

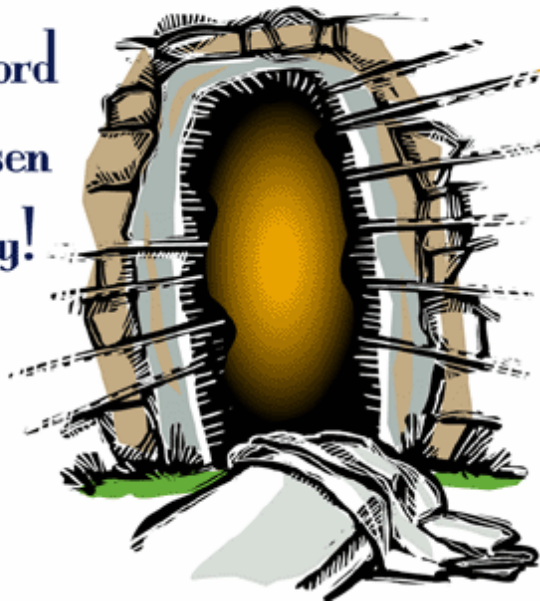
The Highline Connection

Highline Christian Church
Touched by Jesus to Touch Others' Lives
Experience God's Touch

April 2006

Celebrate the Resurrection

**Christ
the Lord
Is Risen
Today!**



Four Morning Services
(Easter Sunday only)
6:30, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00

We want to have space available for guests who come on Easter. You can help by attending an earlier service (especially 6:30 or 8:00). The 6:30 service is an additional full worship service, not a condensed Sunrise Service. No child care or programs available at 6:30.

**The Mexico Mission Team
Invites you to an Easter Breakfast**

7:00-10:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall.

Menu: Eggs, French toast, pancakes, ham, beverages (juice, milk, coffee, tea)

A free-will offering will be taken to support the Mexico Missionaries.





BUILDING UP...

REACHING OUT

We've Reached the Peak!

Thanks to the help of dedicated volunteers, the south side ceiling construction was completed at an impromptu work party on Sunday, March 19. Gable work and the upper portion still need to be completed on the north-facing ceiling and **your help is needed**. Contact Randy Nye if you are able to help with the completion of this phase of construction.



With better weather on the way, more daylight hours, and the enclosure of the building nearing, we will begin holding **Thursday evening work parties** beginning April 6 (weather permitting). Come anytime after work and stay until dusk. Come join the fun!

Here's a quick summary of **progress** this month:

- ✓ The apprentice plumbers will begin their work soon, working evenings and Saturdays. If you see them, be sure to give them a Highline welcome.
- ✓ The masons have completed the installation of the blocks (large bricks). The blocks were to be sealed this last week to protect against water saturation.
- ✓ The windows and lighting fixtures have been ordered.
- ✓ Planning for landscaping and irrigation is underway.

Come to the Banquet

Highline Christian Church
Building Up...Reaching Out

*You are Invited to
An evening of Celebration
With a Complimentary Banquet*

Sunday, March 26th at 5 p.m.

*Burien Elks Lodge
14006 1st Avenue South
Burien, WA 98168*

*...so that the body of Christ
may be built up.
Ephesians 4:12*

*Nursery on-site (for 2 & under).
Children's banquet at church building
(age 3 through 4th grade).*

*Please contact the office to
reserve your place.*

That the World May Know



The Sunday night study in the sanctuary has been studying Ray Vander Laan's, "That the World May Know" series, learning about archaeology and discussing how what we are learning can impact our lives. Each lesson is stand alone and does not rely upon previous ones to enjoy and learn from. Here is the schedule for March/April/May:

"That the World May Know" will be covering, the prophets and kings of Israel:

March 19	Megiddo - Innocent Blood
April 2	Mount Carmel - Who is God
April 9	Lachish - The Wages of Sin
April 23	Negev - The Lord is my Shepherd
May 7	Arad - God with Us

United Singles "US" Ministry

Fellowship Hall at 6 P.M. each Sunday evening

Have you heard? There's a singles ministry for all adult singles at Highline Christian Church. We're using a new format that is exciting and we would like to invite all adult singles in the church to come and join us. This ministry is under new leadership and our group is determined to live and grow with each other in Christ.

