

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

# THE ROCK

Issue No. 3

March 2010

## *Special Dates*

- March 1 Elders Meeting
- March 6 Stewart Jennings  
70th birthday party
- March 8 Circuit Pastors here
- March 9 Ash Wednesday
- March 9 Lenten Dinner &  
Worship
- March 11 Young Adult Game  
night
- March 12 Jr. & Sr. Youth  
Movie Night
- March 12 Change clocks
- March 13 Young Adult Con-  
cert
- March 14 Book Club
- March 15 Ukraine Meeting
- March 16 Lenten Dinner &  
Service
- March 17 Church Council
- March 18 3rd Friday
- March 18 Singer/Songwriter
- March 20 Youth & Parent  
Meeting
- March 23 Lenten Dinner &  
Service
- March 30 Lenten Dinner &  
Worship
- April 1&2 Women's Retreat

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## *People of the Month*

**Youth: Andrew Bochnak**

**Year in School: Senior! Class of 2011**

**What school do you attend?**

Pine Creek High School

**What are some of your hobbies?**

I like bowling, playing sports and watching sports.

**Do you have any ideas for what vocation you might choose?**

I want to be a sports commentator/pro-bowler.

**What is a Bible verse, story, hymn, or song that has special meaning to you? Why?**

“Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.” Proverbs 3:5-6

If you delight yourself in the Lord, He will always fill your desires. Although we are all sinners, He forgives us for all of our wrong doing. He is always there for us and if we believe in Him, He will never leave our side..

## *Youth Group*

We had a great time sledding this past month. Hopefully you saw the photos posted in the narthex.

This month we will have a movie night at the Clymers' home on Saturday, March 12th at 7:00 p.m. We will also have a youth & parent meeting on March 20th after Education Hour to plan activities for the next several months.

Our Sunday morning classes have been very informative and relates to our lives today. We explore how to remain faithful to ourselves and our Lord as we are out in the secular world. New topics will be starting soon so join us during Education Hour for fun, surprises, and learning!

## ASH WEDNESDAY

## MARCH 9TH

**SEE PAGE 5 FOR FULL SCHEDULE OF LENT AND EASTER ACTIVITIES**

## The View from the Top

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ Jesus,

It's been a nice long journey through the season of Epiphany, one of the longest. On March 6 we finally reach the mountain top – Transfiguration Sunday. I love driving into our church parking lot every morning and lifting my eyes up to see Pikes Peak with the sun shining brightly on the snow this time of year. Psalm 121 always comes to mind: “I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From whence shall my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.”

I'm guessing that most of you have been to the top of Pikes Peak. What could you see from there? The city stretched out below you, plains to the east, the Collegiate Peaks to the west. Such an amazing view. At the very beginning of His ministry, the devil took Jesus to the top of a very high mountain (Matthew 4:8) and tried to tempt Jesus with all the kingdoms of the world and all their glory. But Jesus had known a far more glorious perspective, Jesus' hands had spread out the entire heavens and earth in the moments of Creation. Jesus had a far better vision than any the devil could offer, His glory outshone any small glory in the kingdoms of this world.

And now, up on the mountain with Jesus, the disciples were privileged to get a glimpse of that glory as Jesus was Transfigured before their eyes, His face shining like the sun. All the glories of the world became insignificant to them in that moment. They wanted to remain there with that vision. But it wasn't to be.

And Jesus led them back down the mountain on one last journey, a road that led to a Cross. And on another little hill outside the walls of Jerusalem Jesus was lifted up in glory one more time, a very different picture of glory. John 12:23, 32, Jesus said, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified... And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.”

The true glory of Christ Jesus is seen on the Cross. His love and sacrifice for us was displayed for all the world to see. We did not stand upon the Mount of Transfiguration or on the hill of Calvary. But the disciples recorded the story for us. And we do see with hearts of faith, enabled by the Spirit to see and to believe that in Jesus we have a Savior whose glory outshines all Creation.

And so we will once again begin a Lenten journey to the Cross with Jesus on March 9, Ash Wednesday. During our Wednesday evening special services we will seek to see Christ Jesus and His glory a little bit clearer, improve our vision through some of the stranger places of Scripture: Two Tablets of Stone, a Few Vessels of Oil, a Field, and others. So come, join brothers and sisters on the journey, seeking the Christ and His glory.

Your servant in Christ Jesus,

Pastor Ron

Vacation Bible School

“Hometown Nazareth—  
Where Jesus was a Kid”

July 11-15, 2011

## Library—Monthly Featured Item

THE SECRETS OF JONATHAN SPERRY - (2008) DVD (Genre: Faith & Spirituality Religious and Spiritual Drama, Inspirational sTORY)

The lives of three 12-year-old buddies -- sharing a carefree existence in the summer of 1970 -- suddenly change when one of them, Dustin (Jansen Panettiere), makes an unexpected friend after cutting the lawn of 75-year-old Jonathan Sperry (Gavin MacLeod). As Jonathan shares lessons in faith with Dustin and his pals (Frankie Ryan Manriquez and Allen Isaacson), a spiritual transformation occurs in this Christian drama helmed by Rich Christiano.



