

April 2011 Newsletter



"Communicating the Love of Jesus" Worship Hours:

Christian Growth Hour: 8:45 a.m. Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Living Word Lutheran Church

Located on the West of Spicer on Ctx Rd 10 in old Prairie Meadows building PO Box 242, New London, MN 56273

Phone: 320-796-0742

Website: www.livingwordlutheran.net

What we aim to do:

Make disciples for Jesus - as we go, wherever we go.

What we aim to be:

A joyful, caring, Christ-centered family of God.

Question for Pastor...

"With what happened in Japan and all the earthquakes and tsunamis recently - and predictions of the end of the world don't you think we are getting close to The End?"

This is another question I get asked quite often, particularly after some major disaster like Hurricane Katrina or the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia. There certainly seems to be some added fascination with The End after the earthquake and tsunami and nuclear meltdown in Japan. This added interest is largely due to a couple of well-publicized predictions that The End of the World will come either in 2011 (this year!) or 2012.

A small Christian group based in Tennessee daims to have figured out that the End of the World will begin on May 21 this year. If that were true we only have about a month and a half left! The other prediction that has gotten even more "airplay" in the media is that the world will end next year in 2012 (specifically, December 21). This guesswork is based on various interpretations of the Mayan calendar and things written by Nostradamus, a 16th century man who issued lots of prophesies of things to come.

As with any situation, it's always best to see what God'has to say on the subject. He's the one in control of what happens anyway. People in our time are not the only ones interested in knowing when The End will come. Jesus' disciples asked him that same question. Here's part of his answer. (The bold-face type comes from me, not God)

36 "But about that day or hour **no one knows**, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 37 As it was in

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the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; 39 and **they knew nothing about what would happen** until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

Matthew 24:36-39

Personally, I always laugh when I hear that someone has figured out the exact day of the end of the world. I want to ask them "What part of "no one knows" don't you understand?" (Jesus said that even He doesn't know.)

Yet, we seem to have this need to want to know. Both the apostle Paul and apostle Peter address this in the Scriptures with the same answer as Jesus:

1 Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, 2 for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come **like a thief in the night**. 3 While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them **suddenly**, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3

9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. 10 But **the day of the Lord will come like a thief.** The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

2 Peter 3:9-10

The saying that the end will come "like a thief in the night" is another way of saying that it will come unannounced beforehand. Thieves don't tell you when they are coming.

So, one answer that I typically give is this: "If someone says they know what specific day Christ is going to return, I can be fairly certain that He is not going to come that day." In other words, if lots of people are expecting it, then He hasn't come unexpected "like a thief in the night."

But, having established that it would be foolish of me to join in the speculation as to days and times, Jesus, Paul and Peter each tell us what we *are* to do as approach this "unknown" end of time. (Again, the bold type is my emphasis) 42 "Therefore **keep watch**, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. 43 But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. 44 So **you also must be ready**, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

Jesus in Matthew 24:42-44

So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled.

The Apostle Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5:6

11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people quant you to be? You quant to live holy and godly lives 12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat, 13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. 14 So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. 15 Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him.... 17 Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your quard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. The Apostle Peter in 2 Peter 3:11-17

In short, God has chosen not to tell us when The End will come, so that we always have the need to be ready for Christ to return. You don't want him to come back and catch you napping without faith or caught in the trap of sin. Jesus is the Master who has gone away and promises to return. The best way to ensure that you are doing what He wants when He returns is to make it your goal to always be doing what He wants. That way you will always be ready.

So, do I think the end is coming soon? It would not surprise me if it comes tomorrow. Neither would it surprise me if it doesn't come for another thousand years. (First-century Christians who looked around at the deplorable state of morality and persecution were convinced the end had to be just around the corner. And here we are still 2000 years later. Paraphrasing Peter's comment to those first-century Christians, "If He seems slow to come by your standards, remember that His delay is

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due to His patience, wanting everyone to come to repentance.")

I look at these predictions that The End is coming this May or next December and am reminded that God can use these "crazy" prognostications to make people think about The End and where they will be headed. He can use these to bring people to repentance and back to Him. And if that happens, as I suspect it does many times, then even though The End doesn't come as predicted God has used it to save people eternally. And that's a good thing.

