

River's Edge Bible Fellowship Pecatonica IL Pastor Eric Mock

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Vision America

IFCA International Church Planting

Please Pray:

This summer we welcome Becca Meyer and Rachel Fehring who will serve at River's Edge as interns. Both girls attend Grace College in Winona Lake, Indiana. Becca grew up in Pecatonica and has been part of the River's Edge family for several years, while Rachel is new to Pecatonica. They will be helping initiate and lead various summer outreaches to the many children in our community. Please pray for Becca and Rachel as they lead, learn and grow and that we will see the gospel bear fruit as it goes forth.



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Pecatonica is an older village of 2100 residents, situated on the Pecatonica River, in Northern Illinois. It is surrounded, however, by several larger cities within 20 miles. The community touts itself as being “90 minutes from Chicago and 25 years behind.” A majority of the residents were born within 30 minutes of the village, grew up and attended school there. Most are employed 20 minutes away in Rockford, the second largest city in Illinois.

There are several denominational churches in the village, with long standing traditions in the community. This traditional, denominational and very liberal view of Christianity has been one of the greatest challenges in reaching the community.

Eric and Kristi Mock moved to Pecatonica in August 2007, and found a group of women who gathered for a Bible study. It was from this initial group of ladies that the discussion of planting a church began. In February 2008 six families began meeting for fellowship and Bible study; with a youth ministry added in May 2008. The decision to form as a church plant under Midwest Church Extension was made in September 2008.

Beginning as a grass roots church plant, six families began meeting together in February 2008 in the basement of the local bank to search out God’s leading for the church. In September 2008 under the guidance of Midwest Church Extension, the church began to be planted.

The mainstay of the church plant is Bible exposition in all ministries of the church, and all members living life on mission for the sake of the Gospel. No advertising or gimmicks, River’s Edge strives to see disciples made and them trained in God’s truth. During the last six years, God has done amazing things in our midst. More than 50% of the congregation are teen and college students, none of which was expected in the beginning. Marriages have been restored, lives have been saved, baptisms and nearly 80% of the church serves in some capacity. The church has grown slowly in size, but greatly in depth. Through monthly ministry to seniors, feeding breakfast to the homeless and summer outreach, River’s Edge members participate in worship and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. River’s Edge is blessed to have three men in leadership now that have Bible degrees, yet all three offer their time as ‘tentmakers’. River’s Edge also facilitates a winter and summer weekend retreat in which youth from several IFCA churches participate. Yet, after six years and now with full IFCA church membership, River’s Edge remains a missionary church that has much to do in reaching their community. Please join with us in prayer and get involved with us, as we proclaim God’s Truth and seek to save the lost.



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