

OCTOBER
2014

"DOSE OF WISDOM"

This month I am including an article that appeared in the *Spring 2012 edition of the Apologetics Issue of Higher Things Magazine*. This article is in connection with the Apologetics Seminar taking place on October 11th at Peace Lutheran Church in Glidden. It plans to be a great day of thinking and reasoning. Please come and join us that day to be challenged in your faith, but also hopefully you can grow in your faith as well. Apologetics is the word or term used to talk about defending the Christian faith against the arguments of skeptics or critics.

**"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen"
(Hebrews 11:1)**

Is Faith Unreasonable?

Rev. William M. Cwirla

Evolutionary biologist and outspoken atheist Dr. Richard Dawkins writes, "Faith is the great cop-out, the great excuse to evade the need to think and evaluate evidence. Faith is the belief in spite of, even perhaps because of, the lack of evidence." He asserts that people who believe in God suffer from a "god delusion" and might as well believe in a "flying spaghetti monster."

So, is religious faith, specifically the Christian faith, unreasonable? Must you check your brains at the door of the church to be a Christian?

The book of Hebrews speaks of faith in terms of a conviction about unseen things. "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). It goes on to say, "By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible" (Hebrews 11:3). What is unseen cannot be tested scientifically the way Dr. Dawkins would like. But does that make faith unreasonable?

We reason in different ways. One way is to evaluate evidence and draw conclusions. This is the way of science, history, and crime scene investigations. Much of our day-to-day life is occupied with this way of thinking.

But we also think beyond the level of evidence. When someone says, "I love you," you don't reply, "Do you have any evidence for that?" If you say that, you probably won't be hearing "I love you" very much, so don't try this at home.

We also reason about abstract concepts such as love, beauty, justice, mercy and goodness. We write poetry and tell stories. We paint images of things we have not seen. We compose melodies we haven't heard before. We are creative beings who think far beyond what is needed for our survival. To limit ourselves purely to "evidence," which Dr. Dawkins proposes, would be a terrible failure of the imagination and our most human ways of thinking.

The book of Ecclesiastes says, "[God] has made everything beautiful in its time; also He has put eternity into man's mind, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end" (Ecclesiastes 3:11). We have "eternity" planted into our minds, causing us to look beyond and outside ourselves and imagine the transcendent and the holy.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

ZION PROCLAIMER

In his letter to the Romans, the apostle Paul wrote, “Ever since the creation of the world [God’s] invisible nature, namely, his eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made” (Romans 1:19-20). God has left His fingerprints on the creation, so that His creatures might recognize His existence, power and deity. Only a creature with an imagination can look at the creation and ponder his Creator.

Consider the vast intricacy, order, and complexity of the universe, and the lavishly diverse beauty of life around us. Which is more reasonable? To say, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth,” or “In the beginning nothing became everything all by itself?”

Skeptics like Dr. Dawkins argue that there is no convincing evidence for God. But what would constitute “convincing evidence?” How can an infinite, transcendent Being who is beyond the confines of time and space show His existence to us finite creatures who are bound by time and space? The only way would be for God to occupy time and space, which He did. “The Word became Flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14).

Is it reasonable to believe that Jesus is the eternal Word become flesh? What would constitute sufficient evidence? He did all sorts of miracles, “signs and wonders” that only God, or someone with the power of God, can do. He predicted that the temple in Jerusalem would be destroyed within a generation, which would have been like someone predicting the destruction of the Twin Towers on 9/11 forty years before it happened. And at least three times, Jesus predicted His own death and resurrection. To quote the great baseball pitcher Dizzy Dean, “It ain’t braggin’ if you can do it.” Jesus did it!

Is it reasonable to believe that Jesus rose from the dead? Consider the evidence. Over 500 eyewitnesses saw Him at one time. People ate with Him, touched Him, and heard Him speak. These people may not have been as scientifically sophisticated as we are, but they all knew that dead men do not ordinarily rise from the dead. Thomas wouldn’t even believe the news until he saw and touched the evidence for himself.

The apostle Peter went from being a wimp who wouldn’t even admit to a servant girl that he knew Jesus to becoming a powerful preacher of Jesus’ resurrection willing to risk his own life for the name of Jesus. All in 50 days! That’s quite a transformation, don’t you think? Many who claimed to have seen Jesus risen from the dead were tortured and killed but never changed their stories, even though they could have saved their lives by denying it. I wonder how many people who claim to have seen Elvis or Bigfoot or UFOs would stick to their stories if they were slowly tortured to death.

The people who were in power, the Romans and the Jewish religious leaders, had the means and the motive to get Jesus’ body and parade it through the streets to put an end to the rumors. Only one problem: There was no body.