By the way, my standard answer to the question: "I can say this with full confidence, The End is closer today than it was vesterday."

> Thanks for asking, Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Upcoming Events...

Wednesday, April 6, 13

Lenten Midweek Supper / Devotions (see page 9)

Saturday, April 16 - Easter Celebration for Kids

A fun time with crafts and an Easter egg hunt. Invite all the kids you know. (see page 8)

Tuesday, April 19 -

Living Word Serves at Community Meal (see page 18)

Thursday, April 21

Maundy Thursday Worship @ 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 22

Good Friday "Seven Last Words" Devotion @ 7:00 p.m.

The Passion of the Christ @ 7:45 (see page 15)

Sunday, April 24

Easter Sunday Soorise Worship @ 6:18 Easter Breakfast @ 7:45 Easter Worship w/Lord's Supper @ 10:00

Sunday, May 1

Baby Shower For Alesha Hjelle from 2-4 p.m.

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Opportunities for Growth...

What Does God Say About...? Bible readings

This month's readings (found on pages 10 & 11 of this newsletter) focus on themes from Lent and Easter.

Men's "Bible and Burgers" Study Tuesdays @ 6:00 p.m.

Guys: Join us for our NEW STUDY:

"The Struggles and Faith of Real People Just Like Us" Starting with: Joseph (staying faithful in adversity)

Wednesday Morning Mom's Study - 9:30 -

Moms: Join us this week as we begin a NEW STUDY: "The Struggles and Faith of Real People Just Like Us"
Starting with: Joseph (staying faithful in adversity)

Wednesday Women's Study - Noon

Ladies: Join us this week for our NEW STUDY: "The Struggles and Faith of Real People Just Like Us" Starting with: Joseph (Staying faithful in adversity)

Lenten Midweek Devotion - 6:30 p.m. (Supper @ 6:45)

"Myths about God": And the Truth to Combat the Myth

Confirmation - 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays

Preparing for Confirmation Day (Sunday, May 8)

Sunday Morning Study @ 8:45

We finish our series on Facing Disasters on April 3. Beginning April 10 we start "Differences between LCMS and ELCA"



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The LINK Update...

News from The Link



Creating a community where neighbors share the love of God through service to each other.

Neighbors in Need

People in our community are falling further and further behind. We are trying to help people get back to square one and off to a fresh start. Since the beginning of 2011, The Link has disbursed over \$15,000 to assist people with things like medical bills, health insurance premiums, transportation costs, housing, utilities, etc.

This is just the first step in building relationships with people that will connect them to the community, to employment opportunities, to improved financial security, and emotional well-being.

Please consider how you can help support these people, through your financial gifts, contribution of time and talents and the sharing of other resources.

Did you know?.....

According to Jobs Now Coalition in Kandiyohi County a two earner family of four needs to make \$51,853 annually in order to meet their basic needs for food, housing transportation and other necessities. This is based on a "no-fnils" budget that doesn't include eating out, vacations or going to the movies.

To cover these costs each worker must make \$12.29/hr. 40% of the jobs in our region pay less than a family supporting wage of \$12.29/hr.

Don't forget....Resources Available Free at the New London office

- Laundry Facilities-
- Household items, furnishings, appliances, linens, etc.
- Computer with Internet access

Drop 'N Shop Spring Clothing Exchange Friday and Saturda

Friday and Saturday, May 13-14 at Evangelical Covenant Church New London

Drop off your clean donated clothes on Friday noon-6pm.

Come back and shop on Saturday 9am-

Everything is FREE, including breakfastll Volunteers are still needed- contact The Link to sign up!

AND



Spring Cleaning
Household Item Collection
Saturday May 14th 9am-12 noon
at the New London Link Building

Wondering what to do with that old set of dishes, that extra table, the lamp from Grandma's house, the out grown baby shift?

Drop it off at The Link so someone else can use it! We'll be open special hours on May 14th just to take those spring cleaning items!

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You are invited... Every Tuesday night at 6pm for dinner at Tuesday's Table.

