

# RESURRECTION NEWS



*Seek Me and live*

*Amos 5:4*

**September 2012**



## Pastor's Letter

September, 2012

### Returning To Southeast Asia

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) is a "Recognized Service Organization" of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. That means that although they are not directly connected with the LC-MS, the LC-MS recognizes and supports the work that they do. The mission of the LHF is to translate Lutheran bible study materials into indigenous languages throughout the world to promote teaching and understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is shocking how many people do not have even the most basic materials and books in their own language to help them understand the bible. This is especially true in counties where Christianity is only a small minority of the total population.

Typically, LHF missionaries will find translators in various countries that they are working in to translate selected books. Usually, the first book translated, printed and distributed is Luther's Small Catechism. Depending on how these are received, more books follow.

My own experience with LHF began in 2008. Rev. Ted NaThalang is the LHF missionary for Southeast Asia. He began his work in his native Thailand by translating Luther's Small Catechism into Thai and distributed it to pastors and churches throughout the country. It was received very enthusiastically. "A Child's Garden Of Bible Stories" followed. This book continues to be in greater demand by many more people in Thailand than they have the resources to supply. He soon did the same thing in Cambodia, translating these and other books into the Khmer language.

Through these and other books, pastors and deaconesses in Thailand and Cambodia wanted to learn more. A seminary program was established in both countries and a curriculum of courses was put into place. In 2008, I was asked to teach "God and Creation" at the Lutheran Institute of Southeast Asia (LISA) in Bangkok, Thailand and Phnom Penh, Cambodia. I continue to have communication with the leaders of both of these new, Lutheran church bodies. This experience has made me a better theologian and pastor.

Ted's work has continued to expand by the grace of God. He now has many lively projects in China, Japan, India, Vietnam and Indonesia. In 2010, a book called "Summary of Christian Doctrine" was translated into the Bahasa language of Indonesia. Indonesia is the 3<sup>rd</sup> most populous country in the world. About 8.3% of the population is Christian and about 90% is Muslim. I and Rev. Alan Taylor from Texas were asked to introduce this book at a conference in Medan, Indonesia. It was received very enthusiastically by seminary faculty and pastors. And once again, the experience made me a better theologian and pastor.

The work in Indonesia continues to grow. LHF has recently translated the 'Augsburg Confession' into the Bahasa language. Several church bodies have asked for it and instruction on its meaning and use, along with 'Luther's Small Catechism' and 'Summary of Christian Doctrine.' We have been asked once again to lead a series of three, theological conferences in Indonesia this October.

To be frank, these are not 'fun' experiences. It's a lot of work to prepare a worthy presentation and make all of the necessary arrangements for the congregation while I'm gone. Honestly, the traveling is grueling, the accommodations can be a bit sketchy, and the food is, well, sometimes hard to swallow.

But the sacrifice for both of us, you and me, is worth it because it is a worthy work given us to do by the Lord. This is a marvelous opportunity for our congregation in central Maine to be directly involved in the work of the building up of the Kingdom of Christ even on the other side of the planet. The Lord has blessed us with particular gifts and honored us with the call to use them. And again, this makes me a better theologian and pastor which hopefully benefits us all.

I will be departing on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and returning on October 21<sup>st</sup>. The conferences are in Medan (*big city*), Siantar (*small city*), and Nias (*an island that was recently devastated by a tsunami*), all a part of the providence called Sumatra. I've been to Medan and Siantar previously. Nias will be new.

I would like to invite you to join me in this good work with your prayers and support. The cost of the trip will be around \$3,000 to cover airfare, lodging and food. If you would like to contribute to this good work, please mark your gift – “LHF Mission”.

In appreciation of your support, **I would like to invite you to join me for a special home-made pasta dinner immediately after worship on Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.** I'd like to show you the places to which we'll be traveling and an overview of the content of work we'll be doing. Please plan to join me for dinner.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Nielsen*

### **Regular Worship Schedule Begins: Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>**

- **8:45am. Sunday School / Adult Bible Study**
- **10:00am. Worship** (*Divine Service II for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the Pentecost season*)

### **Sunday School Begins September 11<sup>th</sup> – 8:45am.**

An exciting season of Sunday School is about to begin on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8:45am. The Sunday School Staff has organized and prepared lessons, packed with singing, bible stories and lots of fun activities. All children gather in the Fellowship Hall at 8:45am. (*please make every effort to be prompt as there is always more to do than time allows!*) Following an Opening, the students break into three classes by ages groups.

