



the word

April 2017 | Monthly News from Crown of Life Church

Mark Your Calendar

4/3

Coffee Hand-Out/Eagan Transit Station

4/6

Pioneer Meeting

4/8

Twin Cities Fine Arts Festival
EASTER EGG HUNT - EAGAN

4/13

Maundy Thursday Worship

6:30 pm – WSP

7:00 pm – EGN

4/14

Good Friday Worship

Noon & 6:30 pm – WSP

7:00 pm – EGN

NO SCHOOL

4/15

EASTER EGG HUNT – WSP

4/16

Easter Worship

6:00, 8:00 & 10:30 am – WSP

9:00 am – EGN

4/17

NO SCHOOL

4/27

Track Meet

What's Our Church All About?

BY PASTOR MARK KOM

It's that time of year again. Confirmation. We have a group of young men and women who are wanting to take a big step in their spiritual life. They want to become communicant members of our church.

But that makes me wonder. Do our confirmands really know what our church is all about? Sure, they've been studying for a while with the Pastors, but do they really know what being a member of Crown of Life is all about? For that matter, could the rest of us answer that question?

So Confirmands of today and years gone by....let's do a quick review with St. Paul's help from his second letter to Timothy (1:3-14) for a reminder of what Crown of Life is all about.

For starters we are passionate about pure teaching. Paul told Timothy how to keep his faith strong: *What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus.* Timothy was to use Paul's teaching as a pattern for his own teaching. It's almost like an outline or floor plan that someone would draw before building something. Timothy wasn't supposed to develop his own teaching; he was to base his teaching on what Paul had taught, just as Paul had taught what Jesus had taught him. This was to be a pattern for sound teaching. Paul continued, *Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.* God had entrusted Paul with His Word and now Paul was entrusting Timothy with the Word of God. What a responsibility for Timothy! Paul told Timothy to guard it by means of God's power. Guarding the truth means to

continued

make sure that no one steals it away from us. At the same time guarding the truth means to give it away to as many people who will listen. We won't let anyone steal the truth from us but we are very excited to give it away.

And so, what kind of a church are we? We are a confessional church. Did you know that as members of this church confirmands have promised that they hold the Lutheran confessions to be accurate testimonies to what the Bible teaches? The Lutheran confessions are documents that confess what the Bible teaches; they say that certain teachings are wrong because they are not taught in the Bible and that certain teachings are right because they are taught in the Bible. Confessional churches are not very popular these days; in fact, there aren't very many of them around any more. It's much more popular to say that it's OK to believe pretty much whatever you want. If we decided to quit being a confessional church we would certainly grow faster and things would be easier for us. But that's not what our church is about. We passionately hold to the Word of God ... just as Paul told Timothy to do 2,000 years ago. We hold to the Word of God because it tells us about our Savior; if we change what the Bible says then we risk undermining the message that our sins have been forgiven.

So is that it? Is that what Crown of Life is all about? Actually, there is more to it. Our church is passionate about pure teaching ... and our pure teaching causes us to be passionate about serving God. Paul wrote, For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self discipline. Paul told Timothy to fan the gift of God into flames, to keep his faith red hot! God had

given Timothy...and all Christians...a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline! God wants us to be passionate about serving God, about reaching out with a spirit of power, love and self-discipline. We have every reason to be committed to living our faith in every way we can; we have the Word of God in its purity. If we can't get excited about serving God no one can. We know that God has forgiven our sins, the sins of everyone in the world. We know that Jesus is waiting for us in heaven. God wants us to fan our faith and talents into flame. He wants us to have a sense of urgency as Christians, to remember what is truly important.

It's certainly vital that we keep our teachings pure. Yet it's also important that we keep our passion for serving God high. Our preaching, praying, visiting, teaching and witnessing must have a sense of urgency. We need to maintain our "first love". We need to shake ourselves up so that we can reevaluate our lives, what our church is doing, and everything else for that matter. Serving our Lord is important, and we are passionate about it, so passionate that our tastes and desires aren't nearly as important as getting that pure Gospel to as many people as we can, in whatever ways we can – a big part of what our congregation is all about!