What do you reasonably conclude? Jesus is risen from the dead. And if Jesus was right about His own death and resurrection, wouldn’t it be reasonable to listen to the other things He said? He claimed that Moses and the OT prophets spoke about Him and His death and resurrection. He promised that His apostles would be guided into all truth by the Spirit He would send. He promised forgiveness and eternal life to all who trust in Him. Given that He rose from the dead, doesn’t it seem reasonable to take His word on the Word, too?

Certainly we cannot by our own reason or strength “believe in Jesus Christ our Lord or come to Him” (Small Catechism, 3rd article). We cannot reasonably know the depth of our sin, the nature of God as Three in One, that Jesus’ death atones for the sin of the world, that faith in Jesus is righteousness before God, that Baptism is our spiritual birth, and that the bread and wine are Christ’s Body and Blood. Those things must be revealed to us by God’s Word and received by faith. But even these things are unreasonable. They are simply beyond our reason.

Dr. Dawkins calls faith a great cop-out and an evasion of the evidence. I think, on the basis of the evidence, faith in Christ is quite reasonable. In fact, it’s more than reasonable.

Rev. William M. Cwirla is the pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Hacienda Heights, California, and the President of Higher Things. He can be reached at wcwirla@gmail.com.

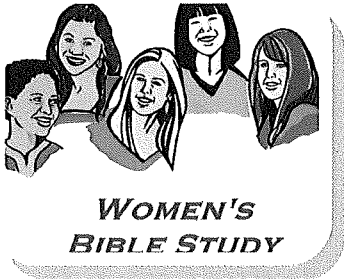
L.W.M.L. NEWS

EVENING CIRCLE

The Zion Evening Circle will be meeting at 7 pm on Wednesday, October 1st at the home of Marilyn Mueggenberg. Co-hostess is Paulette Von Glan.

LADIES AID

The Ladies Aid will be meeting on Thursday, October 2nd at **1:30 pm**. Hostess is Darleen Linde and Lila Thiedeman will have Christian Growth



L.W.M.L. SUNDAY

On Sunday, October 5th we will be observing L.W.M.L. Sunday. We will mark the day with a special worship service giving thanks to God for all the blessings our Lord has given to our congregation and the Church-at-Large through the work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. So members of the Evening Circle and the Ladies Aid please plan to sit as a group and wear your corsages.

HEALTH CENTER BINGO

On Monday, October 7th the following ladies are scheduled to help the residents of the Carroll Health Center with BINGO. They include: Shirley Walde, Dee Luetje, Gladys Rickers, Deb Weller, Darleen Linde Lila Thiedeman, Karen Grundmeier, Betty Nobiling, Shirley Ehlers and Gloria Popp. Please bring 10 BINGO treats and arrive around 1:45 as games will start at 2 pm

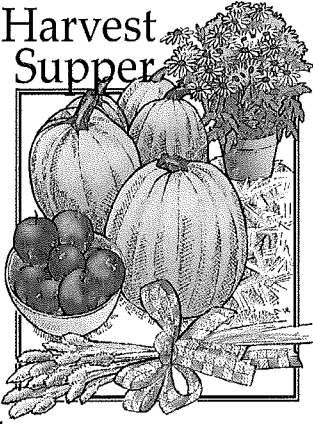


The Women's Bible Study group will be meeting on the following Monday evenings at 6:30: **October 6th & 20th**
November 3rd & 17th

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

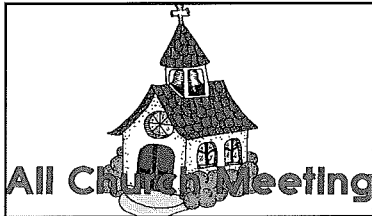
Thursday	October 09th	SARH Auxiliary \$5 Jewelry Sale @ hospital atrium
Friday	October 10th	Carroll Lions Club Soup Day Graham Park Shelter House, Carroll 11 am to 7 pm Adults \$7; 10 & under \$4
Sunday	October 12th	Westside Fortnightly Flea Market 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Westside Community Building, Library, Fire Hall, Legion Hall
Sunday	October 12th	First United Methodist Church, Carroll Pork Chop/Chicken Breast Supper 4:00-7:00 pm
Sunday	October 19th	St. John's Catholic Church, Arcadia Soup Supper @ Arcadia Legion Hall 4:00-7:00 pm Adults \$7; 5-10 \$5 and preschool free
Sunday	October 19th	1st Presbyterian Church, Manning Annual Smorgasbord 4:00-7:30 pm Adults \$10 12 & under \$4
Thursday	October 30th	SARH Auxiliary Books Are Fun Sale Hospital Atrium 10 am to 3 pm

Harvest Supper



The Annual Harvest Dinner and Bake Sale will be held on **SUNDAY**, November 2nd at the Arcadia American Legion. We will be serving from 4:00-7:00 pm. The menu consists of Turkey and all the trimmings.

