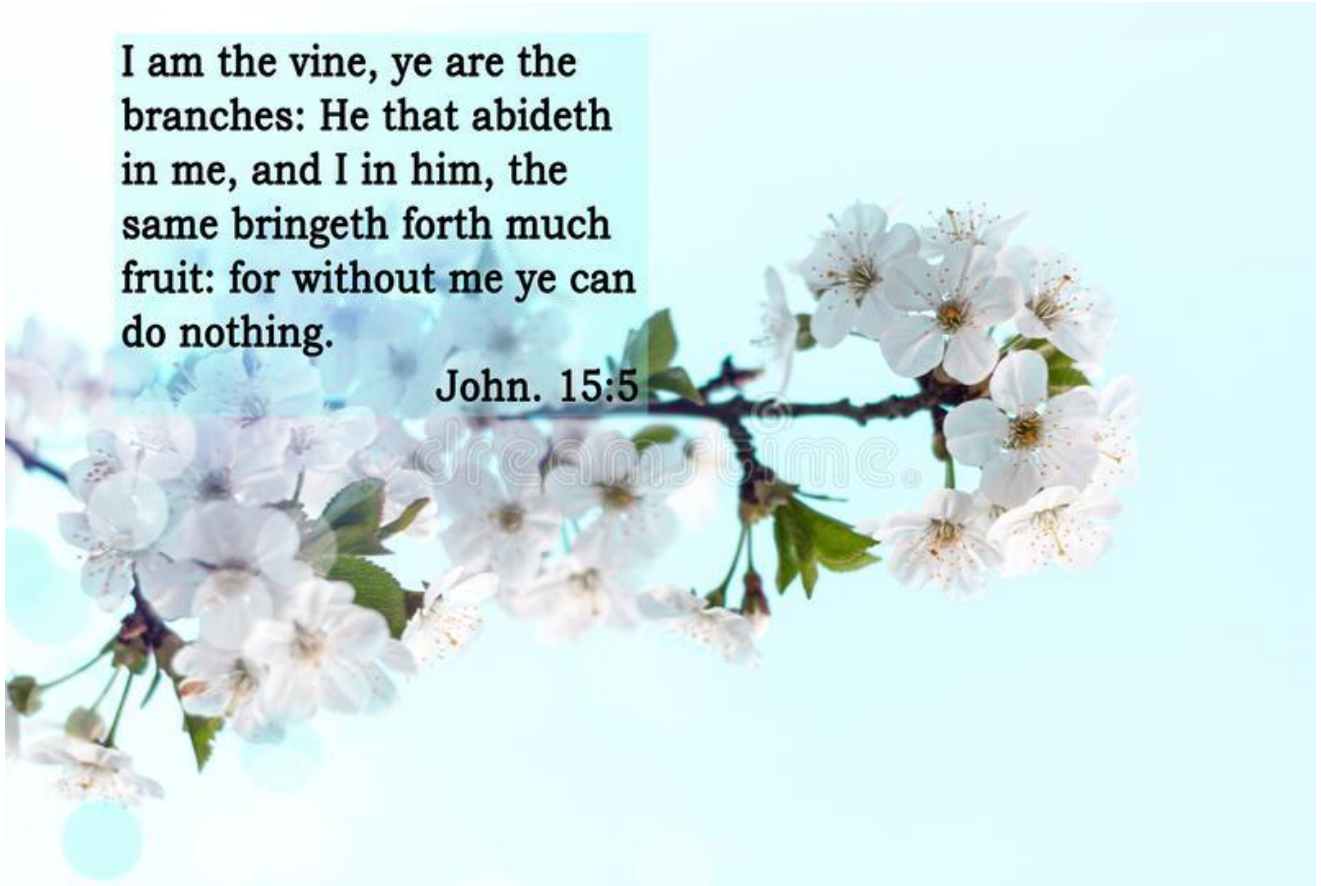


RESURRECTION NEWS

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

John. 15:5



June 2022

Pastor's Letter

June 2022

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

This month, we conclude our discussion of the Ten Commandments by looking at the Close of the Commandments:

What does God say about all these commandments?

