



Reformation Reporter

The Monthly Newsletter of Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

www.reformation-lutheran.net

JUNE 2007

RE-CREATION VS. RECREATION Appreciating Life and Remembering the Sabbath

In her book *The Ten Commandments: The Significance of God's Laws in Everyday Life*, Dr. Laura Sclessinger discusses the fourth commandment, *Remember the Sabbath day . . .*, by posturing that today's society has a lack of appreciation of life and that this lack of appreciation of our life has eroded our appreciation of who gave us life, **God**. She focuses in on a lack of appreciation of how priceless time is. Our world has become a place where the busier one is, the more important one's life is. Success is translated by our "work ethic" and salary range. We have forgotten that money can be replaced, but time cannot.

There is an old Jewish story that tells of this one day when Satan gathers his assistants to discuss the most effective method of destroying the meaning of people's lives. One assistant suggests, "Tell them there is no God." Another says, "Tell them they have strayed so far from the right path they will never be able to change." A third offers, "Tell them there are no consequences to their actions." Satan then tells his assistants, "No, such things will not

matter to them. I think we should simply tell them, "There is plenty of time." Of course, the notion is that if we're given "all the time in the world," any imperative toward goodness, righteousness, depth, or meaningfulness would be removed. Man would therefore put God off until "tomorrow."

But we know that we don't have "all the time in the world." And Satan knows that HIS time is short (refer to Rev. 12:7-12). We know from scripture that the day will come when Christ will return to this world AND that we are to be ready! And what not a better way to get yourself ready than to "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it Holy?" Is not the Sabbath a taste of the holiness of "the world to come?"

W. Scott Davis, a United Methodist navy chaplain, states, "I preach that, in order to function best and glorify God to the fullest, one must set a day aside in every seven if one is to intentionally refocus his relationship with God, a task which is done to some degree every day, but is done with *intentionality* at least once in seven." Chaplain Davis thus speaks of the Sabbath as a day of RE-CREATION. The hyphen gives us a different interpretation of a day many

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The Day of Pentecost

Pentecost and you are encouraged to wear red, the color of the day.

We will celebrate the Affirmation of Faith for the following young people next Sunday, Pentecost:

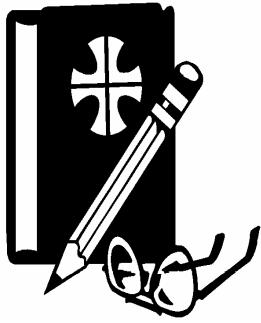


Confirmation

- Michelle Miller Badher
- Taylor Claire Burkett
- Bobby Gary Capece
- Rebecca Nicole Guyer
- Kristen Leigh Johnson
- Suzette Jayne Madanat
- Wilmer Carl Nauman
- Melyssa Stormie Ryan
- Trent Summers

Please pray for the continued growth in faith for these young people as they take this step on their journey of faith.

"To do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God" - Micah 6:8



MUSINGS
from the
Director of Family
Ministries

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
When have we done enough?
It is not unusual for us to give
ourselves to a task and never
feel it is enough. I want to help

end poverty in the world, but I can never do all that is
needed to make a difference.

I want to serve God in my church, but the jobs are endless
and little seems to be accomplished. So, should I quit
trying?

If you are one who believes that you should always be
able to do something to change a situation, you are one
who is constantly feeling fatigue and hopelessness. No
one can be all things to all people. Some things cannot be
changed by anyone, except maybe the person who has
made the situation what it is. So, are you supposed to
wear yourself out when no real good is being done?

Christianity is a religion that calls us to believe in Jesus
Christ and to trust God in all things. It is also a religion
that calls us to apply this faith to the way we live. Each of
us must live as if Christ does make us good.

The Monday Bible study discovered early in Acts that the
early Christians were attractive. That is, they were known
for their kindness, fairness, and even dispositions. People
were attracted to these followers of Jesus Christ. The same
cannot be said for the Christian community today. Yes,
there are some Christians who are most attractive. Some
are honest, filled with joy, kind and caring. However, too
many of us are political, hard-hearted, angry and simply
self-centered.

We need to pay attention to our attitudes. I often wonder
when we are behaving badly, if we would be this way if we
were face to face with Jesus Christ. Well, when we are
face to face with another human it is the same as being
face to face with Christ. As we treat one another, so we
treat Christ. Of course we need to strive to be good.