A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in the entry way for volunteers and donations. If you can help with baking, serving, clean up or donating an item, for the dinner or bake sale, please be sure to sign up by Sunday, October 19th to help with working or bringing items, otherwise we will just be assigning



QUARTERLY VOTER'S MEETING

The Quarterly Voter's Meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY**, October 15th at 7:30 pm. (please note the date) Items on the agenda will include the Election of Officers, Endowment Fund projects and the proposal of the 2015 budget. **EVERYONE** is encouraged and invited to attend and participate.

PRAYER FOR REFORMATION (October 31)

Almighty God, gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all enemies of Your Word, and bestow on the Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen

Setting a good example

Some friends gathered after the funeral of a dear, saintly man. They all knew how dedicated he was to God, his church and his family.

The group started talking about the deceased man's spiritual life — and specifically his prayer life. The man's son-in-law shared how important prayer was in his own life. He felt the need to regularly give thanks and seek God's guidance in his daily decisions.

The son-in-law added that he made it a point to put his young son to bed at least once a week. He always knelt by the boy's bed and prayed loud enough for his son to hear. He did so, he said, because he wanted his son to know that his father believed in God and spoke to him.

Even though the boy's grandfather was no longer alive, his godly example was having a lasting impact on his family — an impact that will touch future generations for years to come.

"These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deuteronomy 6:6-7, NIV).

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

There were 60 students who started our Sunday School Program on Rally Sunday, August 24th. We would like to thank all the children for attending and their parents for bringing them. We started the morning with an opening prayer and singing songs. We followed with a short opening meditation and then the students were dismissed to their rooms for their bible lessons. . The 3rd-5th graders were presented with their bibles and the perfect attendance awards and certificates were also presented.

Teachers for 2014-2015

PRESCHOOL & Kindergarten	Megan Ehlers & Michelle Schurke
1st & 2nd Grade	Staci Muhlbauer
3rd & 4th Grade	Diane Schurke,
5th & 6th	Cat Luetje
7th & 8th	Michelle Prichard & Krista Koch

Please keep all of them in your prayers as they begin this important ministry.

REMINDER: All 3rd-8th graders are reminded to bring their bibles with them to Sunday School and to midweek classes. They are yours to use and make notes in.

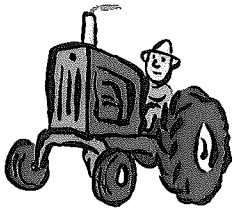
MIDWEEK

The Snack Servers for October are:

Oct 01	Donna Schurke
Oct 08 (2 pm)	Michelle Prichard
Oct 15	Stephanie Hinners
Oct 22	Denise Ragaller
Oct 29	???

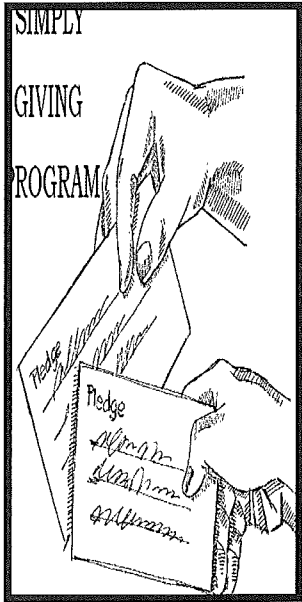
Plans are now being made for our Childrens' Christmas Eve Program. Please inform your child's teacher if he/or she will be participating in the program.

TEACHER'S MEETING: There will be a Sunday School teachers meeting on Wednesday, October 8th at 6:30 pm. We will be working on parts for the Christmas program.



HARVEST ACCOUNT

As in the past several years many members of Zion have offered their thanks to the Lord at harvest by presenting a part of their harvest to the Lord. If you would like to offer a gift to the Lord you can do so by letting the Arcadia Elevator know how many bushels of corn or beans you would like to give and that it is for Zion's Harvest Account



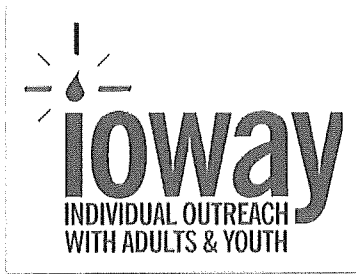
In the busy times we are currently in, handling the finances of our congregation is requiring more and more work. In an effort to save our financial people time we ask that you consider an old idea, that of the Simply Giving Program. To refresh your memory, Simply Giving is a program where once a week, once a month, or twice a month, your offering is automatically deducted from your checking account and automatically deposited into the churches account. All you will need to do is once a week (or whatever you choose) is to record the amount in your check register. That is all there is to it. The amount is set by you and doesn't change unless you request it to be changed or discontinued. Special services like Advent, Lent, Christmas, etc are NOT automatically deducted and we would encourage you to use your offering envelopes for those services just like in the past. For each person our Financial Secretary has to handle 52 envelopes and bookkeeping entries per year, and when you multiply that by approximately 275 envelope numbers, that is a significant amount of work that could be avoided by using the Simply Giving Program. An additional bonus would be that our giving throughout the year would be more consistent. We prayerfully ask that you consider making this small change that would be of big help. To learn more about this program, please contact the church office.

