

RISEN LIFE

Baseball, a Mother's Love, and God

What else is there?

On April 8, 1974, Babe Ruth's record of 714 career home runs was about to fall. Hank Aaron had tied the record and was about to break it.

Understand that this was quite a few years ago and the fact that an African-American player was about to topple the great Babe Ruth--upset a lot of people. Aaron got a lot of mail that year--more than 930,000 letters in all, far more than any other person in the country. Most were fan letters--but about 100,000 of them were hate letters, some containing

white--jumped over the retaining wall and ran onto the field, chasing Aaron. For a moment, no one knew what they had in mind, but then it became clear: they were celebrating and cheering Aaron on.

As Aaron crossed the plate, the dugout emptied as the Braves streamed onto the field to surround him, cheering and whooping it up.

But amid all those ballplayers around Aaron was a short, sixty-eight-year-old black woman. She latched onto Aaron and wouldn't let go of him.

"...they've gotta get me first!"

death threats.

When Aaron hit it over the fence, the ballpark went nuts.

As Aaron rounded second base, says Williams, a couple of teenagers--both



"Henry Aaron turned and said to her, 'Mom! What are you doing here?'"

"'Baby,' said the mother of the new home-run king, 'if they're gonna get you,' (thinking of the death threats Aaron had received) 'they've gotta get me first!'"

That is love only a mother could have for her child. "If they're gonna get you, they've gotta get me first!"

This is the kind of love the Bible says God has for us: "As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem." (Isaiah 66:13) God will let nothing interfere with God's love for us.

Mike

Confirmation

May 23

Three youth from Risen Lord's Timothy Club will be making confirmation of their faith on May 23. Samantha Green, Max Greene, and Rachel Drake will publicly affirm God's continuing work in their lives



and faith. Taking place during the 10:30 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 on this joyful day.

INSIDE...

- Janier and Promise Land
- Dinner Club and Ladies Dining Out
- Summer Camp at Lutheran Hills
- Risen Lord Day Camp

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Jainer and Promise Land

Hey kids and parents! Promise Land Sunday School and Jainer need your help this summer!! Promise Land Sunday School has sponsored a child through Children International for many years now. Currently they sponsor Jainer Jimenez from Barranquilla, Colombia. Jainer is — years old and will remain a sponsored child until he is 18 years old. His picture is posted in the Sunday School room and is frequently in the Children's Corner of this newsletter. Sponsorship provides the child with clothing, healthcare, school supplies, and also at times items to benefit the entire family such as cookware. Gifts are based on the child's and the family's immediate needs.

Currently Promise Land offerings are not meeting the cost of sponsoring Jainer. We need your help with offerings in order to keep sponsoring Jainer. The cost is \$22.00 per month plus special holidays(\$25 each) such as his birthday, Easter, Christmas, Back to School, and Special Hug Day. It will cost \$66.00 this summer to keep sponsoring Jainer while Promise Land Sunday School is on summer break. If we can not meet our financial commitment to sponsor Jainer we will have to stop our sponsorship and pray that someone else will pick up Jainer. Anyone giving to help sponsor Jainer should write on the memo line of their check "Promise Land/Jainer" or note the same and attach it to cash.

Ladies Dining Out

We have planned the next couple of months of Ladies Dining Out so the ladies of Risen Lord can mark their calendars and plan to join us for an evening of fun, fellowship and good food.

May 16, 2010

O'Charley's, Hwy 135 across from Target, Greenwood

June 20, 2010

BJ's Brewhouse,
Greenwood Park Mall
County Line Road & US 31

July 18, 2010

Arni's Pizza & Stuff
Corner of US 135 & Curry Road

All the ladies of our congregation are encouraged to come and we meet at 6:00 pm at the restaurant. Please let either Cara Ruble (535-7173) or Dawn Winblad (535-9456) know if you plan to attend so we may make reservations.

Thank You. See you there!!

Dinner Club

Risen Lord Dinner Club will meet on Friday, May 14th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lotus Garden Restaurant located on Highway 31 across from K-Mart just south of Smith Valley Road. All adults are welcome to attend. Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Hope to see our regulars plus some new faces! If you want to attend, please send an e-mail message to Lin Montigney at linseet@comcast.net or call her at 887-0628 no later than Friday morning, May 14th.