Confirmands, at times it might seem complex as to what we are all about because there's always a lot going on in the congregation. But Martin Luther kept it pretty simple: "Thank God, a seven-year-old child knows what the church is, namely, holy believers and sheep who hear the voice of their Shepherd." That's what our church is all about. May God bless all of us as we fiercely treasure and protect God's pure teachings, while passionately serving the Lord in his Kingdom!

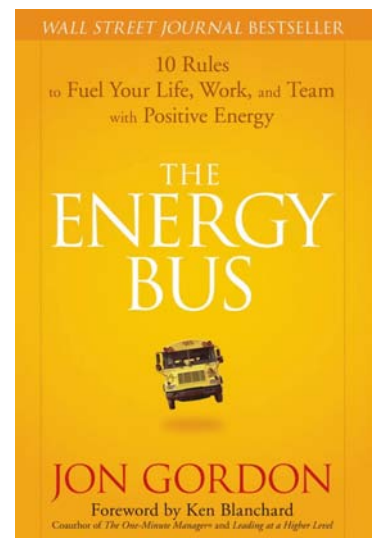
BOOK REVIEW

"The Energy Bus"

BY JON GORDON | SELF HELP

"The Energy Bus" takes readers on an enlightening and inspiring ride that reveals 10 secrets for approaching life and work with the kind of positive, forward thinking that leads to true accomplishment – at work and at home. Jon infuses this engaging story with keen insights as he provides a powerful roadmap to overcome adversity and bring out the best in yourself and your team.

This quick read will inspire you to tackle life's challenges while leaving a positive impact on those you encounter.



Cutting Jesus Up

April 1, 2017 | PASTOR ZACHARY PUDLO



Current Views on Jesus

Barna Group, a Christian polling firm, conducted a poll of adults in 2015 as to their views on who Jesus was. The results are worth noting. Over half of all adults believed Jesus was God. However, the younger the generation, the more that generation believed Jesus wasn't God. In fact, the majority of Millennials believes Jesus wasn't God. That means a majority of the upcoming generation believes Jesus was merely a man, or that he wasn't even an historical figure at all. In the same poll, 13% of Millennials believed Jesus didn't even exist and isn't even an historical figure.

How We Got Here

How did we get to this point in history where countless people are not only denying the deity of Jesus but even his historicity?

No more than two hundred years after the Christian Reformation a Biblical interpretation movement began from within the Christian church. This movement can be described as an attempt to answer one important question: Who was the real Jesus? Biblical scholars began to question whether or not the descriptions of Jesus in the Bible were accurate. For many of them the answer was, "No". The Bible describes Jesus as the Son of God incarnate...a man who walks on water, heals the sick, brings the dead back to life and even rises from the dead after being crucified and laid in a tomb for three days. Since this is humanly impossible, scholars began a movement in which they tried to "reconstruct the historical Jesus". This movement which tried to portray Jesus apart from a supernatural worldview. In the mid 1800's many scholars dubbed any account of miracles or the supernatural taking place as incredulous. In doing so the authority of the Bible took a huge blow.

By the early to mid 1900's a majority of the Bible was considered myth. Rudolf Bultmann is a pioneer of the movement to classify the Bible as myth.

Can the Christian proclamation today expect men and women to acknowledge the mythical world picture as true? To do so would be

BLOG CONTINUED... <http://church.crownoflifemn.org/pastors-blog/>

REPORTS

TREASURER Fiscal Year 7/16 - 6/17 February ended the fiscal year to date (FYTD) with \$1,379,683 in total income with expected budget income to be \$1,419,113 (\$39,430 below budget). Envelope Offerings are -\$118,551 less than budgeted. Expenses \$1,553,225 gave us a FYTD of -\$173,542. All bills are paid to date. We borrowed an additional \$20,000 this month and owe \$60,000 to our special funds account. Special Funds Account balance is \$28,000.

