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# The Refuge Christian

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

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### Something New for You

On a monthly basis we want to send information to you about the church. The most cost effective way of doing that is through email. So, we hope we are able to send you the new church newsletter on a monthly basis right to your email at home or at work.

If folks don't have email, we will be making a limited number of these newsletters available at the church on one of the tables in the hallway. That way, even if you don't have email you can still keep up on what is happening around here by grabbing a copy and taking it home with you and posting it on the "frig" for future reference.

Each month we plan to give you a "heads-up" on how the church finances are doing and what activities are planned for the upcoming month.



Serving our community and beyond since 1885.

The activities will continue to be listed in the weekly church bulletin and we hope that you will always take time to read the schedule of activities there because sometimes we do have to change the date or location of events as circumstances or the weather changes.

Finally, we will provide you with useful information in this newsletter about issues we think you need to be aware of...for instance: Did you know that according to the IRS in 2007 you will not be able to take a donation of any cash that you give unless you have a written statement from the charity? So, please consider using envelopes. We want you to be able to take a tax deduction and envelopes help our record keepers (see Barbie Vaught).

### Refuge, Not Just for Adults!

#### **Children's Church**

As many of you already know we have punched up our Children's Church program. Every week we have a hand crafted Bible lesson with age appropriate discussion questions presented for the Pre-school through 6<sup>th</sup> grade

crowd. We are currently working through the story of Joseph in Egypt. This poor guy has been sold into slavery by his brothers and now finds himself a stranger in a strange land...suddenly, God begins to speak to him about other people's dreams! Want to

know what goes down next? You'll have to show up to find out!

#### **Accelerate**

This program is designed for the families of those who have students from K-6<sup>th</sup>. It is an activity for the

## Refuge, Not Just for Adults! (Cont'd)

whole family. We share a Bible lesson, have an activity, and then we feed your family! How much better does it get? The first Sunday of every month at 5pm in the RCC Fellowship Hall. That means it's THIS SUNDAY the 6th!!

#### O.F.F.

Outdoor Family Fun begins this week in Forest Park at the volleyball pits 6-9. As the name implies your entire family is invited...Mom, Dad, Grandpa, Auntie Flo, your weird brother Jacob, your 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin twice removed Lonnie, your Great-Great Grandma Ethel who can still spike a volleyball better than you, your sister Bonnie who likes to sit in the shade and watch, your teen-

age son who listens to his music way too loud, your year old daughter (provided you change her diapers)....EVERYONE!

#### RefugeTeen News

Imago Dei

Youth group on Sunday night is all about becoming the image of God in all we do. Jr. and Sr. High students are invited every week on Sunday night at 7pm to attend our youth group functions. We have candy, a Nintendo Wii, a Bible lesson, sometimes games. It's a good time. Ask any of our satisfied customers.

#### Adopt-A-Street

This Saturday, May 5, at 10:30am we go out and clean up a street.

#### **Mission Trip**

We are in the process of getting ready for our mission trip to the Navajo Reservation in Arizona. We will be leaving June 22 and returning July 1. If you are willing to donate a minivan or anything to help cover our costs we would be more than happy to let you minister to us in such a way.

NOBLESVILLE LEDGER Hey, did you see the great article about the church in the May 3rd Ledger?

#### MAY ACTIVITIES:

Youth Bible Studies

at RCC on Sunday

Nights 7:00 pm

O.F.F. at Forest

Park (6-9 pm) for

whole family.

Small Group Bible

Studies on

Wednesdays.

### Church Financial Update

The Church's finances in the last few months have not been keeping up with our expenses.

This is a defining time for us. Stepping out on faith to build our new Sanctuary was a defining moment and expanding our ministry to youth through the hiring of Nathan and greatly expanded youth spending is a defining moment.

I have always believed if you saw the need, you would respond. Please give this situation your best effort.

Here are the bare facts through the end of March 2007. While I do not have the exact figures for April, there is some improvement. Thank you.

March 2006 Checking/Savings

Total: \$72,776.74

March 2007 Checking/Savings

Total: \$47,111.02

Net Loss: \$25,665.72

Each church committee is being asked by the Stewardship Committee to be as frugal as possible. Non-essential items will be trimmed. We will make every

effort to make the best use of the Lord's money.

Not everyone will be able to respond to this need with the same financial gift, but everyone can certainly pray that God will help our leaders make the right decisions about how to deal with the challenge before us.

God is good.

Your Pastor,

Stan

Men's Bible Study

Sat. mornings at

Riverview Hosp.

Cafeteria

Adopt-a-street

clean up on May

5th.

Mother/Daughter

Banquet 6:30 pm

May 15th at RCC