

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

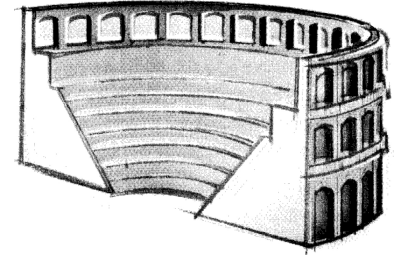
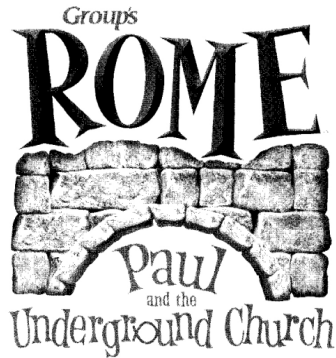
THE ROCK

Issue No. 6

June 2009

Special Dates

- May 31 Commissioning of Ukraine Team
- June 2 Elders Meeting
- June 3 Ukraine team leaves
- June 6 Women's Retreat
- June 7, 14, 21, 28 Softball Practice
- June 13 SS Teachers Appreciation
- June 13 Ladies' Tea
- June 18 Church Council
- June 18-20 Rocky Mtn. District Convention
- June 20 Ukraine Team Returns
- June 21 Fathers' Day
- June 25-27 LWML Biannual Convention
- June 28 Installation of Church Officers
- July 5 Pot Luck Brunch



Our ROME VBS is coming together and will be here in a few months. It will be held July 20-24. Each day the children will become a part of history as they see, hear, touch, and even taste what it was like to live in Bible times. We hope these experiences will make God's word come alive with meaning for all who participate.

We would appreciate your prayers as we continue planning and preparing for VBS. Continue to pray for the right staff members to join our team. And also pray that God would begin to prepare the hearts of the children who will visit ROME VBS so they would be open to hear the gospel. Pray that we would present the gospel clearly to all who participate.

Thank you to all who have volunteered. I appreciate your enthusiasm and support. We still need some more volunteers especially shopkeepers and actors for our Drama Team. We will be having a staff meeting July 11th at 9:30AM. If you have volunteered, plan to be at this meeting to prepare for VBS.

If you know of children who would like to participate, register them as soon as possible. Registration forms will be available in the narthex or you may register online at www.rockofageslcms.org

Also we will be needing supplies for snacks. Watch for more information.

Contact me if you have any questions or concerns or would like to help.

In His Service,
Cindy George
VBS Director

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New Anti-Cheerful Drug Approved!

“And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising God.” - Luke’s description of the disciples following the Ascension. [Luke 24:53]

According to Onion News Network this week, the FDA has just approved a new drug, *Despondex*, a prescription depressant guaranteed to help the twenty million Americans known to be insufferably cheery. Perhaps you know such a person. They are often heard squealing loudly when receiving a call from a friend, frequently using the expression “Cool Beans,” or seen participating in excessive hugging. *Despondex* has been shown to be effective at reducing persistently positive outlooks on life and annoyingly cheerful attitudes.

Dr. Alman Wei noted that the occasional good mood is fine, even normal. This drug is for those with a persistent positive condition. Now, thanks to modern medicine, such excessive exuberance can be controlled with a simple pill. Clinical trials have shown this drug may even save marriages, enabling couples to quietly waste an evening simply staring at the television.

But some are not as enthused with this new drug, believing that there are natural remedies that have been shown to be equally effective, such as simply watching the evening news, reflecting on how old you are, or looking at your bank account or retirement portfolio. But for those with chronic cheerfulness – those with uncontrollable urges to lead Christmas Caroling, organize potlucks, or simply talk to strangers in the grocery checkout line – this new drug is unsurpassed at crushing the souls of such annoying people.

Dear brothers & sisters,

Noting the general exuberance exhibited in our church entry on Sunday mornings – excessive smiling, joyous greetings, uncontrolled hugging – I have pondered whether we should consider having ushers distribute this new pill at the door in order to maintain a proper and serious Lutheran demeanor in our gatherings.

No way! From the first, as the disciples returned to Jerusalem having witness the Lord Jesus ascend back to heaven, they went in joy. And throughout history, Christians have been known for their persistently positive outlook on life, their excessive joy in all situations, their readiness to share a cheerful attitude and the love they have found in Jesus.

And that attitude appears to be alive and well in our family here at Rock of Ages. Even midst the many depressing events within our society, whether political, economical, or social, we as believers today are encouraged by the Holy Spirit to continue joyfully in our faith and to share that joyful spirit with others, witnessing to the truth we have heard and believe, that Jesus Christ has not only risen from the dead, ascended into heaven, but also remains with us always, filling our hearts with the Holy Spirit, our Helper and Comforter in all things. May that joyful spirit remain in your hearts and minds.