Clear the Path matching funds which we budgeted for is \$148,776 above budget income. Total Clear the Path contributions as of 2-28-2017 totaled \$986,370 which were paid directly to reduce our loan balance down to \$381,077.

DEATH – Margorie Uecker died on 3/27/17, funeral with Pastor Kom on 3/29/17.

WELCOME New Members



The Maag Family – Troy and Julie are both graduates of Concordia High School in Roseville. Troy is an Investment Consultant working in Mutual Funds. Julie is working at SCL on an interim basis in the Mission Advancement Office. Garrett (class of 2018) and Katelyn (class of 2020) both attend SCL. They reside in Inver Grove Heights.

The Empty Tomb

BY LUCAS BOEHM

Let your mind’s eye take you back and be a witness by faith of the people and events surrounding Easter. The four gospels record a wealth of details to paint a vivid picture. You saw it, Jesus died... centurion-certified dead. The secret Sanhedrin disciple received the right to remove and bury the body, according to Jewish custom. In silence the men swiftly swaddle Jesus’ body in linen



and seventy-five pounds of aloe and myrrh. As the sun sinks to the horizon, the men strain to replace the stone, weighing as much as two tons. Sleep does not come easily that night. The next day, you spy as Jesus’ enemies, knowing full well what Jesus had claimed, see to it that the tomb is sealed by order of the Roman authorities and soldiers are posted to guard it against tampering. Finally, the third day arrives and with it a surprise, word is spreading through Jerusalem that the tomb is empty! You go to see this for yourself where you find the stone set aside, the Roman seal broken, the guards gone! The tomb is open and looking inside you see that it is true, the tomb is empty! You notice the curious fact that the fabric is still lying there, in its place.

What has happened? The stone rolled into its place to keep scavengers out, could not keep your Savior in. The entrance to the tomb had become an exit. Even the Roman guards became reluctant heralds. Jesus, the Messiah is risen! Death is swallowed. Life is yours. Because he lives, you too shall live! Heed the angel’s decree - “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see... then go... and tell.” May your joy continue to grow to overcome your fear as it did for the first disciples.

The Labor of Love - *Members in Motion*

BY MARY HANSON

Volunteers at Crown of Life are carrying out a “labor of love” at Mission Wearhouse Thrift Store in Little Canada. This ministry has impacted the lives of people too numerous to count. The pint-sized store, blessed with a bountiful supply of donated items has become a distribution hub for a variety of ministries who serve the needy both locally and internationally. People of all sorts; from the elderly to the unborn, to those as close as the Twin Cities Metro Area and as far away as Russia and Africa, have been touched by their work.

The thrift store, located in a strip mall at 2756 Lake Shore Ave. in Little Canada, is conveniently located next to the New Day Pregnancy Care Center which is partially funded from store sales. Both ministries are overseen by Christian Life Ministries. When the thrift store opened in 2001 the owner offered a low monthly rent along with an option to purchase the strip mall after 1 ½ years.

Early volunteers from Crown of Life, like Dave Danner, Charlene Ohmann, her former husband Earl, and now deceased Chet Witz, had just begun a top to bottom makeover when an enormous supply of donated items landed on the thrift store doorstep; compliments of Wise Penny Thrift Store in Buffalo, Minnesota, which was closing its doors. Volunteers from Christ Lutheran in North St. Paul sprang into action, and by organizing a huge garage sale in the back warehouse area of the store made the first sales. Meanwhile, volunteers were scrubbing, painting, shelving and laying carpet rescued from the old Emanuel School. When the liquor store on Robert St. closed,

Charlene’s son, Roger was able to purchase all the steel shelving for \$20 and a note from his pastor confirming it was for a non-profit business. “Gently used” clothes racks were acquired after a telephone call alerted the cleaning crew that the racks had been tossed into dumpsters behind a nearby Hilfiger’s clothing store. Even the first cash register was donated.

Charlene, always a sucker for high adventure, and without any retail experience, decided along with her side-kick, Deb Mayer to volunteer as co-managers. “There was a lot of trial and error,” recalled Charlene with a chuckle.

