



AUGUST 2015

- Page 1 Pastor's Message
- Page 2 Stephen Ministry
- Page 3 LWML
- Page 4 This and that
- Page 5 Senior Spotlight
- Page 6 S.O.A.R.
- Page 7 Siberian Lutheran
Mission Society
- Page 8 Sewing Bee



Creed

We continue our look at the Liturgy by examining the Creed.

The word “Creed” comes from the Latin word that means, “I believe.” The first Christian creed was simply, “Jesus is Lord.” (The word, “Lord” was a euphemism for “Yahweh,” God’s name in the Old Testament, so this creed was saying, “Jesus is the same God Who saved Israel from Egypt.”)

The creeds are “confessional statements,” or expressions of agreement. In essence, we’re saying, “This is what all Christians believe,” or, “This is the definition of the Christian faith. If you don’t believe these basic teachings, by definition, you can’t honestly call yourself a Christian.” They were written as much to confess what we *don’t* believe as what we believe, formed during times of struggle in the church to refute the claims of those within the church who were spreading false teachings, and yet, as we’ll see, still apply today and speak against modern false teachers as well.

The Apostles’ Creed has changed slightly over time, mainly adding to an older creed called the “Old Roman Creed.” Its exact origins are lost to history, but it dates back to the first few centuries of Christianity. It was mainly written to refute Gnosticism, the belief that earthly things are bad, and spiritual things are good, therefore God couldn’t have become man in Jesus. This is the teaching promoted by the recent book, *The Da Vinci Code*, as well as by some New Age believers, and many modern Biblical “scholars” (The people that the mainstream media often contact for quotes to refute the Bible—you’ll be hearing from them as Christmas approaches). The creed makes a point of confessing Jesus’ incarnation (“Born of the virgin Mary”), His suffering, and death to demonstrate the basic truth that God became man and truly died for us.

The Nicene Creed was adopted at the First Council of Nicaea (325) and revised by adding the portion following, “...the Holy Spirit,” at the First Council of Constantinople (381). It was mainly written to refute Arianism, which taught that the Son of God is a created being, not God Himself, so it goes into more detail than the Apostles’ Creed. The basics of Arianism remain today in the teachings of the Jehovah’s Witnesses and some Unitarian Universalists. In the third article of both of these creeds, you’ll see a footnote that says that “holy Christian church” originally read, “holy catholic church.” Note that the word “catholic” (little “c”) is a word that means “worldwide,” not to be confused with “Roman Catholic” (big “C”).

These creeds, besides refuting false teachings, proclaim God’s love. Try this sometime: after almost every line of the creed, say to yourself, “For me,” because *every* interaction God has ever had with His creation has been out of love for us. He became our Lord, not because we deserve Him, but because of His love. He gave us His Holy Spirit, the church, and everything else mentioned in the creed purely out of His mercy and goodness, not by any merit on our part.

When we weekly confess these creeds, we join our voices with all Christians past, present, and future, proclaiming to each other, the world, and ourselves a short summary of what God has revealed about Himself in His Word. Our God is not a secret, unknowable God. He has demonstrated that He is a “hands on” God, even when it meant having those hands pierced for our sin so that we may spend eternity with Him and know Him in a way we can’t even imagine now.

Blessings,
Pastor Peck



“Stephen Ministers help those they care for experience God during those times in life when they might be wondering, *Is God even there?*”

How do you think Stephen Ministers help fill that spiritual gap?

God’s love is always there, but sometimes it can be really hard to feel it, especially when you’re going through a crisis. That’s probably when people doubt God’s presence the most, when their faith is the most vulnerable. But a Stephen Minister is Jesus’ hands and feet, just being there and caring for a hurting person. Stephen Ministers express God’s love in a tangible way that care receivers can feel. Stephen Ministers help those they care for experience God during those times in life when they might be wondering, *Is God even there?*

Find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders: Judy Kugler, Eady Broscheit, or Joe Broscheit.

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THIS ‘N THAT

FREE Firewood available from Locust trees (hard wood). Branches can be found on the Northwest corner of the front parking lot. HELP YOURSELF!



The Board of Lay Ministry, in a letter that went out on May 31st, informed the congregation of our interest in helping Pastor Peck and family with their desire to move into a home of their own. The Board of Lay Ministry is soliciting support to help them with the down-payment. The Pecks are actively looking to purchase a home of their own, and are looking to make a commitment to our Congregation into the future. Is there a better way to show our appreciation for our Pastor than to assist with this effort?