Why Go To Church?

A Church go'er wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday... "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 203,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this.. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!" When you are DOWN to nothing... God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

All right, now that you're done reading, send it on! I think everyone should read this! When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, "Jesus, could you get that for me? Amen!!



Judea and Samaria

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Where is your Judea? Your Samaria? Are you reaching out to them? Five members of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Polk City, had an amazing experience from July 27-August 2 as they reached out to God’s people in Glen Haven, Colorado.

Pastor Mark Schwalenberg shared, “A little over a year ago an excessive amount of rain in the Rocky Mountains caused a disastrous flood in the community of Estes Park and the surrounding area, especially the town of Glen Haven, CO. Most of the homes in the Glen Haven community are built on mountainsides, and some were built along the creeks and rivers that flow through this community. Most of those homes no longer exist. The town of Glen Haven was all but destroyed. The people who lived in the mountain homes had to be airlifted out because the local roads that followed the rivers and creeks were washed away. It took six months to replace the primary road in its dirt form only.

“Most of the area is basically unincorporated which means financial aid to rebuild is basically non-existent. The only paid person on staff is the backhoe driver because he’s a skilled professional. After a year of cleanup, rebuilding is finally taking place. The overwhelming majority of people helping with rebuilding / reconstruction are volunteers.

“On July 27, 2014 a group of three teens and two adults traveled from Polk City, IA to Glen Haven, CO. We were blessed to stay with a very caring Christian woman whose contribution to the rebuilding effort is providing free housing to groups in a very beautiful mountain home. The only problem with this environment - the local bear did visit our house one night and trash the woman’s bird feeders.

“We worked four of five days removing debris, landscaping, and planting seeds. It was hard work (especially at 7,500' elevation). Even after a year of hard work by many volunteer groups, plenty of unskilled work/clean up remains. The growing challenge now is the need for skilled (professional) volunteers/teams. The people of the Glen Haven community were extremely grateful and genuinely moved by the love and compassion shown by all the volunteer groups, including ours. Clearly, this is one of those great opportunities to show the love of Jesus in a very real and tangible way.”



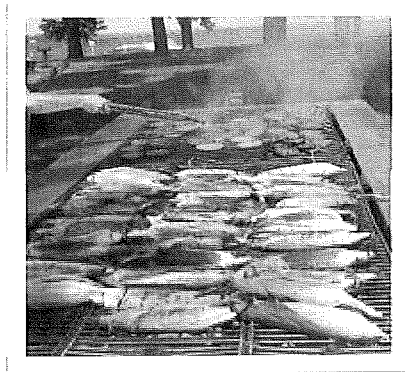
L to R: Christian Burgland, Pastor Mark Schwalenberg, Taylor McCombs, Vicky Schultz, Brianne Schultz

Reaching out to Samaria (Amazing Gifts of Love for Pilger)

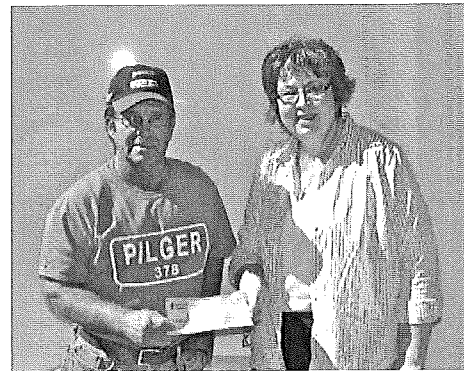


There are many people and churches who gave generously for the disaster relief in Pilger NE. One of these is Immanuel Lutheran in Schleswig. Their first was a gift of \$3,700 from the Mission Board and two door offerings. It was combined with gifts from Trinity Lutheran in Jefferson resulting in the down payment for a house for a family of six.

Doris Nahnsen, Immanuel Lutheran, Schleswig shared, "A fundraising event was organized by Immanuel of Schleswig, St. Paul of Ida Grove and the Triple Parish of Soldier, Hanover & Ricketts. On August 2, ten brave souls were out in the field at 7 AM picking sweet corn for the event. The Schleswig City Park was the scene of an old fashioned picnic with pork, hamburgers, hotdogs and sweet corn grilled by the Pork & Beef Producers. Approximately 200 were served and \$4,401 was raised. All proceeds from this event are going to help rebuild St. John's Lutheran Church in Pilger, NE."



