

# Inspire Uplift Renew

JUNE 2007

*I can't believe June is already here!* What comes to your mind when you think of June? Picnics, potato salad and watermelon, graduations and open houses, weddings... the list goes on and on! Does summer bring you happy childhood memories? Are you providing happy memories for your children, grandchildren or even the neighborhood kids? The ways God can use you to brighten someone else's day are limitless! We love and serve a God who's ways are infinite. Our very existence is to bring Him glory! Romans 11:36 says, "For everything comes from Him and exists by His power and is intended for His glory! All glory to Him forever! Amen." (NLT) Summer months mean no school for kids! How can you bring a smile to a child's face and heart this summer? Take them swimming, invite the neighborhood kids whose parents are working over for games and a snack, invite a child to Sunday school who doesn't normally go, pick one child to pray for over the next 3 months and really invest in their life. We get preoccupied with the busyness of life as if this is the point of life: paying bills--working, having fun, etc.--but it is not. John 13:34 says, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another." (NAS)

Sheri

## Refreshing New Ministry, New Name

EMP, our brand new ministry from woman to woman, deserved a name as lovely as it is, so the new name "**Refresh: Cool Water's Encouragement Ministry**" was given! We are looking forward to growing closer as we pray for, spend a bit of time with, and learn more about one another! To get more involved, see Cindy S.



## Book Club Hiatus

After a very wonderful season of reading, we are taking the summer off from Book Club!

We're set to resume close to autumn with Hope Rising: Stories from the Ranch of Rescued Dreams, by Kim Meeder. In the mean time, we may schedule a book review night for mid-summer, or another chick's-only movie night instead! (Look for details as they come in.)



## It's Almost Time!

The Free "Yard" Sale and Oil Change is just under a week away, on Saturday, June 2.

Yes, there is still a need for helpers and donations! To sign up for a free oil change, or if you have any other questions, call the church office at 777-2552.

Here's a fun addition: The youth will be having a hot dog stand this year! This is the only part of the "sale" where anything will be sold! The money raised will go toward a fund to send our youth to their very own NAB Triennial scheduled to take place next summer in Nashville!

## Getting to Know You: Jennifer Jensen!

1. **Family:** Scott, Ben 2, Jacob 2 mo.

2. **Born when and where?** February 25, 1980 in St. Paul, MN

3. **Occupation:** I work at Muller Pharmacy and I am a stay at home mom

4. **Testimony:** When I was 19, I went through a difficult time in my life, and I began seriously looking to the Lord. God placed some special people in my path at that time, and with their encouragement, I gave my life to Christ.

5. **First Job:** At 16, I was a clerk at Muller pharmacy and I delivered prescriptions.

6. **Hobbies:** I enjoy reading and gardening.

7. **One thing nobody knows about you:** When I was a kid I used to entertain family and friends by standing on the table and singing show tunes (I was not a shy child!)

8. **What did you dream of being or doing when you were growing up?** I dreamed of being a teacher.

9. **Who is your best friend?** My husband.

10. **How did you meet your husband?** He worked next door to the pharmacy where I worked and we met through a mutual friend.

11. **God given talents:** I am a very organized person and I have a lot of patience.

12. **What is your favorite scripture?** Psalm 18:2 "The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my Savior, my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety."

13. **Favorite things:**

- Author: Francine Rivers
- Color: Blue
- Food: Pasta
- Hymn/song: "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

14. **What is your favorite way to "recharge yourself?"** I like to go for a walk with a friend.

15. **What cause breaks your heart?** I would like to open a tuition free christian school for kids who would like to go to a private school but can't afford it.



## Moither Daughter Tea

Moms and daughters of all ages are invited to join us for a wonderful tea at Aprille Showers Tea House in Stillwater on Saturday, June 9, starting at 2:00 pm. All combinations of daughters and mothers, grandmas and great grandmas are invited. (And if your mom or daughter can't come, you're invited anyway!)

We are set for the dessert tea at a cost of \$13.00 per person. Look for an RSVP in the bulletin!

### June Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 5 Audrey Canaday
- 11 Sandra Daley
- 14 Mike & Wendy Albrecht
- 17 Esther Christianson
- 18 Josh & Irene Burbal
- 18 Phyllis Nereson
- 19 Jo Lerud
- 26 Irene Burbal  
Sue Carlson
- 28 Helen Martin  
Val Ruiz
- 29 Shelly Paul



## Relief

By Helen Martin

The dining room held nearly 500 people, making the IJM benefit dinner on May 15 the largest first-time event that International Justice Mission has held in any city. It was amazing; full of wonderful speeches by heroic yet stunningly ordinary souls who with simplicity and eloquence brought clarity and connection to the work of justice taking place half a world away.

