



# RISEN LIFE

## March Madness for Christians

From Pastor Mike

"March Madness" is all but done, but I think we Christians can take a lesson from fans of college basketball. Part of the "madness" in the basketball championships is our love for, our longing to be, part of a crowd. In a crowd we can become a totally different person.

Shy, reserved people scream until hoarse. Non-violent, peace-activists holler for their team to "kill'em!" Guys who don't like to take their shirts off at the beach, paint their bellies blue or green or

have to make sense. What you do doesn't have to be well thought-out. Before you do what you do you don't have to draw up any long-range plans.

When Jesus approached Jerusalem the atmosphere of excitement that hung in the air suddenly electrified the crowd. Joy was palpable. Hopes were heightened. The crowd began to celebrate Jesus as he rode into the city on that colt, with an exuberance beyond any individual understanding.

*Let yourself get carried away by your passion for Christ.*

orange, and hope to get their hairy paunch on national television. A stadium full of strangers will energetically work together to create "the Wave."

In a crowd your own behavior doesn't



The important thing to keep in mind on Palm Sunday is that it is also called "Passion Sunday," which begins "Passion Week." "Passion" is what college basketball fans call "madness." It is the all-out crazy outpouring of support for someone other than ourselves.

It's what we see in Jesus' face as he enters Jerusalem with the cross in his sights. As a Christian, you will never be more alive than when you get caught up in the madness of Jesus marching his way to victory. When you see that crazy-in-love look in his eyes. I look forward to seeing you the week of passion. Sincerely, Pastor Mike

## Easter Bunny Arrives By Helicopter

Risen Lord Church is once again sponsoring its annual Community Easter Egg Hunt. It all takes place on the Saturday before Easter, April 11. Easter Eggs are "hidden" throughout the grounds in anticipation of the children's arrival.

Registration begins at 10:00 am.



Age appropriate games and fun activities are available for the children while they wait for the Easter Bunny to arrive by helicopter at 11:00 am. And don't forget the big hunt!!! Each child will turn their freshly found eggs in for a treat bag filled with candy and special Easter treats such as pencils, stickers, or balloons! Every child will go home with a big smile on their face!! If you would like to volunteer to assist the children with games, activities, or with the egg hunt call 535-6727.

### INSIDE...

- 6th Annual Fish Fry
- Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- RLMS Spring Sing
- Youth News

**RISEN LORD**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## 6th Annual Fish Fry

One of the first things Jesus did after he was raised from the dead was to look up his buddies and have a fish fry on the beach! And since Risen Lord is a Bible believing church, it only seems right to follow his lead. There is no beach, but there is plenty of fish to fry, as well as a lot of other good things to eat.



Risen Lord Men will be offering the following mouthwatering features:

- Fresh (not frozen) Deep-fried Southern Catfish
- Hush Puppies
- Hot Dawgs
- Beverages

Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. And your appetite! Chris Barteo has got the rest covered. If you would like to assist Chris with preparing this delicious meal, contact him at 865-9945.

Mark Sunday April 19th on your calendar. It all starts at 11:30 right after the second service. You won't want to miss the 6th Annual Fish Fry.

**Sunday April 19  
11:30**

## Tuesday Morning Bible Study

After a brief hiatus the Tuesday Morning Bible Study is back! Charlene Fivecoat will be leading a six week course by Bill Hybels entitled "Too Busy Not To Pray." This course studies Bible verses from Nehemiah, Luke, Acts, Psalms, and John. You will be looking at how and why the people in the Bible prayed bringing you to a deeper understanding of how and why we pray in our everyday lives.

The study will meet in the conference room beginning April 7 at 9:30 am.

**April 7, 2009  
9:30 am  
"Too Busy Not To Pray"**

## Risen Lord Montessori School Spring Sing

Risen Lord Montessori School will be presenting their annual Spring Sing on Sunday April 26. The children who have been attending will delight you with great music that they have been learning through out the year. Their theme this year is "Let There Be Peace On Earth." The morning class will perform at 2:00 p.m. and the afternoon class will perform at 3:00 p.m. All of Risen Lord Church is invited! Come join their parents and grandparents and see what these young Christians have been learning this past school year. They would love to see you fill the sanctuary!