Although we meet weekly, you may come as often as you wish. Our schedule is generally as follows:

1st Sunday of the Month: planning meeting for the month to come.

2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month: devotionals and Bible studies.

4th Sunday of the month: monthly social event (Children welcome to this event).

The schedule is subject to change due to holidays, etc. Check the newsletter and bulletin, or be put on our contact list for firsthand information!

This Month of April

1st and 2nd gatherings as planned above. The week before Easter (April 8-15), we will be delivering cards and flowers to fellow Christian shut-ins of the church at various times. Contact Michelle for information or come to the meeting April 2nd for more information.

3rd Sunday, April 16th, is EASTER. "US" is cancelled; be with your families and Christ!

4th Sunday, **April 23rd is GAME NIGHT!** Bring your favorite game and favorite snack for a fun evening of fellowship and fun! (Children are welcome to this event) RSVP to Michelle McCarthy, contact information below.



We have many other ideas for activities, events, and service projects in the near

(Continued from previous column)

future. If you can't come to the Sunday Meetings, you can also ask to be put on the contact list for first hand information.

**Please contact;
Michelle McCarthy
Church Mailbox #204**

Our mission statement is as follows: "This Ministry is geared to the needs and interests of all adult singles at Highline Christian Church. Our mission is to "glorify God by helping single adults experience completeness in Christ through Bible-based devotion, spirit-led outreach, faith-filled service and dynamic fellowship."

Our focus of United Singles ("US") is to support each other by developing our relationship with Jesus Christ. "US" is a place where singles are readily accepted and are free to share with others our experiences, fears, goals, celebrations, and requests for prayer as we grow in Christ as a singles community.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 *"Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."*





Prayer Circle

Praise God

Exodus 15:2 “The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation. He is my God and I will praise Him.”

Praise our Lord for

Ally (daughter of Tom and Anna Warnke)—home from the hospital and doing well; Alvin (Victor Lenk’s brother)—home recovering from stroke; Ruth (Pastor Tim and Jane Knight’s friend)—home from the hospital after her heart attack; Mary (Margaret Ozura’s daughter)—feeling better after her illness and will start back to work part time; Carole (Dianne Barnes’ friend)—successful knee surgery. Praise for all the people that are feeling better and healing this month, and for all the problems that were solved.

Pray

Philippians 4:6 “Don’t be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving present your requests to God.”

Remember in prayer

Burle (Laura Blakley’s friend)—in hospital with pneumonia; Monty Rowley—back surgery; Paula James—pain in her abdomen; Bill Brown—knee problems; Jim Schaller—looking for a job and to further his education; Palmer and Gladys Russell—son Troy and family lost their home, Troy going to rehab and wife and son going to her folks; Mary (Monty Rowley’s aunt)—pray therapy keeps her from surgery; John (Amanda Patton’s uncle)—swollen thyroid; Shelby Metzenberg’s mom has cancer; Barbara (Sandra Ault’s friend)—niece abducted and killed; Josephine (Paula James’ aunt)—may be moving to assisted living; George Koontz—prayers for recovery from pneumonia; Sara (Jane Randall’s niece)—pray for safe trip to and from Ireland; Rosemary Grove—fear of falling; Larry Reimer—pray he will desire the Lord’s word and love; Jan Kesler—having breathing problems; Don Dixon (friend of Marty Dena)—distracted over legal and health issues and having to move; Irene (Jane Randall’s friend)—onset of Alzheimers and trouble swallowing.

(Continued from previous column)

If you have any praises or prayer requests or want to be on the all church prayer chain, please call Barbara Goodridge or Jane Randall.

Ladies: Hold This Date!