- 1st Tues @ Our Lady of the Lakes, Spicer
- 2nd Tues @ Evangelical Covenant, NL
- 3rd Tues @ Faith Lutheran, Spicer
- 4th Tues @ Peace Lutheran, NL
- 5th Tues@ Hope Presbyterian, Spicer

For more information about The Link and its programs contact The Director, Naomi Mahler at 796-2522 or flc_naomi@tds.net

Jesus Lives! Come and See! [Mary Said,] "I have seen the Lord!" John 20:19 ESV

Event: Easter Celebration for Kids!!!

Place: Living Word Lutheran Church

Date: Saturday, April 16

Time: From 10:00 to 11:30

For more information:

Contact the church at 796-0742 or Mona Hjelle at 354-4315. The event is for kids ages 3-9. There will be a story time, song to learn, craft to make, snack to eat and an Easter Egg Hunt with a surprise in each egg (not candy!)

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Lenten Midweek Devotions...

The last two Wednesdays of Lent, April 6 & 13
Supper served from.. 5:45 to 6:20
Devotion and prayer from... 6:30 to 7:00

Each week different groups within church will take turns ...

- providing the pre-devotion meal
- picking a couple songs for us to sing
- choosing a service project we can participate in after the devotion - e.g. bringing food shelf items; or bringing items for the Safe Avenues fundraiser

The remaining group schedule:

April 6: MMT April 13: LWML

The Devotions

It is traditional to "give something up for Lent" (again, following Jesus' example of giving up food during the 40 days of temptation). Most often what we "give up" is normally a habit or action. This year our devotions have focused on giving up wrong beliefs (or myths) about God. The myths we are to give up have been chosen by the confirmation students based on chapters they've read in the book Don't Check Your Brains At the Door. An example is the "Cosmic Cop" myth. The belief that God just sits up there and waits for us to step out of line, so He can "zap" us with some punishment.

Please add our Lenten Midweek Devotions (and supper) to your schedule.

11:09... (set the alarm on your cell phone)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY AT 11:09 EVERYDAY

(inspired by Luke 11:9: "So I say to you, Ask and it will be given to you; Seek and you will find; Knock and the door will be opened to you")

April Discipleship Verse...



Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.

1 Timothy 1:15

April - Daily Devotionals

The daily readings are on topics that traditionally have to do with Lent and Easter

Apr 3	What God Says About _FASTING
Apr 4	Psalm 35:11-14
Apr 5	Matthew 6:17-18
Apr 6	1 Samuel 7:6
Apr 7	Luke 4:1-2
Apr 8	Acts 13:2-3
Apr 9	Acts 14:23
Apr 10	What God Says About PROPHESIE'S OF JESUS' SUFFERING & DEATH
Apr 11	Psalm 22:6-8, 12-18
Apr 12	Psalm 69:19-21
Apr 13	Zechariah 9:9-10
Apr 14	Zechariah 11:12-13, 12:10-14
Apr 15	Isaiah 50:5-9
Apr 16	Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Apr 17	What God Says About ACTIVITIES OF HOLY WEEK
Apr 18	Matthew 21:1-11
Apr 19	Matthew 21:12-17
Apr 20	Matthew 26:1-30

"What Does God Say About...?"

Apr 21	Matthew 26:31-75
Apr 22	Matthew 27:1-32
Apr 23	Matthew 27:33-66
Apr 24	What God Says About JESUS' RESURRECTION - Who Witnessed It
Apr 25	Matthew 28:8-10, 16-20
Apr 26	Mark 16:9-11
Anr 27	Luke 24:15-31
Apr 21	EURO 24, 10-01
Apr 28	John 20:19-31
Apr 29	Luke 24:50-51, Acts 1-2
Apr 30	1 Corinthians 15:5-8
May 1	What God Says About JESUS' RESURRECTION - Its result for us
May 2	John 11:20-27
May 3	1 Corinthians 15:12-23
May 4	1 Corinthians 15:51-58
May 5	Acts 4:32-35
May 6	Colossians 3:1-10
May 7	1 Peter 1:3-9