## Knot Sew Squared Quilting Group



### Thursday Morning Quilting Bee

Knot Sew<sup>2</sup> is meeting on Thursday mornings at 9:00 am. The group has had a necessary request for several Mission quilts. Materials have been donated. People are needed to cut the fabric, assemble and sew the fabric into quilts. No experience necessary! Anyone who wants to learn the basics of cutting and sewing is invited to come. The dates the group is meeting are:

April 2, 16, and 30  
May 14 and 28

Contacts for more information are:  
Tami Hoover 422-8328 or  
pjazztam@aol.com  
Lena Banks 535-4803 or  
ladymariesews@embarqmail.com

**Everyone is invited!!**

## Senior Youth News



More Good News from Risen Lord High School Youth Group!

The Lock-In was a great success...planned and led by the youth group. Lots of fun and fellowship was enjoyed by all 27 Youthquake participants. Special thanks to Dudley Green, Mara Green and Melissa Day for chaperoning. A new "service" element was added to the lock-in agenda this year. The kids made 140 sandwiches for the Wheeler Mission homeless population. What a great opportunity to give!

Another highlight for the month of March was our trip to Oakbrook II for the high school Youth Encounter. We shared in the theme of "We Are One" from Ephesians 4: 4-6 with 365 youth from Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois and Indiana. It was a great time.....talking, singing, dancing, praying and eating! We are thankful to the Risen Lord congregation for making this trip possible. Thanks also to the Slater family for lending us their van for transportation.

Going forward.....dates to remember for April:

~April 5, Sunday 5:30-7:30

~April 11, Saturday 8:30am-11:30am (Easter Egg Hunt)

~April 24, Friday "Annie" at Center Grove Middle School

~April 26, Sunday after church-2:00

Peace, Genie

## Youth Quake News

Youth Quake dates to remember:

April 5 Youth Quake at church

April 12 No Youth Quake-Easter

April 19 Youth Quake at church

April 26 Off-site Activity

May 3 Youth Quake at church

May 10 No Youth Quake-Mother's Day

May 17 Youth Quake at church

May 24 Last Youth Quake, Pitch In,

—sign up to follow

We will be planning June and July activities. More details to come in future newsletters.

## Confirmation Sunday June 7

Four youth from Risen Lord's Timothy Club will be making confirmation of their faith on June 7. Rachel Brown, Erin Drake, Sammy Green, Katie Hannah, and Austin Wilson will publicly affirm God's continuing work in their lives and faith. Taking place during the 10:00 service, confirmands will be surrounded by friends and family in support and cheer.

They will receive a special blessing from the congregation, certificates and a confirmation quilt prepared by women of Risen Lord.

Join us this day for a truly memorable service inspired by Risen Lord's choir and the musical talents of some of Risen Lord's youngest musicians.

## Summer Camp

Summer Camp catalogs are available at the information rack at the entry for all who are interested in a church camp this summer.

Lutheran Hills is located 45 minutes south in Brown County, offers 700 acres of camping, fishing, canoeing. Programs are available for all ages throughout the summer. Risen Lord children, youth and adults have benefited year after year. Pick up your copy today.

Risen Lord has a number of children going to camp two weeks in July.

July 19—24

And

July 26-31

Sr. High Youth are strongly encouraged to consider Sr. High Servant week July 5—10

## Father Son Fishin' Mission

The Men's Fishin' Mission is back! It is evolving into a retreat for fathers and sons where they can spend some time together and cement their relationship with some camping, fishing, and enjoying God's creation together.

Shedren Lodge has been reserved at Lutheran Hills for Friday May 29 through Sunday May 31. If you have not been to Lutheran Hills before, it is located in the beautiful hills of Brown County. You can view Lutheran Hill at [www.lomik.org](http://www.lomik.org).

The cost is \$15.00 per person. Bring your bedroll, personal hygiene items, hiking shoes, and fishing equipment. Canoes/boats and life jackets are provided by Lutheran Hills. Sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the hallway.