He says, “I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep my commandments.” (Ex. 20:5-6)

What does this mean? Answer: God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

If you're like most Christians today, talk like this about punishment and curses is uncomfortable. We would rather avoid it and think about the “nicer” aspects of faith—love, grace, blessings, etc. But the Scriptures have much to say about punishment and curses, and we would do well to take note of them.

I wonder if part of our discomfort with reflecting on punishment and curses is related to our postmodern culture's rejection of truth. Where there is no truth, there can be no objective good. We see this in the cultural pushing of the LGBTQ+ agenda as “good” in schools and entertainment, just to name one example. But where there is no objective good, there can also be no objective evil. We see this in the increasing push toward turning villains into victims, such as in the 2021 movie *Cruella*. Our culture doesn't know what good and evil are, which makes it uncomfortable for us Christians to talk definitively about good and evil, blessings and punishment.

Yet this is precisely what the Scriptures call us to do. They call us to both think and talk about the objective nature of good and evil. They call us to reflect on the consequences of our own actions and the actions of our loved ones. The blessing of God is not an inherent right given to all people regardless of what they believe about him. Conversely, the punishment and curses of God are not the unjust wrath of a malevolent tyrant. The blessings and curses of God are just and right.

This is what Luther calls us to recognize when he cites Exodus 20:5-6 as the close of the commandments. God's decision to act in love or punishment is his decision to make. He is the LORD God who created the heavens and the earth and everything in them. And so, his decision to act in love or punishment is his decision to make.

It doesn't really matter if we're comfortable with it or not. God has objective standards for right and wrong—he has given them to us in the Ten Commandments. He expects us to live according to those objective standards. While it's important to live rightly according to God's Ten Commandments, what is most important is that we first “*love him*”, as the last part of Exodus 20:6 indicates. When we love the Lord, we will not only keep his commandments as best as we are able, but more importantly, we will turn to him in repentance and trust when we sin against his commandments knowing that in our Lord Jesus, God's forgiveness, favor, and blessing are ours.

Peace in Jesus,
Pastor Akers

Notes from your Deaconess

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

We live our days in specific ways because of the things we believe. We can consider many different arenas in which this operates. In basic daily functions, we believe that water, electricity, and fuel for our vehicles will be available, so we get up, brush teeth, take showers, make breakfast, and drive to work or get a bus to school. In social interactions, we believe that people generally will be honest and law-abiding, and not take advantage of us. As Christians, we also have beliefs about who God is, who we are, and how we should, as well as do, behave towards others, along with the value of each person and of this world.

Those who assembled The Book of Concord placed the ecumenical creeds—Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian—as their first statements of the Christian faith. “Creed” comes from the Latin *credo*, meaning “I believe,” and the placement of these three creeds right at the beginning of the book affirmed the reformers’ connection to the early church’s statements of faith. Their order reflects their dates of origin. Newly baptized believers learned the Apostles’ Creed (or a *form* of it) as a simple outline of the faith, as drawn from biblical scriptures, beginning in at least the second century. The Nicene Creed expanded the understanding of Jesus as fully God and fully man in response to the arian heresy of the fourth century that Jesus was not truly God. A century or so after that, the Athanasian Creed (named after church father Athanasius, but not written by him) outlined the amazing truths of the trinitarian nature of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as our one God, as revealed in the scriptures. All three creeds went through various revisions before reaching the forms known to us.

These statements of faith give shape to our understanding of who God has revealed himself to be. In our speaking them we set forth the relationship of God the Father to his Son, and of both to the Holy Spirit. We also include the truths of *our* relationship to God, and his to us and all creation. We do not believe in some generic life force, divine one, prime mover who no longer interacts with us, but to one who created and continues to create, who gave all life and continues to give life, who sustains and supports those he created, loves, and has redeemed.