Your servant in Christ Jesus,

Pastor Ron

Credit to Onion News Network and their YouTube video found at
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jd4tugPM83c&feature=subscription>

[A note to those who are of a more traditional Lutheran frame of mind: this news article was a spoof]

Ukraine Mission

Here it is again, time to pack the tubs and suitcases and drive to the airport. Another Mission trip almost under way. We will have many of the same areas and people to work with. But also many new faces to get to know and new tasks to accomplish.

We are busy practicing our skits, learning new songs to present to the children, and trying to work in all the last minute changes. We must always be aware that things kind of happen in (Ukraine) time and all things will not be exactly as planned. Even though unplanned, these things always seem to go well and the changes tends to keep us on our toes and ready for anything that comes our way.

The Pastors there are now preparing our places to stay and the trips to the places they would like for us to go. They are always ready to assist in any way that they can. They are so very thankful that we do not forget them from year to year.

We must again thank all of you for all of your support and prayers for the mission, We could not in any way do this without you all. We will be preparing a full report on our return to let you know what went on during the trip.

We will miss the members that will not be able to go this year, They have contributed so much in the past and we do not want any of them to feel left out. They all belong to this group and always will.

Yours in the Lords service,
John Yenter

Faith Active in Love

Summer is in the air! The trees are leafed out, the dandelions are coming up and lawn-mowers being dusted off and taken out of their winter retirement. Many of you are probably dreaming of your favorite summer pastimes- fishing, sailing, swimming, walking, fellowshiping, volunteering... In your planning for the warm months, keep in mind these activities!

- Women's Retreat June 6- There's still time to sign up! Relax, learn about your gifts in the body of Christ, and enjoy time to grow in your faith with your sisters in Christ.
- VBS- Share the gospel with the next generation
- AIDS Walk Colorado- August 12 in Denver. Support HIV CareLink by walking or donating to a walker. Talk with Sarah or Anthony Sacco for more information.

Your Sister in Christ,
Sarah Sacco

Library—Monthly Featured Item

“THE NATIVITY STORY” - DVD

This movie is about Mary, the mother of our Lord, and Joseph. It tells of their experiences when Mary was told by the Angel that she would be the mother of Jesus.

We are months away from Christmas but this is always a timely story. December 25th may not be the exact date for the birth of our Lord, but if it was indeed in December, spring would have been about the time she was early in her pregnancy.

Throughout the movie we experience the trials of a virgin birth and the effects it has on everyone from Mary, Joseph and their families to the villagers in the town of Nazareth. We witness the appearance of the angel and Mary's visit with Elizabeth.

This is a powerful, timeless, and visually magnificent story of this historical family. Definitely a "family feature that will be cherished for years to come."



Parish Ministry Assistant

Grace, Peace, and Blessings from our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Well, they did it. I've recommended that the 1st year Junior Catechism Class of '08-'09 move on into 2nd Year status. They can say the 10 Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, give an understanding of the Office of the Keys and Confession, and can even sing the Doxology. Along with a few Bible verses I consider essentials, and the taking of Exams over the subject material, it was a good beginning to a foundation that will be completed next year (Lord willing). God has blessed all of us.

Why is Catechism so important? I could give you the churchworker spin that you have already heard but I won't do that today. I have just one word that will give reason to the madness called Catechism and that one word is this: Mormons.

Yesterday I was visited by two more lost brethren. The last time I had visitors they caught me in a mood. In a pleasant good 'ol boy manner I educated them on their own history, challenged them to look things up for themselves, and in the process felt pretty good about scaring the heck out of these boys. They never came back. I was a great defender of the faith I thought as I thumped my chest in victory after they were gone, but what did I win? Vanity.

So yesterday I didn't go after the boys. I kept it simple because after they found out I was a Lutheran churchworker (they knew something was up by the wooden cross hanging outside our door) they asked me what I (or us as a church) believed. I told them basic Christianity, then went into detail about the Trinity, Jesus and the cross, sacraments, and all sorts of things like that. Things that were taught to me by the power of the Holy Spirit from our Catechism. Things that our young people and many of you have learned because Luther wanted a book to help people learn the basics of our free gift of salvation from our Lord.

