

# THE ROCK

Issue No. 10

October 2013

## Special Dates

- Oct 1 Elders Meeting
- Oct 2-4 Church Workers Conference
- Oct 5 Game Day
- Oct 6 Gideons Presentation
- Oct 7 & 21 Ladies Bible Study
- Oct 13 LWML Sunday
- Oct 13 Quilt Blessing
- Oct. 13 Youth group to Urban Assault
- Oct 16 Faith Intro Class
- Oct 17 Church Council
- Oct 18 3rd Friday
- Oct 20 National Sunday School Teachers Day
- Oct 22 Ladies Guild Meeting
- Oct 30 Faith Intro Class
- Oct 31 Trunk or Treat
- Nov 2 Time change
- Nov 2 Game Day
- Nov 3 Voters Assembly
- Nov 10 Youth Dodgeball Tournament
- Nov 12 Circuit Pastors meet at ROA

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## 7th Annual Trunk or Treat

*Can you believe that this is the 7th year we have done Trunk or Treat?*

And each year gets better and better!!! More participation from you and many more children and their parents are touched by us each year. They all get a little taste of the love of Jesus and we pray that the seeds we plant will become fruitful through the Holy Spirit.

Just in case you don't know what Trunk or Treat is here is a lot more information for you:

It is a safe alternative for children to “Trick-or-Treat”!

We have several people with their cars parked in a horseshoe shape in the parking lot by the preschool entrance. All of the trunks will be facing toward the center of the horseshoe. The trunks are filled with “goodies” for the children to collect in their “goodie” bags. When the children come “Trunk-or-Treating”, they go from car to car and collect the “goodies” that will be handed out to them. We will also offer refreshments: hot dogs, beverages, chips, cookies, etc.

The Board of Education and the Board of Evangelism are well into the planning of this year's “Trunk or Treat.” We need people to bring their cars to join the fun. We need your participation with cars and also congregation members to help with set up, serving, and clean up.

We will be giving out prizes again this year for best decorated car; funniest car; oldest car; and a prize for the best themed car!!! So start planning your decorating ideas now! Please put your name on the signup sheet in the narthex. (Signup sheets will be out the first Sunday in October.) You can be as elaborate or as simplistic as you want. If you have any questions or need help with a suggestion, please talk to Kay.

As always, we will include a special invitation to our Church services and Sunday School classes in the children's treat bags.

We will also need your help in providing the food stuffs, paper goods, and assorted other items to help make this event a success. Soon we will put up our “Pumpkin Patch” board with the items needed. It's easy—you take a pumpkin, purchase the item on the pumpkin, then return the item with the pumpkin attached to it to church.

We also need help with setting up before and cleaning up after. We will have a signup sheet in the narthex for this the setup crew needs to be here by 4:30 p.m. and the cleanup crew should be here by 6:45 p.m. Please talk to Kay if you want to know what all this entails.

Like in past years we will advertise this event in the Gazette, at other churches and schools in the area and will invite our LCMS sister churches.

*Continued page 3*

## The Pastor's Prayer

When it rains... it pours. We know this one Lord. Lately, all too well in fact. We've had more rain lately than we have in a long, long time. For some though Lord, it isn't just a literal rain... not just a lot of water. For some of Your children it's been one calamity, one heartbreak, one trial, one frustration, one untimely diagnosis after another. And it always seems to happen when we're already juggling so many other problems. And so we're asking for help. Lord, You have promised to be with us no matter what... And You tell us to "Be still and know that I am God." Lord, when it is hard for us to trust, help us to trust. When it is hard for us to pray, Lord, teach us to pray. When it is hard for us to believe, help our unbelief. For You will never leave us nor forsake us. Remind us Lord when we seem hopelessly overwhelmed by the rains coming down, the streams rising, and the winds blowing and beating against our house... remind us that the house on the Rock stands firm. May we cling to You, our Rock whenever such turbulent times come upon us. Amen.

## Legacy

Often during Fall I find myself in a reminiscing mood. The scents of soup cooking on the stove and bread baking in the oven bring back happy memories from childhood. The longer nights mean more time to think and wander down those trails of thought. Often, these thoughts lead me to wonder what the meaning of all this living was- what might one day be my life's legacy?

I'm told that the Fall season of life can be much the same- a time for reflection on what has transpired. Some of these things may be positive. They make us feel good and give a sense of purpose.

All of us also have things in our pasts that we would rather not meditate upon. Perhaps these were decisions that we would change, words we would like to take back, or actions that led to unwanted consequences. Whatever their content, these regrets all are the result of sin. Committed by ourselves or by others against us we all have a pile of sin heaped up in our reminisces. If we are brutally honest, even our best attempts are marred by this sin.

Thank God that He has redeemed our lives! In the blood of Jesus all of our sins are washed away. When God looks at our lives, He sees things differently than we. We can see this in His conversation with Solomon in 1 Kings 3- the account of Solomon asking God for wisdom. God says about Solomon's Father David- "And if you walk in my ways and obey my statutes and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life." If you are familiar with King David's life, you may remember that David did not always walk in God's ways nor follow God's commands- the whole incident with Bathsheba being the prime illustration. God had to use Nathan the prophet to rebuke David!