Summer Camp Programs

Highlights of Lutheran Hills programs for Summer 2010

Classic Camps:

Children's Day — June 12, 2010

Pilgrims — June 20-23, August 1-4
(Grades 1-3)

Pioneers — June 20-25, June 27-
July 2, July 25-30, and August 1-6
(Grades 4-6)

Trailblazers — June 13-18, June
27-July 2, July 5-10, July 11-16,
and July 25-30
(Grades 7-9)

Theme Camps:

Guitar Camp — July 18-23

Performing Arts — July 18-23

Reading Camp — June 20-25

Servant Camp — July 5-10

Family Weekend — August 6-8

XYZ Day—July 23

Go to www.lomik.org for more information or pickup a program guide at the information desk.

Risen Lord Summer Day Camp

Thinking ahead to summer and what activities your children will be involved with? Check out Risen Lord's Summer Day Camp. Risen Lord Montessori School teachers offer lots of exercise and outdoor activities, including water activities, a sense of love and community according to Christian values and leadership education. The camp is geared towards kids 3 through 8 years old but they are open to exceptions, including children with special needs. They are now taking applications for the week long sessions: June 21 through 25 and June 28 through July 2. You can choose one or both sessions. Complete the enclosed pre-registration form and return it to the church office along with your deposit. Costs are listed on the pre-registration form.

Sunday Morning Coffee and Donuts

You know how Pastor Mike says we have coffee to drink and get a little sugar on your fingers -- that requires a lot of help.

It is an easier job than most - you don't have to stand up in front the congregation, it is pretty much behind the scenes and Lutherans will pretty much drink anything (we will show you how to make the coffee and how to use the equipment.)

So come one, Come all volunteer for Coffee/Donut set up!

1. We need for individuals to sign up to pay for the donuts that are available every Sunday at 1st and 2nd services.
2. We need volunteers to make the coffee on Sunday (if there is nothing going on in the church on Saturday you can set up coffee on Saturday and ask Pastor to plug everything in on Sunday) and put out the donuts and refill the donut plates in between services.
3. We also need donations of supplies: Large containers 32 or 64 oz apple juice (we go through a lot), tea bags (in individual packets) coffee (both caffeinated and decaf-we go through a minimum of 4 cups of dry coffee every Sunday), napkins, Splenda and Sweet n Low packets; individual liquid cream packets (French vanilla and regular), small paper cups for the children's apple juice, 8oz coffee cups. Please drop off supplies in kitchen and just mark it for Sunday Morning.

Maturing Stewards — continued

manage it, but that is only the tip of the iceberg. Stewardship involves our wise management and use of all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.

What a blessing and encouragement it is to know and believe that Christ died for us, rose again from the dead, ascended into heaven as the divine conqueror of sin, death and the devil, and now sends His Holy Spirit to be the Lord and Giver of life. May the Holy Spirit enable us to use our time, talents, relationships, treasure and all the other special gifts and blessings in a way that honors our God and blesses our neighbors.

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

Noah's Nursery

Noah's Nursery is used each Sunday and is in need of some new or gently used equipment. We want to provide a safe and happy environment for the children that use the nursery while parents are enjoying worship. Some items needed are: changing table, walkers. Donated items must be clean/sanitized, properly functioning and must not have any broken parts. Contact people are Kevin Bardonner 883-0790 and Paul Watson 422-5739.

The women of the MOPS group at Risen Lord used their meeting time on April 8 to give Noah's Nursery a spruce up. They cleaned and sanitized the equipment and the toys that the kids use during MOPS meetings and each Sunday morning during worship.

Thank you MOPS moms!!

Youth Quake News

News from the High School Youth Group is all good! Our Youth Encounter trip was enjoyed by all (15 of us in total) and we came home a more "closely knit" group! Special thanks goes to Jamie Rivas and Scott Weishaar for helping with transportation and leadership.

We will continue meeting on Sunday nights from 5:30 to 7:30...come join us if you haven't already! We are beginning to plan our summer events...more dates and details to follow.

As our 2nd year together draws to a close, I continue to be thankful for the opportunity to lead the youth of Risen Lord. They are a great bunch of kids...we are very blessed.