A call went out for more volunteers and donations. Both came flooding in. From wedding dresses to wading pools, crock pots to fine crystal serving dishes, a smorgasbord of bundles and boxes began to fill the back garage. Volunteers sorted clothes by gender, size and, since it’s Minnesota, by season. Electrical items like griddles and lamps were tested before going out on the sales floor. Dusty knickknacks were washed and shoes polished. Word began to spread about the clean, well stocked little thrift store with the low prices.

In the meantime, Christian Life Ministries made a leap of faith and bought the strip mall.

They were now landlords for a dry cleaner, beauty salon and pizza joint. When the dry cleaner decided to close, Charlene proposed a furniture show room for the space. It was a great idea, because the money generated from furniture sales was more than would have been collected in rent.

The Mission Wearhouse has assisted a variety of ministries supplying much needed items to people near and far. Whether it be sending several shipments to the Hibbing Iron Range during layoffs, replenishing clothing and items in short supply to the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center in St. Paul, or supporting a mission in Africa with 25 boxes of freshly washed clothes and shoes, Mission Wearhouse has always taking the opportunity to help those in need.

Currently, walkers, crutches and wheel chairs are reserved for a ministry that ships medical supplies to Africa. Baby items like play pens, high chairs, strollers, and cribs are delivered next door to New Day Pregnancy Center. A recycler stops by and pays a small pittance for recyclable goods. Even rags are gathered for a ministry that forwards them to Russia. No donation is wasted.

Today, Mike Koepke has taken over as the new manager. He has very big shoes to fill and has made some updates starting with a small name change to New Day Mission Wearhouse thrift store.

Along with a name change, the building has undergone substantial refurbishing due to damage from a car that crashed into the building. From roof replacement, to exterior work, to new windows and signage, – by God’s grace, all were covered by insurance!

The thrift store is powered by volunteers. If you would like to be a part of this labor of love please call 651-917-4149. For sale events and fundraising opportunities go to www.clmonline.com/mission-wearhouse.



Thank you Charlene and all of the Crown of Life Members who have and continue to volunteer at the thrift store!

*Pictured Back Row: Liz Oldfield, Karyn Sachs, Gary Sachs, Phil Steber, Tim Burdorf, Carol Lemke, Marion Franzmeier, Julene Hartfiel
Front Row: Donna Winecke, Charlene Ohmann, Lois Gydesen NOT Pictured: Doug Danner, Pat Weber, Janet Garcia, Ruth Petermann and Lori Oberstadt*

Second Graders Enjoy Writing Workshop

The second grade is learning about the writing process. First we learn how to pick topics. Then, we write a story about our topic. We make sure that the stories have a beginning, middle and end. When our stories are complete we edit them for spelling and punctuation. Finally we publish our stories by making them into books.



Right now we are interviewing each other and writing biographies about each other. Within the next few weeks we will also write poems. We enjoy sharing our stories with each other. We look forward to sharing our stories with our grandparents on Grandparent's Day.



The second grade also enjoys reading plays. We had a Reader's Theater presentation for the Pre-K and Kindergarten. Everyone had a great time.

The Circus

Crown of Life's Preschoolers & Kindergartners put on their circus performance for a packed house.



Snow White



Congratulations to the Crown of Life students in grades 1-4 for their outstanding performances!

APRIL CALENDAR

Saturday, April 1

5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, April 2

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
3:00 pm Bible Information Class

Monday, April 3

NO BUS SERVICE

6:00 am Coffee Handout-Eagan
Transit Station
3:30 pm Lego Club
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Mary/Martha - WSP

Tuesday, April 4

NO BUS SERVICE

6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
7:00 pm Evangelism
Technology Team
7:15 pm Stewardship

Wednesday, April 5

NO BUS SERVICE

4:00 pm Worship WSP
5:15 pm Light Dinner
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN
8:00 pm Praise Band Reh