- **Preschool Class — Ages 3-5** - *Christine Thomas / Sasha Fitzpatrick — Room #103*
- **Primary Class – Ages 7-8** - *Lee Anne Larsen / Julie Kohl – Room #104*
- **Secondary / Confirmation Class — Ages 10-12** - *Darryll Zahner — Room #102*
- **High School Class — Joining with the Adult Class** - *Room #201.*
- **Adult Class** - *Fernando Gouvea / Pastor Nielsen - Room #201*

### **Sunday Bible Study: “The Book Of Judges”** - Fernando Gouvea

The Book of Judges chronicles the moral decay that afflicted the people of God during the period of time after Joshua settled Israel in the Promised Land and the rise of the kings of Israel. It tells the story of the decay and collapse of the church of its day. Some of the episodes recorded in this book are so shocking that you may be surprised that they appear in the Scriptures and are meant to be read by all generations. But these historic examples have a blessed purpose: to warn us against the spiritual indifference and moral decay that is just as present in our own day as it was then. Incredibly, the one, consistent message that is repeated over and over again throughout this book is that despite their repeated lapses of faith, the Lord unfailingly hears the cries of His people and raises up a leader to deliver them. The Lord does not forget them nor forsake them, but multiplies His mercy toward them, generation after generation. Please plan to join us on Sundays, at 8:45am.

### **2012 / 2013 Confirmation Class - Begins Sunday evening, September 9<sup>th</sup> - 6:00pm.**

The initial meeting of "The Catechumenate" for 2012 / 2013 will meet at Church in room #201 on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Parents are encouraged to attend this meeting with their 'catechumens.' We'll introduce the process leading to the rite of Confirmation, distribute materials, establish schedules and expectations and have a little fun as well. See you there.

### **Fall Inquirers Class - Beginning Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.**

The Inquirers Class is for all those who would like to know more about the Christian faith from the Lutheran perspective. This 9 week class is perfect forum for those who would like to know more before deciding to join this congregation as well as those who would like a refresher on the fundamentals of the Christian faith. Themes include: How do we know? Who is God? Who is man? Who is Jesus? What is Baptism? What is the Lord's Supper? What is Lutheran Worship? Etc. Classes meet Thursday evenings at church from 7:00pm.-8:30pm. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

### **St. Michael and All Angels- Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.**

On Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate St. Michael and All Angels Day. This festival day on the Church's calendar (the date is actually fixed on September 29<sup>th</sup> every year) is a day that the Church has historically set aside to give thanks to God for the many ways in which He lovingly watches over us. On this day, we are reminded that the richness and variety of God's creation includes both the visible and invisible. In particular, we give attention to His holy angels.

The Holy Scriptures often speak of angels who worship God in heaven and act as His messengers and agents on earth. In particular, the Feast of St. Michael reminds us of the special care God gives to little children. In Matthew 18, we read that Jesus called a little child to Himself and put him in the midst of His disciples. **"See that you do not despise one of these little ones,"** He told them. **"For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father in heaven."**

In praise and thanks to God for assigning a 'guardian angel' to watch over each of us, it has been customary to single out the "little children" of the congregation for special prayers and anointing with oil on this day. Usually, this includes those children who have been baptized but who are not yet ready to begin Sunday School – i.e. the "Nursery Role." *We will invite all parents with little children on the 'Nursery Role' to bring them forward for special prayers and anointing with oil immediately after the confession of faith in the Nicene Creed.* The readings, hymns and sermon for this special day, will all direct our attention to the grace and love of God in sending His holy angels to guard and protect us from the unseen forces of evil that seek to harm us and separate us from Jesus Christ.

### **From Chris and Yvonne Batson regarding Nathanael's treatment.**

We want to thank our wonderful church family for your ongoing support and prayers. We have developed a web site for updates on Nathanael's treatment. As most of you know, Nathanael is back on chemotherapy to treat a brain tumor that affects his vision. If you would like to follow his progress, you can sign up on his "Carepage." The address is [www.carepages.com](http://www.carepages.com). You will need to sign up (it is free and this is to protect privacy). The name of his Carepage is 'jesuslovesme.' Every time I update his Carepage you will get an email to let you know. You can then go to the site, read it and if you wish, leave a message.

