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Hampden Heights Sentinel

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Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.
~1 John 3:15 NIV~

RJA News Corner

by Lee Stahl, Principal
School Year Comes to an End!



8th Grade Class Trip

The 8th grade class visited Washington DC on May 12-14. During their visit they spent time at the African American Museum, the Natural History Museum, and the Air and Space Museum. They went to an Escape Room, where they had to find clues and decipher them to figure out who was the mole of an organization and how to eventual escape from the room. While the class came very close, they did not quite manage to escape in the given amount of time. As always this is a great trip that they raised money for throughout the school year.

Graduation Program

RJA graduation was on Tuesday, May 28, at the Kenhorst Blvd. Church. This year's 8th grade graduates asked their teacher, Wendy Stahl, to be their commencement speaker. The class chose Deuteronomy 31:6 as their class scripture text; *"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes*

with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." Students graduating from kindergarten, 8th grade, and leaving 10th grade from RJA are listed.

Kindergarten Graduates: Kaseer Abney, Micah Adutwum, Jasper Klopp, and Sebastian Ramos.

8th Grade Graduates: Ariana Arias, Isiac Hernandez, Brianna McClintic, Jansen Santana, and Trisha Smith.

10th Grade Recognition: Dwayne Marston and Ziryah Rodriguez



RJA Field Day's Bat-Spin Relay

While the weather was very cloudy on the morning of May 23, it turned out to be a beautiful day for Reading Junior Academy's annual field day. The student body was divided up into 8 teams representing students from each class room to compete as teams and individuals at 8 different activities – Bat-Spin Relay, 3-Legged Race, 50 yard Dash, 200 yard Run, Water Balloon Toss, Bean Bag Toss, Standing Broad Jump, and the Obstacle Course.

Top individual performances: 3-Legged Race: Joseph Pinillo and Christine Laveaux, (10.9 sec.) Water Balloon Toss: Sharlyn Castillo and Avheil Aponte, Danity Mejias and Jansen Santana, (tie 35 ft.) Bean Bag Toss: Micah Adutwum, (15pts.) Broad Jump: Dwayne Marston, (99 in.) 50 Yard Dash: Cory Calapino, (6.9 sec.) and Trisha Smith, (7.4 sec.)

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Grace's Outpost by Ashley Richards

"O shout! Glory! For I shall mount above the skies, when I hear the trumpet sound in that morning." (chorus, O When Shall I See Jesus, Melvin West)

I'm thinking about heaven again. (Guilty!)

I received a new job offer, about two weeks ago (I know! What a blessing it is), and started said job on Wednesday, which has left little time for thinking about the newsletter and planning an article to share, so I've been sitting in front of my computer for about ten minutes, praying for something to say and wracking my brain for an idea. Meanwhile, all that floats through my head is that song we sang in church today, "Oh, When Shall I See Jesus." Recently, I've been reading a book about heaven and the New Earth that talks about how Jesus' return was the hope Christians based their entire lives on, the only thing that made all the evil of this world worth enduring, and I'm starting to see that reality in my own life.

Heaven is coming to be the hope I'm staking my life on, the light at the end of the tunnel, my reason for joy. Of course, my greatest joy is Jesus, and knowing His redemption intimately, but you have to admit, heaven is a pretty great reason to hope.

In my family, our game of imagination was "What will your mansion look like in heaven?" Constantly we dreamed of having waterfalls through the middle of our homes and walls made of snowflakes and massive kitchens to share chocolate

cookies with all our best friends and even the biggest library that heaven can boast.

But in the past few months, my imaginings have gone beyond my mansion to the *wonder* of heaven. I want to be Peter's best friend in heaven. (I know, I know, with his relationship with Jesus, not to mention the other disciples, I probably have little chance, but can you imagine being best friends with Peter?!) I want to see the early church through his eyes. I want to see him cry tears of joy as he recounts the story of Jesus' forgiveness in his own life—I want to see his reunion with Jesus, period! I want to see the enthusiasm with which Peter attacks heaven. Have you ever read the book of Mark? Many people believe Peter was the source of information for the book, and if you read it in one sitting, or in a relatively short amount of time, you might get a bit dizzy by the amounts of "immediately" or "then" that you'll come across. Peter was no passive man, and I can't imagine him embracing heaven with any less of the gusto that he embraced his life for Jesus.

