

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

of

Resurrection Lutheran Church & School
Newport News, VA

MARCH
2011

From the Pastor's Pen

Boy, has it been cold! And snowy! And icy! During my bout with a kidney stone (and having Rita rush me to the hospital after the big snowfall on December 26th), it seemed I could never really get warm. Having survived the frigid air of the past two-plus months (and looking forward all the more for the coming of Spring!) I am reminded of a story that I once read:

“Love In the Midst of the Cold”

Three men were lost in a blizzard. One man became so tired and cold that he collapsed into the deep snow. The other two faced a choice: should they stay with their fallen friend, or press on with-out him? One decide to go on alone. *“I can make it myself,”* he declared. The other stayed with his collapsed friend, and spoke loving words of hope and encouragement. As he held his friend's hand, he rubbed them, then his arms, legs, and feet until the blood circulated freely again.

As he cared for his friend, he noticed that he also was getting warmer. Soon both of them were able to continue to walk. A short distance from the shelter, they came upon the frozen form of the man who had tried to make it alone.



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From the Pastor's Pen cont.

In our Virginia Peninsula community, there are many people who go through life on their own, without turning to God, without acknowledging God, without even wanting God in their lives. Some assume that they will make it on the basis of their intellect, or their skills, or the material things they have collected. Some know they need God and want help. **You and I know many of these people!** All of us at Resurrection can reach out in courage and love to bring the warmth and joy of God's love to all these people. God loved the world in Christ so that no one would have to perish – **re-read *John 3:16* again!** Empowered by His love, we are called to boldly and lovingly invite others to hear the Gospel so that they will not perish in their unbelief. We are sent to relatives and friends and neighbors and co-workers so that God may use us to help them find in Christ their truest and greatest friend! **Indeed, that is LOVE!**

During the month of March, we will be celebrating God's gift of **TIME AND TALENTS** (and will have **TIME AND TALENTS COMMITMENT SUNDAY on March 27th**) as we examine our lives and God's love for us and offer back to the Lord our promises of service through the many ministries of Resurrection. It may be hard to believe, but it takes over 1,000 people to run and staff the ministries of our congregation. **1,000? That can't be right! We only have about 590 members (including children!).** But it's true! Begin thinking about it: Christian volunteers are needed to give of themselves, their abilities and their time to staff the Church Council, our Administrative Boards and committees, to serve on the task forces, to teach Sunday School and adult classes, to teach confirmation classes; to serve as Acolytes, Ushers, organist/keyboard, choir members, bell ringers, pianist, instrumentalists, greeters, the Altar Guild, Communion Assistants, Worship Assistants, the Taping and Delivering Ministry, Sunday Fellowship Hosts, Friday Saints and office help; Vacation Bible School Director, teachers and staff; the Sunday School Christmas Service; the Porch Visitors and Bakers; staff our youth groups; serve in the Women's in God's Service, the Men's Breakfast Gathering; to be part of our Small Groups; to be a part of Helping Hands; to assist in the P.O.R.T. Ministry to the homeless; to help at the Child Development Center and School; to bake, clean, sew, and repair; and the list goes on and on and on and on . . .

In fact, one thousand is actually not enough! Which means that many times the same members of the congregation are volunteering themselves and their time for not just one ministry, but several – all for the sake of the Lord and the expansion of His Kingdom! **How about you?? How involved are you in the ministry of Resurrection, as we seek to nurture and strengthen God's people so that we can share His love with our community!**

There is an old children's song that says, "All God's children got a place in the choir ..." – and that means **YOU!** You have a place in the kingdom work of the Lord. **How involved are you in the ministry of Resurrection?**

From the Pastor's Pen cont.

We are called to be a church alive and on fire for the Lord – truly ABLAZE!

“Gifted by God to be ABLAZE ... for Jesus’ Kingdom”

Please take time also to read Carroll Glasco’s article on God’s gift of Time and Talent in this newsletter – it is worth your time!!

Your Fellow Servant, in Christ,

Pastor Hank

The Lenten Season is upon us ... and begins on Ash Wednesday, March 9th, at 7:00 PM

Join with your congregation family as we gather on Ash Wednesday for confession, ashes, and Holy Communion. The following Wednesdays of Lent will have a Lenten Midweek Service at 7:00 PM, preceded by a Congregational Fellowship Meal beginning at 5:45 PM. Please sign up for the Fellowship Meals on the Entrance Way Bulletin Board so a proper amount of food can be prepared.