I will continue to hold Bible studies through the summer for women most every other Saturday morning. We most often meet downstairs at church at 8:30am for about an hour and a half. Fellowship, reading and discussion of scripture, and sharing of prayer concerns and joys take up the time. In June I plan on studies 6/11 and 6/25. We continue to work our way through the prophet Ezekiel. I also can provide a Zoom link should you like to join us that way—just let me know.

Under his mercy,
Sharon M. Conover

For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out...I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice...And you are my sheep, human sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, declares the Lord GOD.” Ezekiel 34:11,15,16, 31

Sunday Morning Schedule

Divine Service will be held on **9 a.m.** with fellowship to follow. Sunday School will not meet over the summer.

Celebration during Fellowship Time on June 19

Ray and Ruth Milhous will be celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary on June 23, and hope you will join them at fellowship time after church the preceding Sunday, June 19, which is also Father's Day! Just your presence would be most welcome—no presents please! (They're continuing to try to downsize...)

Thank You's

Thank you for your gift. Your partnership blesses and encourages our students as they prepare for this future ministry of boldly proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ!

In Christ,

Vicki Biggs, Sr. V.P. Seminary Advancement
Concordia Seminary

Thank you for your contribution. Gifts, such as yours, allow us to provide the finest theological education in the future pastors, deaconesses, and missionaries who will serve LBMC.

Your servant in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr.

Present

Concordia Theological Seminary

Thank you for supporting the Compassion International Hope for Haiti project. Because of you, I was able to raise enough money to build two houses for families destroyed in an earthquake.

Gratefully,

Allison Farr

June Stewardship

	<u>June 5</u>	<u>June 12</u>	<u>June 19</u>	<u>June 26</u>
<u>Acolyte</u>	Hayley Farr	Evan Farr	Hayley Farr	Evan Farr
<u>Worship Assistant</u>	Charlie MacPherson	Brian Watson	Brad Fitzpatrick	Glenn Carlson Sr.
<u>Ushers</u>	John Ayotte	Jeff Sammons	Mo Cote	Glenn Carlson Jr.
<u>Greeters</u>	Wilson Family	Akers Family	Brian & Andrea Watson	James Breslin
<u>Altar Care</u>	Amanda Goldsmith	Amy Ouellette	Sasha Fitzpatrick	Krista Carlson
<u>Flowers</u>	The MacPhersons	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp	Julie Kohl
<u>Fellowship</u>	Rick & Marie Kubeck	Gail Maestas	Conover/Milhous	Open

Defending the Faith

Sometimes the Best Defense is a Good Defense

Defeating Darwin, Part 3 – *I don't have enough faith to be a Darwinist.*

To be a Darwinist, I would have to believe that:

- Life came into being on from non-living matter.
- This was through unguided processes of physics and chemistry.
- The first single-celled organism suddenly popped into existence from non-living matter.
- The very moment it appeared, it was already able to ingest nutrients, excrete waste, acquire and process oxygen, reproduce and move about in its environment.
- This organism is the “common ancestor” of all animal and plant life.
- Once this organism started to reproduce, there were beneficial errors in its DNA that were passed on to future generations. (Note that in reality, genetic errors are commonly called genetic defects and lead to terrible deformities, diseases and death)
- This single-celled organism somehow evolved into a multi-celled organism. That organism somehow evolved into primitive plant life. Algae, for example.
- That algae somehow made another spectacular leap from plant life to animal life, generally thought to be marine life of some kind.
- These beneficial errors (random mutations) evolved into features, such as eyes, gills, fins and completely functional respiratory, circulatory and digestive systems.
- This marine life somehow became more advanced, like fish, sharks, whales, etc.
- Some of these marine lifeforms somehow became able to breath air, grew primitive legs and began to walk out of the water and crawl over the land.
- These amphibians somehow eventually became mammals – a huge interspecies leap.
- Some of those mammals somehow became apes.
- Those apes somehow became us.