And we will *fly!* The day that I can fly cannot come fast enough. My mom says I used to dream (I'm 80% convinced it really happened, but Jesus will reveal that when we get home) of flying on the backs of angel's wings. I was itty-bitty, no more than 5, and I would stand at the top of the stairs, jump on the angel's back, and soar over those fifteen stairs with the wind in my hair and euphoric joy in my heart. This happened over and over again. I was not meant to

keep my feet firmly planted on this earth. I was made for heaven and I was made to *fly*.

And I'll walk with Jesus and lay my burdens down and swim in oceans and learn the language of heaven and learn how to play the harp (or maybe even the violin. Somewhere I heard we'll all get our own harps, but I'm hoping there is something that sounds like a violin or a piano up in heaven somewhere.) and I'll meet my guardian angel. (My guardian angel! I cannot wait to meet him—what about you? I have made a point, on this earth, of getting to know him, because I'm determined to love him in heaven. I named him, when I was in high school (Aidan, if you must know, because it means "little fire," and that seemed like such an appropriate title for a warrior of God)—of course, Jesus gave him a far superior name, but I needed to be able to call him something here and now! I know he's carried me through far more battles than I know. He is my guardian and my protector, and I cannot wait to see him in heaven, hug him, and hear a million and one stories. What a precious gift Jesus gave me when He sent Aidan to be my protector against the evil one!)

But can you only imagine? Not just the guardian angels and the swimming with dolphins and the mansions and the reunions. Can you imagine that moment when our feet leave this earth for a millennium in heaven? Can you imagine the reunions in the skies? Can you imagine the celebrating when we walk through those pearly gates? Can you imagine that great feast when we get through

heaven's gates? Can you imagine walking on streets of gold? Can you imagine singing in the heavenly choir (how perfect our voices will be!)? Can you imagine returning to the new earth at the renewal of all things, seeing the devil destroyed forever? Can you imagine what we will do forever and ever and ever? Can you imagine not even a *hint* of sadness or anger or evil or pain?

I suspect that heaven will be immensely better than we could ever imagine (but how wonderful it is to try!). Oh, how delightful beyond comprehension it will be!

A Note from Your Church Treasurers

submitted by Dwight Edris and Catherine Brenner

As we stated in a previous newsletter, our church needs on AVERAGE about \$10,000 per month to cover our RJA School Subsidy and our recurring church expenses (utilities, insurance, office expense, lawn care, trash removal, etc.) For the first four months of 2019 our "Church Budget" income has averaged \$6,795 per month. That means we have fallen short by about \$3,205 per month. We need EVERY MEMBER involvement to reverse this trend!

In addition, you will hear about appeals for a number of special programs. They include: (1) the Pathfinder Club is raising funds to attend the Camporee at Oshkosh this summer, (2) our Safety & Security Committee is raising funds to provide a more secure facility and environment for the protection of our members and visitors, and (3) our Evangelism Team is planning a number of outreach programs for this year – including a few mailings to offer Bible studies,

the assistance of a Bible worker, participation in the Faith 4 Family program, and evangelistic meetings this Fall.

As you contribute to the special programs, please continue to be a faithful supporter of our Church Budget. For each dollar of tithe (which goes directly to the Pennsylvania Conference) we need about 50 cents (on average) for our Local Church Budget– with additional contributions for the special programs.

Our prayer is that all the members of the Hampden Heights SDA Church will share in supporting the financial needs of the church – and we give a special thanks to those that have contributed to our church budget on a systematic and regular basis.

Recipe of the Month

by Arleen Johns

Marvelous Oatmeal Bread

2 C quick oats
 ¼ C olive oil
 ½ C brown sugar
 ¼ C honey
 1 TBS salt
 2 C boiling water
 2 C cold water
 2 TBS instant dry yeast
 ½ C wheat germ
 2 C whole wheat flour
 5-6 C unbleached all-purpose white flour

May add 2-3 TBS of poppy seed, sunflower or sesame seeds
 Bring 2 cups water to boil and place in a large bowl or bread mixer.
 Add oatmeal, stir using dough hook.

Add oil, brown sugar, honey and salt. Continue mixing until oatmeal is very soft.

Let cool before adding yeast.(or you will kill the yeast) (To speed up cooling time use cold water in next step)
 Add cold water and mix, and then add yeast.

Add wheat germ, 2 cups whole wheat flour and mix very thoroughly before adding more flour.
 Continue adding white flour a cup at a time- until at the end when you only add a tablespoon or 2 until bread is not sticky to the touch.

