

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

THE ROCK

Issue No. 5

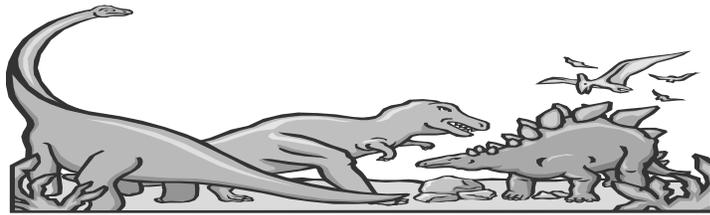
May 2010

Special Dates

- April 25 Youth Night
- April 27 Ladies Guild
- May 2 Voters Assembly
- May 3 Ladies Bible Study
- May 4th Ladies Guild Salad Supper
- May 6 National Day of Prayer
- May 8 Discipleship Study
- May 9 Graduate Recognition
- May 10 Book Club
- May 13 Ukraine Meeting
- May 14-16 Ukraine LVR Weekend
- May 16 Confirmand Questioning
- May 16 Youth Night
- May 17 Ladies Bible Study
- May 20 Church Council
- May 23 Pentecost
- May 23 Confirmation
- May 27 Preschool Graduation
- May 30 Trinity Sunday
- May 31 Memorial Day—Office Closed
- June 6 Commission Ukraine Team
- June 11-13 LWML Convention

"Extreme Dinosaurs"

Hello Everyone! What an amazing Spring so far! Thanks to everyone who attended this years first "Easter Carnival", it was fun for all! We have some very exciting news for Sunday School...



We will be doing an "Extreme Dinosaur Theme" this year for Summer Sunday School. I would like to encourage all kids to attend the lessons as there will always be fun hands on activities and crafts and some pretty cool learning going on! There will even be a field trip for all Sunday School classes during the summer to a Dinosaur Attraction. At the very end we will have an "Extreme Dinosaur Theme" Rally Day to complete the package.

With all this said... if you think that you might want to try teaching one of these fun filled days, please let me know!!!! We do need teachers and the sign up will be a week-to-week lesson schedule. Please let me know if you are interested, there will be a mandatory meeting for all Summer Sunday School teachers on May 30th during Education Hour!

Thanks for all the support and prayers and hope to see you "back in time" come summer time at our Dinosaur Sunday School!

In His Name,



Karen Bodine

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A

"is for Answers from God's Holy Book;
Just open the pages and take a good look.
God created the earth, in space it did hang;
Creation's first day, without a BIG BANG."

From "D is For Dinosaur" by Ken & Mally Ham

Dark Clouds & Shakin' Ground

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ Jesus,

It's still Easter. At least on the Church Calendar. But how quickly we move on. Spring is here, skies are blue – at least over us. There's a Good Friday feeling over much of Europe recently. From Matthew 27:45, "...darkness fell upon all the land." Volcanic clouds cover the land.

In recent months we seen world leaders gather to discuss all the environmental problems about to destroy our world and how we must correct these things. Sometimes we need to be reminded just Who is in charge. One Icelandic volcano has pretty much shut down Europe, caused billions of dollars in lost business and what other fallout (pun intended) will result remains to be seen.

It's been an interesting year thus far as far as natural disasters around the world. There has already been a long string of major quakes since the first of the year in the news – Haiti, Chili (2x), Turkey, California, China (2x), Indonesia, Argentina – but, rest assured, the scientists tell us this is all normal. Then why all the news coverage and interest? In Matthew 24, Jesus warned, "See to it that no one misleads you" (vs. 4). Then He continued, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains" (vss. 7,8).

Just normal occurrences or signs? In the same chapter, Jesus continued, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My Words will never pass away. No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man."

We see what we want to see. Do we see the world through His Words? His promises? Or do we choose to see through the words of agnostic, unbelieving promulgators of their own doctrines of a world evolved with no God? This is nothing new. Peter had to address such issues already in his Epistle. "But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves. Many will follow their shameful ways and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. In their greed these teachers will exploit you with stories they have made up. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping" (2 Peter 2:1-3). "First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, "Where is this 'coming' He promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation" (2 Peter 3:3-4).