No, I just don't have enough faith to believe that story. There are too many huge, unexplained leaps between species and too many unexplained “somehows” for me to trust Darwin.

Compare his view to the Christian worldview. Almighty God created all that ever was, is and will be by His Word. Humans were created intact, without the need to progress through Darwin's evolutionary stages (many without fossil records to back them up).

Which has the best explanatory power? Darwin wins only if you insist on eliminating God from consideration. If you follow the evidence where it leads, the Darwinian explanation not only falls flat, it's utter fantasy.

Next month, more evidence for life having been created, not evolved. For a hint, read up on the Cambrian Explosion.

As always, I'm open to comments, questions and criticism at charles.j.macpherson@gmail.com.

- Charlie MacPherson, SDG

Member of the Month - Jeffrey K. Sammons

Jeff was born in Elmhurst, Illinois (located outside Chicago) to John W. and Doris M. Sammons. He was the youngest of three children having a brother 11 years older, and a sister nine years older. His father was a sailor during WWII and a Pearl Harbor survivor. After discharge in 1946, his father became an accountant for the J.L. Simmons Construction Company, retiring from the company in 1982. Jeff's mother was a homemaker and was instrumental in his Lutheran upbringing.



When Jeff was one-year of age the Sammons family moved to Decatur, Illinois, to be near Simmons' headquarters. They attended St. Paul's Lutheran Church, one of five LCMS churches in the city of 90,000. Jeff was confirmed there in 1976. He attended the Decatur Lutheran School from kindergarten through 8th grade and was extremely active in the church's high school youth program. Jeff enlisted in the United States Marine Corps during his senior year of high school—and entered boot camp in San Diego, California, a week after graduating from Douglas MacArthur High School (1980).

Jeff began his 27+ year Marine career as an infantryman and anti-terrorism security team member. His first duty station was Naval Air Station Brunswick, ME, which closed in 2011. He came to Waterville once during his two-year tour at NAS Brunswick: Jeff was ordered to take into military custody a Marine who had been picked up by the Waterville Police Department after having been discovered as Absence Without Leave (AWOL): Jeff returned the Marine for court martial and incarceration. Little did he know that he'd be living in the Waterville area or attending the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection 40 years later!

After four years in the infantry, Jeff retrained in Marine public affairs as a journalist/photo journalist. He spent the next 10 years as a journalist/photo journalist and combat media escort officer except for a three year assignment as a Marine enlisted recruiter in Watertown, N.Y. There Jeff worked as a lone recruiter in Northern New York covering two counties with 19 high schools and one community college. Jeff enlisted more than 90 young men and women during that time and was the number three recruiter on the east coast in the summer of 1989. This resulted in his meritorious promotion to staff sergeant for his efforts. He is still friends with many of the young men he enlisted during that time period—and loves hearing about their successes during and after their Marine careers.

Jeff was the last warrant officer promoted in public affairs in 1994. Twenty months later he was one of a handful of warrant officers promoted to second lieutenant through captain after the Marine Corps completely terminated the warrant officer program in the public affairs field. On October 1, 1995 CWO2 Sammons was promoted to second lieutenant and became the oldest second lieutenant on active duty in the Marine Corps. He retired as a major on September 30, 2007.

He spent the first half of his 27-year Marine career as an enlisted Marine attaining the rank of staff sergeant; and the other half as an officer. Jeff has held every ranking group in the Marine Corps except flag officer—having been a non-rate, noncommissioned officer, staff noncommissioned officer, company grade officer and finally field-grade officer. In addition he held both restricted and finally unrestricted officer status. He had two joint tours: One with the United States Central Command and one with the Joint Forces Command.

Besides Maine, Jeff was stationed in California twice; Okinawa, Japan; South Carolina; New York; mainland Japan twice; Florida; and Virginia twice. He deployed to Pakistan for earthquake relief assistance and had combat deployments to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait for the First Gulf War, Somalia for the aftermath of the Battle of Mogadishu, and three Iraq and two Afghanistan "visits".