The Theme for our Sunday Lenten Worship Services is: **“Jesus, Peter, and Me”** – a time for us to walk not only with Jesus our Savior, but also with His disciple, Peter – with his many good traits, but also his many sins and faults. See how Peter’s following of Jesus so often mirrors our own discipleship. We will take some time to look at our ... **pride – complacency – distant discipleship – the company we keep – misunderstanding**. Join us at one of our Sunday services as we seek to grow as Christ-Followers during this Lenten Season. And be sure to invite and bring a friend – a neighbor – a coworker – a relative!

AND WE HAVE BEEN SEEING SOME NEW FACES . . . We have been blessed as a congregation to have several new “faces” visiting Resurrection. Please take a moment each Sunday to notice any unfamiliar faces in the congregation and offer to help them with our service. During the “Sharing of the Peace” is another good time to make a worship guest feel welcome! A recent article I read said that **“No one should greet anyone they know until they have surveyed the congregation and greeted someone they did not know.”** Resurrection had much to offer to those who are seeking. Please help them feel welcome and appreciated!

Our Lutheran School

Principal's Ponderings:

“If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8:31b-32 (ESV)

Celebrating Lutheran Schools

March 6th through March 12th marks National Lutheran Schools Week. National Lutheran Schools Week is a time to recognize our heritage of Christian Education and the many blessings that occur through the teaching of Christ's love to children. We celebrate all that God is doing in our classrooms, on the playground and through our school activities .

The theme this year is “Securing Each Child's Future – Making Disciples”. Each day of this special week will provide the opportunity to do things just for fun. Monday is “Inside Out Day” – wear your clothes inside out! Tuesday is “Crazy Hair Day” – fix your hair any crazy way you'd like (even colors will be allowed). Wednesday is “Field Day”, Thursday is “School Colors Day” – wear the school colors which are gold and blue. Friday is the “Balloon Launch”.

Here at Resurrection Lutheran School and Child Care we are blessed to have a dedicated staff, school board members, pastors, teachers, administrator and congregation who are committed to providing a quality education in a Christian atmosphere to young children and their families. May God continue to bless our ministry!

Blessings!

Ann

Monthly Ideas for Kids:

March 2nd – Dr. Seuss' birthday - Read your favorite Dr. Seuss book.

March 17th – St. Patrick's Day – Don't forget to wear something green today. Learn how St. Patrick used the Shamrock to explain the Trinity.

March 20th – Spring Begins – Take a nature walk, plant some flower seeds

March is also National Nutrition Month and Music in Our Schools Month!

Share Your
Faith in Christ



Church Boards

Board of Stewardship and Finance

Stewardship -- A Matter of Time and Talents

Carroll Glasco

Soon Resurrection Lutheran Church will be conducting a Time and Talent Survey to give all members an opportunity to prayerfully consider their commitment of these gifts from God to be used to support and expand his kingdom here on the Virginia Peninsula. This will allow us to develop and better implement our Mission statement targets and our transition from Maintenance to Ministry. It takes a congregation to best run a church, so we need the time and talents of all members to best serve our gracious and loving God. The BSF will soon be presenting additional information on this survey.

We request everyone start praying about what they will be able to commit to on the survey. Some thought as you pray for guidance on a commitment of time, consider the following thoughts.

- When God gives us life, we do not know how much time we have to use that life. But, whatever time we have is a gift from God, and we must use it wisely. We must budget our hours to be able to give a portion of our time to fulfill God's plan.
- Sometimes it feels like there just aren't enough hours in the day. Going to work, spending time with family, taking care of the house, helping out at the kids' school, trying to find a few minutes for yourself... It's overwhelming!!
- Picture your time allowance deposited into separate accounts for each dimension of our life:
 - ◊ Family time Account = time to invest in our closest relationships
 - ◊ Work time account = time to spend on your job and career
 - ◊ Household time Account = time to manage your home and its affairs
 - ◊ Self-care time account = time to invest in recharging your batteries
 - ◊ Community time account = time to serve and participate in society
 - ◊ Church time account = time to devote to church activities and study God's word
- Consider four essential components of time management.
 1. Keep a calendar to record your appointments and tasks.
 2. Plan your week by making a "To Do List". Crossing off tasks can be satisfying.
 3. Prioritize each item on your list by how important it is and how soon it needs to be done.
 4. Tackle the highest priority items first. Chances are you may not get to all the lowest priority items that week. That's fine. You focused on what was most important.