If you can help, even in a small way, please talk with a member of the Board of Lay Ministry. We will be happy to assist and collect any gifts to the church for this purpose. You can also place your gift in an envelope specially marked or designated as “down payment”, and place in the offering plate. Any gifts will be recorded as received by the Church and noted on your charitable forms issued by the Board of Stewardship at the end of the year.

We ask that you prayerfully consider your capability and willingness to support this effort. We continually strive to remind our Pastor and his family that we do appreciate his shepherding and guidance to the Congregation, and we pray for a long and continued relationship at Wheat Ridge Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Thank You

Board of Lay Ministry

Welcome to all women of the congregation!

MADE HOLY

“For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ”. – Galatians 3:27

Lutheran Women in Mission is for all women. We focus on our mission to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God.



NATIONAL LWML CONVENTION

Delegates to the 37th Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) convened in Des Moines this past June. More than 4,600 Lutheran Women in Mission from across the nation gathered to conduct business, renew friendships, and rally around God's Word.

The theme of the convention was **"Bountiful! Sow • Nourish • Reap"**

'And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work (2 Corinthians 9:8 NIV). The organization adopted a mission goal of **\$2 million** for the 2015-2016 biennium. The funds raised over the next two years by the organization's 250,000 members nationwide will be used to support 19 mission grants. Just think about this! If every one of these 250,000 members gave just \$8 in mites for these 2 years, we would hit that \$2,000,000 mark! And that's not even counting the generosity of church members, school children, Sunday school classes, or money found in the laundry or couch cushions!

Those grants and amounts will be shared in an upcoming newsletter.

Rev. Gregory Seltz, speaker of The Lutheran Hour, was the proclaimer for the Thursday evening worship service. Rev. Keith Piotter, of Bettendorf, Iowa, shared insights from Scripture with convention participants. Patti Ross of Iowa, was elected the new president.

LWML makes known God's love by caring for the needs of others. Lutheran Women in Mission all across the nation respond to God's love by making it a practice to share similar gifts in their own communities. Women of the

Current Totals for Convention Offerings (as of 7/7/15):

Pledge Walk - \$83,019.03

Golf Outing - \$3,652.59

Offering #1 – LWML Mission Goal 2015–2017 - \$61,926.90

Offering #2 – Discovering Disabilities – ALL of God's Children - \$37,360.55

Offering #3 – Cabins for Christ's Children, LVR - \$41,465.67

Offering #4 – Family of God Mission – Detroit, Michigan - \$41,420.82

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If God calls you to serve in LWML, don't question and give excuses. HE works out all the details!
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As believers in Christ we
baptism and have been give

LOCAL CONVENTION

Start planning now to attend the **Rocky Mountain District LWML Convention** on June 10 – 12, 2016 at the Antlers Hotel in beautiful downtown Colorado Springs. The Theme will be "God, our Refuge and Fortress". *"I will say to the LORD, my refuge and fortress, my God, in whom I trust."* Ps. 91:2

NORTH CENTRAL ZONE NEWS

The Fall Rally will be held here at **Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church** on September 19 to begin at 9:00 a.m.; registration and fellowship will be at 8:30 a.m. Pastor Peck will be speaking on the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society. (See pg. 7) We'll be having authentic Russian food for our lunch. Our ladies will be co-hosting with Our Saviour Lutheran Church. All ladies are invited!

MITE SUNDAY will be August 16.

Here are some Trips to consider!

You are invited to join some of your friends at Concordia Lutheran, Lakewood, for a unique twelve-day tour of the Holy Land in September of 2016. Rather than a commercial tour guide, our touring experience will be led by the staff of St. George's College (Anglican), located less than a ten-minute walk from the Old City of Jerusalem. Staying on the beautiful campus of the college (except for two nights in Galilee) affords a relaxed, highly spiritual and more flexible experience. For information, please send an email to tom@teskes.net or call 303-877-8038.

Or Here's Another one!

SAFARIS, FALLS & FAITH ---Pastor Dave Ahlman of Peace Lutheran Church, Arvada, Co., is leading a 13 day trip to So Africa beginning May 10, 2016. The tour starts in Cape Town and includes Victoria Falls, 6 wild game drives, a boat safari and an elephant safari. If you mention Wheat Ridge Lutheran and contact us and sign up by October 1, 2015, you will receive a \$100.00 PP discount. Contact Beth Ahlman at [303-940-7199](tel:303-940-7199) or Harriet Oehlkers at [303-619-7839](tel:303-619-7839) or email lhoehlkers@wingsofeaglesct.com for more information.

