

May 2008

INFINITE GRACE

It seems like light years away, especially as the last few days of school seem to drag on. But our second annual ladies' retreat is really just around the corner. We are fast approaching our sign up deadline. There are only a few spots left. So SIGN UP NOW!!! The retreat will be August 1-3, yes that includes two nights in a hotel. I know that many of you are thinking, "I can't get away for that long," but ladies, it is SO worth it. If you attended the ladies' luncheon, or even if you heard about it, then you are aware of what the Special Events Team is capable of doing. The heart of the women's leadership team is to draw women to Christ, and let Him heal them, and equip them. Sometimes in order for this to happen we have to get away. The desire of every woman involved in planning is to see those that attend be encouraged and intimately encounter Christ. Who wouldn't want to experience that? Clear your schedule now and sign



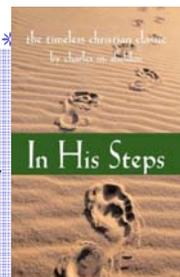
Ladies Retreat

up. It will be worth it.

We will attend the Women of Faith Conference in Indianapolis. There will be a lot of fun activities as well, not to mention some much needed fellowship time. Pack your swimsuit--there's a hot tub! If you would like more information, feel free to visit the website www.rcovenant.org/women or stop by the women's ministry table before or after church on Sunday.

First Book Club

Our first book club discussion group will be Wednesday May 28th. We will be discussing the book *In His Steps* a challenging book that looks at what the church should really be like. The event will be held at Nancy Umbeck's house at 6:30 PM. Directions are available via the website. It isn't too late to sign-up!



Feel out of the loop?

Get emails about upcoming events, sign up for our email list, go to www.rcovenant.org/women

Spring Luncheon



Linda Bogan

Thinking, "Is she kidding?" all the while "Hello, I'm glad you're here, blah, blah, blah . . . you're at table number one," slipped off my forked tongue, I introduced myself to Thelma. It was then that I decided she took the prize for what to wear to this

year's spring ladies' luncheon, that recurring topic among the room full of diversely dressed ladies.

I could see that behind those silver, horn rimmed glasses and under that straw Stetson was a well spoken female bent on getting attention. And that she did, with her slow western drawl, red hot blouse, black skirt, boots and bandanna. She was Texas cinched tight with a belt buckle the size of a saucer.

Thelma, alias Radonna Fiorini, teasingly put Rhonda Ausk on edge and the crowd at ease with her standup routine. But that was only her lighter side. Once the spurs came off Radonna blessed us with her testimonial. In between, Dana Teefey delighted

Nancy Umbeck's special events team earned accolades. Table hostesses shared pastel linens and fine china. Delicately crafted tags named each guest and handmade purses went to lucky winners. Like those with Thelma at table #1, each of the 100 guests enjoyed the buffet, fresh spring flowers and a beautifully decorated table. We ate and ate and ate. And then we were fed.

Some in jeans apologized to those in long dresses. Comfortable in my capris and embroidered T-shirt, I was initially concerned for Thelma until several others sported stylish hats. It was important that each received the standard 'come-as-you-are' Riverside welcome. They did too. The website storybook shows what our costumed clusters of eight looked like. Combined, pearls or no pearls, we were an attractive arrangement.

RIVERSIDE WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Linkee!



Ministry corner Dar Muehlhausen

Summer is approach- This month: Promiseland

ing quickly and it is time to give our faithful Promiseland kindergarten through 5th grade teachers and helpers a break. Beginning June 1 a more relaxed teaching atmosphere will take place through the summer making it easy for new volunteers to step in and serve. This is a great opportunity to see what goes on in the children's ministry not be intimidated by a more structured teaching environment. Each Sunday the children will join their parents in "big church" for twenty minutes of worship, leaving during the offering for Promiseland. A short teaching video will be viewed with discussion, then a craft or game concludes the morning. My prayer is for the entire Riverside Covenant family to prayerfully consider how they might be used for God's glory to help in

Promiseland this summer. For more info contact Dar Muehlhausen or sign up at church! dmuehlhausen@rcovenant.org

The following is a note from the editor of the newsletter.