April 2011 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum: Disasters - Sunday School	4 8:30 Circuit Pastors	5	6 9:30 Morns' Study Noon Women's Study	7 Noon NL-S Ministerial	8	9
10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship		6:00 Men's Group	6:30 Lenten Devotion 7:00 Confirmation 7:00 Sr. High Study			
10 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum: ELCA & LCMS - Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship Outreach Meeting	7:00 Elders' Team	6:00 Men's Group	9:30 Morns' Study Noon Women's Study 6:30 Lenten Devotion 7:00 LWML Confirmation Sr. High Study 7:00 MMT Meeting	14	15	16 10:00 Easter Celebration FOR KIDS
17 PALM SUNDAY 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum: ELCA & LCMS - Sunday School 10:00 Worship w' Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	18	5:00 Living Word serves at Community Meal	20	21 MAUNDY THURS 7:00 Worship W Lord's Supper	7:00 7 Last Words Devotion Service 7:45 Passion of the Christ	23
24 EASTER SUNDAY 6:18 SONRISE WOR SHIP 7:30 EASTER BREAKFAST 10:00 EASTER WOR SHIP W/ Lord's Supper	25	26 6:00 Men's Group	9:30 Morns' Study Noon Women's Study 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Sr. High Study	28	29	30
May 1 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum Sunday School 10:00 Worship w Youth 4 Christ Fast Forward Group 11:15 Potluck Fellowship 2:00 Baby Shower-Alesha Hjelle	May 2	May 3 6:00 Men's Group	May 4 9:30 Mcms' Study Noon Women's Study After School Confirmation Interviews	May 5	May 6	May 7 CONFIRMATION TOMORROW

Upcoming	Schedules		
Elders Apr 3 Apr 17 May 1 May 15	Jason Miller & Troy Hansen Bryson Wachter & Brady Sharp Wally Abraham & Jason Miller Brady Sharp and Bryson Wachter		
Scripture Rea	<u>iders</u>		
Apr 3	Mona Hjelle	354-4315	
Apr 10	Phil Iverson	354-4932	
Apr 17	Kevin Welsh	796-6840	
Apr 24	Carolyn Rossow	952-738-1036	
May 1	Gerri Wadsworth	796-2294	
May 8	Confirmation Students		
May 15	Paulette Spletter	354-7143	
May 22	Linda Dilley	235-0235	
May 29	Mark Fuglie	796-6975	
Fellowship Se	ervers		
Apr 3	Laurel Iverson / Violet D		
Apr 10	Linda Dilley / Bonnie Ha	nsen	
Apr 17	Marcia Welsh / Pam Joh	nson	
Apr 24	Easter		
May 1	Potluck		
May 8	Wendy Robbin / Stacy O		
May 15	Nancy Jo Wendy / Tamr	ny Fuglie	
May 22	Tammy Wachter / Sarah	n Miller	
May 29	Lu Kiehm / Mona Hjelle		
Children's Ch	urch Schedule		
Apr 3	Mariah Welsh	796-6840	
Apr 10	Joe Johnson	354-3545	
Apr 17	Kasey Nieland	354-2036	
Apr 24	Mona Hjelle	354-4315	
May 1	Emily Fuglie	796-6975	
May 8	** Leader Needed**		
May 15	Mikayla & Halee		
May 22	Carolyn Rossow	952-738-1036	
May 29	Mariah Welsh	796-6840	
<u>Acolyte</u>			
Apr 3	Grace Geer		
Apr 10	Michelle Johnson		

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Apr 17 Apr 24	Matthew Tri Jacob Beeler
May 1	Grace Geer
May 8	Michelle Johnson
May 15	** Acolyte Needed**
May 22	Caleb Beeler
May 29	** Acolyte Needed**

Usher	& Gree	eter Sc	<u>hedule</u>
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	Ushers	Greeter
Apr 3	Mona Hjelle & Paulette Spletter	Bryson Wachter
Apr 10	Brady Sharp & Wally Abraham	Laurel Iverson
Apr 17	Jamie & Phil Iverson	Lu Kiehm
Apr 24	Joe Johnson & Anthony Dauk	Gerri & Paulette
May 1	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen	Bryson Wachter
May 8	Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter	Laurel Iverson
May 15	Troy Hansen & Brandon Sharp	Lu Kiehm
May 22	Lonny Robbin & Jason Olson	Gerri & Paulette
May 29	Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer	

*Fill-in Greeter Bonnie Hansen 796-5605

Something New Starting Good Friday...