Turn out onto a clean floured counter and knead, adding flour a bit at a time until dough can be handled. If you add too much flour, your bread will be heavy.
 Divide and shape, place into greased loaf pans. I usually place mine in small pans.

Let rise till double in size in a warm place- covered with a dry towel
 Turn oven on to 350 degrees while bread is in oven (don't forget to remove towel)
 When up to temperature set timer and bake 20- 40 minutes until done. Bread will sound hollow when tapped.
 Turn out onto towel and let cool, uncovered.

This dough is very versatile and can be rolled, braided or twisted into any shape and used for any bread needs: loaves, pretzels, crescent rolls, pizza, braided or cinnamon buns.

Estimated Bake Times

Pizza dough- 20min
 Small loaves-30 min
 Large loaves-40 min
 Crescent rolls-or pretzels -15-20 min
 Cinnamon buns- 30 min.

Notable Quotes

selected by Bob Kondracki

Our God shall fight for us; for God is in the work, and no man can prevent it's ultimate success.
 ~E.G. White~

History does not long entrust the care of freedom to the weak or the timid.
 ~Dwight D. Eisenhower~

If D-Day - the greatest amphibious operation ever undertaken - failed, there would be no going back to the drawing board for the Allies. Regrouping and attempting another massive invasion of German-occupied France even a few months later in 1944 wasn't an option.
 ~Douglas Brinkley~

I can't count how many of my friends are in the cemetery at Normandy, the heroes are still there, the real heroes.
 ~Charles Durning~

The willingness of America's veterans to sacrifice for our country has earned them our lasting gratitude. ~Jeff Miller~

May we all, as a nation of believers, fight for the achievement of America; may we make sacrifices worthy of those proud men and women who fought for us, labored for us, bled soil from the beaches of Normandy to the fields of Gettysburg for us.
 ~Cory Booker~

Going Deeper by Barbara Snyder

Dietrich Bonhoeffer: A Memorial Day Tribute

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was born February 4, 1906. He was the son of a well-known and revered German Psychiatrist and a well-educated, community and politically minded mother. Their eldest son was killed in action in WW I at the age of 18. At the end of WW II only one brother of the Bonhoeffer family remained alive. Three brothers (including Dietrich) were executed by the Nazis in April of 1945 just days before the war in Europe ended, and two brothers-in-law were also executed. One of Dietrich's sisters and a sister in law were also imprisoned for short periods of time. Dietrich's twin sister fled with her Jewish husband and children to Switzerland and then to England.

Dietrich was the only member of the family who entered the ministry. As a Lutheran minister he was, for a time, exempt from the German military service. During this comparatively "free" time he wrote extensively about ethics and preached about the injustices being committed against the Jews. His brother-in-law, Hans von Dohnanyi, who worked for the Nazi government in Military Intelligence, tried to persuade Dietrich to work for the Abwehr military intelligence and secretly join the Resistance movement in the hopes of assassinating Hitler. Other brothers, sisters and brothers-in-law worked undercover for the Resistance. What a family! Although Dietrich knew his family was involved in some

organized fashion, he himself, had no inclination to go against a lawfully elected official such as was Hitler. He emphatically turned Hans down when Hans requested that he join the Resistance movement. He hated what Hitler was doing but as it came to be known, he did not really know all of what Hitler was about. Only when Hans showed him secretly acquired photos of German atrocities did Dietrich, in fervent prayer, make the decision to do what he could to save Germany and perhaps the world, from such a tyrant.

Dietrich broke the national law in order to preserve God's law. He had by the beginning of 1944 done his part in denouncing the activities of the Nazi party, and enabling the smuggling of Jews to safety to Switzerland. He did not actively take part in assassination attempts but he did not block them, nor report them to anyone outside of his clandestine group. But the cost to him eventually was discovery; although there is much to the story that cannot be covered in any one article, a little knowledge of history, and an appreciation of the dangers, and extreme impositions of imprisonment, one can imagine the test of faith that he had to go through, and the doubt that would have been normal for any individual in like circumstances.

When I read his biography, I was caught up in both the events, and the motives of the horrific times in which he and his family lived. I cannot

put myself into the scenes because I am basically a coward. I know the statistics of success against national evil and I cringe. I have not had to come to the front, so to speak, for the right. I would rather by-pass evil, thank you. I have done my share of failing and don't wish to even have the opportunity to try it again. Alas, that is not to be. I do know, thank you God, that we are not tempted above what we are able, nor are we given the grace to overcome until the event is before us. But it still gives me dread. I know I have a diagnosis called "The Human Condition." I like to cut and run, to deny reality, to give excuses for inaction, (or action for that matter.) Yet Dietrich wrote "Silence in the face of evil is in itself evil; God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." And... "We are not to simply bandage the wounds of victims beneath the wheels of injustice, we are to drive a spoke into the wheel itself."