Pictured are scenes from the day's events and the presentation of the check to the president of St. John Lutheran Church in Pilger. One check was for \$4,401 for the rebuilding of the church. The second check, on behalf of wonderful Iowa District West donors, was for Pastor and Mrs. Makelin for \$2,500. Their home was completely destroyed in the tornado.



More Care and Love for Pilger

At 7 AM on a bright sunny Saturday morning, a team of happy workers from Trinity Lutheran Church in Jefferson headed to Pilger, NE. Vehicles and a 7' x 14' trailer were loaded with



furniture, appliances, food and supplies for families who suffered losses in the Pilger tornado. Their main focus was to help Diane and her family as she prepared to move into a house she previously purchased after losing her rented home, vehicle, second job and all possessions.

The team included Pastor Tim and Christine Jones and family, George and Laurie Walker, Ruth Goshon, Sarah Erickson, Lynn and Ellie Menz and Jim Osterson. (Diane is in orange at back of photo.)

The “Extreme Makeover” consisted of ripping up 50 year old carpet from four rooms, purchasing new carpet in Norfolk, NE, installing the carpet, deep cleaning the kitchen, installing a toilet in the basement, washing windows, trimming brush and eating pizza. Everyone worked hard discovering they had muscles they were not previously aware of and feeling great that they were able to help Diane and her family start to reclaim their lives. Diane is amazing and very grateful for the help and love she received.

After “calling it a day,” Diane went with part of the team to show the devastation of Pilger. One amazing thing was that the town had basically become a corn field. Why? The grain bins were blown away and the corn scattered throughout the town. Corn is growing where houses had been. Life continued!



Rebuilding progress is slow. There are so many things to deal with: insurance, FEMA, rebuild, don't rebuild, move to a different town, etc. To add to the issues, Pilger has been declared a flood plain so now any rebuilding requires large amounts of dirt to build at a certain level; and, of course, that is an additional expense.

Thank you to all of you who have prayed for the people who suffered losses in the tornado and for your wonderful donations. Currently, a total of nearly \$40,000 has been donated for the relief work in Pilger, NE and Rock Rapids, IA. Iowa District West donors have truly been God's hands and feet in this time of need.

God's Blessings!
Ellie Menz
IOWAY Director
LERT District Disaster Response Coordinator

EYES on Youth Ministry

Educating Youth, Encouraging Servants

I was following my regular morning schedule at home. And then, in a moment, I understood that this was not going to be a regular morning. I went into a storage area in our basement and knelt down for something. Water! Not deep water submerging the floor, but definitely puddles all around getting everything on the floor very wet. I knew that it had rained extremely hard the night before (although at the time I didn't realize that we had received over 8" of rain in my neighborhood in less than a day), but it still was a surprise to me. We had never had water in the basement before. At first, I thought that it might be contained to one area, but the more I moved things away, the more my wife and I explored, the clearer the impact this water would have on our life would become.

Water, not only in the unfinished storage area of our basement but flowing over into our finished family room and a finished bedroom located nearby; carpeting, furniture, all the little debris of daily living all soaking wet. Contact with the water had changed everything. My plans and goals for that day, contact with water had suddenly changed them. No longer was I going to be a few minutes late, I was taking a vacation day and shifting all of my appointments. Even my perspective of value was changed. It wouldn't bother me to get rid of the old stereo we didn't play or the computer that nobody really used. At least the family pictures were safely dry inside a plastic tote.

While contact with the water in our basement caused a sense of dread in me; I was reminded that contact with another source of water gives me hope. As I focused more and more on the problems this water caused, I suddenly found myself thinking about the effect a different water had upon me and my life. Contact with the water of Baptism changes everything in my life. My plans and goals, contact with Baptismal water had changed them. What is important to me is not the success or power that the world around me craves, but the desire to serve and to love even as I have been served and loved. Even my perspective of value was changed. The accumulation of things that make up our lives, what the world would consider gain, I could join with Paul in saying, "*But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord*" (Philippians 3:7-8).

Disappointments; there are a few. We lost to water damage the bassinet that my wife slept in as an infant and that our children used. And the truth is that sin and sickness still cause hurts and pains even for baptized children of God in this world. "*But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ*" (1 Corinthians 15:57).

Please remember the registration deadlines for our District youth gatherings. Registrations for the Junior Youth Gathering, *Not Just Words*, in Des Moines are due by September 20. Registrations for the Senior Youth Gathering, *Collide*, in Omaha are due by October 17. More information can be found on the District web site or by email at steve.hayden@idwlcms.org.