# MATURING STEWARDS DO THE RIGHT THING

Many people dread April 15th because it is the deadline for filing 2008 tax returns. Others may not be all that concerned because they had so much withholding tax that they will actually get a refund. Most Americans would be thrilled if they had to pay only 10% of their income for taxes. In many places the state sales tax alone is 8%. Social Security tax is another 7.65% (15.3% if you are a pastor, professional church worker, or others who are considered self-employed for tax purposes). State and federal income taxes are in addition to these other taxes. It doesn't take long to figure out that we are paying "double and triple tithes" for state and federal taxes. And how about tips when we go out to eat at a nice restaurant? 10% used to be the standard tip, but in most people's minds it has moved up to 15-20%. What happens when our pastor preaches and teaches about a tithe

(10% of income) for the support of the Lord's work through the local congregation? Some people view that as an impossible expectation. Others may view that as a good starting point and rejoice that they are able to move beyond the tithe because they want to respond generously from what God has graciously bestowed upon them. Is giving a tithe of the financial blessings that God has given to us an impossible expectation? For most of us it probably isn't if we practice discipline and good judgment in managing our financial resources. Some have learned to use the 10-10-80 plan. This plan involves giving the first 10% to the Lord, using the next 10% for saving and investing and then learning to live on the remaining 80%. It is not the perfect plan or the only plan, but it is a good one to start with if you find that you have not been

Is giving a tithe a command for Christians? No, it isn't, because to make the tithe into a command would make it more like taxes and tips. The big spiritual question about Christian giving is this one: ***"What percentage of the financial blessings that God has entrusted to me do I believe He is calling me to give?"*** We do not give in order to meet the church budget, or do our fair share or because someone puts a guilt trip on us. 2 Corinthians 9:7 gives us this wise counsel: ***"Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."***

The key is to talk to God in prayer, asking for His guidance regarding giving, and then moving forward empowered by His Holy Spirit to be free and joyful in our Christian Giving.

*disciplined in your handling of money*

## MISSION FOR THE MONTH

***Our Lord says, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me"*** (Matthew 25:40).

During the month of April Risen Lord Montessori School children will be participating in the schools 4th annual Trike-A-Thon for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. You can participate by sponsoring a preschool student. Risen Lord Riders are: Nicholas Bardonner, Jayden Enderle, Joshua Hull, Isabella Swango, Declan Watson, Oleg Zook, Ethan Scott, Bennett Strain, Annaliese Runkle, and Sophia Snyder. St. Jude leads the way in research to fight childhood leukemia. Checks should be made out to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. On the memo line write the child's name and "Trike-A-Thon". Checks can be placed in the offering plate or given to Anita Hittinger.

## I'M GLAD YOU'VE ASKED!

***Q. When can we start using the new church emails?***

***A. Right away!***

The new church emails are up and running. Be sure to add these email addresses to your address/contact list so you won't miss our emails. The current list of email contacts are:

**Church:**

Pastor Mike [pastormike@risenlordlc.org](mailto:pastormike@risenlordlc.org)  
 Dan Andersen [dan@risenlordlc.org](mailto:dan@risenlordlc.org)  
 Karin Brown [karin@risenlordlc.org](mailto:karin@risenlordlc.org)  
 Cindy Scott [cindy@risenlordlc.org](mailto:cindy@risenlordlc.org)  
 Genie Garrett [genie@risenlordlc.org](mailto:genie@risenlordlc.org)

**Risen Lord Montessori School**

Anita Hittinger [anita@risenlordlc.org](mailto:anita@risenlordlc.org)  
 Tim Hittinger [tim@risenlordlc.org](mailto:tim@risenlordlc.org)  
 Dana Johnson [dana@risenlordlc.org](mailto:dana@risenlordlc.org)

The old church email address



[risenlord@iquest.net](mailto:risenlord@iquest.net) is being phased out. Please begin using the new emails right away. These emails can be accessed on the church website also [www.risenlordlc.org](http://www.risenlordlc.org) and the school's [www.school.risenlordlc.org](http://www.school.risenlordlc.org).

# LOOKING AHEAD

## May

May 10 Mother's Day  
 May 23 Men's Breakfast  
 May 24 Youth Quake Pitch-In  
 May 29-31 Father-Son  
 Fishin' Mission  
 (note date change)

## June

June 6 Wedding: Myers/Bingham  
 June 7 Confirmation Sunday  
 June 21 Father's Day

## July

July 19-23 Vacation Bible School



**RISEN  
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**Sunday Morning  
 Worship Schedule**

**8:30 Worship**  
**10:00 Worship**  
**10:00 Sunday School**