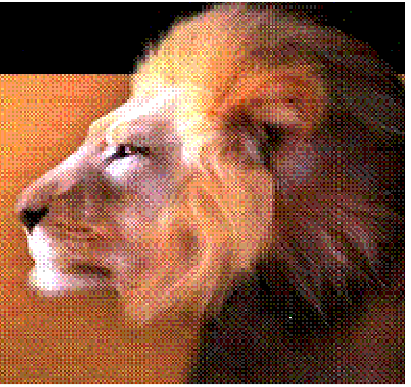


THE REFUGE

youth of saron lutheran church



UPCOMING STUFF

CONFIRMATION

Jan. 6, 13, 20

THE GATHERING

Worship for all ages

Wed., Jan. 27

7:00-8:30 P.M.

Extremely Special Guest:

Brianna Smithling

(better known as Abby's sister)

Bring a friend!

SPECIAL FEATURE:

The CROCODILE

HUNTER!

The REFUGE

"Where Everybody Knows Your Name!"

CURTIS R. RIECK

SLYGUY@IZOOM.NET



(the person who should know stuff)

Cheers to a New Year and another chance for us to get it right.

2nd Annual Luge Party



Tube with an attitude

Hit the "hill of death" after warming up on the baby slope. Pile the tubes high or hook up with friends to form a Whip lashing chain. Whatever your desire you'll find a world of winter fun on our second trip to Eko Baken in Scandia, MN. Bring a bag dinner and we'll complete the meal with our always fun trip through the drive through to get you some dessert. Sign-up with Curtis, Stacy, or Molly by making your payment and getting your name on the list of those who dare!



Or hide from the hill like a baby

The GATHERING ~ a worship event of epic proportions.

Featuring special speaker **Bri Smithling** along with the Refuge feature video release of "**The Crocodile hunter**," filmed at our most recent retreat. Friends are welcome. Parents are encouraged to attend also. Don't miss it! **Wed., Jan. 27 7:00-8:30**

Sun., Jan. 24

1:00-7:00pm

Cost: \$15

Hit the "hill of death" after warming up on the baby slope. Pile the tubes high or hook up with friends to form a Whip lashing chain. Whatever your desire you'll find a world

of winter fun on our second trip to Eko Baken in Scandia, MN. Bring a bag dinner and we'll complete the meal with our always fun trip through the drive through to get you some dessert.

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REFUGE SALE OF STUFF- DONATIONS ARE ALREADY BEING ACCEPTED FOR NEXT SUMMERS SALE!

We are storing items in numerous places in preparation. This will be a major fundraiser with a goal of raising \$25,000! If you have items to donate, please drop them off at the church for sorting. If you have storage space in your home, garage or outbuildings we could use a part of, we would be glad to hear from you.

JUST ABOUT ANYTHING OF VALUE WOULD BE GREAT

REFUGE SUMMER ADVENTURE 2010



No matter where you are in life, God meets you there. Fans of HigherGround say over and over again how strongly they feel God's presence at this event. It's true. God is at Higher Ground. In the amazing music, in campfire conversations, in the praise of thousands of voices and in the new friends you meet here.

Higher Ground Music Festival promises to be an amazing experience! Each year when August arrives, you feel summer slipping away. You start thinking of all the things you were going to do... well, this year will be different, because you're headed to Higher Ground. Imagine a Christian music festival that's [close to everywhere](#) and features [everyone you want to hear](#). Best of all, you will meet some amazing people who are savoring summer's sundown, just like you. At HigherGround, we offer a two-day getaway designed to renew and uplift your spirit.



**And
many
more
artists!**



WATCH FOR COMING DETAILS

TEEN CHALLENGE CHOIR ~ Longest Night



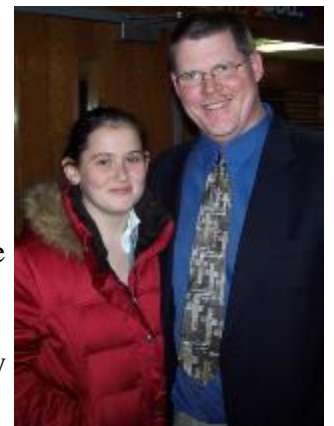
I thought the Teen Challenge Choir was very awe inspiring, while they might not have had the best voices, they sang with heart, courage, and hope. It was very moving to hear from the individuals in the choir about how their life decisions took them on some very dark and lonely roads, but now, with help from Teen Challenge, they have formed a relationship with God that has renewed their hope for the future and has put them on their life's path.

One of the guys I talked to, Josh I think was his name. Had been through 8 different treatment programs. He's planning on becoming a missionary and doing work in Russia with an orphanage there. This just reminds me that God really does have a plan for each and every one of us and he really will be there for us no matter what. We just have to open ourselves up to him, listen, and believe. (Lisa)



Their stories of how they became addicted into the world of drugs and alcohol were life touching. It was startling to see how easy it is to become an addict and the love, care, and courage it takes to get help when needed. (Bri)

The holidays are not always a happy time of the year for me, but I can tell you that I would not want to go through them with out my family by my side. This year the Longest Night Service helped me to realize that you can find someone to call family in places you may not expect. As the members of the Minnesota Teen Challenge Choir shared their life experiences with us we got to see how the facility not only offers the chance to learn how to overcome addiction, but also gaining a whole new family. However after hearing from a few of the members, such as the 16 year old student who came from a "good family" ending up turning to drugs to help her through life when it became hard, and then when she was done and returned to the choir she was welcomed by hugs from those around, you realize that family comes in many forms. And then the 49 year old man, who had been going through addiction for years and again being welcomed by those around him with hugs and high fives showing a type of family support. The participants and the leaders are like one big caring and respecting family. I know that if I had to go through treatment to help overcome an addiction that is what I would want to feel, like I belong and I am not the only one. To me I learned that family, in whatever form you find it, is vital in any difficult time. (Stacy)



Student in the program for only 24 hours at the time of the concert