

What to expect when you visit River's Edge...

Sometimes we have visitors who are not prepared to experience the kind of service we consider normal. If you come from a traditional, orthodox, or contemporary church experience, parts of our service might be unfamiliar to you. So here is a list of things to help you before you decide to visit:

- **Our service lasts** two hours, from 10 to 12. We begin with a greeting and announcements.
- **After announcements** we celebrate God in praise and worship for thirty to forty minutes.
- **During our worship**, you will find different expressions of adoration for God in the form of some people dancing, jumping, painting art, clapping, shouting, waving a flag, bowing down on their knees or laying face down on the floor. We encourage worship from the heart, not for performance. Our worship is both individual and corporate, yet we don't require anyone to worship outside their personal comfort zone.
- **Near the end of our worship time**, members in the congregation have the freedom to offer a testimony, word of encouragement, a prophecy, or a vision they've received. Sometimes, but rarely, a "tongue" may be brought, followed by an interpretation. We encourage our members to wait on God for these gifts, all of which are done in an orderly fashion and according to the instructions given by Paul to the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 14:26; 39-40). This makes every Sunday service a unique experience because of the creative ways the Holy Spirit leads us.
- **The first half of the service** will come to a close around 10:55-11:05 am. We'll take up an offering and then have people greet one another while we dismiss the children for their classes.
- **The message for the day** is given, which can range from 30 to 50 minutes. The Word of God is important to us, so bring your Bibles. Our messages will challenge, convict, provoke, inspire intimacy with God, impart faith, speak to the times, and grow Christians.
- **After the message** there will be a call to respond to what the Holy Spirit has been saying throughout the service. There may also be time extended for ministry through the body of believers and prayer for needs.
- **When the service ends** (generally by noon), you can expect people to reach out in a friendly manner to introduce themselves to you. If you need anything, we'll make ourselves available for prayer, or to answer any questions you might have about our church.
- **One more thing**—if you happen to visit us on the *third* Sunday of the month (so long as it does not land on a holiday weekend), please stay and join us back-stage for an outrageous spread of food provided by all our members. It's always a great time of feasting and fellowship. We call it "Share-A-Dish Sunday."

God bless you and we look forward to meeting you.