At a recent Elders' Team meeting we talked about having a special night once a month where people of all ages can get together for a time of Christian fellowship. We discussed having a movie night each month, but settled on having different families plan the activity for each different month. For example, "Family A" might host a Whist Tournament in January, while "Family B" sponsors a sledding day after worship in February, while "Family C" plans a movie night in March.

The Elders decided to kick off this Monthly Fellowship Night on Good Friday by hosting a showing of *The Passion of the Christ* following the "Seven Last Words" Devotional Service. It's been a few years since we watched *The Passion of the Christ* together at the Spicer Cinema, and we have had a number of requests to show it again. What better day than Good Friday. Devotional Service begins at 7:00. *The Passion of the Christ will* start at 7:45. It's a great way to be reminded why we call this particular Friday, "Good."

Please talk to Pastor or a member of the Elders' Team if you or your family would like to plan and host the Fellowship Night in May.

Sharing the Love of God In Practical Ways...

Donate to Help Safe Avenues

Safe Avenues (formerly Shelter House) is hosting a fundraising banquet April 8. The event includes a silent auction of 'themed' baskets and have asked organizations to donate baskets valued at \$50 or more. Our LWML is putting together a basket with a family entertainment theme and asks the congregation to donate new items to include. In addition to making the basket entertaining with things like microwave popcom, popcorn cups, candy, small games / puzzles, we'd like to use the basket as a way to spread the word of God. Thus, we welcome items like books, DVDs and plush toys with a Veggie Tales or other Christian theme. Please place items (or cash donations) in the marked basket at the back of the church by April 3. Any questions, please ask Tammy Fuglie or Laurel Iverson

Pray

We are conducting the annual update of our Prayer Force prayer chain:

As we've been reminded by the 50 Days Ablaze, prayer for others is one of our responses to the love God has shown us. People on the Prayer Force receive requests via email (we are adding a phone list this year for those who don't use email).

Help with Children's Church

The only pre-requisite is a love for Jesus and for His kids. You read a Bible story or Object Lesson, take prayer requests from the kids and lead them in prayer; and do an activity with the kids that reinforces the lesson. Lessons are provided. You simply show up and lead. Please talk to Mona Hjelle if you can help in this way. Thanks!

Help With Support of Heidy

Heidy is the girl from Ecuador that we support through Compassion International. We have committed to \$32/month to help pay for basic needs and Christian education opportunities for Heidy. Donations may be placed in the "Heidy" box on the usher table at church. Thank you!

Lutheran Island Creation Science Camp...

Programs Offered:

YOUNG SCIENTIST PROGRAM

"BANG!" "Whoosh!" "Wow!" Science can be exciting at Lutheran Island Camp. Our Young Scientist Program uses science to better

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understand God's creation and the universe that surrounds us.

Brian Young teaches God's word while helping participants see
how the truth of science supports the facts of creation. Ages:

Dates: Young Scientist 1-June 12-17 Young Scientist 2-June 26-July 1 Young Scientist 3-July 31-August 5

Cost: \$350

CREATION-SAFARI CAMP

Send your child on the ultimate journey of exploration. God has given us a wonderful place to search for strange animals, neat plants, big fish, and lots of bugs. During our Creation-Safari camps we'll be teaching youth to see just how miraculous those creations are. We'll have fun with butterflies, fish, horses, flowers, and bugs. At the same time we'll be taking a safari into God's word to hunt dinosaurs, giant fish, exotic plants, and strange weather patterns.

Ages: 8-11

Dates: Creation Safari 1-July 10-15 Creation Safari 2-July 17-22 Creation Safari 3-August 7-12

Cost: \$310

CREATION PHOTOGRAPHY AND ART

Join other photographers and artists who have a special desire to learn how to capture God's magnificent creation through their art. Led by a professional photographer, you'll see nature as it gives birth, blooms, takes to the sky, and brings forth beauty.

Ages: 12 and older Dates: June 5-10 Cost: \$265

TEACHING YOUR FAMILY ABOUT CREATION

This weekend event will help parents and children learn about the most up-to-date creation science and how to teach and live it. They will discover that much of the "evidence" of evolution is based on false information and unproven theories. This will be a great family opportunity to have the tools to respond to questions and challenges to our faith.

Ages: Family Dates: June 17-19

Cost: \$85 per person, children under 5 free,

\$300 maximum per family.