After retiring from the Marines he and his family moved to northern New York where his wife was from originally. Jeff's sister had married a fellow with a farm in Minnesota, and Jeff spent much time with them—growing to love draft horses and farming. Therefore, Jeff went from military retirement to owning and operating a 176-acre farm raising grass-fed beef cattle and using draft horses for fieldwork. His marriage of 26 years ended in divorce in July 2020 and the farm was sold per the divorce settlement.

Jeff was blessed with two boys and a girl. His oldest, Garner, is a former Marine sergeant having served five years as an aviation structural mechanic and a Rochester Institute of Technology graduate with a degree in civil engineering. He lives in Rochester, N.Y. and inspects bridges for the State Department of Transportation through a contracted company. Jeff's second child, Hunter, also a former Marine sergeant having served five years as an infantryman, is a sophomore at the University of Colorado Boulder majoring in computer science. Jeff's youngest, Peyton, is a junior at the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine—where she is majoring in English and aspiring to be an editor and novelist. Peyton is only in her second actual year at UNE: She had a year of college already when she graduated high school in 2020—having taken college courses from the local community college during her junior and senior years of high school. Peyton likes to jab her brother, Hunter (who is five years older), that she's a year ahead of him in college. Of course, she does not highlight that he spent five years in the Marines before attending college *or* that much of his previous high school college courses and courses he took while in the Marines did not matriculate into his computer science degree!

Other than St. Paul's in Decatur, Jeff has been a member and councilman at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Poway, California; member and councilman at the Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA) in LaFargeville, N.Y.; and a member of Redemption Lutheran Church (WELS) in Watertown, N.Y.

Jeff moved to Palermo, Maine, in October 2020 after the farm sold. Peyton then began college at UNE. The Holy Spirit was instrumental in the decision since a requirement was that an LCMS church be within 50 miles. Jeff visited the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection after dropping Peyton off at college in August 2020 as he began his search for a new home. He would like to thank the congregation for the warm welcome even though we were all masked up due to COVID fears. (Those serving fellowship that day remember him as the fellow who was going to move draft horses to Maine!) Jeff takes great comfort in God's word, and in the many times warriors have been specifically mentioned in the Bible—including countless times in the Old Testament and eight times in the New Testament—once with John the Baptist and seven times with Christ himself. Jeff truly believes that service to country cannot truly exist without service to God first. We also can praise God and thank the men and women who protect our nation and us: Just like in Psalm 144:1-2, when David said: "Blessed be the Lord, my rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle; my lovingkindness and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield and He in whom I take refuge, who subdues my people under me."



Jeff now owns and operates Timber Ridge Ranch, a horse-drawn wagon and sleigh-ride business located on his 30 acres in Palermo. He calls his move to Maine a "Beverly Hillbilly" move—as he made the move with 2 horses, 3 cattle, 3 ducks, 2 cats, and a dog! When stopping at a gas station in Connecticut, he had horses braying, cows mooing, ducks quacking, cats meowing, and a dog barking! During one military move, Jeff had to leave a dog behind and he vowed to never again leave an animal behind! True to his word, they're all here with him! And what a blessing it is to have Jeff here at LCR with us!