The ground shook on Good Friday and darkness covered the skies. But Easter brought forth a new Light as Jesus rose from the tomb. But on our calendar Easter is past. Ascension is just a few days away, when Jesus disappeared among the clouds. And the Church continues on through its calendar year.

But Jesus told us to be watching. He will return, the rest of the story is still unfolding. There's a whole lot a shakin' going on, brothers and sisters (and it's not all just the jackhammers going under my office remodeling the bathrooms). Because the rest of the story is that He will return in the clouds – as promised, "After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever" (1 Thess. 4:17). That is our story. Be sure to share it!

Your servant in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Ron

Library—Monthly Featured Item

You can go to the movie theaters, rent movies from Netflix or Blockbuster for a spectacular selection of genres. Our small library tries to purchase movies that might teach some of life's needed lessons, and possibly bring us closer to God. We try to stock movies that are wholesome for the whole family - adults and children. The following movie purchase surely fulfills these requirements:

"SAVING SARAH CAIN" - Film directed by Michael Landon, Jr. & starring Lisa Pepper, Elliott Gould, and Tess Harper

Sarah Cain (Lisa Pepper) is a sweet, successful, slightly self-absorbed, and a city girl through and through. However, when the untimely death of her sister draws her to Amish country for the funeral, she makes a discovery that will change her life: she is now the legal guardian for 5 Amish nieces and nephews! Desperately trying to juggle the kids, her career, and her comfort level, Sarah must reevaluate her priorities as she prepares for the biggest culture shock of everyone's lives.

Something the “guys” might enjoy:

Isolated...Trapped... **"DECEIVED"** Contact has been made. With Judd Nelson and Louis Gossett Jr. In a remote space observatory in the Sierra Nevada mountains an extraterrestrial signal has been received. Contact has been made. A powerful group rushes to the observatory to exploit the signal and harness its incredible power. Chief among them is Colonel David Garrett (Louis Gossett Jr.) who has his own dark plans.

But when they arrive, the observatory is destroyed. With a fierce storm moving in, the group is cut off from the world and becomes easy prey for whatever is awaiting them. Caught in the middle of the deadly mystery is computer expert Jack Jones (Judd Nelson).

With everyone ready to bribe, seduce or even kill for the signal, and Jack the only one who can relay it, Jack quickly becomes a wanted man. But why is this signal so special? And where exactly did it come from? There is only one way out, but even if they can see it, will they believe it?

“Filled with suspense and action.” “A gripping drama with masterful performances.”



Book Club

Whether you found much to love in The Shack by William P. Young or found it difficult to swallow, you are invited to a lively discussion Monday, May 10 at 7 pm. This book has caused much controversy since it's release, and contains many interesting topics for discussion. We look forward to seeing you there!

Upcoming book selections:

May: The Shack by William P. Young

June: Screwtape Letters by C.S Lewis

July: Darwin's Black Box by Michael J. Behe

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
DISTRICT
LWML CONVENTION
JUNE 11-13, 2010
DOUBLETREE HOTEL
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO



Susan Avila will be representing Rock of Ages Ladies' Guild as a delegate to the convention. She will be voting to elect officers, the mission goal for 2010-2012 biennium and the mission grants. Let Susan know if you have specific candidates or mission grants you would like her to vote for.

Highlights of the convention include:

- Jan Struck – Banquet Speaker, Enrichment session leader & interrupter
- Rev. Randall Golter, RMD President – Sunday morning Proclaimer
- Rev. Gary Piepkorn and Rev. Gary Rahe, Bible study leaders
- Enrichment sessions with topics for everyone

Gifts from the Heart will go to Bear Necessities, a support program for Mesa County foster children. The following items will be gathered for the children. You are welcome to contribute any of these items:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Lotions and Baby powder | Baby diapers and wipes | Baby bottles |
| Pajamas | Pacifiers | Onesies |
| Sleepers | Bed sheets (twin or crib size) | |
| Cash for car seats and booster seats | Crayons and coloring books | |

For more information regarding the convention see the January and March issues of the *Tiding*. Candidates and mission grants will be in the May issue. Registration information is on the Rocky Mountain District LWML website (www.rmdlwml.org)

(Note: Sarah Hulsey designed the convention logo!)



V B S
July 12-16

Spend A While On the Nile!

