

RISEN LORD

Looking Back to Look Forward

From Pastor Mike

As one year wraps-up and another gets underway, magazines, newspapers, websites, and T.V. will be coming up with one retrospective after another. A retrospective is simply a looking backward in order to look forward. You'll recognize it in various forms of lists from music and movies to politics and religion.

As Risen Lord moves into 2010, I thought it would be useful to look back on 2009. I made a list of highs for us as a church, in no particular order.

tion.

2) Master Plan Revision. We reworked our master plan and in the process decided to work toward building a new and larger sanctuary.

3) Worship Orchestra. We increased the responsibilities of Dan Andersen to include building a volunteer orchestra to complement the volunteer choir.

4) Expanded Youth Ministry. We added to our programs for youth on Sunday night Youth Quake so that now from 35-65 kids show up every Sunday for

On the whole, 2009 was a great year!

1) Worship time change. This decision opened up our Sunday mornings for a stronger commitment to Christian Educa-

worship, learning, games, and food.

5) Abundant Grace. We have taken this struggling small aging church in Greenwood into a special relationship with Risen Lord, returning the favor of their support toward us in our earliest years.

6) Sexton. We added a part time position in the form of a sexton, the church word for property manager/custodian. Art Kermode has the building and grounds in the best shape they've ever been.



cont'd. on page 3

“Lies We Believe” Sermon Series

January 10 -- 31



Beginning on the second Sunday of January, (Jan. 10) Pastor Mike will begin a series of sermons entitled “The Lies We Believe and the Truths to Take Their Place.”

Easily the #1 cause of unhappiness, the lies we believe contribute to confusion year after year for Christians and non-Christians alike. Begin your new year at Risen Lord with a new way of thinking and feeling about your life.

Maximize your appreciation of the season of Epiphany with this enlightening series of messages.

INSIDE...

- Youth Go Tubing
- Sr. High Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
- Congregational Meeting Set
- What is Epiphany?



3758 W. Whiteland Road
Bargersville, Indiana 46106
317.535.6727
worship@risenlordlc.org
www.risenlordlc.org

Youth Quake News

Tubing



January 30

Risen Lord youth are going to Paoli, IN to enjoy a day of snow tubing. Each youth should bring \$30 and a sack lunch. Dress appropriately for a day of freezing cold wetness. Parents who can help with transportation contact Dudley Green at 885-8785.

Youth Quake Schedule

The Youth Quake schedule follows the same schedule as Center Grove Community School Corporation. Therefore, there will be no Youth Quake December 20, 27 or January 3. Youth Quake will resume its normal schedule beginning January 10 at 5:30.

Youth Quake is Risen Lord's gathering of three youth groups. The 46'ers is made up of youth in grades 4-6. The Timothy Club is made up of youth in grades 7 & 8 and is also the confirmation class. The Senior Youth is for grades 9-12. Youth Quake meets from 5:30—7:30 for youth led worship, adult prepared meals, Bible study, and games. Risen Lord's youth also take excursions for bowling, roller/ice skating, lake parties and snow tubing.

Youth Needed for Acolytes

Risen Lord is looking to the youth of the church to serve as an acolyte. All youth, grades 4—8 are encouraged to participate in worship by serving as an acolyte periodically throughout the year. Acolytes assist in worship with lighting the candles, helping with communion, extinguishing the candles, and assisting with various processions.

Acolyte training and introduction will be on January 24 at 4:00 at Risen Lord. If parents or youth have any questions, please call Charlene Fivecoat at 885-0776.

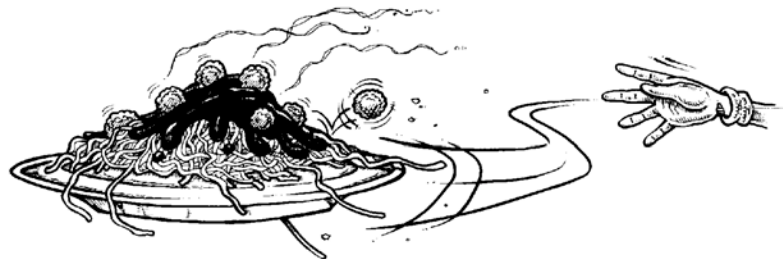
Volunteers Needed for Worship Activity Bags

Risen Lord is eager to be a warm and welcoming place for all people. That includes the youngest children. One of the resources we provide during worship is an activity pack.

This is a brightly colored tote bag with a variety of items inside to help engage young children during worship. It has been some time since these activity bags have been cleaned, sorted, and updated with new items.

We are looking for one or two volunteers to champion the cause of hospitality to young children by updating the activity bags. If you are interested in helping, please call the office at 535-6727 or speak to Pastor Mike on Sunday. Thank you.

Sr. High Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser



The High School Youth Group ended 2009 with a really fun Christmas Party at the home of Janice Green.... We played games, exchanged gifts and sang Christmas carols. Big thanks goes to Maura and Dudley for hosting!

Going forward, we are beginning to raise funds for the March, 2010 Youth Encounter held in Naperville Ill. This was a great experience last year and, with your help, we'd like to do it again this year!

DATE TO REMEMBER:

~SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

~VALENTINE'S DAY SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER!

~Immediately following 2nd service

~Donations accepted and will be applied to the Youth Encounter fees. (thanks, in advance)

Thanks,
Peace and Happy New Year!
Genie

continued from Pastor Mike, pg. 1

7) New Signage. The preschool expressed its gratitude to the church by paying for the design, fabrication, and installation of new signs on the property and directional signs in the community. This has greatly increased our visibility.

There were many other positives we could note from 2009, but from a bird's eye view these are the ones that stand out to me.