Board of Stewardship and Finance cont.

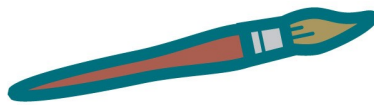
These points are a good start but we must realistically assign time to each account. There are things we must do, such as sleep, eat, bathe, dress, and deal with “stuff” (read our mail, answer the phone, etc.). We need to assign time to each account – family, work, household, self-care, community, and church. Each account may not require a set time each day but we must consider all of these over a week remembering that we have only 168 hours to cover all of our activities during the week.

Just as God provided skilled workers to help with the building of the Old Testament tabernacle and temples, so He continues to bless His people today with special gifts and skills to be of service in ways that honor God and bless others. We are members of the body of Christ (in our congregations) and each of us has TALENTS to put to work within that body so that it may be built up to be the worshipping, witnessing and serving community that God intends.

Maturing stewards are willing to take the first step and offer their time and talents for service in the congregation. Wouldn't it be something if our pastors and church leaders had to tell the members to stop offering their gifts because more than enough had already been offered? One of the few times such a thing happened was during the gathering of freewill offerings for the building of the Old Testament tabernacle. Exodus 36:2-7 records that the people kept bringing gifts for building the tabernacle until there were way more than enough. Moses actually had to order the people to stop bringing more gifts for the project. What a pleasant problem!

To accomplish our mission we each must prayerfully consider stewardship commitment of our time and talents, to accomplish our mission by boldly stepping forth and filling the needs of our congregation. **We also need to remember that a few members cannot do everything that needs to be done, but by each of us doing a few things we can accomplish much.**

Finally, remember Pastor Hollar's request and frequent reminders for each of us to spend at least **9 minutes each day** in prayer and study of God's word. May God bless each of us with many days on His earth. Remember, **STEWARDSHIP** is more than money; it includes our time and our talents.



T I M E

Talents 

T R E A S U R E

Board of Christian Education

Adult Education

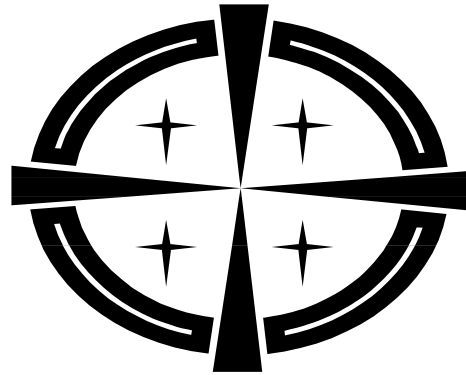
It has been a tremendous blessing this winter to have both Andy Lewis and Ann Ezell leading us in the *Boundaries* series during the 9:30 am hour in the Fellowship Hall. As we wrap up the series we are anticipating the beginning of another series led by Pastor Ben Dolby, ***Why We Do What We Do: A Study & Conversation about our Worship Practice***, which will begin March 13th and run for six weeks during Lent.

This series will provide an opportunity for everyone to learn, in detail, why we Lutherans worship as we do. However, it is not just an instructive time but one that Pastor Ben anticipates being filled with his fielding as many questions as he can from the class within the structure of his lessons. This is a unique topic and a rare opportunity so you are encouraged to come.

And speaking of attending, to anyone reading please know you are always invited. We have many different attendees, some regular, some semi-regular, some seasonal, and new faces almost every week so if you are new and wish to explore what is offered or simply have not attended in quite a while, come on in and enjoy a class, you will be surprised and edified by the high level of serious bible teaching and discussion.



LENT



LENT

Altar Guild Notes and News

The Holy Season of Lent begins at Resurrection and in all of the Church on Ash Wednesday, March 9th, as we ponder the depths of our Savior’s love for us, and become witnesses of that love as we hear again of His suffering, death, burial – and glorious resurrection --- all for us and for all people!

Lent Midweek Services continue on the Wednesdays of Lent in March and April, with worship beginning at 7:00 PM, preceded by a Fellowship Meal at 5:45 PM. Please register on the “Sign-Up Board” in the Entrance Hallway if you plan to attend the meals so that a proper amount of food can be prepared.