Scholarships for camp are available. Talk to Pastor if you need a scholarship or would like to provide one for a student.

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Community Meal...

Can You Help Serve, Tuesday, April 19?

Chances are that by now you have heard of "The Tuesday Meal."
Maybe you know someone who has gone to one - or have gone
yourself. If you haven't heard, The Tuesday Meal is a free community meal offered every Tuesday. Churches in the community take
turns hosting the meal. Those churches that aren't able to host the
meal take turns helping serve the meal.

Tuesday, April 19 is the day Living Word is scheduled to help serve The Tuesday Meal that will be held that day at Faith Lutheran in Spicer.

We will need 12 to 15 volunteers to each be a host at a table. Each host will help with getting the table ready, serving food and cleaning up. Each host will sit at your table and simply make people there feel welcome.

On Thursday of Holy Week, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples before they enjoyed a meal together. He said, "I have set you an example, that you should do as I have done." 2000 Holy Weeks later you have the chance to follow Jesus' example by helping serve at a meal (foot washing is not part of the job description this time). Please sign up to be a servant for the April 19 Tuesday Meal. Thank you in advance!

E-Mail Wisdom... (received via e-mail)

AGE BY CAR RADIO...

STUDENT: Every button is programmed to pop, rock, and rap except the oldies station for your parents.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL: Still programmed to rap, rock and pop; plus the station that gives the traffic reports. As you approach the 30s, you'll probably also add the talk station that everyone at work talks about.

ESTABLISHED PROFESSIONAL: Will use the Scan button and hear the first pop tune you learned as a kid on the oldies station.

APPROACHING MIDDLE AGE: Thank goodness for "adult" pop, rock and soul - will actually listen to the oldies for a few tunes.

TRULY MIDDLE AGE: It's not that you're old enough to listen to the oldies, it's just that they keep playing songs you know.

APPROACHING RETIREMENT: The radio is either on the oldies or off.

RETIRED: Stopped listening to the radio - that "oldies" station started playing all this "new music."

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THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD



JAPAN DISASTER: Long-term Needs Increase

Even as the disaster in Japan begins to fade from headlines, recovery and rebuilding will take a long time. LCMS partners in Japan are looking to us to help reach out with Christ's mercy to people suffering after the 9.0 magnitude earthquake, tsunami and subsequent nuclear power-plant crisis.



By March 21, the total number of people killed or missing as a result of the March

11 disaster had climbed to 21,459, according to the National Police Agency in Japan. Some 320,000 evacuees are in shelters, also according to news reports. Radiation concerns persist. "We are working with our Lutheran partners on the ground in Japan and preparing for a long-haul response," said Rev. John Fale, interim executive director of LCMS World Relief and Human Care (WR-HC). As of March 23, WR-HC has announced \$300,000 in grants to Japan Lutheran church bodies to meet needs.

During this blessed Lenten season, LCMS President Matthew C. Harrison asks for prayers and continued financial support "as we strive to bring the help and hope of Christ to people who are hurting."

PLEASE HELP TODAY!

Pray: Please pray for those who have lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods. Please pray that Lutheran disaster response efforts touch many lives with God's hope and mercy.

Connect: To learn more, visit www.kms.org/workbrellef or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

Give: To make a donation for Lutheran relief efforts —

- Mail checks (noting "Japan Disaster Relief" in the memo line) to: LCMS World Relief and Human Care
 P.O. Box 66861
- St. Louis MO 63166-6861
- Phone toll-free 888-930-4438
- Go on line to http://givenowlans.org

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E-Mail Humor...

Kids and Clichés

A fourth grade teacher in California gave his class the assignment to Complete the Cliché. He gave them the first part of the famous saying and asked them to finish it. Here are some results...

