



“Can I Use Your Article?”

That’s not the question I had planned on answering. I was going to tackle a question I received from the Sunday morning Bible Study group:

“How would you explain the ‘Gospel’ to people not familiar with it?”

I’ll save that one for next month and deal with the above question today.

This month’s question came from a couple of folks in different churches who were preparing for Rally Day. They apparently ‘googled’ something about Rally Day and up popped up this “Question For Pastor” article I had written several years ago:

“What is Rally Day? It’s just for kids isn’t it?”

I figured if two other folks in the far reaches of the USA wanted to use the article, I’d better go back and refresh my memory about just what I had said in it. After locating and reading it, I decided to run the answer again - after all, Rally Day is coming up again soon:

Taking the last question first: No, rally day isn’t just for kids. It is for everyone in the church.

Now I’ll answer the first question, so you can see why it is for everyone. Webster’s Dictionary defines "rally" as:

- 1) a verb "to draw or call together for a common purpose"
- 2) a noun meaning "a renewal of energy in joint action"

During the summer, our many activities and vacations and events continually draw congregation members away from each other - especially on weekends. Summer can also be a spiritually draining time. You start the summer with the good intentions of sticking to your Bible-reading schedules. Good intentions of worshiping regularly. Good intentions of attending Bible class. But the reality is that summer’s hectic schedules can easily derail us from those good intentions.

Come the end of summer, we need "a renewal of energy" when it comes to spiritual matters. But it’s real tough to renew your energy on your own. It’s much easier in a group! That’s why we set aside one special day at the end of the summer to "rally" - to "draw together for a common purpose" seeking the Holy Spirit’s power to "renew our energy" for worship, for digging into God’s Word, for praying, for serving, and for witnessing.

On Sunday September 16th we will be "drawing together renewing our energy for the common purpose" of growing in trust and obedience to Jesus Christ." We have special "rally" activities planned for both kids

and adults during the Christian growth hour at 9:00. Follow that, we will “rally” together in worship! Please join us as we tap into the Spirit’s power to “get growing again!”

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net