The Season of Lent consists of **forty days**. The Sundays of Lent, being a minor celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus, are **in** Lent, but not **of** Lent, and are therefore not counted as part of the forty days. During the Lenten Season, we use the purple (or violet) paraments, the color of mourning over sin and true repentance. We also drape a purple cloth over the Processional Cross to represent the clothes of Christ for which the soldiers “cast lots” at His crucifixion. All banners are removed from the Sanctuary during this penitential season, and the Liturgy takes on a much more solemn note, with services beginning with Confession and Absolution, rather than The Hymn of Invocation. The Christ Candle continues to be lighted in the Sanctuary because Lent remains a period of Christ’s life on earth.

The symbolism of color and sanctuary ornamentation becomes more solemn during Holy Week, the last week in Lent. We will describe this in the April issue of “**The Good News Letter.**”

Lent cont.

Take Time for Lent!

Lent takes time.

Wednesday night services we're suppose to attend;
Special devotional booklets we're suppose to read;
Holy Week service, non-stop church:

Lent takes time!

Sorry, don't have the time! Wish we did!
Up early, on the go all day long;
Trying to keep up with all the demands;
Dead tired when we finally get home;
Lent? Out of sync with our busy times!

Lent takes time.

Time out from the busyness;
Time out from trying to stay on top of things;
Time out from being schedule driven;
Time to deny yourself, take up the cross, and follow Jesus! You see,

Jesus took time!

He didn't say, "*Gotta go*";
He didn't say, "*Catch you later*";
He didn't say, "*How long will it take?*"

He took time!

For you He fasted 40 days in the wilderness;
For you He walked the land, preaching, teaching, healing;
For you He spent long hours in prayer;
For you Jesus took time on the cross, a time of hell so you can have eter-nity in heaven;
He **doesn't** ask, "*Can you spare a minute?*"

"Deny yourself and follow Me!"

A PRAYER: Jesus, help us surrender our schedules to You; Spirit, give us the courage to leave some things undone; Father, make us out of sync with our world and in sync with Yours; Teach us to number our days and apply our hearts to wisdom. **Lent takes time!** For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Lent cont.

What to Give Up for Lent

Traditionally Christians have looked at the Lenten Season as a time of “fasting,” although they have not always seen that in the literal sense. For many, “fasting” has taken the form of “**giving up**” some activity, some part of one’s usual diet, some indulgence, or some habit. Perhaps this has some value in reminding us of the supreme sacrifice our Lord made for us (historically, Lent is a time for practice and training in virtues and self-denial). **ALL TOO OFTEN**, however, such observances are seen only as a temporary interruption of a routine which is immediately resumed after Easter – and then “giving up” for Lent probably does more harm than good! The kind of “fasting” our Savior seeks from us is that which results in a permanent improvement of the Christian life – a preparation for walking with Him “*in newness of life*” long after the Lenten Season has passed. Consider the following:

Give up grumbling . . . instead give thanks in everything!

Give up 10 minutes in bed . . . instead use that time in prayer!

Give up looking at people’s worst points . . . instead concentrate on their best ones!

Give up speaking unkindly . . . instead let your speech be generous and understanding!

Give up your worries . . . instead trust God with them!

Give up concentrating on the Sunday paper . . . instead study your Bible!

Give up TV one evening a week . . . instead visit a lonely or homebound ill person, or a shut-in!

Give up buying anything except the essentials . . . instead give money for God’s work, and/or to assist the poor and needy!

Give up fear that prevents Christian witness . . . instead seek courage to speak to others.

Give up judging appearances and the standards of the world ... instead learn to **give up yourself to God!**

Lent cont.

THERE IS NOTHING “LENT” IN LENT

They borrowed a bed to lay His head When Christ, the Lord, came down.
 They borrowed an ass in the mountain pass For Him to ride to town.
 But the crown that He wore And the cross that He bore,
 They were His very own.

He borrowed a room on the way to the tomb, The Passover lamb to eat.
 They borrowed a cave for Him a grave; They borrowed the winding sheet.
 But the crown that He wore And the cross that He bore,
 They were His very own.

The thorns on His head were worn in my stead. For me the Savior died.
 For the guilt of my sin, the nails drove in When Him they crucified.
 Though the crown alone and cross were His own, By right they were mine instead.
 For me He died and was crucified; For me it was that He bled.

This delightful article was in a magazine called *Pulpit Helps*. While funny, it also asks a most important question - one that addresses our commitment to the cross of Christ. It is entitled:

Lay Members!