Monthly Worship

June 5, 2022

The Day of Pentecost

Psalm: 143

Old Testament: Genesis 11:1-9

Second Reading: Acts 2:1-21

Holy Gospel: John 14:23-31

June 12, 2022

The Holy Trinity

Psalm: 29

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-7

Epistle: Romans 11:33-36

Holy Gospel: John 3:1-17

June 19, 2022

The First Sunday after Trinity

Psalm: 33:12-22

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

Epistle: John 4:16-21

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

June 26, 2022

The Second Sunday after Trinity

Psalm: 34:12-22

First Reading: Proverbs 9:1-10

Epistle: 1 John 3:13-18

Holy Gospel: Luke 14:15-24

BIBLE QUIZ

1. What concern did the five daughters of Zelophehad bring to Moses?
 - A. Who would marry them since they were condemned prostitutes?
 - B. Who would take care of them since they were orphans?
 - C. Who would inherit their father's land since they have no brothers?
 - D. Who would care for their children since they contracted leprosy?
2. In the parable of the four soils, which soil represented spiritual growth and maturity?
 - A. Hard soil
 - B. Weedy/thorny soil
 - C. Thin layer of soil
 - D. Good soil
3. Who was thrown into the den of lions?
 - A. David
 - B. Daniel
 - C. Demetrius
 - D. Delilah.
4. What incident occurred between the twelve-year old Jesus and His parents?
 - A. Some boys beat Him for his "righteous" speeches.
 - B. He was tempted by Satan with a pretty girl his age.
 - C. He was still in Jerusalem after His parents had started heading for home.
 - D. He banged his thumb with a hammer in his father's carpenter shop.
5. Throughout the Bible, what is the one word that is repeated three times to glorify God?
 - A. Lord
 - B. Holy
 - C. Perfect
 - D. Righteous



- 6/1 Peter Gaug
- 6/2 Lydia Bendas
Angie Carlson
Sharon Klipp
- 6/7 Mo Cote
Krys Paules
- 6/9 Donald Schorr
Jake Huesers
- 6/11 Katie Huesers
- 6/12 Rev. Robert Fischer
- 6/14 Callum Goldsmith
- 6/16 Sharon Callahan
- 6/17 Amber Akers
- 6/26 Jon Boschen
Tiana Thomas
- 6/28 David Gideon



- 6/3 Steve & Kari Farr
- 6/10 Rev. Ted & Dottie Evertsen
- 6/11 Anna & Ed Rowe
- 6/15 Brian & Andrea Watson
- 6/18 Mike & Michelle Hein
Wayne & Laverne Pelletier
- 6/23 Ray & Ruth Milhous
- 6/29 Jon & Bjorg Boschen



- 6/5 Natalie Crowley
- 6/6 Jeff Sammons
- 6/12 Jon Boschen
- 6/13 Marie Kubeck
- 6/14 Allison Farr
Andrew Farr
Emily-Lynn Carlson
Ethan Carlson
Caden Fitzpatrick
Mia Fitzpatrick
- 6/19 Cianan Morris



- 6/3 Emily-Lynn Carlson
- 6/4 Eleanor Keefe
- 6/7 Mo Cote
- 6/8 Rev. Ted Evertsen

BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1. C (Numbers 27:1-4))
2. D (Matthew 13:23)
3. B (Daniel 6:16)
4. C (Luke 2:43-50)
5. B (Isaiah 6:3; Revelation 4:8)

Another Burglar Being Watched

A burglar broke into a house one night. He shined his flashlight around, looking for valuables; and when he picked up a CD player to place in his sack, a strange, disembodied voice echoed from the dark saying, "Joshua is watching you." He nearly jumped out of his skin, clicked his flashlight off, and froze. When he heard nothing more after a bit, he shook his head, promised himself a vacation after the next big score, then clicked the light on and began searching for more valuables.

Just as he pulled the stereo out so he could disconnect the wires, clear as a bell he heard, "Joshua is watching you." Freaked out, he shined his light around frantically, looking for the source of the voice. Finally, in the corner of the room, his flashlight beam came to rest on a parrot.

"Did you say that?" he hissed at the parrot.

"Yep," the parrot confessed, and then squawked, "I'm just trying to warn you."

The burglar relaxed. "Warn me, huh? Who in the world are you?"

"Moses," replied the bird.

"Moses?" the burglar laughed. "What kind of people would name a bird Moses?"

"The kind of people that would name a Rottweiler Joshua."

