

# RISEN LORD

## T-shirts, Shorts, and Sandals

From Pastor Mike in California

Some of you may know that I am using my continuing education time and money to work on another degree, a Doctor of Ministry from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. By the time you get the March newsletter, I will be in my room getting some school work done.

I am four years into a seven year program that I plan to complete in six years. It's a lengthy and expensive process but worth every cent of it. Some of my pas-

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tor buddies wonder why I chose to go to California and not to an "official" Lutheran doctoral program somewhere.

The reason I give them is what I have shared with you on occasion: "We are all



on the same team." There are wonderful and gifted teachers in other church tribes, whether they be from the Vineyard, Roman Catholic, Methodist, or whatever.

All truth has only one source—God. I find it very exciting to learn from people who are from a different background. It's helping me become a better pastor, or at least that's the goal. One of the sweetest lessons that I have learned these past four years is how

many teachers I have here at Risen Lord. There was a time when I thought I had this pastor thing all figured out. But you have helped me see how much deeper and mysterious and satisfying being a pastor really is.

You are helping teach me what it means to be a pastor. Thank you for your patience. Thank you for your wisdom. Well, I better get back to my school work. My professor is NT Wright, an Anglican and one of the world's preeminent Biblical scholars. You can see NT Wright on The Colbert Report at [www.emergentvillage.com/weblog/nt-wright-on-the-colbert-report-ThursdayPeace](http://www.emergentvillage.com/weblog/nt-wright-on-the-colbert-report-ThursdayPeace), Pastor Mike

## Risen Lord Returns the Favor



When Risen Lord was just getting started in the Fall of 1995, Advent Lutheran Church opened its arms, and its building to support us in every way it could. .

This year, Risen Lord returns the favor. They are just getting started with a new beginning after ten years of decline. They have a new name and a newer building and about twenty five people in worship. They need us.

Starting in March, Pastor Mike will begin leading worship at Abundant Grace at 11:30 after Risen Lord's second service. We will be taking them under our wing until they get back on their feet. Members of Risen Lord have already volunteered to help. Pamela Lippert and Cindy Scott have helped with their accounting software. Bruce Montigney is helping prepare a new constitution. There is much work to be done

As you are interested and available, you are invited to help restart a new Lutheran church in Greenwood.

## See Bishop Nt Wright on the Colbert Report

### INSIDE...

- Youth Bell Ringers
- Lent Soup Supper and Worship
- Community Easter Egg Hunt
- Camping Information



3758 W. Whiteland Road  
Bargersville, Indiana 46106  
317.535.6727  
[risenlord@iquest.net](mailto:risenlord@iquest.net)  
[www.risenlordlc.org](http://www.risenlordlc.org)

## Lent Soup Supper And Worship

**Wednesday Evenings**  
**6:00 Soup Supper**  
**6:30 Lent Service**

In the following weeks of Lent, each Wednesday night, Risen Lord Church will host a soup supper at 6:00 p.m. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board where you may sign up for to bring soup, or a side dish. Relax and enjoy each others company. At 6:30 p.m. a special Lenten worship service will follow. Chancel Choir will begin practice at 7:15 and end at 8:30.

The service, "Evening Prayer" is written by Marty Haugen, the same writer of "Now the Feast" used in Sunday morning worship. Written in 1985-1986 while Marty was the musician-in-residence at Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center in Washington State, this lovely setting of vespers follows the traditional form while using contemporary and inclusive language. Contents include "Service of Light," Evening Hymn-"Joyous Light of Heav'nly Glory," "Evening Thanksgiving," "The Annunciation," "The Magnificat," "Litany and Prayers," and "Final Blessing."

Pastor Mike will be using the book Life Together, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer as the basis for the sermons during Wednesday night Lent services. People are encouraged to get a copy of the 122 page book and read a chapter a week during Lent as preparation.



## Daylight Saving Time Begins March 8

Well, here we go again! March not only ushers in spring but also Daylight Saving Time in Indiana. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 which changed the dates we adjust our clocks for Daylight Saving Time states we change our clocks at 2:00 am on the second Sunday of March the 8th. Come fall we will change them **back** one hour on the first Sunday in November, the 1st. Don't forget to change your clock in your car also! This is also a great time to check your smoke/fire detectors and put in fresh batteries if needed.

## Spring Ahead, Fall Back

### Recycling Paper Becomes Flowers

Risen Lord Church has had a paper recycling bin in the front parking lot for a few years now. Everyone has been contributing to saving our earth. Council decided to use the money received from the paper recycling bin to purchase flowers to be planted in the landscape beds around the grounds. Bring your used newspapers, school papers, office paper, junk mail, magazines, and catalogs and deposit it in the bright green and yellow recycling bin. (Corrugated cardboard, boxes, phone books are not accepted) So now you will be helping the church to maintain the flowers around the exterior of the building as well as keeping a few more trees standing. The bin is emptied every other week. Fill'er up! So we can have it emptied every week!