Thank you again for your support and prayers. I know that in the arms of Jesus we will manage this journey.  
Chris and Yvonne

# The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

## Calendar of Events

**September, 2012**

### **Week of September 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Sunday - 9/2                    9:00am. - Worship

### **Week of September 9<sup>th</sup>**

Sunday - 9/9                    8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study  
   10:00am. - Worship  
   6:00pm. - The Catechumenate - Room #201

Thursday - 9/13                10:30am. - LWML Meeting – Room #201

### **Week of September 16<sup>th</sup>**

Sunday - 9/16 -                8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study  
   10:00am. - Worship

### **Week of September 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Sunday - 9/23 -                8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study  
   10:00am. - Worship  
   6:00pm. - The Catechumenate

### **Week of September 30<sup>th</sup>**

Sunday - 9/30 -                8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study  
   10:00am. - Worship – (*St. Michael and All Angels*)  
   11:30am. - LHF Mission Dinner

### **A Look Ahead to October**

Tuesday – 10/2                Pastor Nielsen departs for Indonesia  
Sunday – 10/21                10:00am. - Rev. James Keurulainen – Guest pastor  
   Pastor Nielsen returns from Indonesia  
Thursday - 10/25                7:00pm. - Inquirers Class – I  
Saturday - 10/27                ?:00pm. - Wedding of Brad Grierson and Joanna Ronco  
Sunday - 10/28                Reformation Sunday 'German' Pot-Luck Dinner after worship.

# Stewardship September, 2012

	<u>Sept. 2</u>	<u>Sept. 9</u>	<u>Sept. 16</u>	<u>Sept. 23</u>	<u>Sept. 30</u>
<u>Acolyte</u>	Emily Larsen	Sarah Kohl	Dan Morren	Emily Larsen	Sarah Kohl
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	Don Pryor	Glenn Carlson	No Communion	Jared Goldsmith	Mike Hein
<u>Ushers</u>	John Ayotte & Chris Batson	Seth Carlson & Glenn Carlson, Jr.	Moe Cote & Jon Morren	Mark Larsen & Finley Edwards	Robert Siebert & Curt Slininger
<u>Greeters</u>	John & Karen Ayotte	Sharon & Arthur Conover	Moe & Becky Cote	Art & Gail Carrano	Curt & Kim Slininger
<u>Altar Care</u>	Esther Gould	LeeAnne Larsen	Katie Huesers	Avis Grant	Deb Nielsen
<u>Flowers</u>	Frank & Vesta Holt	Ray & Betsy Gorneau	Ray & Betsy Gorneau	Moe & Becky Cote	Eric & Lin Stout
<u>Fellowship</u>	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN



- 9/2 Chris Batson  
Pat Kablitz
- 9/4 Jim Zahner
- 9/11 Karen Mueller
- 9/12 Becky Cote
- 9/15 Ben Parks-Stamm
- 9/16 Claire Kiser
- 9/27 Siena Fitzpatrick
- 9/29 Simon Kiser



- 9/11 Ray & Betsy Gorneau
- 9/17 Pastor Paul & Deb Nielsen
- 9/19 Fred & Amy Ouellette
- 9/27 Jared & Amanda Goldsmith
- 9/29 Curt & Karen Mueller



- 9/3 Nathaneal Batson
- 9/11 Doris Brossy
- 9/20 Lois Doran
- 9/21 Chris Batson
- 9/24 Ben Morran
- 9/?? Sharon Klipp



### Noah's Ark

(Everything I need to know, I learned from Noah's Ark.)

**One:** Don't miss the boat!

**Two:** Remember that we are all in the same boat.

**Three:** Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.

**Four:** Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.

**Five:** Don't listen to critics, just get on with the job that needs to be done.

**Six:** Build your future on high ground.

**Seven:** For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

**Eight:** Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

**Nine:** When you're stressed, float awhile.

**Ten:** Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

**Eleven:** No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

**Bible Quiz Answers:** 1) **A** – Romans 3:23 2) **D** – Genesis 47:7 3) **B** – 1Samuel 3:3-10 4) **D** – Luke 24:1-3, 13-15 5) **C** – Genesis 1:20-23 ts 9:8-9 6) **A** – Acts 9:8-9