

"Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting Rock."  
Isaiah 26:4

# THE ROCK

Issue No. 7

July 2009

## Special Dates

- June 28 Installation of Church Officers
- June 29 Softball Game
- July 5 Pot Luck Brunch
- July 6 Softball Game
- July 7 Elders
- July 11 VBS Staff Meeting
- July 13 Softball Game
- July 16 Church Council
- July 18 Lutherans at the Sky Sox
- July 20-24 Vacation Bible School
- July 20 Softball Game
- August 30 Rally Day

Vacation Bible School will be held July 20-24. It will be held each morning from 9-11:30 a.m. Our theme will be "Rome: Paul and the Underground Church." Children ages 3-12 are invited to attend. Registration forms are available in the narthex, or you may register online at [www.rockofageslcms.org](http://www.rockofageslcms.org) Register your children as soon as possible so that we can plan better.

We will be needing supplies for our snacks again this year. Watch for more information in the narthex. Most of our staff positions are filled but we still need people for our drama team and to help as assistants. If you can help only one or two days, we can still use you. We need a Senator on Tuesday, a messenger on Wednesday, and a thief on Thursday (you will be forgiven). Assistants need to just put on a costume, be part of the crowd and help the children as they do their projects in the "shops." See me if you are interested.

I would really appreciate your prayers. That is what I need most of all.

In His service,  
Cindy George  
VBS Director

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## **5th of July Bar-B-Que Potluck Brunch**

### **July 5th after the worship service.**

**Those whose last name begins with the letters A thru K are asked to bring a main dish and a salad/side dish. Those whose last name begins with the letters L thru Z are asked to bring a main dish and a dessert item.**

**Get creative with the July 4<sup>th</sup> /Bar-B-Que theme!**

**Join us for good food, great fellowship, and lots of fun.  
There will be door prizes and surprises!**

## Midsummer Ramblings

“And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth; and I will be with thy mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.” [Exodus 4:15]

Dear brothers & sisters,

Watching the news a few evenings ago, I saw a short video of Hazard, Kentucky. Heavy rains had caused extensive flooding of the city. It was a flashback moment. The same thing had occurred when Marilyn and I lived there forty years ago.

It was an interesting experience moving there from the Midwest. I went to work with the Kentucky Division of Forestry and spent my time with the hill people of Appalachia. And I was told by some that these “hillbillies” were an interesting people with their own language. I quickly learned they were right when an old timer hired to help our local forestry office advised me I was to follow him and “retch up the holler to fit far.”

As I grew to know and love these people, I discovered that they had come over from the Scottish highlands nearly 200 years ago, settled into those hills, and had little contact with the rest of the world. And from courses I’d taken in English literature in college, I came to recognize that their speech was a form of Elizabethan English, somewhat like our old King James Bible, it was filled with the old second-person pronouns: “thou,” “thy,” and “ye.” It just took a little time and listening to begin to understand and appreciate their speech.

The fact is that the Elizabethan English was able to make much finer distinctions than our modern English. The “thou,” “thee,” “thy,” and “thine” were used for the second person singular, where as “ye,” “you,” “your,” and “yours” were the corresponding words for the plural. Different words were used for subject, object, and possessive modifiers. Some of the distinctions that the Elizabethan English could make from the original Hebrew or Greek get lost in our New International Version and other modern English translations.

Thus in the little verse from Exodus printed above, God was telling Moses that he (Moses) was to speak to Aaron, and that He (God) would then teach *both* of them, not just Moses, what they were to do. This distinction is clear in the King James translation and easily understood by Kentucky “hillbillies,” yet not understood by many modern people with their NIV.

Another example is in the Lord’s Prayer. “Yours is the kingdom” in its modern form could suggest that many will possess the kingdom, but “thine is the kingdom” clearly recognizes one God alone. Clear words are important for clear meanings. And sometimes our modern translations are a great blessing. Sometimes not. Thankfully, we have so many resources today to help us in our summertime studies. But I encourage you to always remember what Jesus said: “My Words shall not pass away” (Matthew 24:35).

Your servant in Christ Jesus,  
**Pastor Ron**

## Parish Ministry Assistant

Grace, Peace, and Mercy from our risen Lord Jesus. Amen.

On the Island of Gibraltar an old stone sentry box was found with this inscription etched into it:

God and the soldier  
All men adore  
In time of trouble,  
and no more;  
For when war is over  
and all things righted,  
God is neglected--  
the old soldier slighted.\*

A bit eerie maybe but ever so true. This Fourth of July, and the rest of the year, I would like to challenge you all to ponder this. Think about what God has done for you--He died, rose, and took your sins away and even gives you faith to believe in Him to be saved eternally. He did all of this out of love for you.