Pastor Steven Hayden, Executive Assistant for Youth
steve.hayden@idwlcms.org



“CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST” AT ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL IN DENISON, IOWA

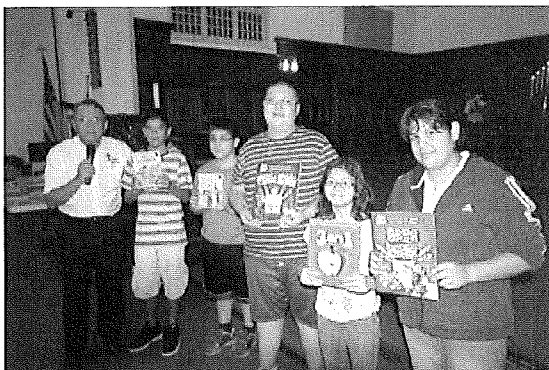
On August 27, 2014, a wonderful miracle happened at Zion Lutheran School at Denison, Iowa.

Through the amazing efforts of the Honorable Missionary Dr. Elizabeth Pittman, the representative of Concordia Publishing House in St. Louis, Missouri, a special contact was made with Old Missionary Gary Thies at Mission Central.

Elizabeth made it known that Concordia Publishing House had an inventory of special Christian “Arch Books” available that could be utilized as a MISSION AND STEWARDSHIP OUTREACH!

When this information was digested, contact was made with Principal Tammy Langfield and Rev. Kurt Kaiser of Zion Lutheran Church and School at Denison. They were so pleased and indicated that they and the nearly 120 students of the school would welcome these books if some of them could be provided in Spanish. In this community, over 50% of the students are Hispanic. These books would be such a blessing for the entire community. The students are going out into the offices and businesses of the entire community and providing these messages of Jesus and HIS love and will deliver these new Christian Books to many families. This special order of books was shipped to Mission Central and then presented at a Chapel Program at Zion School on August 27, 2014.

Here you see several Hispanic students holding some of the books, and the huge supply of these precious new books on the table. Pictured also are staff and special missionaries at Zion. THANK YOU, ELIZABETH, AND ALL OF OUR MISSIONARY FRIENDS AT CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE!



TWO NEW MISSIONARY FAMILIES MEET AT MISSION CENTRAL FOR PRAYER

Saturday, August 23, was a day that found two of our newest Missionaries able to spend time together with their families, and the families are part of the new missionaries that God is sending out as a part of the new group of missionaries that attended the Missionary Orientation of June of 2014.

The Rev. James Sharp Family, who are now living in Denison, Iowa made the trip to be with Michael and Beth Ritzman and their family. The Sharp family and their four children have been called to open up new work in Uruguay in South America and will be living in the capital city of Montevideo!

Michael and Beth Ritzman and their five children have been called to be the missionaries and business managers in the highlands of Papua, New Guinea.

After a tour of Mission Central, the families gathered in the Prayer Chapel and had a final prayer to send them off. Here you see the two families and their children!



AMAZING “NOT NORMAL” MISSIONARIES ARRIVE FROM CORTEZ, COLORADO

Who would come all the way from Cortez, Colorado to visit this place in the middle of “no-where”? Cortez is located approximately 13 hours from Mission Central. Certainly only someone who is NOT NORMAL would even make the effort to stop here!

And yet, that’s the kind of special people whom God sends to HIS place called MISSION CENTRAL! Many, many years ago, a much younger Missionary Gary spoke at the church in Cortez, Colorado, and this couple took supporting missionaries very personally. They didn't say, like “normal people” ...“Boy, the congregation ought to do something”.....THEY DID SOMETHING THEMSELVES! For over 10 years this couple has prayed for and supported their very own missionary. Just recently they “adopted” the Rev. James Sharp Family, our newest Missionaries going to Uruguay in South America to open new work there!

Ralph and Lisa Wegner are truly special people that God has placed in our lives here at Mission Central, and what a JOY to have them stay overnight on August 30, 2014.



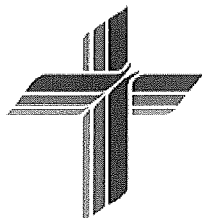
Here you see Ralph and Lisa, and also the Sharp Family they are praying for and supporting! We couldn't continue if the Lord didn't put people like Missionaries Ralph and Lisa Wegner in our path in this journey we call “serving HIM.”



Mission Central – LCMS World Mission

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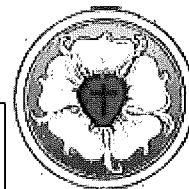


!AMIGOS EN CRISTO!