If these are some of the highs of the previous year, what could be some areas we would want to build out further. There are three that stare at me right now.

1) Christian Education. One of the next major steps we need to take together is to beef-up our Christian Education. That includes Sunday School for children and Bible studies for adults.

2) Worship attendance. We are facing the 80% rule for worship. When a sanctuary fills up to 80% capacity, it is full. People will not sit cheek to cheek in worship year round. That means that Risen Lord's worship attendance fluctuates between 156 and 180. When we start averaging 170-180, we are full and the place begins to feel too crowded. That is why we decided to build a new worship space instead of more classrooms.

3) Giving. Between the economy being in recession and some members moving away, Risen Lord experienced a deep drop in offerings in 2009. We ended the year "in the black" and made deep cuts in the proposed budget for 2010. Once we have rebuilt our cash reserves, we will be able to restart the conversation for the new sanctuary and increase our giving to mission.

On the whole, I feel it was a great year! And I am excited for what 2010 holds.

Pastor Mike

Building Christian Families Class

Sunday Mornings Sanctuary 9:30

Have you ever heard someone longingly wish for the times when family life was simple, stable and traditional? Perhaps you've even had those thoughts yourself. Just how does God expect our families to look and work in today's culture? What does the Bible offer for guidance in the twenty-first century as we seek to honor God in our family life?

A new adult class will begin on January 31 and last for four Sundays during the 9:30 Sunday School hour. Building Your Family will include Bible study and discussion built on the foundation of the church as God's first family. There will be something for everyone and topics will include marriage, singleness, parenting, and outreach. Gail Mercer will be leading the class.

Soup, Salad, & Scripture

The Soup, Salad, and Scripture class will begin a new class on January 13 on the 23rd Psalm, using the book [A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23](#). You may buy a copy of the book from the office for \$5.00. Copies will be available at the class as well.

Soup, Salad, and Scripture meets each Wednesday at 10:30 for Bible study followed by a light lunch and fellowship together in the Risen Lord café.

*The class will not meet on
December 30 or January 6.*

Dinner Club Resumes

Risen Lord's Dinner Club resumes January 8th at 7:00 PM with a first time visit to Augustino's Italian Restaurant. This eatery comes VERY highly recommended by members of our congregation who've already dined there.

Augustino's is located in the SW corner of Stop 11 Rd. and Emerson Ave., across from St. Francis Hospital South.

RL's Dinner Club is open to any adult member or friend of the congregation who likes good food a fellowship. Please confirm your attendance by contacting Lin Montigney by phone at 887-0628 or by e-mail at Lin-seeT@comcast.net.

Congregational Meeting

Risen Lord Lutheran Church's Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday January 17, 2010. We will take a look at our accomplishments in 2009 and look ahead at 2010 establishing goals for our ministries.

We will be approving the budget, electing this year's council, and our congregation's voting members to the annual Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly. We do need a majority showing to validate the voting. Only members can vote, but everyone is invited to attend. Risen Lord is your church.

Attending the "big meeting" is a great way to show your support. Come be a part of reflection on a great year ending and get energized for the upcoming year of doing God's work

MATURING STEWARDS DO THE RIGHT THING

Happy New Year!

Isn't it great to be able to start all over with a new year! It gives us the opportunity to put the troubles and failures of the past behind us and look forward to a new year with joyful anticipation. This is especially true for us as God's children.

As God's stewards we are reminded that we don't get a fresh start only on the first day of a new year. Instead we get a fresh start every day knowing that in Christ all that is wrong has been forgiven and with the power of the Holy Spirit we are equipped to move forward in our free and joyous management of all of life and life's resources for God's purposes. What we include in all of life and life's resources is described by the hymn writer Frances Havergal with these memorable words:

*Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

*Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry power as Thou shalt choose.*

*Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all, for Thee.*

These verses from that beloved hymn remind us that our whole life is to be dedicated to God so that we use our time, talents and financial resources in ways that bring honor to Him and produce many blessings for those around us.

As we begin this new year let's remember that we are God's redeemed stewards who, in cooperation with and encouragement from fellow redeemed stewards, freely and joyfully manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes. Let's consider making this our resolution for 2010:

"Maturing stewards do the right things for the right reasons and strive for excellence in all they do."

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).

The Ronald McDonald House is a home like setting where families can stay while they have a child at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis. The top ten Wish List Items are: dryer softener sheets, Lysol Wipes, liquid laundry detergent, hand sanitizer, snacks (Little Debbie's, cookies) bottled water, cookingoil, pack-n-plays, drying rack, shampoo and conditioner, and laundry baskets. A complete list is on the insert included in this newsletter. Please place your donations in the Mission Corner right outside the sanctuary.

I'M GLAD YOU ASKED!

Q. *What is Epiphany?*

A: On the day of Epiphany, January 6, the church celebrates the revelation of Christ to all nations as represented by the magi who come to worship Jesus. The church calendar recognizes the season of Epiphany from January 6 until the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday which is celebrated as the Transfiguration of our Lord. The length of the season of Epiphany varies and is determined by working backwards through the season of Lent from the moveable date for the celebration of Easter.



LOOKING AHEAD

February

February 7 Souper Bowl of Caring
February 17 Ash Wednesday
February 24 Lent Supper & Service

March

March

April

April 1 Maundy Thursday Seder Meal
April 2 Good Friday Service
April 3 Easter Egg Hunt
April 4 Easter Sunday (no Youth
Quake)
April



**RISEN
LORD**
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

3758 W. Whiteland Rd.
Bargersville, IN 46106-9071
317/535-6727

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
GREENWOOD, IN
PERMIT NO. 423

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

8:15 Worship
9:30 Sunday School
10:30 Worship