Highline Christian Church’s Women’s Ministry Team has planned their **Annual Spring Luncheon** for:

Saturday, May 6, 2006
Fellowship Hall at
Highline Christian Church
11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

There will be a salad potluck with dessert provided by Women’s Ministries. We will have an inspirational message that you won’t want to miss and a demonstration on how to make a dish garden that will bring the spring into your home and anticipate the days of summer. We’re all ready for that! We encourage you to invite your friends to attend with you!



Watch for posters around the church building and information on the screen before services for complete details and the ticket price. Reservations will be taken the last two Sundays in April.



With Deepest Sympathy

We would like to offer sympathy to the family of Sally Kienlen. Sally went home to be with the Lord on March 14, 2006. Sally had been a member of Highline for over 30 years. Please keep Sally’s family in your prayers during this difficult time. There will be a memorial service for Sally on April 29, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary at Highline Christian Church.

Men's Breakfast and Work Party



Saturday, April 15th

7:45 -9:00 A.M.

Breakfast and Devotion

9:00 A.M. -2:00 P.M.

Work party with lunch
provided

Come be strengthened by food and friendship as we enjoy a delicious breakfast, focus our attention on God, and support the building program. Come for all or part of the day. Cost is only \$4 for Breakfast. Sign-up on the Men's Ministry Bulletin Board by April 9th. For more information, contact Tim Crawford or email mensministry@highlinechristian.org.

Women's Ministry Survey

Hi Ladies!

We'll bet that some of you are wondering what is happening with that survey that you filled out last fall. The Women's Ministry Team wants you to know that we have looked at the information and are in the process of changing some things and looking at adding some different types of events and ministries based on the information that you gave us. We got some wonderful ideas from all of you! We typically do some pre-planning for the whole year over the summer, and this summer we will have a lot of ideas to work with. Thank you!

If you are a woman between the ages of 18 and 30 you might want to consider filling out a survey, since we have had no responses from this age group. We would like to consider all of the women at Highline Christian Church when planning events and ministries. If you would like to have your voice heard – please contact Kathy Bledsoe or Dixie Check for a survey.

So – a big thank you to all you ladies who filled out the survey. We appreciate it.

The Women's Ministry Team

Angel Tree Kids Thank You



Thank you, Highline! You helped make Christmas a special time of outpoured love for 50 youngsters, each of whom have a parent in prison. Through your generosity every one of these children received a requested toy and item of clothing, along with a reminder that their incarcerated parent loves them and has not forgotten them. Most importantly, each child and family were given the message that Jesus Christ loves them and died for them.

We know that God has used Angel Tree to change lives. We rejoice to think that through Highline's two-year involvement with Angel Tree, 75 or more young lives have been *TOUCHED*.

Thank you to everyone who bought and wrapped a gift, to everyone who helped decorate the Fellowship Hall for our Angel Tree outreach, to everyone who prayed for our Angel Tree kids, to everyone who gave administrative help, and to everyone who took the time to personally deliver gifts and the gospel message to each child.

Thank you especially to our 2005 Angel Tree team: Ruthie Goetz, whose servant's heart originally inspired Highline to participate and who has put in countless hours over the last two years as our Angel Tree coordinator; Anna Warnke; Joy Henley; Marty Dena; Sandra Goetz; Tigisti Tsegai; Janita Lagasca; and Clint Kelly.

While you are remembering the joy it was to serve our Angel Tree kids, please consider taking a greater role for Christmas 2006. Neither Ruthie nor Cindy will be available to coordinate this year's effort. How about you? We promise that there will be plenty of help to guide you through the well-documented steps. If you are willing to sign up or at least to discuss the possibility, please contact Ruthie Goetz or Cindy Beck.

Thanks for everything

To my dear church family,

I want to thank all the people who have blessed me with their prayers and many kind words and deeds over the last few months. The love of the Lord shines through each of you!

Love in Christ,

Paula James



To our Church Family:

We are so thankful for the love, support and prayers for our family. We were are so grateful for all the visitors, calls, cards and well-wishers and prayers. We are truly blessed to be a part of such an amazing Church Family! Thank you.