THANK YOU to John Cleveland for fixing and repairing and refinishing the outside of the big door out to the patio! Looks great!

THANK YOU to Don Kugler and Roger Osterberg (our very own Paul Bunyans!) for trimming and cutting the tree branches back by the south parking lot, as well as along Dudley. Free wood for the taking!

THANK YOU to Cathy Bell, Ruth Kersell, and our other garden specialists for keeping our back gardens and planters looking so green and lush!

THANK YOU to GOD for all the rain this spring!

Peace Lutheran Church in Arvada, Colorado, has been blessed with an on-site Christian Counselor.

Don Damborg is a registered psychotherapist with the State of Colorado, and will be licensed as a marriage and family therapist in the fall of 2015. He has a masters' degree from Colorado Christian University, and a 2-year, post-master's certificate in marriage and family therapy from Denver Family Institute. He also has a master's degree in music from Minnesota State University Moorhead, which he will put to use as our Director of Contemporary Worship Music.

He has a broad base of experience in helping individuals, couples, marriages and families. His clinical experience has led him to serve in inpatient hospitals, outpatient treatment programs, Christian counseling centers, and private practice settings. He has experience in dealing with issues such as depression, anxiety, as well as severe addictions. He is also highly trained in working with couples and marriages – dealing with communication, intimacy, parenting issues, and (re)building trust. He uses a highly effective therapy model for couples who are separated and/or on the brink of divorce and have seen great results in helping marriages and families come back together again and be more successful and happy. God has gifted Don to help individuals and families in crisis. If you or someone you know might benefit from his services, please call 303-424-4454 x21 or email dondamborg@peacelutheran.net for competent, confidential, Christian counseling.

SAVE THE DATES--- Last weekend of August Proposed Church Yard Sale

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Also, there will be the annual Sunday school picnic the Sunday following Labor Day – Sept. 13.

Financial Update

January thru June 2015
Expenses: \$90,457.66
Income: \$97,131.17



Honoring our Seniors of Wheat Ridge Evangelical Lutheran Church

Walt & Shirley Metcalf

Shirley Metcalf was born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin July 11, 1930. Walt was born December 3rd, 1925 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Shirley is a life-long Lutheran and was baptized at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Walt was baptized at a Christian church in Omaha, Nebraska

Shirley has 2 brothers who live in Wisconsin. Walt was an only child.

Walt served 4 years in the Navy during World War II. His ship was used as a transport ship that traveled to Yokohama, Japan, rescuing and returning Chinese soldiers back to Beijing, China. When his service ended in the Navy, Walt and Shirley met in Columbia, Missouri where Walt was attending the University of Missouri and Shirley was attending Stephens College. Walt joined the Lutheran church after meeting Shirley. They were married at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sheboygan, Wisconsin on July 2nd, 1950, making it 65 years of marriage this July. Walt and Shirley have three boys with two grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Walt was a Forester and spent many years transferring from state to state. Shirley was a housewife and reared the children. They lived in Steamboat Springs 8 years and attended Concordia Lutheran Church there. The entire family learned to ski in Steamboat Springs.

Walt and Shirley started attending Wheat Ridge Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1974 to the present. The members of Wheat Ridge Lutheran church make it very special to both Walt and Shirley. The people here are always very friendly.

Their hobbies were square & round dancing. Walt has fond memories of bowling on a team with Pastor Rolf.

They have spent a lot of time traveling to the Caribbean, Hawaii, Canada, and have seen all of the USA.

They both like all of the holidays, and prefer celebrating birthdays with their families.

The couple has served Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church over the years--Walt on the Board of Stewardship, Endowment Fund trustee, and the Board of Lay Ministry. Shirley sang in the choir, served with the Altar Guild, Board of Social Ministry, LWML, and Board of Parish Fellowship.

Nowadays, Walt says he loves stating his views at the voters meetings whenever he can.



Twenty-First Annual Older Adult Gathering

Theme: "Purposeful Living as a Senior"

"We have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." Colossians 1:9-10 (ESV)

Featuring

Rev. Greg Finke

Dr. Brad Gustave, General Ophthalmologist

Michelle Rahn, Ms. Senior America 2004

Bill Hyde, Ph.D.