Jesus Christ depends on us to do his work where ever we
are. Yes, we always need to keep doing more.

Dear God, help me to do more!

Your Sister in Christ,
Sandra Wachter-Myers

**WHITE WATER
RAFTING:
AUGUST 9-11, 2007**



Travel with a group for all ages
to the Ohiopyle State Park in
Pennsylvania to raft on the
Youghiogheny River. You must

be 12 and over. Adults welcome. We will leave Milford
about 4:00pm on Thursday, raft on Friday, and return
on Saturday by 4:00pm. Cost
is about \$100.00 which
includes the \$77.00 guided
rafting trip, camping costs and
food while at the camp ground.



*It does NOT include spending
money for "food" going and returning home.* It is a great trip
for families, singles, youth and adults. Talk to someone
who has gone. They will tell you how much fun it is.

OUR CHURCH LEADERS

Head of the Church: Jesus, the Christ
President: Bill Raihall 684-3881
Vice President: Theda Blackwelder 945-2775
Secretary: Susan Emory 422-3115
Treasurer: Lisa Mallard 422-2844

Council Members

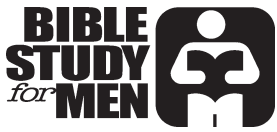
Collins Batchelor 422-7331
Lezlie Eustis 422-3742
Kathy Hubbard 422-7729
Barbara Jones 422-8598
Neal Richard 265-2115

Staff

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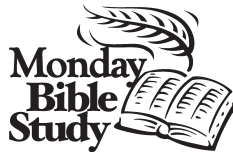
Grow In Faith Together



Come and study the Gospel of Luke with fellow men as part of the Men's Bible Study Group on June 11th and 25th from 7:30 - 9:00 pm in the Library. All men in the community are invited. Come and check it out.

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

Monday's at 1:00pm, a lively group meets with Sandra Wachter-Myers for Bible study. Our study continues in the book of Acts as we learn about the beginning of the Christian church and those people who being lead by the Holy Spirit brought the message of Christ's salvation from the Jewish community into the Gentile world. This study will meet June 4th, 11th, and 18th.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2007



It's not too late! Reformation's VBS Great Bible Reef: Dive into God's Word has plenty of opportunities for services. Please speak to Sandra Wachter-Myers if you are able to give time to this program. Assistants are needed in crafts, and with each

"school" of children. Also, needed, are items related to reefs and the ocean for display during VBS. If you can help with decorating, again, speak with Sandra. Donations are always welcome. A list of foods for snacks and other needed items will be in the bulletin and on the youth bulletin board. Thank you to the following folks who have offered their time and talents: Pastor Ranney, Drew Ranney, Karolyn Hayes, Joyce Nauman, Becca Guyer, Alex

Huey, Adara Ryan, Melyssa Ryan, Margo Ranney, Tara Hooven, Mary K. Konesey, Hilary Emory, Corrine Cresson, Carole Warrington, Barbara Jones, and Sharon Trotman. The help of 10 to 15 additional staff will give us a full VBS staff.

ADVOCACY FOR HEALTH



DIAKON
LUTHERAN SOCIAL MINISTRIES

The Health Advocate program is sponsored by Lutheran Senior Services of Sussex

County Inc. (LSSSC, Inc.) and Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries. Since January 2006 this program has served members of the Lutheran community, including residents of Luther Towers and Luther Gardens. The needs of the community are great. Pat Sexton, the Health Advocate, has run blood pressure clinics, helped individuals get proper medical care, assisted with diet and medication needs and been an advocate in gaining help from agencies for those with special needs and concerns. The funding for the Health Advocate has been a shared responsibility between LSSSC, Inc. and Diakon. If you would like to help support this program, please send a check to LSSSC, Inc. Health Advocate. Send to LSSSC, Inc. c/o Reformation Lutheran Church, 613 Lakeview Avenue, Milford DE 19963.