## Knot Sew Squared Quilting Group



### Thursday Morning Group to Begin

Knot Sew<sup>2</sup> will begin meeting twice a month 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/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:

March 12 and 26  
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!!**

## RLMS Registering For 2009-2010 Sessions

Registration for the 2009-2010 has begun at Risen Lord Montessori School. The school will offer full and half day options as follows:

### *Half Day Options*

Monday through Friday morning (9:00-11:30) or afternoon (12:30-3:00) \$1,700 annual tuition

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday morning (9:00-11:30) or afternoon (12:30-3:00) \$1,200 annual tuition

### *Full Day Options:*

Monday through Friday (9:00-3:00) \$4,300.00 annual tuition

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday or 3 Days Needed (9:00-3:00) \$2,700 annual tuition

Before school care (8:00-9:00 a.m.) and after school care (3:00-5:00 p.m.) will also be available. A pre-registration form is included as a newsletter insert for your convenience. Please feel free to share it with a neighbor or friend.

There are still openings in some classes. They usually fill up fast so give the director, Anita Hittinger, a call at 409-7052 for more information on openings, fees, and registration.

You can help the preschool with their fundraisers by bringing in your

- Campbell's Soup labels
- Box Tops for Education
- Old cell phones
- Empty ink cartridges

and placing them in the rolling drawers in the yellow class room. You can also help by shopping at Kroger's — see Anita for the card to sign up for this.

## Summer Camp for Children/Youth

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 26-31

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

## 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.

## Senior Youth News

High School Youth Group dates to remember: March 13, 14, 15....Youth Encounter in Oak Brook, Illinois. This is an awesome event which we're all looking forward to. There are still openings so let Genie (796-1612) know if you are interested in going. A big thank you to the Risen Lord family for helping us get there!

March 22 after church, 11:30 to 2:00, Genie's mystery event. There will be no Youth Quake on Sunday March 1 in lieu of the Lock-In on February 27. The High School Youth Group is working on making this a fun, memorable and meaningful event. Thank you to all the adult leaders who have offered to chaperone and facilitate this night.

That's all for now.....

Peace,  
Genie

## Youth Tone Chimes In Worship

Children's Music is back in full swing at Risen Lord Church. Connie LaRocco is leading Children's Choir and Tone Chimes. Children's choir is a vocal group for children Grades K-3 and they will be practicing on the first Sunday of the month during the Promise Land time. Tone Chimes are a precursor to hand bells and students in grades 4—8 are practicing on the third Sunday of the month during the Promise Land time and on the first Sunday of the month at 5:00 pm right before Youth Quake. The students had a great first rehearsal playing tone chime and we are looking forward to being a part of worship.

## Community Easter Egg Hunt

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.

## 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.

Shedron 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.

## 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:

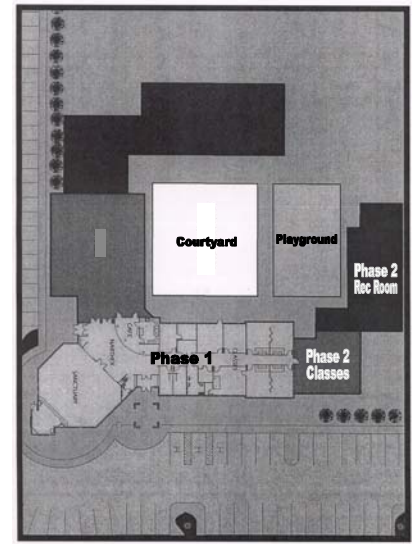
- Fresh (not frozen) Deep-fried Southern Catfish
- Hush Puppies
- Hot Dawgs
- Beverages

Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. And your appetite! Chris Bartee 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**

## Building Expansion News



The Building Master Plan features an open village concept.

Thank you to the 48 who responded to the building survey by February 15. Of those, 62% (over 3/5) said that we "need additional classroom space immediately". Two responded it is not needed "for a while". Only three individuals indicated an immediate need for additional worship space.

Multiple write-in comments were related to kitchen and storage space. There were also several concerns expressed about debt levels and growing too fast. Based on this, the building committee is beginning to explore options for classroom and gathering space.

Meetings are open to everyone and held on the 3rd Monday of the month. Additional meetings will be held to get feedback on ideas and options. WE WANT YOUR INPUT. Although we are considering options, approval to build rests with the congregation.