Some members **LAY** in bed on Sunday until it's too late for Sunday School and Adult Bible classes.

2. Some members **LAY** even longer and miss the worship services, too!
3. Others just **LAY OUT** altogether!
4. Some “**LAY IN STORE**” as though God had failed to prosper them.
5. When responsibility is place on them, some simply **LAY DOWN** on the job.
6. Thank God many Christians **LAY ASIDE** every weight which would hinder them (Hebrews 12:1), and in the process, **LAY UP** for themselves treasures in heaven!

What kind of LAY MEMBER are you?

Groups

WHERE ARE YOU INVOLVED IN A GROUP?

RESURRECTION SMALL GROUPS meet all over the Peninsula for fellowship, spiritual growth, discipleship and accountability! Each group has an “**empty chair**” – waiting for **your** participation! See or call Pam Mason (357.0828), or see Pastor Hank or Pastor Ben for more information by calling the Church Office (596.5808).

"SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG, FOR HE HAS DONE MARVELOUS THINGS!" The **Sanctuary Choir** invites all who wish to lift up their voices to the Lord to be a part of this leading / singing ministry, which adds so much to our worship. Practice is **every** Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM in the Choir Room (Rm. 105). Come out and be a part of ***"singing to the Lord a new song ..."***

The **SR. LYFR** (Lutheran Youth Fellowship, Resurrection): **ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO BE A PART OF THE LUTHERAN YOUTH FELLOWSHIP, RESURRECTION!** Meetings consist of Bible Study on 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 6:00 PM with servant outreach events and social events the 2nd and 4th weekends of the month. **This is subject to change month to month; please visit the Resurrection Website www.rlcnn.org regularly** to stay up to date! Contact Pastor Ben Dolby (596.5808) for more information on meetings or Sr. High activities.

The **WOMEN IN GOD'S SERVICE – LWML** (WIGS – *an evening women's group*) meets the **second Monday evening of the month at 7:00 PM in Room 120** (Youth Room). All the ladies of the congregation are invited to be a part of **WIGS** and in their service to the Lord through Resurrection Church! The WIGS will next meet on **March 14th**. **Child-Care is provided if requested before-hand!**

Groups cont.

THE OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH invites anyone and everyone of the congregation to join this new fellowship luncheon gathering held every 3rd TUESDAY OF THE MONTH at various restaurants. For more information, please contact Janett Burton (258.5017), or read the Sunday Announcement Sheet inside the Bulletin, and sign up on the Bulletin Board Sign-up Sheet. **You are invited and welcome . . .**

THE YOUNG ADULTS OF RESURRECTION meets on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Fridays of the month for Bible Study. We will begin studying The Truth Project on **March 11th**. We start at 7:00 pm and all are welcome, especially those in their 20's & 30's. Please join us; we'd love to have you! See Pastor Ben for more info (596.5808)

THE SONGS OF PRAISE WORSHIP TEAM (SOPWT) invites you to be a part of leading our Sunday PRAISE Services! The SOPWT practice each Wednesday evening, beginning at 6:30 PM (for the musicians) and 7:00 PM with the Praise Choir. **CAN YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? Come and join us! DO YOU LIKE SINGING MORE MODERN CHRISTIAN SONGS? Come and join us! WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR MORE VOICES AND INSTRUMENTALISTS!** Please keep this in your prayers or let us know if you have a candidate we can contact.

The **second Saturday of every month at 8:00 AM** is set aside for the **MEN'S GROUP, RESURRECTION** gathering, featuring their traditional breakfast of sausage gravy and biscuits. All the men of the congregation are invited to join in for a great breakfast, fellowship, a Bible or topical study – and the projects accomplished by the **Men's Group, Resurrection** members. **Bring a friend – share in good food, fellowship and the Good News on Saturday!** Our next gathering is **Saturday, March 12th at 8:00 am.**



Groups cont.

The **JR. LYFR (Lutheran Youth Fellowship, Resurrection)**: Meetings consist of Confirmation Class on the 1st and 3rd Sundays from 12:30 to 2:30 as well as servant outreach events and social events the 2nd and 4th weekends of the month. **This is subject to change month to month; please visit the Resurrection Website www.rlcnn.org regularly to stay up to date!** Contact Pastor Ben Dolby (596.5808) for more information on Confirmation class or Jr. High activities.