This summer we will be taking a journey back to Ancient Egypt... without leaving our church! Join us and find out what happened to Joseph as he went from Pharaoh's prison to the palace. We will discover how God was with Joseph in good times and bad. As we plan and prepare for our VBS, we cherish your prayers. Pray that God would give us wisdom in our planning, will provide the workers we need, and prepare the hearts of the children who will be participating. Many people have already volunteered to help us. Thank You. If you would like to join them, contact Kim Foster, Cindy George, or Suzie Ricker. We are looking forward to a great time this summer!

Parish Ministry Assistant

Grace, peace, and mercy from our RISEN Lord and Savior Jesus. Amen.

"...And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

Sounds simple enough. Is it? Is this how we live? Is this how we treat other people? Is this how we treat those with whom we disagree with or are strangers with? Do we ever look down on other people? How about in our families or circles of friends and acquaintances? I cannot answer any of this since only God knows our hearts. I can only answer for me, and that answer is "no".

Don't get me wrong, I want to act justly, to love mercy, and walk humbly with God, but a lot of the time I cannot. I want to be the kind of person to forgive and forget, to look past insults and the meanness of others, but it's hard. My desire is to see Jesus in everyone--even my enemies--but sometimes I just fall short.

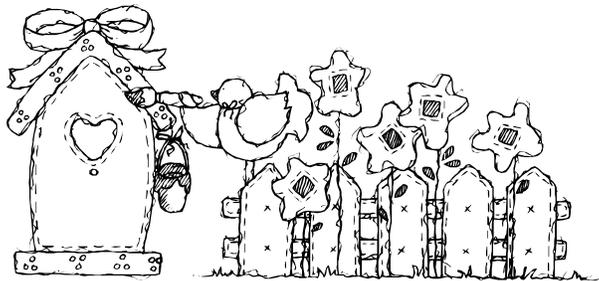
If it were up to me, I'd be lost. Thankfully it's not up to me--I have a Savior in Jesus Christ. He's the same Savior you and all the world has. He saves us not because of what we have done, but because of what HE has done.

Jesus loves us even though He has no reason to love us.

So much that He chose to die on a cross for OUR sinfulness, taking it all upon Himself for all time. When He rose from the dead, defeating the devil and all evil, He made us clean, no matter what. Furthermore, Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit so we could believe and have faith in Him and also to be with us in our Christian lives. Jesus helps us to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with Himself because He is always with us and will never leave us, even when we leave Him.

So rejoice that our sins are forgiven in Christ Jesus. Rejoice in knowing that He is with us helping us to become the kind of people He wants us to be. Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice. Amen.

In Jesus,
Troy Dieters, PMA



A little birdie
invites all the women and girls
to the Rock of Ages Ladies' Guild annual salad supper.

The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. on May 4th in the lower level of the church.

Birds will be the topic for the devotion.

We'll see how they teach us about faith, repentance, self-esteem, gratitude, love and more.

Bring a friend to join in the fun, food and fellowship.

And, if you want, bring a salad or dessert to share.

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

Really Messy Play Day

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>

Coming in June

Look out under 5 crowd! Invite a friend, wear your play clothes,
bring an extra set for the ride home and join us for a VERY,
VERY messy fun time!

More details to follow

Newsletter Deadline May 19, 2010

LUTHERAN HOUR TIME

Sun. 7:30 a.m. KZNT 1640 AM



Summer Volunteering

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."

Do you have some extra energy or time now that the days are getting longer? Here are some ideas from a few of our local ministries:

Mission Medical:

If you have medical training, such as being a Dr, nurse, PA, etc they can always use your skills! The clinic is also in need of teams of volunteers willing to clean and/or paint on a Saturday morning. Children are encouraged to join in! Talk to me if you are interested in this one.

Lutheran Family Services

Refugee services can use people willing to help furnish apartments for new arrivals. If you are looking for extra motivation to do some Spring cleaning, household items are needed as well!

Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity

Whether you have construction skills or not, volunteers are needed to help build homes for needy families. Volunteers must be 16 or older.

Peace

Deaconess Sarah



FUNDS UPDATE

Building Fund = \$210.00
Scholarship Fund = \$12,741.15
Capital Improvement Fund = \$13,826.36
Ukraine Fund = \$2251.68
Bathroom = \$1271.00

