

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

THE ROCK

Issue No. 6

June 2012

Special Dates

- May 27 Commissioning of Ukraine Team
- May 28 Office Closed
- Ukraine Team leaves
- May 31 Thursday Morning Bible Study
- June 2 Youth Cleanup at Coreys
- June 2 Ladies Guild Brunch
- June 3 Trinity Sunday
- June 3 Softball Practice
- June 7-9 RMD Convention
- June 10 Softball Practice
- June 15 Youth Group to City Rock
- June 16 Sunday School Teachers Appreciation
- June 17 Father's Day
- June 17 Rose Blunt 90th birthday celebration
- June 17 Softball Practice
- June 19 Ukraine Team Returns
- June 20 VBS Meeting
- June 24 Softball Practice
- July 16-20 Vacation Bible School

Amazing Desert Journey

Where Jesus



Leads Us

Home

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This year's Vacation Bible School will lead us on a journey through the desert as we learn the Lord's Prayer on our way.

On this Amazing Desert Journey, our children will learn about God's plan to rescue them from sin and death through His Son, Jesus, who even now is preparing a heavenly home for them and all who believe! As they hear the accounts of God's forgiveness, mercy, and salvation from Scripture, they will begin to relate these Bible truths to their own life of faith now and for eternity.

Each day starts at the Opening Oasis, where the children gather with their caravan leader and the other kids in the caravan. They sing, pray, and learn the day's “Take-home-Point”.

After the opening, the caravan heads off to 5 rotation sites for storytelling, Bible Challenge, snacks, games, and crafts. Finally, everyone comes back together at the Closing Oasis for music, prayer, and wrap-up with.

VBS Dates: July 16-20

VBS Times: 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

* We ask for your prayers and your help to make this a memorable and lasting experience for the children.

GO

Psalm 9:1 “I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

As you read this 5 members of our congregation are heading to Ukraine to share the Gospel message! Over the past months we have been blessed in this newsletter to read of many wonderful deeds the Lord has done through our congregation's work. While it may be hard to believe- YOU have shared in that work. Your prayers here in Colorado Springs help to bear the burdens of Dawn, Pete, Leslie, Lisa, and Kaitlyn as they speak the Word of Christ. Your petitions on behalf of our brothers and sisters in the church in Ukraine help to bear burdens in the body of Christ. As you go about your daily life, you also have opportunity to share the message of Jesus' death on the cross for our forgiveness; to live out your faith and to allow the Most High to work His wonderful deeds through you.

As we pledged together in the commissioning service- let us pray faithfully for the mission. You are invited to join in studying God's Word and praying with the team through a shared devotion booklet, available in the narthex. Please take a copy home with you and commit to praying. I can't wait to see what wondrous deeds the Lord Most High will do in Ukraine and here in Colorado Springs!



Tentative Itinerary:

Open and end each prayer with Psalm 9:1, the Ukraine Team's theme verse for this year's trip

June 1-5: Prayer while Team is in Kagarlik, Ukraine: I thank you Sovereign Lord for the faithfulness you have shown to Your children in Kagarlik. You have not abandoned them but caused your salvation to last through all generations. In Your everlasting righteousness, continue to hold them close so that they may remain in You and do Your good works.

June 6-10: Prayer while Team is in Savron, Ukraine: I praise You, O Christ for dwelling in the faithful hearts of my brothers and sisters in Savron. I pray that they, being rooted in Your love and filled with Your Spirit, will continue to reflect Your love with actions and truth.

June 11-14: Prayer while Team is in Mykolaiv, Ukraine: Jesus, I thank you for preaching good news to the poor and releasing the oppressed. I ask for Your Spirit to continue to dwell among all in Mykolaiv, especially the outcast, so that they may only know Your favor and walk humbly with You.

June 15-17: Prayer while Team is at orphan camp, Little Eagle: I lift Your name, Lord, for only You are God of gods -- great, mighty and awesome. I thank you for defending the fatherless and leaving none of us as orphans. I ask that You continue to spread Your faith into willing hearts of those gathered at Little Eagle Camp and throughout Ukraine

The “Mommy Wars”

The “Mommy Wars” are in the news again! I am sure that by the time this newsletter comes into print most of you will have seen the provocative Time cover, read a couple of blogs- maybe even a post comment or two in regards to the issue. Probably you will have forgotten about the whole thing and ten other “controversies” to boot.