News from the IDW Hispanic Ministry of **Missionary/**
Pastor Daniel Vogel in Denison, Iowa

Iowa District
 West, LCMS

Year 10, Issue 10
 Oct. 2014



THE INSTALLATION OF PASTOR ERIC MOELLER:



My last official work as pastor of the Hispanic ministry at Storm Lake was to organize the Installation of the Rev. Dr. Eric Moeller as the new Hispanic pastor. He will also work as a full time Chaplain at the Tyson Foods pork plant in Storm Lake. What an honor this special service was on a beautiful day in August! Eighteen pastors were present, locally as well as from Des Moines, Minneapolis and Chicago. Few have had the chance to see a special installation for an ethnic ministry or especially a bilingual service. We were honored to have Iowa District West President Paul Sieveking present to do the Installation ceremony. I had the privilege of doing the Spanish translation of the service. The preacher of the service was Pastor Alex

Merlo of San Pablo (St. Paul) Lutheran in Aurora, Illinois. He is a good friend of Pastor Moeller. Pastors from the Storm Lake, Denison, and Des Moines areas and members of their churches came to show their support for this special ministry. Pastor Moeller has had a unique background of experiences in the mission field, university teaching and congregational service to prepare him for this special ministry. He is married to Miracelia and they have three children. Please pray for Pastor Moeller, his family, and his ministry.

THE FUTURE OF OUR MINISTRY

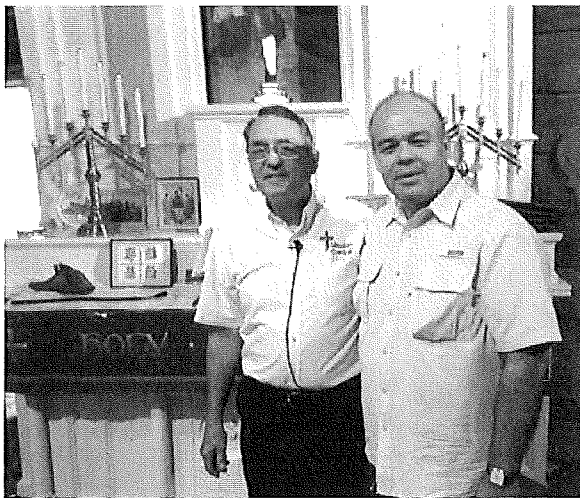
AMONG HISPANICS: The picture at the right is the latest photo of our four pastors serving to share the Gospel with Hispanic immigrants in Iowa District West. This picture was taken on August 17 at the Installation of Pastor Eric Moeller at Grace Lutheran in Storm Lake. Pictured left to right: myself (Pastor Vogel), Pastor Eric Moeller, Pastor Alex Merlo of Chicago (the visiting preacher of the special service), Pastor Lincon Guerra serving in Des Moines, and Pastor Henry Witte serving in Sioux City. We have a wonderful future as we minister to the Hispanic communities in western Iowa with the Gospel of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Please follow the work of each of these ministries on the monthly IDW website.





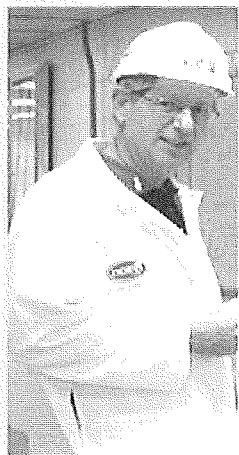
A NEW MISSION FIELD:

Last month I wrote about meeting Pastor Gabriel Deng through his wife Sara who works at Tyson. They are members of a Sudanese ministry that has begun worshipping at Zion in Denison. Pastor Gabriel is a Lutheran pastor and is consulting with Iowa District West to become certified as an LCMS pastor. I am pictured with Pastor Gabriel and some of his leaders. Please keep him and his ministry group in your prayers.



A SPECIAL VISIT TO MISSION CENTRAL

In August I had the privilege to host Pastor Alex Merlo of Aurora, Illinois (near Chicago). He came to Iowa to preach for the Installation of Pastor Eric Moeller in Storm Lake. On his way back to Chicago I took him to Mission Central to see this special mission center and to hear about the work that is being done there to promote missions. Pastor Alex had never heard about this special place and Director Gary Thies (pictured at left) was kind enough to give us a tour on a busy day. May more of our pastors come to visit this special place.



MY TYSON CHAPLAINCY AT THE PLANT IN DENISON: "Religious Diversity"

My work at Tyson continues to bring me into contact with folks from all over the world. It also connects me with Christians from around the world. As I reported above we are supporting the new Sudanese ministry in Denison. I also visit with many Christians of the Denison Hispanic churches. Amazingly, Denison has 14 Hispanic churches! Denison is seen as a mission field by Christian denominations around the Midwest. At Tyson we certainly have many faiths represented from Christian to Islam and more.

