

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

# THE ROCK

Issue No. 9

September 2011

## Special Dates

- August 28 Rally Day
- August 31 Teachers Meeting
- Sept. 1 Thursday Morning Bible Study Starts
- Sept. 3 Youth group helping with a move
- Sept. 5 Labor Day—Office Closed
- Sept. 6 Elders
- Sept. 7 Wedding rehearsal
- Sept. 10 Engledowl/Lampert Wedding
- Sept. 11 Potluck in the park & Youth vs. Softball team game
- Sept. 12 Book Club
- Sept. 14 Quilting starts
- Sept. 15 Church Council
- Sept. 16 Third Friday
- Sept. 16 Songwriter startss
- Sept 17 Young Adult Bible Study
- Sept 17 Card Making Event
- Sept. 19 Ladies Bible Study starts
- Sept. 21 Confirmation starts
- Sept. 22 Preschool Potluck
- Sept. 24 Youth volunteering at Mission Medical
- Sept. 25 Bell Choir starts

## Inside this Issue

Potbellied Piggies	2
Quilting	3
Epistle of Straw	3
Library Selection of the Month	4
Sports Update	5
Bell Choir	5
Book Club	6
Card Making Event	6
Funds Update	6

## People of the Month

I did have a Youth of the month for September—Kaitlyn Bolte but I have lost the paperwork, so hopefully she will agree to do another one and I will run it in October. Sorry! *Kay*

## September Has Arrived!

It's time to gear up and get ready for all our activities to start up again. This year we have kind of a staggered start up so here is the run down:

Thursday Morning Bible Study—open to anyone who wants to attend and is held the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. Starts September 1st at 9:30 a.m.

Quilting—anyone is invited to join and help to tie quilts for missions. Starting on September 14th at 8:30 a.m. For more information see article on page 3.

3rd Friday—a fun time for all! We start with a potluck lunch and then we play all kinds of games i.e. card games, dominos, etc. This is held the 3rd Friday of every month starting at 12:00 noon. Starts September 16th.

Songwriter Session—is a great time to let your creative juices flow! Come and try your hand at writing lyrics and putting them to music. Starts Friday September 16th at 7:00 p.m. This is held on the 3rd Friday of every month.

Young Adult Bible Study—this is for those out of high school and under 40-ish? We will be studying Revelation and we will meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. Starts September 17th at 10:30 a.m.

Ladies Bible Study—will be doing a study on the book of James. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month with out first meeting on September 19th at 7:00 p.m.

Bell Choir—starts on the September 25th at 11:30 on Sunday morning. They will meet every Sunday except when noted on the calendar or in the bulletin. For more details, please see article on page 5.

Ladies Guild—starts on September 27 at 7:00 p.m. This is our branch of the LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League). All ladies are invited to join us from age 18 on up. If you want more information, please talk to Susan Avila or Susie Briggs.

Vocal Choir—starts on September 28th at 7:00 p.m. We are open to anyone who is interested in making a “joyful noise” to the Lord. No formal training is required. For more information please talk to Darlene Lampert. We meet each Wednesday night.

Ongoing is our Book Club that meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

We invite you to join anyone or all of these activities!!!

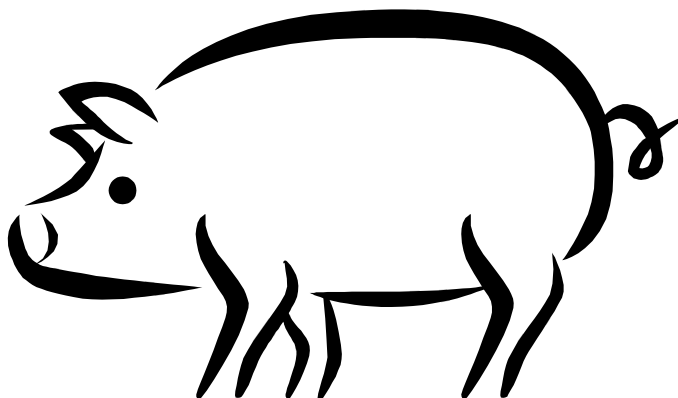
## Pot-Bellied Piggies

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ Jesus,

There was a minor fad that swept our country back in the late 80s. It became fashionable for people to own potbellied pigs as pets. And some people shelled out thousands of dollars to own one of these exotic house pets imported from Vietnam. The breeders claimed these little piggies were very smart and would only grow to about 40 pounds. Well, they were half right. The pigs were smart but they would often grow to 150 pounds and become quite aggressive. And rather quickly people began to fall out of love with potbellied pigs.

I grew up in the Midwest and most of my cousins lived on farms. Pigs were a cash crop. Not pets. Now my cousins and I did sometimes find alternative possibilities with those huge hogs. We would drop down on top of them as they came out of a chute between pens and see who could ride the longest without getting a leg chewed off. Pigs were not considered something to be civilized as a house pet and hog confinement operations were big business, fattening them up for market.