And yet, because of David's faith in God, in the promise of the coming Savior, (see Psalm 51) God sees David as having walked in His ways. Forgiveness. May we too walk in God's ways, resting in the forgiveness of Christ poured out on us through the cross.

Deaconess Sarah

## 3rd Friday

Will start up again on Friday, October 18th at 1:00 p.m. This year we will have Coffee & dessert with our games.

3rd Friday is open to anyone who would like to spend an afternoon having fun and good fellowship with friends and family.

You are encouraged to bring your friends, a dessert to share and your favorite game.

For more information, please contact Rose Blunt or Judy Findlay.

## Library—Monthly Featured Item

**"THE DAVINCI CODE - FACT OR FICTION?"** Authors: Han Hanegraaff & Paul L. Maier (Small paperback, 70 pages)

Many of you have either read or heard about the book "The DaVinci Code" or the 2003 movie adapted from the book. For those of you who might not be aware of the story, the author, Dan Brown, alleges, among other things, that Jesus was married. This book tackles the claims of the book and movie and presents the truth with clarity. It answers the following questions: Is the Bible true and reliable? Was Jesus married? Are the historical claims in Brown's book factual? ..... and much more.

Whether the questions raised in The DaVinci Code intrigue or infuriate you, this book by Hanegraaff and Maier will give you the historical and biblical facts. The book will also show you how you can know the real Jesus in your own life.

### **HUMOR FOR THE MONTH:**

A little boy was afraid of the dark. One night his mother told him to go out to the back porch and bring her the broom. The little boy turned to his mother and said, "Mama, I don't want to go out there. It's dark."

The mother smiled reassuringly at her son. "You don't have to be afraid of the dark," she explained. "Jesus is out there. He'll look after you and protect you."

The little boy looked at his mother real hard and asked, "Are you sure he's out there?" "Yes, I'm sure. He is everywhere, and he is always ready to help you when you need him," she said.

The little boy thought about that for a minute and then went to the back door and cracked it a little. Peering out into the darkness, he called, "Jesus? If you're out there, would you please hand me the broom?"

### **7th Annual Trunk or Treat** continued

We ask all vehicles to be here by 5:00 p.m. so we can get set up and run our lights around the circle. Please let Kay know if you can help in any way.

The actual event will start at 5:30 p.m. and go until 7:00 p.m. Then after we clear everything up and take the lights down, you should all be home by 8:00 p.m.

Sign up today!!!



### **National Sunday School Teachers**

Sunday, October 20th is National Sunday School Teachers Day. We have a wonderfully dedicated and committed group of teachers and substitute teachers here at Rock of Ages and would like to recognize them for their devotion to helping our children receive and understand the gift of God's Word—the Bible and His reassuring promise of eternal salvation.

Please help us thank our teachers by personally thanking them for their commitment; having your child/children make cards for their teachers; maybe bring them a special treat or put a card in their box. Whatever you decide to do, it will be appreciated.

Our teachers are: Laura Soyk; Kaitlin Soyk, Becky Vidro; Pam Butler, Bill Beck, Carl Seay, Aaron Clymer.

Substitutes are: Kim foster, Karen Twenhafel, Cari Reed, Tricia Hanson, Sarah Hulsey, Sarah Sacco.

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

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***ITEMS FOR DONATIONS  
FOR WESTSIDE CARES  
FOR SEPTEMBER ARE:  
Beans, Beans, Beans***

Newsletter  
Deadline  
October 16,

**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

**FUNDS UPDATE**

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

**The Christian Walk— A Poem about the Reformation and Martin Luther.**

Upon the door of Wittenberg the sound of banging could be heard  
A monk did stand before the church and Martin was his name.  
A fire burning in his heart, reform was now about to start  
as Luther nailed the theses, upon the church that day.  
1517 was the year, October 31st so dear  
upon a day he knew that all would see...  
...that compromise which had become, the great undoing of more than some  
The Wicked Church had worked its way corrupt.  
Selling grace for bits of gold, “buy salvation” men were told!  
A penny in the coffer rings another soul from purgatory springs!  
And Luther was outraged.  
Leaders of the blind they are, and from the gates of heaven far  
Their lives did show but evils now so mixed.  
Pope and priest did wish him ill, and hoped their power would be theirs still  
The wild boar was loosed in the vineyard of the Lord.  
But Luther’s mouth could not be shut, his pen and ink cried out with much  
Justified by faith, and faith alone.  
I shall not, cannot, will not ever, recant such things there are none better!  
By grace we’re saved and this – by Christ’s own work.  
No man saves his soul to heaven, its done by Jesus Christ now given,  
that men may live with God eternally.  
A man must be now born again, the Spirit’s work we know not when,  
elected from the world, and sealed by God’s decree.  
What truths were told to men so lost, God’s mercy given at great cost  
that selfish men may see the truth of grace.  
The Pope and king did try to win, but in the end there’s death for sin  
and Luther was not silenced.  
He taught and preached for years to come, Reformation had begun,  
and still today is held by some, may all God’s children love what God had done.

by Dr. C. Mathew McMahon