WANTED: CHEERFUL GIVERS

The Property Committee is encouraging members, of all varieties, to serve on this committee. This "very small" committee of women and men is responsible for small but essential maintenance around the church, much like those needed around the home. No special skills are required! Fellowship is a bonus! A few more willing hands would accomplish the necessary tasks in less time. The committee has a planning meeting that meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm in the church building. Two primary workdays are scheduled yearly. If you are available to donate less than a weekend yearly to this good and necessary work, please call Sharon in the church office, 422-9117, with your name and telephone number; a committee member will follow up. Busy hands



make happy hearts!
"...for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 1:7)

set aside for *recreation*. Chaplain Davis continues, "By re-creating the seventh day of Creation, we return to our humble beginnings; from dust we were created. By refilling ourselves with God's breath that brought Adam to life, we are born again each week, appreciating the newness of each day with its opportunities to grow in meaningful ways."

There is an ancient Jewish morning prayer that suggests that we are born again each and every day:

I thank you God, Ruler of the Universe, that you have returned my soul to me with compassion; great is your faithfulness."

A perfect way to begin each day - acknowledgment and appreciation simply for being alive.

I'm sure you've heard the Latin phrase "Carpe Diem" - seize the day. Now I know this phrase is usually associated with the general who rallies his troops in fierce battle, or the coach who inspires his team of underdogs. But let's rephrase the term slightly to be read "**live in the day.**" Returning to Dr. Laura's book about the Ten Commandments, I was struck by the following paragraph:

The sixth day of Creation was a busy one. The first Sabbath was the first full day of life for Adam and Eve. It marked the first time they went to sleep and woke up with the discovery, unlike the mayfly, which lives but a day, of a tomorrow. They discovered that life went on! Every Sabbath, like the first one, we should awaken with a deep appreciation of what it means to wake up and live another day.

Or to wake up and **live in the day!**

So what *does* it mean to "live in the day?" To best answer that question I say ask someone who is terminally ill, or fighting cancer, or deals with some form of physical or mental impairment each day. My aunt, Dorcas, battled cancer for less than two years before going on to be with the Father. I believe it was around March or April of 2000 when, after fighting of a heavy bronchial cough, she went in for x-rays and other tests and was told of the discovery of Mesothelioma in her lungs. This form of cancer is usually associated with exposure to asbestos and there is no known cure to date. To the dismay of some of her sisters, Dorcas decided to try a new drug that had some success in holding the growth of the cancer in check and might provide some more time before the inevitable. Her sisters were of the opinion that since it was only going to prolong the process, why bother? But Dorcas went forth with the treatments. Her body responded well and, in fact, she was given news the following June that the cancer was in full remission.

But in the three months following the cancer returned - this time worse than before. During that time, and the months up to her death in January 2002, Dorcas was able to get her house in order - figuratively and literally. My cousin Dan now lives in a house with a new roof, a new heating and air-conditioning system, and has no mortgage to pay off. Dorcas and Dan took a couple of trips to see places she had always dreamed of visiting. And Dorcas "lived in the day."

I often catch myself becoming engulfed in the busy tasks at work, the self-imposed pressure and strains of day-to-day activities. How often do we try to rest at night, but lie awake pondering all the tasks planned for the next day? All these routine yet meaningless activities create a blur of each day. And some of us continue this mindless blur through the weekend.

David Helfgott, the gifted pianist who spent ten years of his life in mental institution because of his tyrannical father - the story told in the film "Shine" - told a reporter once he enjoys riding in traffic. "There is a pattern in the traffic, if you understand that, you can concentrate and relax. It is very important to enjoy the journey." There exists a pattern in the events of our intersecting lives that we cannot fully see, but by the grace of God, we can accept it, relax a little and enjoy the journey, letting go of those things over which we have no control, trusting that through the power of God, out of bad things will come good.

We do not have to wander through our lives here on earth by ourselves continually stacking the troubles of one day on another and on the next and so on. God gave us the gift of the Sabbath Day. He gave us a day where we can drop the baggage of this world and experience a taste of the world to come. Through the broken body and blood of his son, our savior Jesus Christ, we have a table set before us each and every Sunday where we can dump all the stuff collected during our weekly routines, relax and concentrate on the patterns of our lives and recognize all that God has provided for us. Remember the Sabbath Day and KEEP it Holy, **re-create** your life, share in the fellowship of others who too are seeking relief from the stresses and strains we all experience. Hear the Good News of the Resurrection, discover the joy of the Christ, learn to appreciate your life and **live in the day!**

*Yours in Christ,
Kevin B. Oldland, Editor*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