## A Season of Reflection

What are your associations with the word “Lent?” In our church family it may bring to mind delicious, shared meals and evening worship services. If you were brought up in a Catholic setting, perhaps you remember fish on Fridays and fasts. Perhaps during these 40 days preceding Easter you make a practice of fasting by “giving up” something.

A wise person once suggested to me that instead of fasting by removing a particular item, I might actually ADD something - a more concentrated devotion, prayer, or service time that would deepen my relationship with Jesus. That is the ultimate purpose of fasting- to clear up more time and space for Christ. With hectic, busy schedules jam-packed with activities and expectations, this may be the more difficult sacrifice.

My intention is not to lay on guilt- after all we are under grace here! But there are several things that you might be able to “add” to your Lenten fast this year.

Joining together in fellowship to break bread during the Lenten Meals is a possibility, and then your stomach and heart will be ready to worship!

Enjoy reading? Try a Christian classic like “Pilgrim’s Progress” or “Luther’s Small Catechism.” Just 5 minutes of reading will give you food for thought for an entire day!

Turn on some Christian Music while you are driving- hymns, radio stations, or kids’ cd’s all offer something different.

If you are a lady, join us on April 1 and 2 for the retreat.

Participate in a Bible Study- Sunday Morning, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Mornings, or 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday evenings for Women.

Perhaps you can set aside a brief time, even once a week, for your entire household, your family, to enjoy time together with Jesus in His Word.

May this Lenten season be a time of adding to your faith and your walk with our Crucified and Risen Lord.

*Deaconess Sarah*

## Ukraine Mission

As the Ukraine team prepares for their 2011 trip, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful relationships with which we have been blessed for the duration of the mission. As you may recall, our chosen verse for last year's trip came from Ephesians 4:3, which says, "Eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." It has been with these words studied and on our hearts that we have looked forward to each opportunity to assist our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, knowing that this "unity of Spirit" is not only amongst the ROA team members, but shared with those assisting us on the field.

Although much of our preparation goes towards organizing the two weeks spent abroad, we know that there are fifty other weeks of the year where we cannot be in person to support the Christian growth of a country in need. That being said, it is during these additional weeks of the year that we support through prayer, continued communication, and special projects (such as the shoeboxes), in an effort to demonstrate our heart for those in Ukraine.

Our contacts in Ukraine work with us and each other throughout the year to not only prepare for the team's time on the field but also to continue building the Church in what can be, at times, an environment hostile to Christianity. It is with their support that we as a team have been and, prayerfully, will continue to be blessed with a successful mission, both during our times there and our times away.

The team of five from Rock of Ages last year quickly became a team of seven, thanks to Alexi, our contact in Ukraine and pastor of a church there. Alexi has always helped to find us translators, and in the past two years they have been translators rooted in the Christian faith. Zhenya and Dima, our two translators in 2010, helped to make us an affective team by providing meaningful translation during presentations and even helping to re-write portions of skits in Russian/Ukrainian so that they would be better received. We continue to communicate with them, although we are not certain if they will again translate for the team.

To the extent that it is always the team's passion to model Christian fellowship to the people of Ukraine, it is incredible the degree to which they demonstrate this very thing to us. The pastors and their families with whom we work consistently exhibit Christian brotherhood through their relationships with one another. Their apparent joy with each opportunity to see each other (which is considered a treat since they are separated by many miles) is a wonderful example of the joy that we should all feel when greeting one another.

It has been and continues to be such a blessing to work with each of the people who make the mission possible, both those from our church and those in Ukraine. Although I will not be joining the team in Ukraine this upcoming summer, I will continue to feel a part of that vast collection of individuals who, with the help of God, keep the mission alive and well.

~Megan

## Ukraine Mission Team Fund Raiser – Selling Quilts

The Ukraine Team has been selling quilts that were donated by the Rock of Ages Quilting Group to help raise funds for our mission trip to Ukraine this June. We began this effort in January at other area Lutheran Churches. The team decided these quilts should also be offered to Rock of Ages' families. The fund-raising price for a twin-size quilt is \$25 each. These quilts are displayed in the church basement or you can ask any team member and they will help you. The Team is grateful to the Quilting Group for their generous donation of their beautiful quilts for this fund-raising.

Thrivent will be matching funds raised on the basis of 50 cents matched per dollar raised in sales up to a maximum match of \$700. Come check out these beautiful quilts.

