

Riverside Women's Retreat

Debby Smiley



September 2008



When I agreed to attend the Women of Faith conference August 1-2 with about 30 women and friends of Riverside, not only had



I never been to a church retreat of any kind, I had never been on a ladies' only week-end. What I discovered involved inspiration, an uplifting team of speakers, comedy, dynamic music, a variety of emotions, great food, friendship, and a wee bit of shopping.

When we entered our hotel rooms, we saw that Riverside elves had anticipated our needs and had provided us goodies for our stay. Next came a great Italian meal and a dash to Conesco. Despite my fear of heights, I found myself relaxing, laughing, and even shedding a few tears as I enjoyed the conference from my seat HIGH up in Conesco. Hearing Sheila Walsh sing her amazing "When I Get to Where I'm Going," the pragmatic skits of Nicole Johnson (a look into the everyday lives of women with no sugar-coating or facade), and the phenomenal

voices of Sandi Patty and her family members **alone** would have made the conference worth the price

Feel out of the loop?
Get emails about upcoming events, sign up for our email list, go to www.rcovenant.org/women

for me. However, there were also inspiring, God-honoring tales of elation, loss, hope, and grace by the speakers, known collectively as "the women (okay, 7 women, 1 man) on the porch".

The bonus to this wonderful week-end was getting to know the other Riverside attendees better through dining, playing games, key-chain making, and worshipping together. We learned many new things about each other, but Rhonda could never have known when she assigned roommates that **my** roommate's driver's ed teacher was my dad!



A grand  new day
Conference 2009

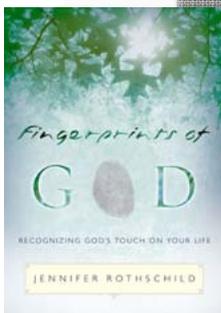
Ladies, we already have tickets and hotel rooms booked for next year's Women of Faith conference. And once again we will be pairing it with our Women's Retreat. The conference will be in Indianapolis, August 6-8. You know it is always a fabulous time so mark your calendars and make arrangements to be there!!!

RIVERSIDE WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Ministry

Fingerprints of God

Wednesday September 3rd, marks the beginning of our Fall Bible Study. We will begin an eight-week study called, *The Fingerprints of God*. Written by author/speaker Jennifer Rothschild it uses the familiar video/discussion format. The purpose is to Recognize God's Touch on Your Life. This teaches us to recognize six things we can experience because of God's touch: honor, intimacy, shelter, guidance, redemption, and refinement.



Jennifer has an amazing life-changing story. We don't want to tell you anymore because we want you to COME and hear for yourself!! The book is only \$13 and you can still sign-up.

Lifecare Dresser Ministry

We have an opportunity to be the hands of Christ, in conjunction with our Fall Bible study, we will be filling a dresser for Life Care Services. You may have heard us mention them before. They are a crisis pregnancy center located in West Lafayette. The dresser is filled with donated items a new mom will need. We will have more information at our upcoming study and at church. Please take the time to find out more and participate. This is an amazing gift to give a woman who makes the precious but daunting choice to give birth to and raise her baby.



This month: Compass Event

Friday September 19, Riverside Covenant Church will be hosting the Compass Event for Women at 7:00 PM. This is an interdenominational event for women of the Lafayette and surrounding communities. Join us for an evening of incredible worship and our very own Lanie Nelson. The theme for this event is "Aware Amazed: A Christian Perspective of Breast Cancer". Lanie is participating in a panel of women discussing the effects of breast cancer and God's glory in the midst of it. There will be several women who have been affected by breast cancer in many different ways. The discussion will be both informative, and moving and most importantly God-glorifying! Riverside

has had the privilege of hosting a Compass event before and we promise you will NOT be disappointed! Plan on being there.

Welcome Back!!

So you may or may not have noticed *Linked!* has been on hiatus. Even a newsletter needs a vacation! Okay so maybe just the editor does. But we are back and ready for action. We just need people to read us. So read read read and pass it along to your friends. Even your friends that don't go to Riverside-they will want to after they read this super cool newsletter!



Woman in the spotlight

Stephanie Brennan

Each issue we 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?!

Testimony: I have fond memories of attending Sunday School as a child and participating in Vacation Bible School into my teen years. Being in the church environment has always been a part of my life. In junior high school, I felt the leading of the Holy Spirit to accept Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior while attending a summer camp at Scenic Hills Christian Camp. I dedicated my life to God during that week and excitedly shared the news with my mother after returning home. I was baptized by my Youth Minister at my home church and began my walk with Jesus. Since this time in my life, I have always been involved in activities through church or clubs at school like Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Interests:

Currently on Maternity Leave from Teaching Special Education to raise two handsome boys, Nathan and Cameron. Cheering for the Bronchos at any sporting event, especially Zach's Tennis Team. Clearance Rack Shopping with

Coupons Finding time to be Crafty by Knitting, Sewing, Quilting, Crocheting, Scrapbooking, etc.

Advice to Christian Women: By no means am I a professional at being a Godly Woman, but I have found it most comfortable and easier to be in the right mindset and thought pattern when I surround myself with other women of faith. I enjoy the positive atmosphere created in fellowship through Christ and the wisdom that we share amongst each other. Another aspect of Christian life that is important to me is remembering what my witness looks like to others. Are strangers seeing Jesus in my words or actions? This simple question helps me to strive for perfection, though it is a difficult road.



write these on your calendar!

- **Fall Bible Study *Fingerprints of God*— Wednesday Sept 3-Oct 22 6:30-8:00 PM**
- **Riverside Block Party—Saturday September 6 4-8 PM**
- **Compass—Friday Sept. 19 7 PM**
- **RCC Mentor Program Jan 2009**



contact us

Director of Women's Ministries

Rhonda Ausk

497-2421

rhonda.ausk@verizon.net

Lifelong Learning ~Have an idea for a bible study or a summer book? Contact **Lisa Harker**
497-7262 lisa.lisa.anne@comcast.net

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

Mentoring ~ Want to mentor other women or want to be mentored? Contact **Linda Bogan**
490-0000 lkbogan@hotmail.com

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@el mills.com or **Stephanie Brennan** 471-1530 thebronchobrennans@yahoo.com

Post-Abortion Ministry-studies available, contact Megan Mills