- The grass is always greener.... when you leave the sprinkler on.
- The grass is always greener.... when you remember to water it.
- The grass is always greener.... when you put manure on it.
- A rolling stone.... plays the guitar.
- A bird in the hand is.... a real mess.
- It's better to light one candle than to.... waste electricity.
- It's always darkest just before.... I open my eyes.
- · You have nothing to fear but... homework.
- We have nothing to fear... but our principal.
- . If you can't stand the heat.... don't start the fireplace.
- If you can't stand the heat.... go swimming.
- A penny saved is.... nothing in the real world.
- The squeaking wheel... gets annoying.
- To err is human.... To eat a muskrat is not.
- · I think, therefore... I get a headache.
- Laugh and the world laughs with you. Cry, and... someone yells, "Shut up!"
- Early to bed and early to rise is.... first in the bathroom.
- A journey of a thousand miles begins with... a blister.
- There is nothing new under the... bed.
- Don't count your chickens.... it takes too long.

No Parking

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note: "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. 'Lead us not into temptation.""

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Page 21 | Top Ten Reasons...

...to Come to Church on Easter

- Beats hunting for Easter eggs
- It's the only time "Everyone Else is Doing It" is actually a good reason
- Not much compares to singing "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" with other believers as you watch the sun rise
- It is the Super Bowl, World Series, Final Four, Stanley Cup, Daytona 500, Masters Tournament, Wimbledon, American Idol Finale, Survivor-Mt. Calvary, all rolled into one (but this victory means something!)
- 6. It's a "foretaste of the eternal feast to come"
- With apologies to the Christmas song, Easter is "the greatest celebration of them all!"
- 4. Jesus' resurrection is THE event our faith in Jesus hinges on.
- Jesus Jesus! invites you! Do you really want to turn Him down?
- If Jesus could rise from the grave for you well, it really is the least you can do
- 1. It's your team's victory celebration!

By the way, Easter is on April 24 and you have two choices of worship:

- 6:18 (actual sunrise) Sonrise Worship (starts outside watching sun rise)
- 10:00 (regular Sunday time) Worship with the Lord's Supper.

Thanks !!!

- To Bonnie and Duane Hansen, Pam Johnson and Donna Peterson for hosting parts of our progressive Dinner in March. Thanks also to the 20+ people who came and ate the great food they prepared!
- For your prayers and support in so many other ways after the fire in our home. God bless you all!

~Pastor David & Violet

 Bryson, Tim, Jamie, Laurel and Pastor Dave for helping with our Lock-In! ~Living Word Youth

That for a day: The most difficult

Story Behind The Song...

"All Glory Laud and Honor"

The next day the great crowd that had come for the (Passover) Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. John 12:12,13

"All Glory Laud and Honor" is one of the great hymns celebrating the Triumphal Entry on the day we now call Palm Sunday. The hymn was written approximately 1200 years ago in France by Bishop Theodolph while he was imprisoned in the monastery of Angers. Theodolph was well known in his day as a poet, pastor and beloved bishop of Orleans. When Emperor Charlemagne died in 814, the bishop was put into a monastic prison by Charlemagne's son and successor Louis I the Pious, for allegedly plotting against him.

There is a legend surrounding this hymn that has long been associated with it. It is believed by many that a short time before the bishop died in 821, Louis was visiting the area where the bishop was imprisoned and purely by chance was walking on the grounds under Theodolph's cell. The bishop was singing and worshiping in the solitude of his confinement. When the emperor heard this particular song being sung, he was so moved that he immediately ordered Theodolph' release.

All glory, laud and honor to Thee Redeemer, King, To whom the lips of children make sweet Hosannas ring Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son Who in the Lord' name cometh, the King and Blessed One

The company of angels are praising Thee on high, And mortal men and all things created make reply. The people of the Hebrews with palm before Thee went Our praise and prayers and anthems before Thee we present

To Thee before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise; To Thee no high exalted, our melody we raise; Thou didst accept their praises—accept the praise we bring Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King!

MATCHING FUNDS 'THANK YOU'

As of March 27, we have received \$6989 in our Matching Funds drive. Donations can still be made.

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Holy Week Worship...

Mark your calendars...

Maundy Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Lord's Supper is Celebrate

Good Friday: 7:00 p.m.

The Seven Last Words Tenebrae Devotion followed by a showing of *The Passion of Christ*

Easter Sonrise 6:18 a.m. (actual sunrise) Worship begins outside watching the sunrise

Easter Breakfast 7:30 a.m.

Easter Celebration Worship - 10:00 a.m.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Rev. Wilson's attempt to create a contemporary Easter sermon did not go over well with the traditional congregation at Ninnyville Lutheran.