I am reminded of the scripture from Isaiah 6:8

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" "Here I am," I said, "Send me!"

Dietrich heard and Dietrich went. I am sure he went trembling because the line he walked seemed faint, and gray at times. The line between right and wrong seemed so unclear and the consequences so monumental that mistakes cost lives, and in his mind, perhaps his hold on God. He had so many doubts in that

prison for the many months he was held there. He authored a prayer that I hold dear. Read slowly and ponder. Bear in mind that we are in our own war with the greatest of enemies. We seem sheltered and yet we are in training for the big event. Also keep in mind that the warriors we meet in everyday life, our armed forces, our drug and vice police squads, our children in supposedly peaceful schools (!), our divorce courts, our homes for the homeless, for unwed mothers, for drug babies. These are now our heroes, our battles, our ethical dilemmas. Search prayerfully for your role. "Who am I?" "Who are you?"

"Who am I?" They often tell me I stepped from my cell's confinement, calmly, cheerfully, firmly, like a squire from his country house. "Who am I?" They often tell me I used to speak to my wardens, freely and friendly and clearly, as though they were mine to command. Who am I?" They also tell me I bore the days of misfortune equably, smilingly, proudly, like one accustomed to win. "Am I then really that which other men tell of?" Or am I only what I myself know of myself? Restless and longing and sick, like a bird in a cage, struggling for breath, as though hands were compressing my throat, yearning for colors, for flowers, for the voices of birds, thirsting for words of kindness, for neighborliness, tossing in expectations of great events,

(continued on page 6)

The Crow's Nest by Bob Kondracki

The Lord's Name

What is in a name? Most of us are probably aware that the origin of our own names usually meant something at the time. For example, my name; Robert, is derived from the Germanic elements *hrod* "fame" and *beraht* "bright." Hence the name "Bright Fame" The Normans introduced this name to Britain, where it replaced the Old English cognate *Hreodbeorht*. It has been a very common English name since that time. (Behindthename.com)

Sometimes names really don't represent us all that accurately, but at other times names can have great power, and be quite profound.

But what about the Lord's name? What does it mean in all the variations we have heard and read over the years? Well, this column is far too short to get into great detail on all the names and meanings, but we can take a brief look at some of the more traditional names we see representing God in the Bible.

God: This is probably the most common name we know the deity of the Bible as, and means "A Being perfect in power, wisdom, and goodness who is worshipped as Creator and Ruler of the universe." (Meriam Webster dictionary)

Yahweh: Was built on the word for "I Am" It is a proper name, and used as the name of God by the ancient Hebrews. When we use it, we should be reminded that God

always was, and always will be, with no beginning and no end. The name came to be regarded by the Jews as too sacred to be spoken.

Abba: This is probably the most intimate name for God in the Bible, and represents God as a loving, protective father, providing us with unconditional love and care. Interestingly, this name is only found in 3 places in the Bible; Romans 8:15, Mark 14:36, and Galatians 4:6.

I Am Who I Am: This is the ultimate declaration of self-sufficiency, self-existence, omnipotence, omnipresence. He is eternal, not reliant on anything or anyone. The absolute sovereign presence and power in the universe. In John 8:58, Jesus called Himself, "I Am," to the extreme consternation of the Jews.

Alpha and the Omega: This means the Beginning and the End. It comes from the Greek alphabet. Alpha is the first letter, and Omega is the last. In Revelation 1:8, God declares He is the Alpha and Omega, Who is, Who was, Who is to come. He has always existed, and will always exist.

Elohim: (or Elohay) This name means "Supreme One" or "Mighty One," and is emphasizing God's incredible power and strength. This is the first name for God that appears in the Bible, and can be found in Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning *Elohim* created the heaven and the earth." The fact that it is the very first name for God in the Bible would remind us that we would do well to never underestimate the power of the Almighty God.

Jehovah: It means "I Am that I Am" An eternal, unchanging, self-existing God. An approximation of the holiest name for God in Hebrew. A name held so sacred by the Jews that it was never written or spoken. It was only uttered by the High Priest when he entered the Most Holy Place on the Day of Atonement. Scholars even today aren't sure how it is to be pronounced. Whenever this name occurred in the sacred books, they pronounced it as "Adonai" as they still do today.