We also then were able to go into more Bible related talk, application to our lives, and even Hermeneutics (bible interpreting bible) which they had never heard of, but liked and were fascinated by. I wasn't mean, didn't belittle them, and it was funny because even though they are trained like Kirby Vacuum salesmen, I think in a small way they became the customer. They wanted to pray and I have to admit I did pray with them, but the Lord allowed me to turn it around and pray last so after praying for their families and health I could sum up our Christian beliefs with some good 'ol Theology of the Cross, focusing in on our Lord Jesus dying on the cross and rising from the dead to take our sins away and giving us the Holy Spirit so that we may believe. I wasn't a great defender of the faith and didn't thump my chest in victory this time. I just wanted to be nice, say what I believe, and try to represent Jesus when most Christians just have an attack or mean mindset concerning these boys, like I mentioned I did earlier. Later when I was able to ponder the moment, I realized that it was really just our Catechism I was talking about.

If you get a chance to find your copy of the Catechism, dust it off and read it again. You may be surprised at who God sends your way that might need to hear what's in it.

Blessings in Jesus,
Troy Dieters, Parish Ministry Assistant

Special Event

4th of July Bar-B-Que Potluck Brunch

After church on July 5th. Bring your favorite Bar-B-Que food items, side dishes and desserts and join us for a good time and great fellowship!

Women's Retreat

Daughters of the King: The Colorful Body of Christ

June 6, 2009

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Rock of Ages Lutheran Church

120 N. 31st Street

719-632-9394

RSVP by June 1 to Sue Herrmann - 635-3059 or e-mail

Cost is \$15 for adults

\$10 for students and teens 13 and up

Come spend a day with your Lord and Savior in the company of your sisters. The day will begin with breakfast delights at 9:00 a.m. The retreat will begin at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided.

You are invited to join us as we look at our personalities, discover women of the Bible who share some of our traits and experience different devotional techniques to enrich our time spent with Christ.

We will close with devotions at about 3:15 p.m.

We challenge you to bring a friend.

Women's Retreat Committee

Sarah Sacco

Megan Martin

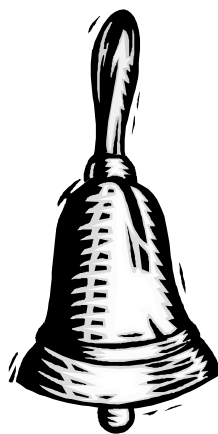
Sue Herrmann

Bell Choir

Thank You Rock of Ages!

Bell Choir has completed its first year of praising God. For those of us in the choir it has been a year of excitement and wonder, being introduced to a new means of giving joy thru the art of music. Over all, it has been a year of growth, knowledge and fun.

We have enjoyed sharing this gift with you and hope you have found this new sound uplifting in your worship. Now, you can help us by sharing a favorite hymn of



yours that you would like to have transcribed for the bells. We would love to share that hymn with the Congregation.

Bell Choir would also be pleased to extend a bell to you if you would like to explore the world of ringing. Hand bells does not require knowledge of music, all you really need is the ability to count. We guarantee you will find new depth to your worship of our loving God. Just speak to any of the Bell Choir or to D.J. Ebert. We will begin rehearsals again in September.

CPH Needs Your Help—CPH needs your input as they make decisions about the development of new technology-based products and services for churches, schools, and homes. To participate, log on at—
www.cph.org/techsurvey

AN OLD-FASHIONED DAY AT THE PARK!

June 28th from Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Join Lutheran Family Services
at Rock Ledge Ranch.

See bulletin board for more information!

"TRUST IN THE LORD FOREVER, FOR THE
LORD GOD IS AN EVERLASTING ROCK."
ISAIAH 26:4

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Newsletter Deadline June 17, 2009

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

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 30th so start digging for those animal print shirts and shorts! The bulletin covers are going great and thank you to all those who are sponsoring the printing! If you are interested in sponsoring a month please contact Kay. Please keep the Sunday School program in your prayers, as times get tougher its important to have a program to support and teach the youth, parents and the congregation! A bright smiling face always seems to make the dark clouds roll away! If you have any ideas, suggestions, or want to get involved please don't hesitate, let us know!

IN HIS NAME!
Karen Bodine
SS Superintendent



Sixth Annual Lutherans at the Sky Sox

Sky Sox vs. Fresno Grizzlies

Security Service Field (Powers Blvd. & Barnes)

All-you-can-eat buffet: 6:05—7:35 p.m.

Game starts: 7:05 p.m.

**Social and Fund Raiser Event at the Picnic Terrace
benefiting the needs of**

Lutheran Valley Retreat and Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp

Seating is limited! Advance ticket purchase is required.

Cost \$10.00 per ticket.

Give Kay your name, number of tickets and the money for the tickets and she will get them to you.

Event is hosted by local chapters of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans



FUNDS UPDATE

Building Fund = \$155.00
Scholarship Fund = \$9,147.75
Capital Improvement Fund = \$14,247.52
Ukraine Fund = (-\$2900.28)

