

October 13, 2009

Greetings in Christ!

Wow! What a difference a change in the jet stream makes. We've gone from near record warmth throughout September to a record low of 16 this morning! It is certainly a reminder of how little control we have over the climate.

We want to remind you of the upcoming **Reformation for Today!** It will be held on Sunday, October 18th beginning at 3:00. Brian Young will be speaking on Lutherans and the Creator. The Cost is \$15. Please give us a call or send us an e-mail to let us know that you are coming. Groups are welcome, but we need to know within the next day or so that you're coming.

The **Joy of Marriage** retreat will be October 23-25. We still have room for at least 4 couples. Bruce and Gwen Noennig from Moorhead will be leading the program. Give us a call to sign up.

Our fall **Scrapbooking Retreat** happens this weekend. We still have some room for scrappers. Drop us an e-mail or call to sign up, but we should know by Wednesday.

Responding to Evolution has had a great response. Because another group cancelled out, we are able to handle a few more. Saturday only registration is also an option.

Bill had the opportunity to visit **Trinity Lutheran Church** in Bemidji this past Sunday. He shared some of the Creation-Science programs with the Sunday school and the Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center at Christ Serve Ranch with the adult Bible class. Thank you for your gracious invitation and your kind welcome.

The summer schedule is filling in quickly. Here are a couple of opportunities you might want to consider:

1. If your youth group or young adult group wants a great experience, consider our BWCA trip or a Crow Wing River trip. You can join an event already scheduled or we'll set one up for you.
2. Our Servant Events are now scheduled. The last few years they have filled quickly.
3. Consider bringing a whole group of kids from your community for a week at camp. Start planning now by picking out an event and then raising funds to support kids coming. We'll help in any way we can, including transportation.
4. We've lowered our family weekend rates for next year. There are 6 different weekends scheduled and the maximum family cost is \$300. Certain to fill early will be our Quilt Auction/Staff Reunion weekend, August 6-8.

We are happy to announce that our prayers have been answered and Bill and Judy Schultz have a new grandson, Gavin Alexander, born last Wednesday at 7:00 in the morning. He arrived a little early and weighed 5 lbs 5 oz and was 17 inches long. He joins Lillie and Max.

Program and Facility renovation and Development: We had several work crews braving cold and nasty weather this weekend. We want to thank the gang from St John's

– Rush City and the fine gentlemen from Messiah – Sartell for their work. Work continues on the Chapel with the dismantling of the canteen.

Christmas Dinners are coming sooner than you think. We hope that you'll consider bringing a group of couples, seniors, or families for one of the 5 dinners held in December.

We thank God and you for *the many gifts* we have received in the last two weeks. Many of these came with **Thrivent GivingPlus** forms and will be eligible for a match. If you haven't taken advantage of the GivingPlus program, please consider doing so. While the program is scheduled to run through the end of the year, we've been told Thrivent will run out of funds much sooner. Thrivent will announce a new program next April.

Some of you may have heard the rumor that there was a fire at camp. There was a fire on the west end of the causeway, not at camp. The trailer house at the west end of the causeway was totally destroyed. No one was hurt.

Question and Answer:

Question: When do you close the cabins?

Answer: We usually do that shortly after Fall cleanup. Marvin is busy draining all of the pipes and blowing the excess water out of them. We will continue to use the Log Cabin, Retreat House, Martha cabin, and sometimes the Mary Unit Lodge throughout the winter.

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Learn more about our Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center at
www.christserveranch.org.

"Building Christ-centered programs and facilities for you, your children, and your children's children."

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