If you didn't respond to the survey, it's not too late. Just contact Kevin Bardonner, Council President, or Todd Hittinger, Building Committee Chair.

## MATURING STEWARDS DO THE RIGHT THING

In March we observe the beginning of spring, that season of the year in which the plants that lay dormant during the winter begin to grow again. It is also a day on which there is balance—twelve hours of sunshine and twelve hours of darkness. Spring is a good reminder of these two important things about stewardship — newness and balance! By God's grace in Jesus Christ we are freed from the failures of the past and freed to live in the present with purpose and look to the future with hope. How refreshing a new start is!

Balance is the other important thing associated with wise Christian stewardship. The Rich Fool in Luke 12:13-21 lost his stewardship balance and the result was disastrous. He already had more than enough to meet his personal needs and when he was blessed with even more he decided to tear down his barns and build larger ones where he could store up all his goods himself and take life easy with the

attitude of "eat, drink and be merry." Jesus called him a fool because he tried to store up riches for himself but was not rich toward God.

We in the United States of America live in a very materialistic culture. There is the emphasis on getting ahead, building a solid nest egg and saving up for retirement. Now, if these things were kept in a good Christian balance, the picture would not be so bad. The danger is that we try to keep all these material things for ourselves with too little concern about the purposes of God or the needs of others. The Rich Fool had so much he could have at least shared his excess with others in need. He could also have generously given for the support of the "church" of his day. If he had done that then all would have benefited, including him. But he didn't and he died a lost and condemned sinner.

How can we take advantage of new

starts in stewardship and maintain a good balance as we manage the material riches God pours down upon us? One simple plan for keeping balance is to adopt and follow the 1-1-8 principle. This plan involves giving the first 10% to God in response to His great love for us and for the support of His work in this world, then saving or investing the next 10% and finally living on the remaining 80%. Mathematically it adds up perfectly. In practice it can be a real challenge. It may not work for everyone to adopt the 1-1-8 plan immediately, but what joy God's people can experience as they move in that new direction for balance.

May God grant to all of us His grace, good judgment and discipline to take advantage of each new start and manage our material blessings in a way that honors Him, blesses others and refreshes us!

### 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 March, Risen Lord Church will be collecting playground balls and jump ropes for IPS School 34. These "recess" items are cut from school budgets when times are tight, and yet they are a vehicle that provides the students an opportunity to forget about studying and use their free time to just play and interact with each other.

Help light up some young faces at recess. Donate a jump rope or a playground ball.

## I'M GLAD YOU'VE ASKED!

***Q. I missed the congregational meeting February 8. What were the results?***

***A. Lots of good things. Read on....***

We had significant "Highlights for 2008" noted. First, we continue to be a tithing church. 10% of our general giving is tithed to the Indiana Kentucky Synod and we were able to meet our budget needs. Our music program has grown significantly always enhancing the worship experience. The Children's Ministry continues to grow each year including VBS (Rainforest Adventure), Promise Land attendance and a summer Children's Choir. 2009 Targets growing our youth ministry including Children's Choir, Tone Chimes, growing worship attendance 15%, and possible building expansion. Audit Committee (Mike McGuire, Pam Long, Randi Klees, and Margaret Darbro Miller), Nominating Committee (Chris Schultz, Jerry Slater, Randi Klees, Greg Costelow, Joe Slater, Todd Hit-

tinger), Finance Committee (Pamela Lippert, Cindy Scott, Don Smith, Earl Winblad), and Council Nominations (Kevin Bardonner, Janice Abel, Kelly Watson, Pamela Lippert, Robert Klingshirn, Peggy Loomis, Bruce Montigney, Stephanie Smotherman, Pat Ryan, Steve Beck, Dudley Green, and Dawn Winblad) were all voted on and approved. Council officers (Kevin Bardonner—President, Janice Abel—Vice-President, Pamela Lippert—Treasurer, and Kelly Watson—secretary) were ratified and installed. Leadership awards were given to council members that rolled off: Todd Hittinger, John Schilling and Andrea Steen. Last but not least, the 2009 budget was passed. Preschool added an all day class, before and after school care, is doing well and accepting registrations for the 2009-2010 year.

# LOOKING AHEAD

## April

- April 5 Palm Sunday
- April 9 Maundy Thursday:  
Seder Meal
- April 10 Good Friday
- April 11 Community Easter Egg  
Hunt
- April 12 Easter Sunday
- April 18 Wedding: Brian Long
- April 19 Annual Fish Fry
- April 25 Men's Breakfast

## May

- May 10 Mother's Day
- May 23 Men's Breakfast
- 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



**RISEN  
LORD**  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

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

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### Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

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