Tom & Anna Warnke

Thank you for praying for me and my heart. Thanks for everybody at my church who came to visit me in the hospital, sent me cards and prayed for me. My favorite part of being in the hospital was all the cards and love.

Love,
Ally



Church Family Information



Ty & Sheila **Bandy**

Amina **Jaeroux**

Debbie **Mattson**

Larry **Reimer**

Nicole **Rubia**

Will & Jessi **Spruill**

Jeff & Melody **Strahan**



And the Lord Added

We rejoiced as Dianne confessed Jesus as Lord and her desire to be baptized:

Dianne **Poe**

Look Who's Having a Birthday in April

1. Diane Sifres
3. Tyler Mosier
4. Fred de Leest
6. John Tiefel
Drew Sagmoen
7. Kevin Smith
8. Gretchen Erickson
Emily McKnight-Young
9. Barb Bennett
11. Annette de Leest
Kathy Eley
Ethel Winter
12. Bret Thorson
13. Karen Lester
14. Rob Evans
Marcelo Pelogi
15. Galen Marcille
16. Marc Sagmoen
17. Desiree Colborn
Kami Morman
Cindy Rose
Gladys Russell
20. Travis Carlston
Mariana Gurrola
Quinton Spence
21. Lynda Smith
Chris Tief
22. Michelle Parker
24. Wes Willoughby



(April Birthdays continued)

25. Irina Check
Daniel Miramontez
26. Dale Beaird
Ryan Knight
Pat Nye
27. Michelle McCarthy
Bob Winter
28. Christian Bird
29. Ted Lawrence
Jenny Louvier
30. Natalie Barnes
George Evans

We Need Your Help

- WHO:** Shoemaker Circle
An encouragement and support group
- WHAT:** For missions and the fellowship
- HOW:** To collect and recycle aluminum cans
- WHERE:** Collection barrels located in the Fellowship Hall
- WHY:** Proceeds...to benefit missions
- WHEN:** April-May-June
Start NOW!





The Highline Connection

Special Insert on Children's Pastor

Bret Thorson

By Joy Henley

Bret Thorson knows children...lots of children! On any given Sunday, at least 100 children are in his midst. If you have been a part of the hustle and bustle of the Sunday School happenings, you have seen Bret. Being a children's pastor comes naturally for him and he is always happy to rave about the Higher GROUND Children's Ministry at Highline Christian Church!

Bret explains the purpose and mission of the children's ministry. "The Higher GROUND Children's Ministry is about growing children from the base of their spiritual relationship with Jesus to the peak of it for their age. Picture a mountain- the base of the mountain is the beginning. It is the largest part of the mountain and many people visit this part. As you trek up the mountain it gets steeper and smaller, fewer people go here and those who do have had to work at getting there. Now picture the peak or the summit of the mountain. The peak is a small area and only few make it this far, and those who do, have had to work really hard and often want to share that experience with someone else and do the trek again. The same is true of the Christian adventure. Many people have visited a church- "the base." Of those who visit some will stay and start growing in their faith, "mid-mountain." Of those who are growing in their faith only some will understand that the greatest joy only comes when we serve

God and serve others-"the peak." Those few who actually make it to "the peak" are often seen leading others up the mountain of their faith in hopes of leading them also to the higher ground."

Bret has such a dedication and enthusiasm for his

work with children- it is a vital reason for why he does what he does. Oh...the greatest moments of his Ministry! "To understand my greatest moments in ministry one needs to understand one of my greatest passions: sharing the Gospel with children so they can understand. Along with that passion is the understanding that it's not I who changes a child, but the Holy Spirit working in them."

"Early in my ministry I had a small group of kids, but they had a hunger for learning so I started writing devotions for them to use to study with. I considered this a great time because one student continued to push me every week for more to learn and another student was quoted as saying on a holiday, 'I need to go to a quiet place so I can do my devotions.' To this day both students have a healthy study habit of God's Word. Later in the ministry there was a boy who wanted to live for Jesus but he had some questions that were stopping him from making the decision. One night at a retreat at about 1:00 in the morning he finally asked his question and after hearing the answer he responded, 'I get it now! Ok, I'm ready to be baptized. I want to live for Jesus.' His behavior and attitude toward life completely changed and he is a growing student today."