The **SR. MOMENTS MINISTRY** is open to any saint who is 55 years old and older who enjoys fellowship, food, and service in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. The **SR. MOMENTS** sponsors socials and fellowships, and service projects, normally meeting on the **Third Sunday of the month**. For more information on meetings or activities, please see or call **Ricki Lindstrom at 826.1457 – or watch for their activities being announced in the Bulletin Announcement Sheet.**

The **FRIDAY SAINTS** cordially invites their Resurrection family to join them **every Friday** for fun, fellowship and service! The **FRIDAY SAINTS** meet on Fridays (of course!!), beginning at **9:00 AM** to put together the Sunday Bulletins, the Newsletter, mass mailings, etc. **You are invited to be a part of the fun and fellowship and service!! – and help is always needed and appreciated!**

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS: 1) every Sunday morning at least two or three

ENRICHMENT AND GROWTH ADULT CLASSES are offered during the **Sunday Education Hour** (beginning at 9:30 AM) - **be a part of growing in God's Word!** Details on the various classes are in the Sunday Bulletin! 2) the **WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** at 6:30 AM!

WHY NOT JOIN A GROUP TODAY!

Be a part of growth and fellowship through our GROUPS!

RESURRECTION'S WISH LIST

(and how YOU can make these wishes come true!)

The Lenten time of the year is a genuine time to consider the word "sacrifice:" Jesus' great sacrifice in leaving heaven and becoming a human for us, and His sacrifice on the Cross for our sins, plus His disciples' sacrifices following Jesus' resurrection to get the Good News out to all people. Your special gifts of love make a difference in the various ministries of Resurrection Lutheran Church and School. Should your gift be in memory or in honor of someone, please notify the church office with this information: info@rlcnn.org or 596-5808. Requested for Resurrection's many ministries:

1. **Trustee Use Fund** (*this fund supplements the operating budget for the upkeep of the church building and grounds - any donations appreciated!*) - **Specific Funding is requested for:**
 - a) a **commercial Ice Machine** for the Kitchen\$1,880.00
 - b) **bathroom repairs** approximate cost = \$2,500.00
 - c) **Security System (a Door Entry System)** \$1,800.00
 - d) **gas tankless water heater** \$3,500.00
 - e) **large rock to prevent mulch washing away; small rock for rock bed** \$600.00
 - f) **flower bed for the Memorial Gardens** \$400.00
2. **Projector for the Youth Room (Rm 120)** – to assist in LYFR worship, Bible studies, and meetings (youth, Church Council, WIGS, etc.) as the congregation is getting more and more accustomed to using slides, videos and electronic presentations (*approximate cost is \$800.00*)
3. **Gifts for the Building Fund** – all gifts, of any amount, are appreciated as we continue to seek monies to improve our facilities and begin a Capital Fund Campaign / Facilities expansion project
4. **Tile for Individual Classrooms** – approximate cost per classroom is \$2,500 - \$3,000
5. **Banners – Banner Poles & Stands:** for use in our worship services (*cost is variable; please contact Pastor Hank or the Church Office*)
6. **Gifts for our Resurrection School and Child-Care Ministry,** as they continue to minister to many families both within our community of faith and in our Peninsula community – **more funds may be available if you are a Thrivent member**

When making your gift, please use a Memorial Envelope (on the Usher Table or the Information Table in the Church Office Lobby), or place your gift in an envelope with clear instructions for the Counters. Your sacrificial gifts are greatly appreciated!