Or "Ice Cream Is Sometimes Good For The Soul"

Last week I took my children to a restaurant. My six-year-old son asked if he could say grace. As we bowed our heads he said, "God is good, God is great. Thank you for the food, and I would thank you even more if Mom gets us Ice Cream for dessert. And liberty and justice for all! Amen!"

Along with the laughter from the other customers nearby, I heard a woman remark, "That's what's wrong with this country. Kids today don't even know how to pray. Asking God for Ice Cream! Why, I never!"

Hearing this, my son burst into tears and asked me, "Did I do it wrong? Is God mad at me?"

As I held him and assured him that he had done a terrific job and God was certainly not mad at him, an elderly gentleman approached the table. He winked at my son and said, "I happen to know that God thought that was a great prayer."

"Really?" my son asked.

"Cross my heart." Then in theatrical whisper he added (indicating the woman whose remark had started this whole thing), "too bad she never asks God for Ice Cream. A little Ice Cream is good for the soul sometimes."

Naturally, I bought my kid Ice Cream at the end of the meal. My son stared at his for a moment and then did something I will remember the rest of my life. He picked up his Sundae and without a word walked over and placed it in front of the woman. With a big smile he told her, "Here, this is for you. Ice Cream is good for the soul sometimes and my soul is good already!"



Church Bulletin Bloopers

1. For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery down stairs.
2. The eighth graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church basement on Friday at 7 pm. The congregation is invited to attend the tragedy.
3. This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.
4. The preacher will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing, "Break Forth With Joy".
5. Thursday night: Potluck Supper - Prayer and medication will follow.
6. Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
7. The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.
8. Evening message - 6 p.m.
9. The Pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.
10. The audience is asked to remain seated until the end of the recession.
11. Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 to 8:30 p.m. Please use the back door.
12. Ushers will eat latecomers.
13. The third verse of Blessed Assurance will be sung without musical accomplishment.
14. The Rev. Merriweather spoke briefly, much to the delight of the audience.
15. Next Sunday Mrs. Vinson will be soloist for the morning service. The pastor will then speak on "It's a Terrible Experience."
16. Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.

The Daily Lectionary

June 2022

6/1 Acts 10:1-23 / Acts 10:24-*fin*
6/2 Acts 11 / Acts 12
6/3 Acts 13:1-15 / Acts 13:16-*fin*
6/4 John 14:15-21 / Joel 2:28-*fin*
6/5 John 14:23-31 / Acts 2
6/6 John 3:16-21 / Exodus 20
6/7 John 10:1-10 / Acts 8:14-25
6/8 John 6:44-51 / Acts 14
6/9 Luke 9:1-6 / Acts 15
6/10 Luke 5:12-27 / Acts 16
6/11 Luke 4:38-43 / Romans 11:25-*fin*
6/12 John 3:1-15 / Athanasian Creed (LSB pp. 319-320)
6/13 Acts 17 / Acts 18
6/14 Acts 19 / Acts 20
6/15 Acts 21 / Acts 22
6/16 Acts 23 / Acts 24
6/17 Acts 25 / Acts 26
6/18 Acts 27 / Acts 28
6/19 Luke 16:19-32 / 1 Samuel 1
6/20 1 Samuel 2:1-11 / 1 Samuel 2:12-*fin*
6/21 1 Samuel 3 / 1 Samuel 4
6/22 1 Samuel 5 / 1 Samuel 6
6/23 1 Samuel 7 / 1 Samuel 8
6/24 1 Samuel 9:1-13 / 1 Samuel 9:14-*fin*
6/25 1 Samuel 10:1-16 / 1 Samuel 10:17-*fin*
6/26 Luke 14:16-24 / 1 Samuel 11
6/27 1 Samuel 12:1-15 / 1 Samuel 12:16-*fin*
6/28 1 Samuel 13 / 1 Samuel 14:1-23
6/29 1 Samuel 14:24-*fin* / 1 Samuel 15:1-15
6/30 1 Samuel 15:16-*fin* / 1 Samuel 16

Note: "fin" is Latin for "end."