The truth is that I haven’t read the articles! I didn’t make any posts, but I have to say that the headlines have been screaming for days. I suppose that is the point- free publicity to sell lots of magazines. But I don’t want to talk about that.

The thing that has struck me in all of the hurrah is how quickly our culture jumps to opinions. We are all expected to take one side or another and then bombard anyone who takes a different approach. Where is any civility, kindness, patience, self-control, mercy? Oh- where is the mercy?

The truth is that no two people on this earth could possibly come to the same opinion on every conceivable matter. Hopefully in a church family people can agree to some basic tenets. However we all do in fact disagree. Usually these differences in opinion are pretty small (how many times a year should we sing “Amazing Grace” or which way the hymnals should be stacked in the pew.) In order to live with one another- we agree to disagree, make some concessions, and move on. In other words, we “bear with one another.” (Colossians 3:13)

But the internet doesn’t force us to see the person with whom we are communicating. We don’t live in the same house or share the same pew. It is so much easier to trash another person when we don’t know him or her. But I have to wonder- what would it look like to honor the 8th commandment online and face-to-face? Mommy wars or any other “wars”- To “fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, BUT defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.” (Luther’s small catechism) To honor our differences in opinion, parenting style, and life choices? To do this for all people regardless of their age or stage in life?



Library—Monthly Featured Items

“THE ACTION BIBLE” - This is definitely a new take on the Bible and relates stories about early “action heroes” in a comic strip format. It includes over 200 fast-paced narratives in chronological order, making it easy to follow the Bible’s historical flow.

The stories in “The Action Bible” communicate biblical truth clearly and forcefully to contemporary readers. The dramatic images may appeal across all age boundaries.

Internationally recognized artist, Sergio Cariello, has created attention holding illustrations in his “comic strips”, marked by rich color- bold and energetic designs, and emo-



ing, dramatic shading and lighting, tionally charged figures.

HUMOR FOR THE MONTH:

A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, “Boys and girls, what do we know about God?” A hand shot up in the air. “He is an artist!” said the kindergarten boy. “Really? How do you know?” the teacher asked.

“You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven... ”

**"TRUST IN THE LORD FOREVER, FOR THE
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>

***ITEMS FOR DONATIONS
FOR WESTSIDE CARES
FOR June ARE:***

Canned meats, Tuna & Peanutbutter

**Newsletter Deadline
June 13, 2012**

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

Upcoming Book Club Selections:

June: Man Seeks God: by Eric Weiner- When [Eric Weiner](#) is hospitalized and thinks he might be dying (of what turns out to be gas), a nurse asks him "Have you found your God yet?" Weiner, who, like me, grew up as a secular Jew, is hit with an epiphany. He hasn't.

Upon regaining his health, Weiner, a former NPR correspondent, immerses himself in eight different faiths, a mere sampling of the 9,900 religions currently available. The eclectic pilgrimage results in "[Man Seeks God](#)" in which he hopes to get in touch with his dormant spiritual side, for as he says, "Good religion elevates us, makes us better people than we thought we were, than we thought possible. (review by Brian Franzen- published in Washington Post online)



July/August: Blue Like Jazz- "I never liked jazz music because jazz music doesn't resolve. I used to not like God because God didn't resolve. But that was before any of this happened." —Donald Miller

In Donald Miller's early years, he was vaguely familiar with a distant God. But when he came to know Jesus Christ, he pursued the Christian life with great zeal. Within a few years he had a successful ministry that ultimately left him feeling empty, burned out, and, once again, far away from God. In this intimate, soul-searching account, Miller describes his remarkable journey back to a culturally relevant, infinitely loving God. (book description from Amazon.com)

September/October: Mother Theresa (specific book to be announced)

Disclaimer: The Books chosen for discussion in Book Club do not necessarily reflect LCMS doctrine, beliefs, or practice. Many times they are chosen for this reason! Whether you agree with all that you read, or find yourself disagreeing heartily, it adds to the discussion and we can learn from each other.



FUNDS UPDATE

Building Fund = \$210.00
Scholarship Fund = \$14,151.85
Capital Improvement Fund = \$16,949.47
Ukraine Fund = -\$143.43