El Shaddai: This word means "God Almighty" Some translations mean "The Overpowerer," suggesting God will accomplish what He wills, overpowering all opposition. Some also interpret Shaddai as "being sufficient." In all situations, El Shaddai represents God as being all-powerful, able to meet any challenge and provide in any circumstances.

These are just a few of the names we use in referring to God, I'm sure I've missed somebody's favorite, but you will notice that regardless of which name you use for God, they are all similar in meaning. They all depict God as the supreme power and ruler of this universe.

Doesn't it seem strange then, that in today's world, we reference God's name so casually, and yes, so carelessly. Contrast that with what we mentioned earlier, that the ancient Israelites were afraid to even mention God's name audibly, and you have quite the disparity.

Even in our own church, I've heard the Lord's name taken in vain. I suspect many don't even realize that they're doing it, it has become so commonplace in our society. You can hardly read anything online before you come across the acronym OMG.

So how did this change, or loss of reverence for God's holy name come about? We don't see this lack of respect in other cultures. If you insult the name of Mohammad in the Islam religion, you are potentially inviting the punishment of death, but insult or blaspheme God's name and we nonchalantly brush it off or laugh at it. I must admit that I've never had a difficult time resisting the urge to use God's name in vain. We often talk about the Devil's wrath, but it would seem to me that deliberately provoking the wrath of the most powerful entity in the universe by blaspheming Elohim's name is not very wise...as a matter of fact its downright hazardous to your health, now and potentially for eternally. Could it be our lack of reverence for God's name is just a by-product of our lack of reverence for God in general. We obviously see lack of respect for God in our society, but we often display lack of reverence even in our church, whether we realize it or not. We all know that we worship a loving, forgiving God, but perhaps we need to stop taking God for granted and start showing Him the respect He is entitled to, beginning with His name.

On His robe and on His thigh He has this name written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords. ~Revelation 19:16~

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The Children's Page by Ashley Richards

Have you ever written a letter to someone you loved? Maybe a grandma or grandpa? Or a cousin far away? Or maybe to Santa Claus at Christmastime! Maybe not, because letters aren't very common anymore, but for very many years, letters were how people talked to others they loved when they were very far away! In this puzzle, you will find the names of some people who the apostles of Jesus loved very much, but other than the letters the apostles wrote, we really don't know all that much about them. They weren't mentioned in the stories of Acts or the Gospels, but they were important people in the early Christian church, and they loved both Jesus AND the writer of the letter—usually Paul or John (have you ever heard their names before?). I wonder what life was like for them in the early church. What do you think they experienced or did or learned? Were the slaves, or rich men? Mamas or traders in the marketplace, like Lydia? Did they face many hardships, like Paul, or no persecution at all? When we get to heaven, we can ask them!

A H C L A U D I A G C R Y A A
N O L N E C A U E L L A P C D
D P E N P A R L P H O E B E P
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|------------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Andronicus | Claudia | Herodion | Narcissus | Phoebe |
| Apphia | Clement | Julia | Nympha | Pudens |
| Artemas | Demas | Junia | Onesimus | Sosipater |
| Carpus | Euodia | Justus | Persis | Titus |
| Chloe | Hermes | Linus | Philemon | Urbanus |

RJA News Corner (continued from page 1)

400 Yard Run: Cory Calapino, (1:14) and Trisha Smith, (1:39)
Overall top team winner was Team Black with members: Manuel Morales-Pichardo, Trisha Smith, Almah Carr, Rahasha Yehl, Kenny Weston, Willow Berkel, Yusuf Arias, and Sebastian Ramos.

Reading Junior Academy is registering students for next school year. You can save on the registration fee if paid by June 30, and even get free registration for recommending new students to our school. See Mr. Stahl or Mrs. Edris for complete details.

Reading Junior Academy: Educating Today and for Eternity!

Going Deeper (continued from page 4)

powerlessly trembling for friends at an infinite distance, weary and empty at praying, at thinking, at making, faint, and ready to say farewell to it all. "Who am I? This or the Other?" Am I one person today and tomorrow another? Am I both at once? A hypocrite before others, and before myself a contemptible woebegone weakling? Or is something within me still like a beaten army fleeing in disorder from victory already achieved?

"Who am I?" They mock me, these lonely questions of mine.

Whoever I am, Thou knowest, O God, I am thine!

God bless us all on our journey.

Amen.