As the potbellied pigs grew and chewed up drywall and carpets and refused to learn to use a litter box, owners began to seek other than having them and bacon. Along came purchased a five acre farm the unwanted pigs. There potbellied residents on his heaven, snoozing on beds wallowing in mud that one day they might the dinner table. And list of unwanted pigs door of this farm.



a way to get rid of them turned into pork chops Dale Riffle. He and created a shelter for are currently 180 farm living in hog of pine shavings, puddles, never fearing become a main dish on there is actually a waiting trying to get a hoof in the

Now where do I go with this little story? How could anyone fall in love with pigs? Smelly, often rebellious, mostly indifferent to others, focused only on their next meal and comfort. OK. Aside from the litter box thing and chewing up carpets, how do we appear before an infinite, perfectly holy, majestic and awesome God? How could He possibly love insignificant, sinful, sometimes openly rebellious and indifferent people like us?

God didn't try to turn us into pets, train us to live as civilized creatures in His kingdom, clean us up, put on some pretty new clothes. No, He came down into the pigpen with us. Came down to be with the poor, the maimed, the blind, and the lame, with tax-collectors and prostitutes. Came down and ate with us, never minding just how bad our table manners were. And then promised us a new home, a beautiful kingdom.

That really bothered some of the "beautiful" people. They were pretty sure they cleaned up well, had learned all the right tricks. They really didn't need anything from this Savior. And when He died for them on a Cross, they didn't see how that could have anything to do with them. So the gift He offers from that Cross, the gift of a new and amazing heavenly home just didn't mean much to many.

But a few of us potbellied piggies were amazed at our new home.

Your servant in Christ Jesus,  
Pastor Ron

## Rock of Ages Quilters

Rock of Ages Quilters will be restarting our mission on September 14th after taking the summer off. We will be continuing to meet every Wednesday morning from 8:30 to around 11am in the church basement. We would like to welcome any new people who would be interested in giving time to our mission even if it is for only 1 or 2 Wednesdays a month. We come regularly. All of the sewing is “tying” of the quilts is done on You do not need to know how to sew a knot and have a nice time with the stop for a coffee break to socialize.



Our recent quilt donations were to Westside Care (15 quilts) and to the Grain Train so needed our quilts that our city and pick up the quilts them-PT Cruiser car.) An Orphan Grain Train spokesman told us that our quilts would be sent to victims of Tornado and Flood damage in the United States.

have a “team” of about 10 people who done in individuals’ homes and only Wednesday mornings at the church. to join our group, only the ability to tie group. It’s not all work as we always

Orphan Grain Train (37 quilts), Ukraine Mission Team (6). Orphan they made arrangements to drive to selves. (Visualize 37 quilts stacked in a

Call Sandy Coggeshall (685-4204) or Sue Herrmann (635-3059) if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

## Epistle of Straw?

“James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes scattered among the nations; Greetings.” (James 1:1 NIV) Perhaps you are familiar with what follows in the book of James- the exhortations to Christian living, taming the tongue, and prayer. Do you see this letter as an “Epistle of Straw” as Martin Luther did? As words of Law, convicting in their call? Or is there something more here?

This spring we studied the Beatitudes in worship and in Sunday School. Jesus’ words in the Sermon on the Mount, starting in Matthew 5, call us to a life lived in Him. But, what exactly does this look like? How can we live out our faith, secure in Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, his incredible grace and forgiveness for our sins, and freed to live in His resurrection? Ladies, come and explore these questions and more as we dig into the book of James starting the third Monday of September.

Deaconess Sarah



## Library—Monthly Featured Item

### One Tuesday Morning

### Beyond Tuesday Morning

### Remember Tuesday Morning

This a trilogy by Karen Kingsbury -

Inspired by the events of September 11, 2001, these books follow the emotionally gripping journey of several people whose lives were directly affected by the tragedies of 9-11. Karen and Zondervan Publishing have sent 1,000 copies of these books to firehouses throughout the FDNY. The responses have been amazing. Firefighters have written to tell Karen that their faith has been restored, their marriages have been saved, and their life has been renewed, all by the power of story. These are a great read and hard to put down once you have started them.



### Unlocked

By Karen Kingsley

Holden Harris, 18, is locked in a prison of autism where he's been since he was a happy, boisterous three-year-old. At school he is bullied by kids who do not understand that despite his quiet ways and quirky behaviors, Holden is very happy and socially normal on the inside, where he lives in a private world all his own.

Then one day the head cheerleader and star of the high school drama production is rehearsing when Holden stops and listens, clearly drawn to the music. Ella Reynolds notices and takes an interest in him, learning about autism and eventually helping Holden win a spot in the school play. At the same time Ella makes a dramatic discovery. Long ago, her parents and Holden's parents were good friends, and she and Holden played together until his diagnosis of autism, at which time Ella's mother distanced herself from the friendship.

A riveting story line full of facts about autism and the peace that God can give through faith in Jesus.