Think about the soldiers, their families, and all the sacrifices that they make to keep you somewhat protected so you can live your lives chasing Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. These brave men and women of our armed forces do what they do also out of love for you, their country. This should be thought about the next time one hides behind the very protection and freedom they provide while bashing and demeaning them, our flag, and our country.

No, not many think about God and soldiers in the good times. But thank God they are always here. Both deserve better. Happy Fourth of July.

In Christ,  
Troy Dieters, Parish Ministry Assistant

\* "God and the Soldier", The Moral Compass, by Willam J. Bennett, page 637

### Library—Monthly Featured Item

#### **“EXPELLED” - DVD**

*“It is impossible to account for the creation of the universe without the agency of a supreme Being.”—George Washington*

Ben Stein travels the world questioning academicians and learns that educators and scientists are being “punished” for believing there might be Intelligent Design in the universe.



### Up Coming Events

**Rally Day**

**And**

**Church Picnic**

**Sunday, August 30th**

**We are going with an animal theme to tie into our Summer Sunday School Theme so dig out your animal print clothes, hats, scarves, etc. and be prepared to have some fun!!!**

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LORD GOD IS AN EVERLASTING ROCK."  
ISAIAH 26:4

Rock of Ages Lutheran Church  
120 N. 31st Street P.O. Box 6941  
Colorado Springs, CO 80934  
Phone: 719-632-9394  
Fax: 719-632-0772  
Email: rockofages@qwest.net  
Web Site: <http://RockOfAgesLCMS.org>

## Summer Sunday School

Hello Everyone! Summer is in full swing with the Sunday School program. We are doing a special summer theme based on animals of the Bible. All the lessons will lead up to Rally Day which will be on August 30<sup>th</sup> so start digging for those animal print shirts and shorts!

IN HIS NAME!  
Karen Bodine  
SS Superintendent



**Newsletter Deadline**  
**July 22, 2009**

**LUTHERAN HOUR TIME**  
Sun. 7:30 a.m. KZNT 1640 AM

## Cravings

Being a parent changes everything. I know, you all told Anthony and me that before our little miracle Abigail was born. But until her arrival and the weeks and months that have followed I didn't realize the meaning of that word EVERYTHING. I especially didn't realize that it encompassed my spiritual life and my understanding of God's Word.

Take, for example, 1 Peter 2:2-3. "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good." (NIV) I used to think, nice illustration. I got that this verse uses spiritual "milk" (the Word) in a positive sense, unlike 1 Corinthians 3:2 and Hebrews 5:12-14 where it is contrasted with solid food. Here, it is shown to be the proper nourishment for a baby who is growing normally and healthfully. God's Word is necessary for Christians to thrive and grow.

That was before I held my own little newborn in my arms. I watched her peacefully sleeping, eyes closed and breath rhythmic. She was the picture of peace and contentment. Then, her little lips started sucking, her head started turning, and she began rooting for her milk. Her eyes startled open and she began to wail. No preamble, no "good morning, mom." Just a good, hearty scream. No amount of rocking, changing, lullabying, cradling, or anything else would satisfy her. The only thing she wanted was milk. There was no waiting, no reasoning or bargaining (can't she give me 30 seconds to warm it up?) She wanted her milk, and she wanted it NOW. Then, when her tummy was filled she could snuggle back up for a nap, giving her little body time to digest the nutrients and to grow. How gracious of our creator that he made her desire the very thing that she needs to survive!

Now, a couple of months later, she is no longer a newborn. When she wakes up in the mornings, she smiles at me and wants to play. We have a little time before she demands her milk. Still, withhold it a couple of minutes too long and she will let you know! All this got me to thinking. Peter says that as a Christian I should crave the Word like my newborn daughter craves her milk. Do I? Do you?

If you're like me, the answer is probably "sometimes." There are times, thank you Holy Spirit, where I feel as though I cannot live without God's Word. But these are few and far between. I certainly don't wake up demanding it, crying and rooting until I get its life-giving nutrition, hour after hour, day after day. What would happen if we did just that? If we so desired the Word that we demanded personal devotional time, Bible Studies, and corporate worship? What would it be like if we clamored and sought after the Word as after life itself? After all, the Word in Jesus himself and the written Word of the Scriptures is what gives us life- here and eternally. I pray that this summer the Holy Spirit creates just such a desire in your heart!

Sarah Sacco, Deaconess



## FUNDS UPDATE

Building Fund = \$175.00  
Scholarship Fund = \$9,147.75  
Capital Improvement Fund = \$14,247.52  
Ukraine Fund = 1135.40