Held at

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lakewood

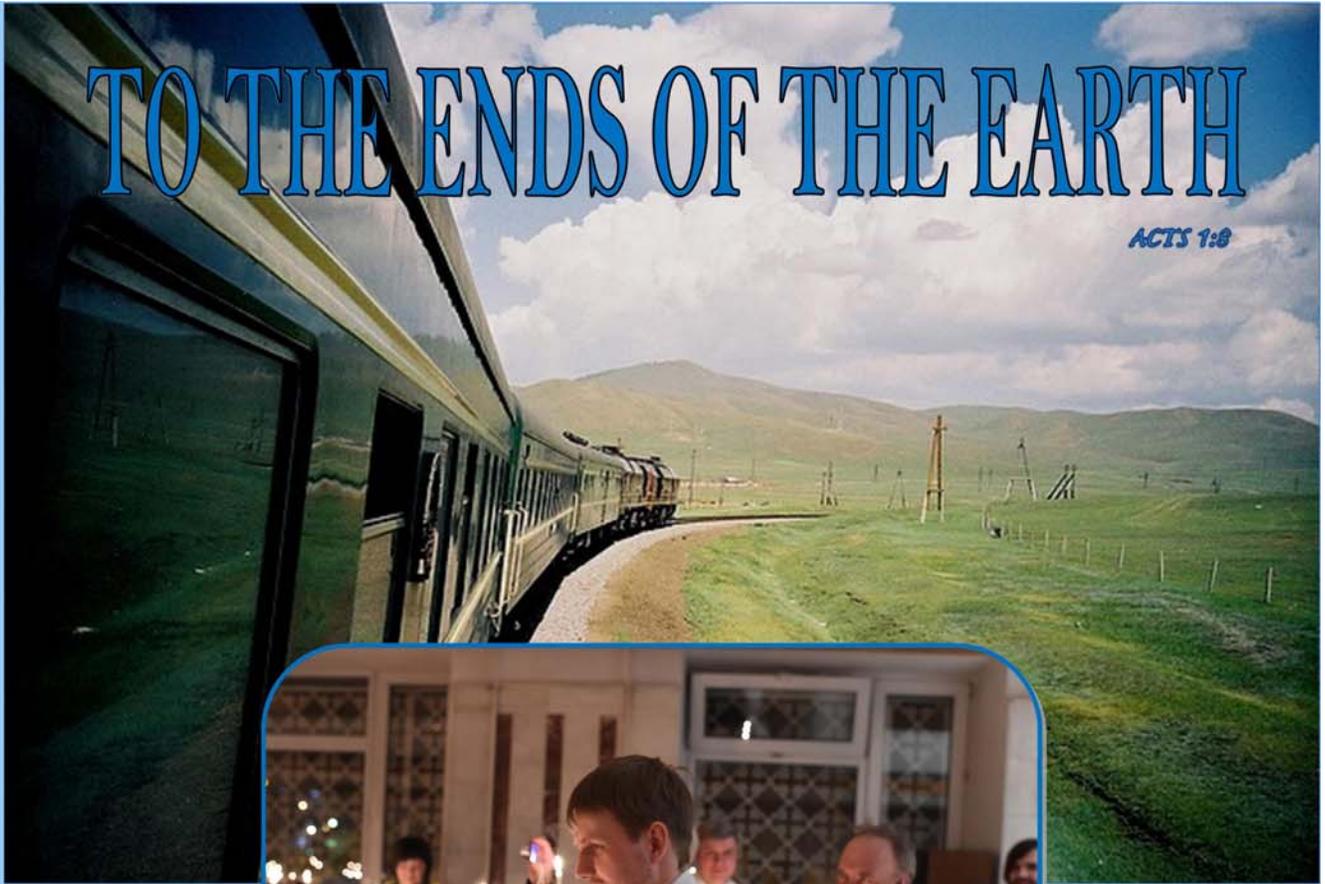
Monday, September 14, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm,
and Tuesday, September 15, 9:00 am to 3:15 pm

**See Our Church Bulletin Board for
Registration Forms,
Program,
Speaker Information,
and other Gathering Highlights**

Sponsored by Serving Older Adult Ministry Committee, Rocky Mountain District LCMS

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

ACTS 1:8



*Siberian
Mission*

*Lutheran
Society*



Sewing Bee July 2015