I can't say that I learned a lot of new things that night, but that's only because my crash course on IJM has familiarized me with most of the facts. But there was still an assumption or two that needed blasting away, and Gary Haugen, great man that he is, gently accommodated. I met Mr. Haugen, Sharon Cohn, and Scott Lewis. I also chatted it up with my ol' pal Sara.

As table hosts, Ken and I brought home thank you gift of six beautiful silk and cotton coasters which were designed and made by girls in an aftercare facility in Thailand. These were former victims of trafficking who IJM had rescued. One of our coasters is already tear-stained, but with my tears of joy at being part of something so important.

Every delicious cake deserves icing, but the truth is that the benefit itself was the icing. Here's the cake: A mere six days after the event, 25 sex-traffickers were arrested in Minneapolis and other Minnesota cities. They're being charged with doing the very things in our state that are done routinely in the developing world, but hundreds of thousands of times each year: luring impoverished young women immigrants (some legal, some not) into another country on false pretenses and forcing them into prostitution. I believe that the local IJM event was so bathed in prayer against oppression and sex-trafficking that there was an overflow into the streets and across the cities. I will believe it until I am in Heaven's video store and can watch it for myself!

Think of it: how blessed are we that far and away the majority of our law enforcement officials do their jobs so faithfully and with such excellence! They uncover heinous crimes being committed, go find the bad guys, arrest them and hand them over into our fine judicial system where they're charged, prosecuted and, if found guilty, imprisoned.

We enjoy not only the unspeakable luxury of such a system of justice, but the added ability to take it for granted. The mission of IJM is simply to bring a fragment of what we experience into places where it has not yet been granted.

Some of the people on the other side of the world lack food, and we give it for the sake of the Lord. Often they have no quality medical care, so we roll bandages and send medicines and doctors for the love of our Saviour. And some of these same people suffer gross injustice and are without anyone to stand up with them. Ecclesiastes 4:1 says, "Behold, I saw the tears of the oppressed and they had no one to comfort them." I want to send someone, in Jesus' name.

It's so simple. It's so clear. I cannot believe I spent nearly 20 years as a Christian with such a gaping hole in my religion. What a relief to know that God cares about injustice. What a relief to do something about it.

## Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month

This month, you can visit a farmers market or go to a local 'you pick your own' strawberry farm!

Here are some farmers markets close by:

### **North St. Paul Farmers Market**

River of God church parking lot at 2490 E. 7th St. in North St. Paul

***Fridays from 3 pm – 8 pm***

### **Downtown St. Paul Farmers Market**

290 E. 5th St.

***Saturdays 6 am – 1 pm***

### **Minneapolis Farmers Market**

312 E. Lyndale Ave.

***Open every day 6 am – 1 pm***

### **Maplewood Farmers Market**

Aldrich Arena

***Wednesdays 8 am – noon***



Here are some local 'Pick Your Own' strawberry farms:

Afton Apple Orchard

651-436-8385

Open daily 7 am – 7 pm

The Berry Patch

651-433-3448

Pine Tree Apple Orchard

651-429-7202

# Celebration Days

## Father's Day, June 12

What special way are you going to honor your father? You may be close to your father, estranged from him, or no longer have a father on this earth.

Here are a few ideas to help you:

- Interview your dad about his childhood and his dreams or how about a most embarrassing moment!
- Ask your dad what he would like to do for an entire day! Then make the arrangements for it to happen!
- Take a picture of the family members holding a sign that says "I Love You" and put it in a frame! He'll love it!



## The First Day of Summer, June 21

How long have we waited for this? Let's celebrate in fun and adventurous ways!

- Invite a family or neighbor over for a picnic. Have a potluck so everyone can get in on the fun and it's not so much work.
- Buy a watermelon and have a seed spitting contest.
- Create a little garden on your porch or backyard. Mix together containers, annuals and perennials for some fun! You can even throw in some herbs or vegetables.
- Go to a park or a lake to take a walk and bring a small basket filled with a small lunch or some snacks. Invite a friend to make it more special. For those involved in Refresh, this is a good way to reach out and visit.

I hope you enjoy the month of June and celebrate it in your own special way.

## Cool Water Ministries' June Calendar

**Saturday, June 2**



*"Natalie Moment"*

Remember to do your self-check! It's so important, and very easy to do.

**Saturday, June 2**

**8:00 am to Noon**

*Free 'Yard' Sale and Oil Changes*

Donations and helpers are still needed for this wonderful neighborhood outreach.

**Friday, June 8**

**10:00 am**

*White Cross*

**Saturday, June 9**

**2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

*Mother-Daughter Tea*

RSVP using the tear-off in the bulletin, or call the church office.

## Ahhh, empty space...

A calendar that isn't packed with things to do!

Thank you, Lord,  
for  
empty spaces  
in  
the midst  
of busy lives.

Thank you, Lord  
For rest  
For peace  
For quiet

Thank you, Lord, for summer