

“Aslan suddenly swung round his head (scattering golden gleams of light from his mane as he did so) . . .” *The Magician’s Nephew, The Chronicles of Narnia (Book 6).*

Since our founding in 1975, we have continually been asked where we came up with the name, *Aslan*. There are still those who are not familiar with C.S. Lewis’ delightful *Narnia* series in which Aslan (which is the Persian word for lion) is the Christ figure. Hopefully this will change *big time* with the highly anticipated feature film release of “The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe, on December 9, 2005 by Disney Pictures and Walden Media.

The movie is being filmed around the world, with much of the shooting done in New Zealand where Tolkien’s “Lord Of The Rings” trilogy was made. We who are C.S. Lewis purists are happy to know that Lewis’ stepson, Douglas Gresham, is a major consultant for the film. None of the striking Christian imagery will be watered down!

# May 2005

## Aslan Is On The Move

### Cycling Program Challenges Aslan Kids To Excel

Back in the early years of Aslan, basketball ruled the day. For the past 10 years, however, Aslan’s major sports emphasis has been our bicycling programs. We now sponsor 5 major rides throughout the year, with our latest one added this past fall. In No-



vember, Aslan took 18 children and several adults to Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania

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Cycling

### DIRECTORS’ REPORT

#### Strength For The Days Ahead



Photograph of Lynn Ann and Craig by Danny Sanchez

We must begin by thanking all of you who have extended your sympathy and love over the loss of our precious son, Daniél. We cannot express how much this outpouring of love and the gifts given in his memory have meant to us. In the midst of these

very sad times and the difficult days ahead of us, we will need your prayers and support more than ever before.

This year Aslan Youth Ministries celebrates our 30th year of service. With your help, the lives of so many children ~ and their families and friends ~ have been changed. But there is so much more that can be done and needs to be done. Again, with God’s blessing and with your help, Aslan will continue on for many, many years transforming the broken lives of disadvantaged children. Thank you for continuing to help us

change the world . . . each day . . . one child at a time!



# Aslan Is On The Move

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STAMP

## Cycling (continued)

for a frigid night of camping out and a 25-mile ride the next day along the stunningly beautiful Lehigh River Gorge Rail Trail.

Although we barely had any complaining, brrrrrr it was cold camping out! However, the gorgeous weather the next day made up for the night.

Aslan children learn so much about themselves through activities that stretch them to their breaking points. In addition to things like team building and anger management, they most importantly learn more about their relationships with God and how He can change their lives forever.



## One Child's Story ⇨

Aaron's\* sweet smile betrays the pain in his young heart. Although we cannot know for sure, we strongly suspect both Aaron and his sister are victims of sexual abuse. Aaron is very intelligent, but he spends a lot of his time making noise ~ sometimes in anger and sometimes just to be heard. It's his way of begging to be noticed.

On the *Jim Thorpe Ramble* Aaron and another girl, Shakira,\* almost came to blows several times. After one of their shouting matches, Shakira took a nasty fall from her bike. It wasn't Aaron's fault and she wasn't seriously hurt, but he couldn't help laughing and making fun of Shakira's misfortune.

After quieting him down, I took Aaron aside for a serious talk. Most of all I tried to get him to imagine how bad he would feel if he'd been the one to fall. From there I asked him how Jesus would want him to treat Shakira. After thinking for a moment, he showed some genuine concern.

Please pray for Aaron and his sister. They recently moved to Virginia where we doubt they'll find a program like Aslan that offers the forgiveness and second chances we offer children.

NOTE: Names above are changed for privacy reasons

been to Haiti with us once. Her time there has inspired her to pray about making missions her life's work! Nia's father (himself a former Aslan kid) and her mother now want to go with us on a future trip.



## Haiti Mission Building Leadership through Adversity

In addition to the children Aslan serves in Asbury Park, Long Branch and Red Bank, Aslan also serves children in Ouanaminthe and L'Akajou, Haiti. Last year we completed the purchase of 5 acres of land on which we will establish a permanent arm of Aslan's ministry. With God's help, we will

in coming years build a Bible school, orphanage & medical clinic.

Each summer Aslan takes select teenagers from our New Jersey programs to Haiti where they help us run a summer day camp for 160 Haitian children and do other mission projects. Spending time in a Third-World setting with extreme heat and extremely difficult conditions dramatically changes the lives and perspectives of our American teens. Nia, pictured right, has