It is easy to think of Promiseland as a place to drop off our kids so that they won't be bothersome during church. But it is so much more than that. Promiseland is a great way for kids to learn about Jesus. We all worry about our kids getting older and making the right choices. This is where they begin building a spiritual foundation not to mention establishing early friendships that may last into those teenage years. Promiseland cannot exist without volunteers. Parents, but even more importantly of other church adults, sometimes these relationships can be even more crucial.

Please pray and consider volunteering, even one Sunday. Promise land needs you! The kids need you!



Write these on your calendars!

- **MAY BOOK CLUB**—Wed. May 28, 6:30 PM Nancy Umbeck
- **JUNE BOOK CLUB**—Wed. June 25, 6:30 PM Dar Muehlhausen
- **JULY BOOK CLUB**—Wed. July 23, 6:30 PM Stephanie Brennan
- **August 1-3 Women's Retreat-Women of Faith in Indianapolis**



Woman in the spotlight

Each issue we will highlight different women in the church, giving you a chance to meet someone new, find a common bond and make a new friend. Who knows, maybe a new best friend?!

Dana Teefey

Testimony: I grew up Presbyterian and I guess I always thought I was a Christian. I believed that Christ died for my sins but this knowledge had little impact on my daily life. In college I met other Christians through a campus ministry and began to see how living for Christ is different from just saying you are a Christian. My roots began to form early in college; but I don't think that I really made that life changing commitment until I started dating Dan my Jr year. Dan lives his life for Christ; and the more I got to know him the more I saw what was missing. That's when I became a committed Christian.

Likes: Being outside, walking, hiking, or biking. Pretending to eat Adelaide's plastic food. Hanging out on the couch with Dan.

Dislikes: Meat, winter, choosing clothes for the day (I wish I could wear the same outfit everyday)

Advice to Christian women: It sounds simple but get involved with other Christian women. For a long time I disliked being with Christian women. It made me feel vulnerable and emotional; two things that I

believed a strong female shouldn't be. Recently, I have learned that being open with a group of women doesn't make you weak; it makes you stronger. This fellowship showed me that I am not the only one carrying the burden of guilt, anger or resentment. In these women I have found people who help carry my burdens, keep me accountable and give me the strength to face things I never knew I could. Basically, I now think women rock and I am excited that RCC has such a great women's ministry.

Family Life: Dan and I will be married 6 years in July. We have a daughter, Adelaide and another on the way. We also have a rat dog (terrier) named Spencer. I grew up in the South suburbs of Chicago. My grandparents (all 7 of them) lived 10 mins of my house. I have always been close to them. Family is really important to me. In fact one of my favorite things is just to sit around and watch Dan and Adelaide play. My family warms my heart!



contact us

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Lifelong Learning -Have an idea for a bible study or a summer book? Contact **Lisa Harker**
497-7262 lisa@insightbb.com

Prayer -Need Prayer or interested in being on the prayer team? Contact **Melissa Guipe**
490-4066 t.guipe@insightbb.com

Mentoring - Want to mentor other women or want to be mentored? Contact **Linda Bogan**
490-0000 lbogan@trinitymission.org

Encouragement -Want to be on the encouragement team, or know someone who needs encouragement? Contact **Lanie Nelson**
464-2542 (weekdays) 404-4096 (nights and weekends) lanienelson@yahoo.com

Special Events -Know of an upcoming women's event, or like to plan events? Contact **Nancy Umbeck**
497-9270 numbeck@yahoo.com

Missions -Have an idea for a mission project or want to join the team? Contact **Polly Timmerman**
469-3126 pollytimmerman@aol.com

Communications -Have an idea for the newsletter or want to join the team? Contact **Megan Mills** 532-2507 megan@elmills.com or **Stephanie Brennan** 471-1530 thebronchobrennans@yahoo.com