TO CONTACT ME

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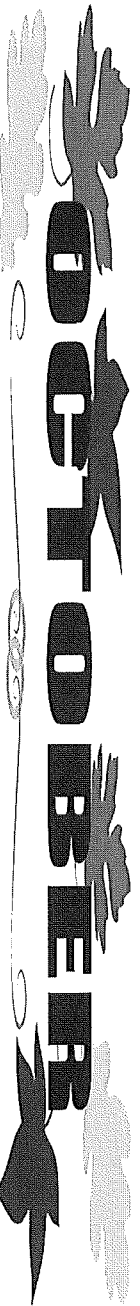
or Email me at:

Dan.Vogel@idwlcms.org

* Please forward this newsletter to a friend from www.idwlcms.org



PLEASE PRAY: + In thanksgiving for the August 17 installation of Pastor Eric Moeller to serve our mission in Storm Lake, and prayers for his ministry there. + For the process of incorporating and affiliating with the State and the District for our mission in Denison. + For outreach and the growth of new leaders. + For my work as Chaplain at Tyson in Denison and the opportunity there to meet many special people from all over the world. + For our ongoing efforts to organize a Pro-Life Hispanic group in Denison. + *In thanksgiving for the mission hearts of the many individuals and congregations of Iowa District West who monthly support the Lord's work among Hispanic immigrants in Denison and in our other three Hispanic missions.*



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 9:30 Bible Study 4:00 Midweek 7:00 Evening Cir	2 1:30 Ladies Aid	3	4 4:00 Schulte/ Kohorst Wedding 6:00 DW/HC
5 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW/HC LWML Sunday	6	7	8 9:30 Bible Study 2:00 Midweek 6:30 Sunday School Teachers meeting	9	10	11
12 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW	13	14	15 9:30 Bible Study 4:00 Midweek 7:30 Voter's Meet	16	17	18
19 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW/HC	20 1:00 Sewing Circle	21	22 9:30 Bible Study 2:00 Midweek	23	24	25
26 9:00 Chr. Ed 10:00 DW	27	28	29 9:30 Bible Study 4:00 Midweek	30	31	

USHERS

Dwight Ehlers Brad Hinners
 Steve McCollough Jake Kraus
 Greg Gronau Dale Lenz

CHANCEL CIRCLE

Beth Wittrock
 Luetta Meggers
PARISH CIRCLE
 Julie & Nicole Liechti

MARTHA CIRCLE
 Betty Nobiling & Deb Weller

ACOLYTES

10/5 Katelyn Hinners & Jonathan Dose
 10/12 Makayla Hinners & Bret Hinners
 10/19 Garrett Cleveland & Jordan Hanson
 10/26 Shelby Dirks & Jagger Luejje

MIDWEEK SERVERS

10/1 **Donna Schurke**
 10/8 Michelle Prichard (2 pm)
 10/15 Stephanie Hinners
 10/22 Denise Ragaller (2 pm)
 10/29 ??? Need someone

Birthdays



Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Tim Kraus Ranee Wernimont	2 Helen Leiting Dale & Vickie Musfeldt Dan & Dawn Segebart	3 Cody Bair	4 Drew Schurke
5 Kelsey Lupole Payton Gallagher Brian & Kathy Kraus	6 Mary Brockman Dorna Rickers Doug & Sue Kuhl	7 Marshall Owen	8 Duane & Luetta Meggers	9 Rob Klink	10 Roger Liechti Duane Meggers	11 Amanda Dirks Ruth Liechti Gayle Miller Ryan & Kate Neumann
12 Jeff Cornelius Nicky Lenz Bob & Wanda Erps Gerry & Lila Thiedeman	13 Karen Grundmeier Ron & Kim Cleveland	14 Randy Bruhn Kate Neumann	15	16	17 Roger Liechti Duane Meggers	18 Danica Ehlers Korbyn Fineran Hope Hansman Ty Muhlbauer David Vetter Kurt & Jackie Bramming Jay & Cat Luette
19 Kim Cleveland Sue Musfeldt	20 Rebecca Dose Nick Leiting	21	22 Cindy Brockman Opal Hargens	23 Steph Hinners Al & Pam Kock	24 Leora DeWitt Ben Noble	25 Rich Rose
26 Irene Jurgens Will Ragaller Brad & Steph Hinners	27 Beth Liechti Lila Thiedeman	28	29 Paul Hinners Louie & Dawn Winey	30 Taylor Ewoldt Brad Hinners	31 Lois Rickers	

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FRIENDS WHO CARE

<i>Christian Education</i>	<i>9:00 am</i>
<i>Adult Bible Class</i>	<i>9:00 am</i>
<i>Divine Worship</i>	<i>10:00 am</i>



OCTOBER