### **Humor for the Month:**

A handyman spent a lot of time working outside and around his house. He had a dog named Mace who loved to be outside with him, but who had a bad habit of eating the grass in the yard. Since Max would often get sick from eating so much grass, the man occasionally left her in the house.

One week the lawn became quite overgrown, but despite that, the man decided to work on his car instead of mowing. While he was working, he dropped his wrench and couldn't find it in the tall grass. He decided it was time to call it a day.

That evening, the man let Mace out to run around the yard before bed. Instead of running, though, Mace ate a patch of grass. When Mace came inside, her owner didn't realize what had happened.

The next morning, the man stepped outside and immediately saw his wrench gleaming in the sunlight. Realizing what happened, he looked heavenward and proclaimed, "A grazing Mace, how sweet the hound, that saved a wrench for me!"

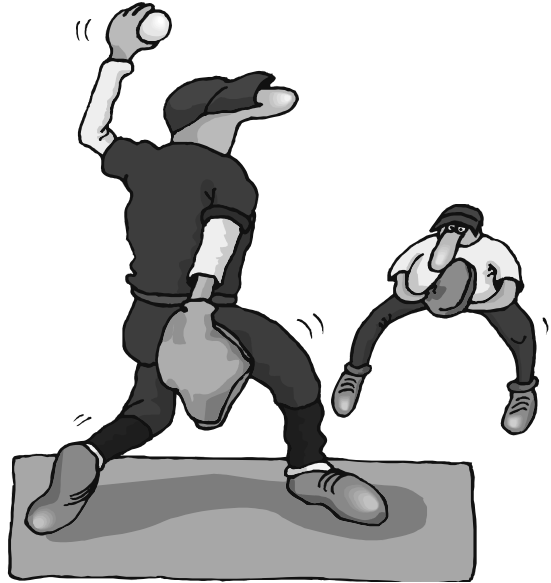
## Sports Update!

### Hello sports fans!

Well, as Summer 2011 approaches it's final month, so our Rock of Ages softball season winds down too. With just one last Monday night game remaining at the time of this report, it truly is amazing how time flies by.

We've had some amazing season, as we continued to doing so in good sportsman-fellowship that the Lord other.

We had a rough loss on were defeated 18-5. How-sparkling in a 17-7 triumph back from 11 runs down in mately fell just short, 19- upon us, so did another loss, awaiting us on 8/22, the cord of 5 wins and 6 the season at the .500% first time in many, many years that has happened. :)



games over the past 4 weeks of the strive for a winning record, while ship, great fun, and enjoying in the has allowed us to share with each

7/25, as the ROA Purple Power ever, our bats and defense were on 8/1. We made a mighty come-our game the next week, but ulti-17. Then on 8/15, as night fell 18-8. So, with that last game ROA coed softball team has a re-losses. Let's see if we can finish mark, which I'm told would be the

Thank you to all the ROA fans and family that have come out to Widefield to cheer us on this summer. It's been fun having you there.

Also, be sure to check the weekly bulletin and next month's calendar for details of a special afternoon of food, fun, fellowship.....and softball on Sunday, 9/11, as our Rock of Ages softball team take on the Rock of Ages Youth Group for an exciting exhibition game at Vermijo Park. More details to follow in the weeks ahead.

## Bell Choir

Please join us on Sunday mornings at 11:30 a.m. if you are interested in joining the Bell Choir. No expertise is necessary. You can learn as you go.

Please talk to Nichole Seay if you are interested or if you have any questions.

We will be starting on September 25th



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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>

## **Newsletter Deadline October 19, 2011**

### **LUTHERAN HOUR TIME**

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

## **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!

September:

[Heaven Is for Real](#) is the true story of the four-year old son of a small town Nebraska pastor who during emergency surgery slips from consciousness and enters heaven. He survives and begins talking about being able to look down and see the doctor operating and his dad praying in the waiting room. The family didn't know what to believe but soon the evidence was clear.



surgery slips  
consciousness and  
He survives and  
about being able  
and see the doc-  
and his dad

## **Card Making Event**

Join us Saturday September 17th at 1:00 p.m. to make cards for Christmas or other occasions.

Starting Sunday Aug. 28th there will be a sign up sheet with some sample cards for you to choose from. Pick the cards you would like to make and then join us on Saturday to pick up your card kits and to put them together.

Cost is \$2.00 per card; 5 of the same card for \$8.00 and 10 of the same card for \$15.00. The charge is to cover the cost of the materials for the cards.

We did this last year and many of the ladies there wanted to do it again.



***ITEMS FOR DONATIONS  
FOR WESTSIDE CARES  
FOR SEPTEMBER ARE:  
MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SOCKS AND  
UNDERWEAR.***

## **FUNDS UPDATE**

Building Fund = \$210.00  
Scholarship Fund = \$14,151.85  
Capital Improvement Fund = \$16,203.25  
Ukraine Fund = \$1900.48