## Lenten and Easter Schedule

March 9—Ash Wednesday—

5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner hosted by the Child Care Center

6 or 6:15 we will have a game of “Are You Smarter than a Catechumen”

7:00 p.m. Worship Service— “Mine!” Exodus 20:17 “The commandments point out our desire to acquire”

Come and watch as our Elders are challenged with questions during our Lenten Dinners. We will have a different Elder each Wednesday! Our Confirmation Students will be there to help them if they need it!

March 16—2nd Wednesday in Lent—

5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner hosted by the Ladies Guild

6 or 6:15 we will have a game of “Are You Smarter than a Catechumen”

7:00 p.m. Worship Service— “Nothing” 2 Kings 4:1-7 “Elisha provides for a widow”

March 23—3rd Wednesday in Lent—

5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner hosted by the Ukraine Mission Team

6 or 6:15 we will have a game of “Are You Smarter than a Catechumen”

7:00 p.m. Worship Service— “Marked” Isaiah 44:5 “God marks his people”

March 30—4th Wednesday in Lent—

5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner hosted by the Bell and Vocal Choirs

6 or 6:15 we will have a game of “Are You Smarter than a Catechumen”

7:00 p.m. Worship Service— “Enlist” Judges 6:16 “Gideon’s call”

April 5—Decorate Easter Cookies— 6 p.m.

April 6—5th Wednesday in Lent—

5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner hosted by the ROA Sports Teams

6 or 6:15 we will have a game of “Are You Smarter than a Catechumen”

7:00 p.m. Worship Service— “Invest” Jeremiah 32:25 “Jeremiah buys a field in wartime”

April 13—6th Wednesday in Lent—

5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner hosted by the Usher Teams

6 or 6:15 we will have a game of “Are You Smarter than a Catechumen”

7:00 p.m. Worship Service— “Finish” 1 Kings 11:3 “Solomon can’t finish what he started”



April 17—Palm Sunday—

9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

10:30 a.m. Education Hour

April 21—Maundy Thursday—

7:00 p.m. Worship with Communion— “Refuge” Joshua 20:7-9

April 22—Good Friday—

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service— “Nobody” Deuteronomy 7:7



April 24—Easter—

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service

7:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast hosted by the Elders

9:00 a.m. Festival Worship Service with Holy Communion— “Buried” 2 Kings 13:21

10:30 a.m. Easter Carnival—in playground area. Includes egg hunt, crafts and games!



April 25—Easter Monday—

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED!!!!!!



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

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## **Newsletter Deadline February 16, 2011**

### **LUTHERAN HOUR TIME**

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

### **DECORATE EASTER COOKIES**

**APRIL 5TH AT 6:30 P.M.**

**Bring a couple dozen cookies to decorate and join us for fun & fellowship!**

### **Book Club Upcoming Selections**

Join us the Second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. to discuss these selections. Lively discussion from multiple viewpoints is appreciated!

**March** **Pilgrim's Progress** by John Bunyan. This classic Christian allegory was initially begun by the author while in prison! Perhaps it has been on your reading list for a while...

**April** **Has Christianity Failed You?** By Ravi Zacharias. Zacharias asked this question, and to his surprise filled a 5,000 seat venue with people answering "yes." In this book, he explores many of the concerns that people leaving the fold speak of.



### **FUNDS UPDATE**

Building Fund = \$210.00  
Scholarship Fund = \$12,945.91  
Capital Improvement Fund = \$15,896.69  
Ukraine Fund = \$10,429.00  
Bathroom = — \$3419.30



## **Made in His Image: Daughters of the King Ladies' Retreat**

**Friday, April 1 6:45-9 pm  
and**

**Saturday April 2 9 am-4:30pm  
at Rock of Ages**

*"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."*

Psalm 139:13-14

Come and let God's Word renew your mind, refresh your spirit, and relax your body! Open to women ages 13 to 120, we will have time for Bible Study, fellowship, and pampering. Bring a friend! Child Care offered. Registration forms are available and need to be turned in by March 20! Cost: \$20 for adult and \$15 for student. Includes snacks, materials, lunch Saturday, and pampering activities!

## **Young At Heart**

The Young At Heart had an enjoyable time on Monday, Feb. 7th. We had a delicious pot luck lunch and fun playing a game of exchanging the white elephant gifts.

I'm happy to announce that we have a new member who joined us on Monday—Barbara Hermansen of Rock of Ages. Welcome aboard Barbara!

Our next gath-Monday March China restaurant, 1811 S. Academy. Time & Marcie Paulus will be hosting. welcome to join

Call Rose Blunt for more information (632-1701).



ering will be on 7th at the Taste of rant, 1811 S. is 11:30 a.m. Don and Sarah Lerche You are most us.

***Hope you can join us!!!***