

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

# THE ROCK

Issue No. 12

December 2013

## *Special Dates*

- Nov 24 Good Shepherd Craft and Bake Sale
- Nov 24 Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
- Nov 27 Thanksgiving Eve Service
- Nov 30 Decorate Church
- Dec 1 1st Sunday in Advent
- Dec 4 Children's Christmas Service
- Dec 5 Ukraine Meeting
- Dec 7 Game Day
- Dec 8 Ladies Guild Christmas
- Dec 10 Circuit Pastors at Immanuel
- Dec 11 Advent Service
- Dec 12 Young Couples Bible Study
- Dec 18 Advent Service
- Dec 20 Youth Lock-in/Christmas Party
- Dec 24 Candlelight Service
- Dec 25 Christmas Day Service
- Dec 26 Church Office Closed
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve Service

## **Humor**

The religious cowboy lost his favorite Bible while he was mending fences out on the range.

Three weeks later a cow walked up to him carrying the Bible in its mouth.

The cowboy couldn't believe his eyes. He took the precious book out of the cow's mouth, raised his eyes heavenward and exclaimed, "it's a miracle!"

"Not really," said the cow. "Your name is written inside the cover."

## **Rock of Ages Sports Report**

**Hello sports fans, and here's wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!**

**It's hard to believe, but the Advent and Christmas seasons are almost here. The temps have dramatically dropped over the past weeks, and most folk's activities have made their way inside. That means your Rock of Ages coed volleyball team is ready to be back in action, and they're ready to serve, set and spike their way to another season of fun evenings, and hopefully a few wins too!**

**The team is currently trying to find a league to play in this winter, as the planned Parks & Rec league was cancelled. Hopefully, we'll be in a replacement league starting in January, with matches preferably on Monday evenings. More info to come in the January newsletter, and in the weekly bulletins. If you have any questions, or would like more details about the league and/or team roster, please contact Jim Kuehnert.**

**We appreciate the continued support of the congregation, as we look forward to more fellowship time together, as we represent our Lord, along with Rock of Ages, out in the community.**

*Lord's Blessings,*

*Rock of Ages Sports Teams*

## **The Pastor's Prayer**

Dear Lord, your servant David once said to you, "Who am I, O Sovereign Lord, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far... Is this your usual way of dealing with man?" (II Samuel 7:18-19) And - it struck me that this is indeed Your usual way of dealing with man. You are always showing us mercy and blessing us. David was stunned when You told him how wonderfully You were going to bless him and his descendants because that blessing would be the Messiah. I thank You, Lord, that You have blessed mankind with the unusual birth of a child in a manger. For in that child was the very incarnation of the greatest blessing we could ever hope for - the salvation of the world. I thank You, Father, for Your Son, that through an unusual act, You showed Your usual mercy to us all. Amen.

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

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### LUTHERAN HOUR TIME

Sun. 6:00 a.m. KOA 850 AM  
Sun. 7:30 a.m. KZNT 1640 AM  
Sun. 8:07 a.m. KRLN 1400 AM

*ITEMS FOR DONATIONS  
FOR WESTSIDE CARES  
FOR DECEMBER ARE:  
Dessert Mixes and Special Treats*

### FUNDS UPDATE

Scholarship Fund = \$11,760.87  
Capital Improvement Fund = \$16,189.89  
Ukraine Mission = \$3,221.49  
Youth Fund = \$44.25

## Adamah Community Garden

What comes to your mind when you think of gardening? For some, it is hard work, drudgery- endlessly pulling weeds in the hot summer sun. For others, it is the remembrance of a juicy, sun-ripened tomato or the wonder of pulling up a red carrot, hidden below the soil. Perhaps it was the amazement of watching a caterpillar devour parsley, the beauty of a butterfly gracefully dancing or the artistry of a spider weaving her web. Maybe your mind turns to song: “I Come to the Garden Alone...”

For our gardeners and preschoolers this summer, Adamah Garden provided most of the above- the hard work being felt less like drudgery and more like fun when shared with others. It also provided many insights into our life of faith. All told, we were able to see God at work on our tiny bit of soil. We saw the miracle of a tiny seed growing into a giant sunflower- not unlike the gift of faith. We witnessed the transformation of nasty, smelly garbage into beautiful soil, God redeeming all that yuckiness. We learned the joy of sharing an abundance of tomatillos with our friends and family- God’s tasty provision. Certainly, Adamah Community Garden proclaimed Christ.

Next summer, we hope to share these blessings and all that learning with even more people. Our Sunday Schoolers will be “Gardening with Jesus”- tying together hands-on learning in the Garden with Jesus’ teachings in Scripture. For example- what was Jesus talking about when he said He is the vine and we are the branches? What is hyssop, and how can it illuminate Jesus’ forgiveness? Garden Fear Factor (raw rhubarb stalks, anyone??) plant crafts, and upcycling projects are in store!

Hurting people in our community will be “Growing Together”- gardening, learning about nutrition, herbs, and cooking, and building friendships with people in our congregation- seeing and tasting that the Lord is good.

What about you? Would you like to tend a small plot? Share your love of Gardening, your love of Jesus, or your love for making things for one Sunday with our children? Help us to recycle some common items? Get a great, free workout on a work day? Stay tuned for more ways to proclaim Jesus through Adamah Community Garden.



Deaconess Sarah