Then, there was that family night of worship, prayer and fun with Youth Pastor, Chad! "It was our fall kick off to the school year ministries. The event was well attended, but more than that I believe families were challenged to grow. It was an amazing night and I look forward to another time when we can come together as families and have fun together as we worship and serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Bret has been a familiar face at Highline Christian Church for quite some time now. He can relate to 7th graders coming to church, because he started



attending Highline Christian Church at this age, and was actively involved in the youth group through high school. As a high school student, he was involved in counseling at children's camps and eventually he began teaching the 3rd and 4th grade class. He left Highline for a period of time while attending school and had the opportunity to learn about children's ministry from other children's ministers. He credits God with working in amazing ways to bring him back to the church. Not just any church, but this one- the one he grew up in and where he gave his life to the Lord.

Bret graduated from college in June of 1997 and started working at Highline part-time as the Children's Pastor in September of 1997. The eldership was impressed with what God was doing through the part-time ministry and offered him a full-time position, effective January 1st, 1998. Since then, Bret shares, "It has been one blessing after another and now after some time has passed, it is a joy to see students who were in the children's ministry now serving in their own ministries."

There are people Bret admires- ones who have their special places in his life. First, there is his wife, Davi. "I love and admire Davi for the way she lives each day to the fullest looking for ways to serve God in all she does. She is my greatest support and my greatest critic. She challenges me to be a better person in all I do and to do my ministry better and always look for better ways of doing what we do in the ministry."

Then, Patti Bertelson and Nancy Waner come to mind. "I admire these two wonderful women of the faith for their dedication to their own children's ministries. They have both been involved in children's ministry much longer than I and still have a passion to share God's love with children. I have learned a great deal from each of them and hope their churches know what a blessing they have in each of them."

Of course, Pastor Tim is recognized. "As the Senior Pastor of Highline and my day-to-day boss, he has set an example of godly leadership which I have learned from. I also admire him for his

willingness to take time to listen and share with me when I just drop in for an unscheduled visit. He and his wife have been strong role models for me and have been a real blessing to both my wife and me. I believe much of what is happening at Highline is due to the great team of staff God has blessed us with- of which Pastor Tim is the leader."

Bret has his own philosophy about children. "Children today long for affection, they want to belong, and they want to know there are boundaries and what the boundaries are. I believe the children who attend Higher Ground Children's Ministry activities enjoy them because it is a safe place for them to belong where they are encouraged and challenged to grow in academic abilities and more importantly, spiritually."

Bret believes that the future of the Higher Ground Children's Ministry has much to do with families. "Over the past eight years I have seen children change and grow but I have also seen children fall through the cracks. It hurts when I see teens who used to be in the children's ministry who now have nothing to do with the church for one reason or another. The question becomes what can we in the children's ministry do better to keep kids growing? The answer is to partner with their parents. No matter how much we love the kids, their parents will almost always have a greater impact on their lives than we can. To make use of the power of parents we need to partner with them in leading children in their faith. One way we are partnering with parents is to match the children's 11:00 a.m. lesson with the sermon the parents receive. I believe this joint venture between the staff of Highline and parents will have a huge impact on the families of Highline and on the faith of every child and youth who attend. What better way is there to share God's love with children than through their parents?"

Just what is the big deal about Children's Ministry at Highline? In one word...it's the KIDS!



HIGHER GROUND KIDS SPOT

UP FOR THE WORD

One of the songs we sing in the Children's Ministry is titled "Up For The Word." The song talks about getting excited about God's Word and getting into God's Word each day. This song describes a number of the kids who are involved in Trail Trekkers each week.

