budget. The emergency reserve position is favorable – and needs to be given the forecast of more tough times well into 2010. All the details are on the reverse side.

But the numbers are dwarfed by the ministry impact we are privileged to watch. Here are just a few things. **Tell us your life change and impact stories** by sending them to GoodStories@RiverTreeChristian.com!

- **Special Offerings**—each year RiverTree becomes aware of a few special needs in our community and needs with RiverTree ministry partners. It is our joy to take the opportunity to give generously to those needs. This year, RiverTree family poured out \$103,420 to the Christian Children's Home, \$18,716 to the Refuge of Hope, \$12,165 to the African Children's Choir, \$15,452 for single moms, and \$12,000 to the Pregnancy Support Center. 100% of these offerings were given to the respective ministries. These offerings are above and beyond regular support funding of a number of ministry partners.
- More **food and other benevolence** assistance have been distributed than in past years. If you know of someone who may benefit from such help, have them call Linda Swinford at RiverTree.
- **Donated appliances**--we provided appliances, furniture and other items to at least 13 community families - almost all were single moms and families on the margins. If you can help in this way or need this kind of help, please contact Kathy Specht at RiverTree.
- **January clothing/shoe initiative**--over 13 ton of items donated! These went out to: Christian Children's Home, Refuge of Hope, Appalachian Mountain Ministry, Souls4Soles, Interval Brotherhood Home/Akron as well as families in need at RiverTree and our surrounding community.
- **Northwest Schools** --260 gift bags containing *Too Small to Ignore* books, candy and coupons were distributed to classroom, administrative, building and grounds staff.
- **Community Service**--we have had 29 individuals come through and serve at RiverTree. We minister to these folks, through encouragement and support during this point in their life. Many come back and begin to attend RCC. At the same time, the service they provide is a tremendous help with our building maintenance. Win! Win!
- The **Massillon Campus TNT youth are serving** regularly at the Salvation Army and a family homeless shelter.
- The **Lake Campus** began providing meals to families in the assisted lunch program at Lake Local School District. Lake Ignition Student Ministries funded a Compassion Cottage in Tanzania!
- **RiverTree School** collected 50 bottles for Pregnancy Support Center and gave a baby shower collecting over 50 items. They have an ongoing collection for Peru ministries, food pantry, and Humane Society.

Wreck the Roof Initiative



Over a year ago we asked, "What are you willing to do to wreck the roof to bring others to Jesus?" This is the question that launched RiverTree into a two-year life change initiative. It challenges the way we consider

- ❖ the life God has given us,
- ❖ the church we partner with, and
- ❖ the world God entrusts to us.

As a result, new churches have been planted in Ohio; Jason Lantz and his team have launched LoveCanton; children are being fostered, adopted and sponsored; people are traveling to serve those on the margins of society; and our campuses are screaming "You are welcome" to all those who enter our doors. Lives are being transformed!

\$873,903 has been received of the \$1,517,519 committed in May of 2008.

Maintain Regular Giving with On-line Bill Pay

An easy way to continue to support the church while away over the holidays or vacation is on-line bill pay. On-line banking is common to most families today and is a great option to consider for charitable giving. Instructions for on-line bill pay are available on the RiverTree website www.rivertreechristian.com click on "Giving".

Another Successful Audit

RiverTree has once again passed its voluntary annual external audit [2009]. The full audit report and the most recent stewardship report are available on the RiverTree website under "Giving", "Fiscal Responsibility." Contact Tracy Preston for questions.

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Summary of Income and Expenses

January through December 2009

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Projected</u>	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
INCOME			
Portage Campus General Offerings	\$3,102,154	\$3,156,441	(\$54,287)
RiverTree School Tuition and Registration [See Note 1]	844,565	906,000	(61,435)
Massillon Campus General Offerings [See Note 1]	242,119	232,571	9,548
Lake Campus General Offerings	174,438	177,945	(3,507)
Central Supporting Operations			
Building Offerings	104,327	104,000	327
Wreck the Roof Initiative [See Note 2]	521,815	360,000	161,815
Other Income & Designated Income [See Note 4]	440,162	265,649	174,513
Total Income Year-to-Date	<u>5,429,580</u>	<u>5,202,606</u>	<u>226,974</u>
EXPENSES			
Ministry Areas [Note 3]			
Portage Campus			
TreeHouse Kidz	148,151	156,409	8,258
Student Ministries	123,623	133,367	9,744
Adult Ministries	135,553	142,910	1,255
Pastoral Care	121,887	128,272	6,385
Worship	246,071	251,649	5,578
RiverTree School [See Note 1]	671,869	721,436	49,567
Massillon Campus [See Note 1]	188,952	166,454	(22,498)
Lake Campus	198,099	197,378	(721)
Central Supporting Services [Note 3]			
Staff and Lay Leadership [See Note 1]	337,655	315,457	(22,198)
Glocal [Local and Global] Outreach [See Note 1]	319,412	308,339	(11,073)
Administration [Office, Food Service, Resource Ctr]	825,334	838,224	12,890
Building & Grounds [Maintenance and Utilities] [See Note 1]	517,907	571,376	53,469
Building [Mortgage Principal]	455,424	461,299	5,875
Building [Mortgage Interest]	318,701	318,701	0
Communication	76,256	79,218	2,962
Wreck the Roof Initiative Expenses [See Note 2]	443,286	364,000	(79,286)
Designated Expense [See Note 4]	319,132	113,682	(205,450)
Total Expenses Year-to-Date	<u>5,447,312</u>	<u>5,268,171</u>	<u>(179,141)</u>
Change in Cash Surplus/ (Deficit)	(17,732)	(65,565)	47,833
Cash at Beginning of Year	662,427	662,427	0
Cash at End of Month	<u>\$644,695</u>	<u>\$596,862</u>	<u>\$47,833</u>

Notes:

1. The school negative revenue variance is due to enrollment down and the deficit is offset by expense reduction. The Massillon Campus negative expense variance results from additional fees, personnel costs, and equipment offset by the Massillon Campus' positive revenue variance. Building & Administrative positive expense variances are due to lower utilities, equipment, and fees. Leadership negative expense variance is due to fees and personnel costs. Glocal negative expense variance is due to Special Christmas Eve Offering to CCHO exceeded budget expense.
2. The Wreck the Roof positive variance revenue is due to timing. Wreck the Roof projections are based on pledges. Majority of pledges did not designate a time range and are projected to be received at the end of the initiative. WTR expenses are made either by current WTR revenue or WTR reserve balance.
3. Expenses for ministries and supporting services include personnel costs.
4. Designated income and expenses are typically not budgeted because of the uncertainty during the financial planning process. Designated expenses are paid by designated income or reserve balances received for the designated purpose. Other income includes bookstore and Love Canton.