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

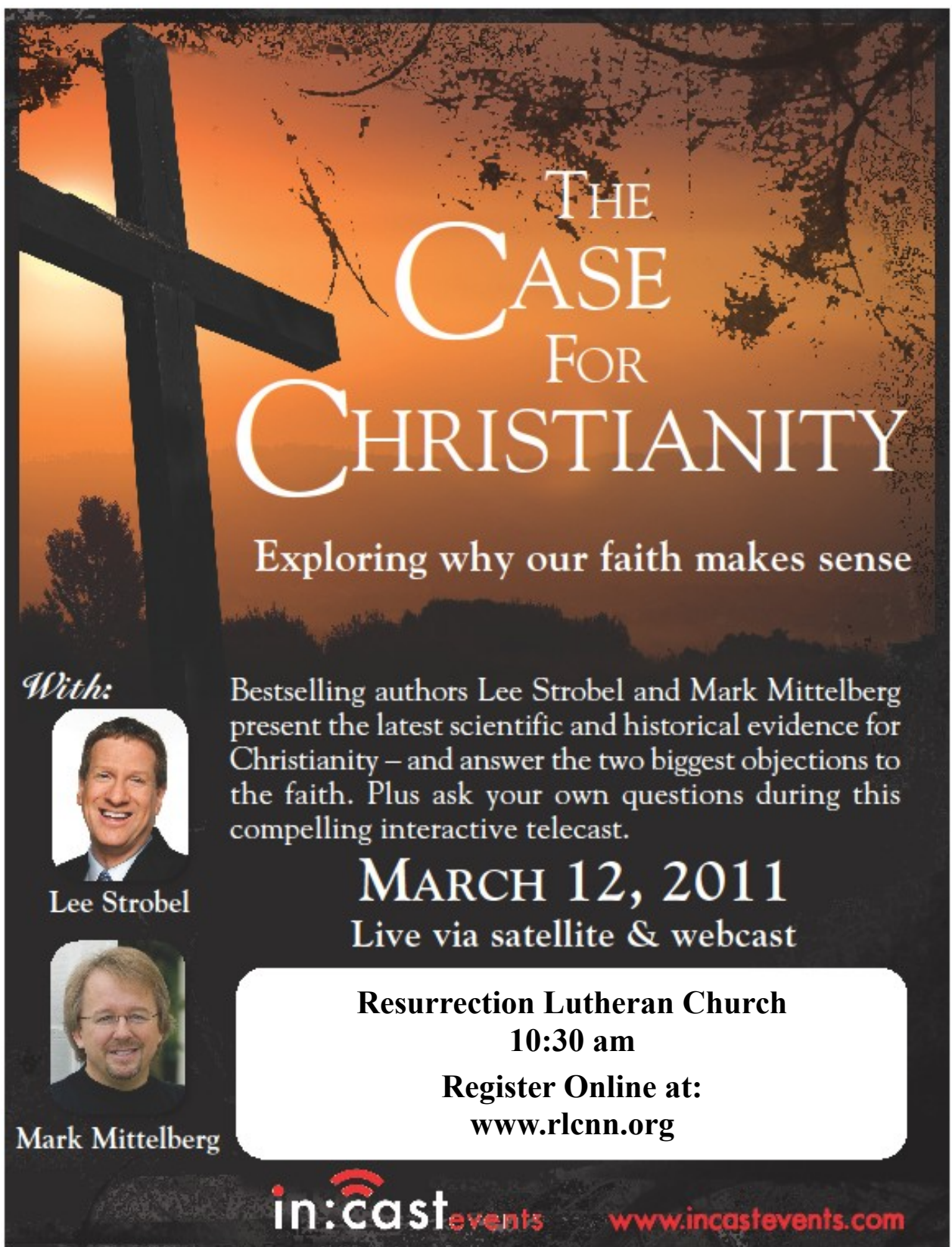
Kenny Dail	3/2
Mari Jo Ellis	3/6
John Napier	3/6
Bill Sewall	3/6
Stephen Harrison	3/7
Kevin Hammond	3/9
Tony Blankinship	3/10
Greg Nowicki	3/11
Mary Searls	3/11
Sara Hellbaum	3/13
Zac Andrews	3/14
Andrew Bender	3/14
Joe Loch	3/15
Linda Farr	3/16
Patricia Grunow	3/16
David Durren	3/17
Victoria Harms	3/17
Norma Waldschmidt	3/17
Andrew Yarrington	3/18
Phil Yarrington	3/18
Mary Pazdernik	3/21
Jason Hollar	3/22
Aaron Altman	3/25
Mike Schaffer	3/25
Christy Londenberg	3/27
Lisa Rumsey	3/27
Darek Kennedy	3/29
Bonnie Stanfield	3/29
Amaya Erving	3/30
Anna Wahlstrom	3/31

Baptismal Birthdays

Bill Grunow	3/1
Will Schaffer	3/3
Margaret Parker	3/4
Alisha Cole	3/5
Kory Erving	3/5
John Napier	3/8
Ann Wahlstrom	3/8
Graham Hawkes	3/11
Dick Hellbaum	3/11
Helen Corbett	3/12
Treassa Huffstetler	3/12
Dawn Napier	3/14
Carol Forys	3/15
Chip Retzlaff	3/16
Daniel Shriner	3/16
Robin Shriner	3/16
Tanja Cole	3/18
J.C. Cotter	3/22
Jeanette Dail	3/22
Marshall Miller	3/22
Katelynn Cherry	3/28
Bob Bowen	3/30
Diane Lach	3/31
Rachael Waldmiller	3/31

