



Saint John Lutheran Church

966 North Highway 14
LINCOLN, KANSAS 67455

NEWSLETTER

September 2013

Greetings, dear friends in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates” (Deuteronomy 6: 4-9).

With these words Moses prepares Israel and us to live as God’s people. We are to obey the “Greatest Commandment” Love the Lord with all our heart, soul, and might. In other words, we are to be totally devoted to the Lord who is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).

But in order to live as God’s people we must know our God and how he works and reveals himself to us, therefore, we need “educated.” And the source for our Christian education must have its foundation in God’s holy word found in the bible just as it was in the time of Moses.

We have now come to the time of the year when our children go back to school to be educated. Children of all ages leave home for the day or longer to engage in learning. From 4 years on up our young people are taught all kinds of subjects that will prepare them to be productive people once they grow to adulthood, finish their schooling, and enter the workplace. Our children spend anywhere from 13-25 years in schools, Vo-tecs, or colleges under teachers and professors who give them not only learning but also help shape them as people. A good education goes a long way in preparing and qualifying our young people for jobs and careers, which enable them to succeed and prosper.

Now I would like to talk about the “Christian” education of our children. Unfortunately we are not given as much time as Pastors, DCE’s and volunteer teachers to educate our young people in the Christian faith. Here at St. John we have approximately 2 hours on Wednesdays during the school year and an hour on Sunday mornings for those faithful parents who bring their children to Sunday School and of course there is also our wonderful VBS programs each summer. All told, however, this is not a lot of exposure compared to the time our children

spend in our public school systems. And unfortunately in today's world our schools are required to teach things, such as evolution, which contradict creation, a Creator God, and other core doctrines of our faith. And our children are beginning to believe them! Why shouldn't they? As more and more parents choose not practice and teach the Christian faith in the home, where it should begin, but expose children to the secular teachings of the world our young people are bound to drift into error and unbelief.

This sad fact came to light for me last year! I have been searching for material to use in addition to Luther's Small Catechism and the scriptures. After much thought it occurred to me that we had to get back to the basics: Defending our faith, knowing the Bible, and church history, as well as exposing such things as evolution as the erroneous myths that they really are and how the Bible and Christian faith have facts and proof behind them.

I soon realized the best tools I could use were already within my reach. Lutheran Hour Ministries came out with DVD's and study guides dealing with: Creation, Evolution, How we got the Scriptures, among other topics, which I felt could be used very effectively in teaching our children as they prepared to go out into a world, which has fallen deeper into unbelief.

I believe the program accomplished my goals and helped my students as well. My hope is our young people grew in their faith and are now better able to defend their faith and witness to others in everyday life. Having said all of that, however, one thing remains the same as in the time of Moses: The Christian education of our children must start in the home and be reinforced and practiced there first and foremost. The home is the core of our society! So I want to encourage our parents to **"Teach the word of the Lord diligently to your children, to talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise"**

May God bless you all in your Christian faith and life as we begin a new school year!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Schneider

NEWS

BAPTISM/RENEWAL OF VOWS: We began the month of September at St. John with the Baptism of Colden Brooks son of Steven and Renelle (Serrien) Brooks at 6:30am and then proceeded with the renewal of wedding vows for Steven and Renelle. The Brooks are military people and on the move so we thank God for the opportunity to minister to them while they were on leave.

DORCAS: The Dorcas society will meet on Wednesday, September 4th, 12:00 noon for a carry-in dinner and meeting. I want to thank our Dorcas ladies for their many years of service to our congregation and wish them many more. If anyone is interested in joining the Dorcas we certainly welcome them. Our Dorcas ladies not only serve the Lord in gladness but are also good cooks. I'm already looking forward to all the goodies!

PASTOR AND LANA TO ST. LOUIS: Lana and I will take a couple of days to go to St. Louis to tend to business and just get-away together. We will depart after worship Sunday September 1st and

return on Tuesday. If there are any emergencies as always please call my cell 785-346-4248 or even give Pastor Kerns a call 785-524-4046.

YOUTH GROUP: The Youth Group will mow the cemetery on Sunday, September 8 5:00pm. In addition to their mowing responsibilities the kids will cut fire wood on Sunday, September 15, 12:00 noon, provide babysitting and refreshments for the Thrivent "Real Money Talk for Women" seminar on Sunday, September 22nd, 2:30pm, and rake greens on the golf course for the Hospital Auxiliary fundraiser on Sat. September 28th time to be determined. That's just September!

LWML: Our LWML Society will begin meeting again on Thursday, September 12th, 1:30pm. Our LWML Ladies have a true heart for mission work both here at home and around the world. The National LWML held another highly successful convention this past Spring in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. We thank Janet Dowlin for serving as our Zone Delegate. We would like to invite all our ladies to join our LWML as well.

EARLY RISERS: The Early Risers continue to meet twice monthly on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. We had a very successful Pie and Ice Cream social/ fundraiser in August and thank everyone who attended and supported our efforts. The Early Risers also held a food booth at the Post Rock Festival and plan a workday for Saturday, September 14. We will meet at the church at 8:00am. Anyone who wishes to join us for the workday is welcome and appreciated.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our adult Sunday School Classes will once again resume on Sunday, September 8, 9:30am. We will continue to work through the Holy Land DVD series so I hope many of you will join us for a wonderful and educational look at the place our Lord walked in his earthly ministry.

WDS/CONFIRMATION/BIBLE STUDY: Weekday/Confirmation/ and Bible study classes will resume on Wednesday, September 11th. Weekday begins at 3:40 with the bus picking children up as always after school and confirmation supper beginning at 6:00pm and Bible Study at 8:00pm. The bus will also pick 7th and 8th grade students up after athletic practices. If you know of anyone interested in sending their children to our education programs please let Sonja or myself know.

Finally, we invite everyone to join us on Sundays for Sunday School at 9:30 and worship at 10:30. May God bless and keep you always.