June

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

2 Michael Callahan	5 Mr. & Mrs. David Dingess
4 Billy Koch	8 Mr. & Mrs. Jay Adams
4 Tyler Twilley	8 Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Gruwell
5 Beth Gannon	10 Mr. & Mrs. Neal Richard
5 Kurt Sohn	13 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Farlow
6 Thomas Mahler	13 Mr. & Mrs. Carl Nilsson
7 Dottie Lofland	13 Mr. & Mrs. Russ Gemmill
7 Gabrielle Johnson	15 Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Willis
7 Zachary Siok	15 Mr. & Mrs. Steve Lowe
9 Patsy Kersteter	18 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wajda
10 Linda Caccamise	18 Mr. & Mrs. John Eustis, Jr.
11 Erin Baker	19 Mr. & Mrs. William Loderhose
12 Tracey Lewis	21 Mr. & Mrs. Patricia Hermann
13 Daniel Howell	22 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Mehl
13 Daniel McGinniss	23 Mr. & Mrs. Kirby Fitzgerald
14 Emily Hagert	23 Mr. & Mrs. Dave Weaver
14 Ted Ressler	24 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hayward
15 Joe DeLuca	25 Mr. & Mrs. Kerwin Boyer
15 Alice Daino	26 Mr. & Mrs. William Irwin
15 Karen Oldland	27 Mr. & Mrs. James Fleming
15 Kim Huey	28 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Walls
17 Denise Whitman	
17 William Wolter, Jr.	
18 Gesine Abrutyn	
19 Jenna McDuff	
20 Catherine Boston	
21 Ira Huffman	
21 Paul Hayes	
22 Paige Lowe	
23 Andrea Fleming	
24 Julia Astfalk	
25 Judy Sharp	
26 Courtney Raihall	
28 Sheree Warren	
30 Edward Daino	



CLASS OF 2007

Congratulations to our High School Graduate:

Ashley Snyder graduated from Sussex Tech High School. We are proud of her! Ashley is working for KIDS, Inc. and will attend Del Tech in the fall.

Congratulations to our College Graduates:

Chad Carpenter has graduated from the University of Delaware on May 26th with a Major in English and a Minor in Religious Studies.

Alex Hayes has graduated from Villa Julie in Stevensonville, MD on May 19th with a Major in Film Video and Theater.



WELCA NEWS

Afternoon meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 1:00pm. September - June

President - Dottie Lofland
 Secretary - Connie Howell
 Treasurer - Joan Van Gorder
 Devotions - Maggie Haggerty
 Program - Helene Reed

WELCA's last meeting until September will be a Covered Dish Luncheon at the home of Dottie Lofland on Thursday, June 7th at 12 Noon. A Sign-Up sheet is located on the Kiosk in the Narthex; please write-in what you plan to bring. You may meet at the church parking lot at 11:30am to carpool or come to Dottie's home at Prime Hook Beach. Her address is 9147 Shore Drive. Hope to see you there!!

Cut and Save

WELCA SELLS FAIR TRADE COFFEE

on 1st and 3rd Sundays

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to work the sales table on Sunday mornings. You need not be a member of WELCA to

volunteer. Please bring exact change or smaller denomination bills. Thank you!



Regular Whole Bean	\$5.25
Regular Drip	\$5.25
Decaf Whole Bean	\$6.25
Decaf Drip	\$6.25
French Vanilla Regular Drip	\$5.50
French Vanilla Decaf	\$6.50
Hazelnut Cream Regular Drip	\$5.50
Hazelnut Cream Decaf	\$6.50
Toffee Caramel Regular Drip	\$5.50
Toffee Caramel Decaf	\$6.50

God's LOVE has
been poured
into our
HEARTS



through
the
HOLY SPIRIT
that has been
given to us.

Romans 5:5, NRSV

The Reporter

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Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church
Organized February 5, 1956

Church Office: PH (302) 422-9117; FAX (302) 422-9184
KIDS, Inc.: (302) 422-9099; Parsonage: (302) 422-6326

GOD'S MISSION FOR US

*Through God's grace, we commit ourselves as disciples
to heal hurts, to teach God's word,
to discover God's joys, and share the light,
love, and peace of Jesus Christ.*

JUNE 2007



**Reformation
Lutheran Church**

reformation-lutheran.net

613 Lakeview Avenue
Milford, DE 19963

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