Anniversaries

Dave & Faith Hommel	3/4
John & Inge Romjue	3/25
Ken & Brenda Neilson	3/29



THE CASE FOR CHRISTIANITY

Exploring why our faith makes sense

With:



Lee Strobel



Mark Mittelberg

Bestselling authors Lee Strobel and Mark Mittelberg present the latest scientific and historical evidence for Christianity – and answer the two biggest objections to the faith. Plus ask your own questions during this compelling interactive telecast.

MARCH 12, 2011
Live via satellite & webcast

Resurrection Lutheran Church
10:30 am

Register Online at:
www.rlcnn.org

in:castevents

www.incastevents.com

Something to Think About ...

A Prayer for More Rattlesnakes

Once upon a time there was a family of wayward members of a church. They had once been active, but had lost all interest and had fallen away. There was the father and three sons: Jim, John, and Sam. The deacons had talked with them about their sad condition, the preacher had visited them, and many of the brethren had tried to get them to come back to the church. But all this did not do the least bit of good.

One day when the boys were out in the pasture, a large rattlesnake bit John, and he became very ill. The physician was called, and after an examination he pronounced John to be in a bad condition. He said, "About all you can do now is pray," and he went on his way. The father called the preacher and told him of John's condition and asked him to pray for John. This was the preacher's prayer:

O wise and righteous Father, we thank Thee that in Thy wisdom Thou hast sent this rattlesnake to bite John in order to bring him to his senses. He has not been inside the church house for years, and it is doubtful that in all that time he has felt the need of prayer. Now we trust that this will be a valuable lesson to him and that it will lead him to genuine repentance.

And now, O Father, wilt Thou send another snake to bite Sam, and another one to bite Jim, and a BIG ONE to bite the old man. We have been doing everything we know for years to restore them but to no avail. It seems that all our combined efforts could not do what this snake has done. We thus conclude that the only thing left that will do this family any good is more rattlesnakes. So, Lord, send us bigger and better rattlesnakes. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

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Don't delay: Saving today is one of the best ways to secure your retirement

Most people nearing retirement have an important piece of advice for those in their 20s and 30s: Start saving for your retirement now.

Although most boomers are optimistic about retirement, if they could do it over again, many would get serious about their future needs much earlier in life.

In fact, according to a fall 2006 survey of 2,500 U.S. adults age 45 to 64 by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, many baby boomers want others to learn from their mistakes. For example, 86% of those surveyed urged younger generations to start saving as soon as possible.

Interestingly, while 56% of boomers expect to enjoy a standard of living equal to or better than their parents, their confidence is not well-founded.

A majority of those surveyed have not made any formal retirement preparations. What's more, they're more likely to consult with family than a financial professional regarding retirement strategies. This may help to explain why 71% of baby boomers worry about not having enough money in retirement.

Regardless of where you are on your journey to retirement, there's never been a better time to get serious about preparing for what lies ahead.

If you need help preparing for retirement or would like to discuss how Thrivent Financial can help you achieve your financial goals, contact John W. Gerke, Financial Associate, at 757-469-2194 or john.gerke@thrivent.com today, or visit Thrivent.com.

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THE GOD OF THE “SECOND CHANCE:”

Someone once asked the great World War II British Leader, Winston Churchill, how he had the persistence to lead his country so nobly against Adolf Hitler, especially when everything seemed so hopeless. He said that he remembered the time in his childhood he had to repeat a grade in elementary school.

Puzzled, his questioner asked, “Do you mean that you failed a year in grade school?” Churchill replied with his well-known humorous bluntness: “I never failed anything in my life. I was given a second opportunity!”

As Christians, through faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we have a “second opportunity” by attaching ourselves to Christ the Lord. ***“Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.”*** (Romans 6:4 – NRSV)

A REPAIR FOR BROKENNESS

“Our life is full of brokenness – broken relationships, broken promises, broken expectations. How can we live with that brokenness without becoming bitter and resentfully except by returning again and again to God’s faithful presence in our lives?”

Fr. Henry Nouwen