Peace,
Genie



May 2 Youth Quake at church
May 9 No Youth Quake-Mother's Day
May 16 Youth Quake at church
May 23 Last Youth Quake, Pitch In,
—sign up to follow

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

MATURING STEWARDS DO THE RIGHT THING

In the month of May in many parts of our country the fields, gardens and orchards are green and growing, giving us the promise that seedtime and harvest will again prevail, and with God's blessing the earth will yield its increase and provide food for all God's creatures. According to God's design the sun will warm the fertile soil, the rains will cause the seeds to sprout and grow into healthy, productive plants, vines, trees and bushes. Last month's newsletter article had the title of "April showers bring May flowers." We are now seeing evidence that this old saying is true.

In May we will also be celebrating two special church year events: Ascension Day on May 14 and Pentecost Day on May 23. These two very important events help to encourage and empower us as God's stewards. On Ascension Day our Lord returned to the right hand of the Father, not to escape from the world, but rather to serve as our

Advocate to the Father. It is so encouraging for us to know that Jesus is at the right hand of the Father pleading for the forgiveness of our sins which results in fresh starts for us as God's stewards. At the price of His own life Jesus earned for us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. His resurrection was proof positive that the Father accepted His suffering and death on the cross as the perfect and complete sacrifice, and His ascension provided proof positive that just as He came from heaven to be our Savior so He returned to heaven to rule all things for the sake of His church—that is, the sake of us—His stewards.

Pentecost Day reminds us of when the Holy Spirit descended upon the first apostles and empowered them to be renewed servants of Jesus who became bold and effective witnesses of the good news of salvation in Christ Jesus. Pentecost Day also reminds us of the new birth of faith in us through the

marvelous, yet mysterious, working of the Holy Spirit. For most of us that started with our baptisms. That new life continues as the Holy Spirit works through His Word and the sacrament of Holy Communion to strengthen and equip us to be effective stewards. As God's stewards we have the promise that the Holy Spirit empowers us to do what we otherwise could not do.

The seventh Biblical Stewardship Principle states that "God's stewards are served and serving." This means that "God's stewards recognize that their stewardship involves a Gospel-powered style of life which is demonstrated in servanthood within all the arenas of life." By the grace of God we are reminded that we are to serve our Lord with personal acts of compassion and service as well as financial gifts. Some people seem inclined to think that stewardship is just about money.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Yes, it is about money and how we

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 month of May brings thoughts of spring time, prom, graduation and athletics. It also brings a need for restocking the shelves at many of Indiana's food pantries. That is why Risen Lord Church has chosen to support The Sharing Place at Lutheran Child and Family Services. Donations of non-perishable food items should be placed in the basket in the Mission Corner. All donations will be given to the Sharing Place who in turn will use them to feed those who are in need.

I'M GLAD YOU ASKED!

Q. *What is a synod?*

A: Our English word synod comes from two Greek words *syn* + *hodos* that literally means "a way together." In and through synods, congregations and other ministries "walk together." Synods are an expression of this church, just as are congregations and the churchwide organization. They coordinate the work of congregations within their territories. Synods plan for the ELCA's mission.

The ELCA's 65 synods vary greatly in size, geography, membership, staffing and program. Our smallest synod has 30 congregations – the largest nearly 300. Geographically, in the Saint Paul Area Synod, most congregations are within a half-hour drive of the synod office; by contrast, the

Rocky Mountain Synod includes 20% of the continental U.S. land mass, requiring frequent staff travel by air.

Each synod in assembly elects a bishop and other officers. As the synod's pastor, the bishop oversees the ministry of other pastors and congregations. Together with her/his assistant(s), the bishop provides support to congregations.

This includes assistance in calling pastors and other staff; support in times of difficulty and congregational conflict; and, joining in the celebrations of congregations. Bishops also oversee the administration of the synod, supervising the work of other officers and staff. In addition, they serve as bishops of the whole ELCA,

LOOKING AHEAD

June

June 4 Benham/McClain wedding
 June 4-6 IK Synod Assembly
 June 7 Finance Committee
 June 14 Council
 June 20 Father's Day
 June 21 Ministry Teams

July

July 4 Independence Day
 July 5 Finance Committee
 July 11-15 Baobab Blast VBS
 July 12 Council
 July 15, 22, 29 Grief Support Group
 July 19 Ministry Teams
 July 31 Swartz/Campbell wedding

August

August 2 Finance Committee
 August 9 Council



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Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

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