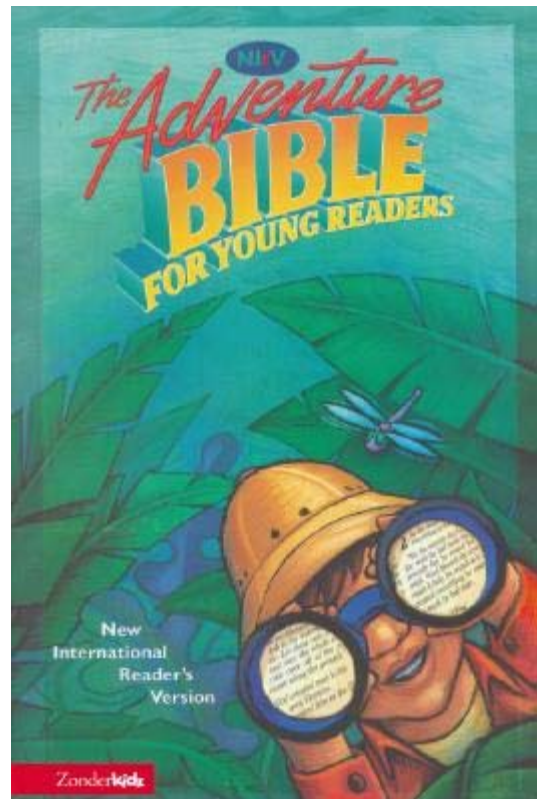
The first thing the kids do when they come to Trail Trekkers is look up different verses in their Bibles and read through them. After they have read their verses, they go to the memory verse area and work on memorizing God's Word. During lesson time the kids take turns reading the verses they looked up and more often than not, we do not have enough verses for the number of kids who want to read. How exciting it is for leaders to see the kids excited about reading God's Word.

One other thing about God's Word the Trail Trekkers have been excited about is the opportunity for them to earn their very own Bible. The kids receive points each week for bringing a Bible, memory verse cards, their Power Page, and for memorizing the Mighty Memory Verse. After earning 30 points the kids earn an NIV Adventure Bible of their own.

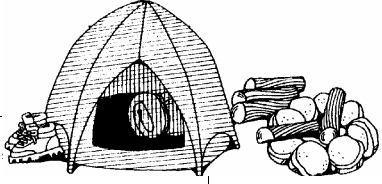

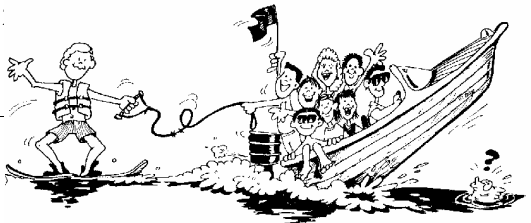
It has been an especially exciting last couple of weeks because many of the kids are finally earning their Bibles. Their joy has been so precious to see as they receive their new Bibles. What a reason to get up for the Word!

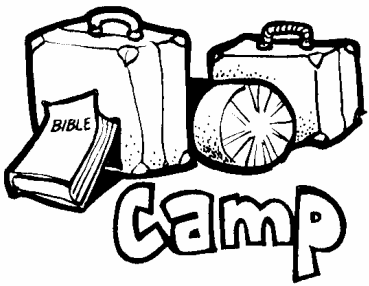
KIDS WHO HAVE EARNED THEIR NIV ADVENTURE BIBLES AT TRAIL TREKKERS

Jessica Beck
Stephanie Lindblom
Gavin Mosier
Kiara Nelson
Drew Sagmoen
Gabby Sarver
Joel Singh
Gabriella Tarlao
Dean Tief
Kyle Tief
Sarah Tief
Cierra Wallin




JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
		4 	5	6	7	8
First Chance Camp @ PVCC - for 2-3 graders						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
SS VBS Camp Out - "Hands and Feet" For kids entering 4th - 6th grade						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Preschool VBS - "Fiesta" - For potty trained 3-5 year olds. 9:00 - 12:00 each day						
23	24	25	26			
TT VBS Day Camp - "Hands and Feet" For kids entering 1st - 3rd grade						
30	31					



AUGUST

		TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Junior Camp @ PVCC - For kids entering 4th - 6th grade							
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21				24	25	26
27	28				31		
					