Thursday, April 6

NO BUS SERVICE

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Pioneers Regular Meeting

Friday, April 7

NO BUS SERVICE

8:20 am Matins
10:00 am Good Samaritan
6:00 pm Bowling Meet

Saturday, April 8

Twin Cities Fine Arts Festival

10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt-EGN
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, April 9

Praise Service

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
3:00 pm Bible Information Class

Monday, April 10

6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:30 pm Worship Committee

Tuesday, April 11

9:00 am Mom's Time-EGN
Education
Properties
Handbell rehearsal

Wednesday, April 12

7:00 pm Elders-EGN

Thursday, April 13

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN

Friday, April 14

NO SCHOOL - Good Friday

12:00 pm Worship WSP
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:00 pm Worship EGN

Saturday, April 15

10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt-WSP
12:00 pm Easter Breakfast Set-up
5:00 pm NO - Worship EGN

Sunday, April 16

Easter Sunday

6:00 am Worship WSP
7:00 am Easter Breakfast
8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP

Monday, April 17

NO SCHOOL

6:30 pm NO - Worship WSP

Tuesday, April 18

6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
7:00 pm Council-EGN

Wednesday, April 19

6:30 pm Bible Class EGN
Confirmation Class-EGN

Thursday, April 20

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Pioneers Regular Meeting
7:00 pm Riverview Cemetery

Friday, April 21

8:20 am Matins
6:00 pm Bowling Meet

Saturday, April 22

Pioneers Nat'l Pine Car Derbies
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, April 23

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
Confirmation Examination WSP
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP

Monday, April 24

2:30 pm Lilydale Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Worship WSP

Tuesday, April 25

9:00 am Mom's Time-EGN
6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
7:00 pm Youth & Adult Education

Wednesday, April 26

6:30 pm Bible Class EGN

Thursday, April 27

2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
4:00 pm Track Meet
Pre-K Parent/Teacher
Conferences

Friday, April 28

8:20 am Matins
6:00 pm Bowling Meet

Saturday, April 29

9:00 am Blood Drive-EGN
5:00 pm Worship EGN

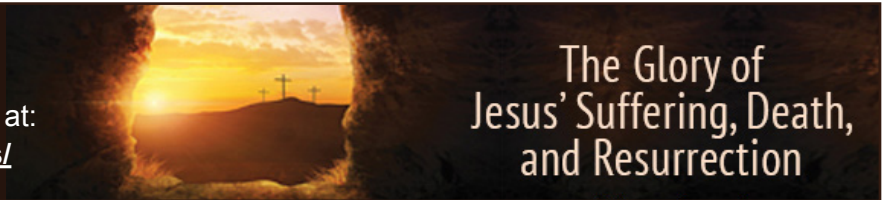
Sunday, April 30

8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
Confirmation WSP

Did You Know

The current bible study series is available on line at:

<http://church.crownoflifemn.org/bible-studies/>



The Glory of
Jesus' Suffering, Death,
and Resurrection

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Ava Caauwe | 8 Paige Belfield | 15 Wesley Shaw | 23 Isabella Marrier |
| Alexander Tillman | Linda Bethke | 16 Julie Fischbach | Eric Montgomery |
| Mark Tourville | Lauren Wolfrath | Claire Peterson | 24 Ellie-Rose Cenicerros |
| 2 Laura Gibson | 9 Rachel Boehm | 17 Evelyn Geisinger | Lauren Myrlie |
| Megan Kom | Anthyanna Lopez | Michelle Kom | Steve Petermann |
| Eric Lemmer | Daniel Redner | Kenyon Tess | 25 Kari Marzinske |
| Wayne Lorenz | 10 Noah Aumann | 18 Kathy Herold | Wendy Miller |
| Cassandra Panek | Jeanne Steffen | 19 Linda Haberkorn | 27 Margaret Cadwallader |
| 3 Barbara Berthiaume | 11 Adrian Garcia | Beverly Knippenberg | Carole Constable |
| Jordan Carlson | 12 Kim Ahlman | Shane Myrlie | Brent Hoeft |
| John Fenske | Samuel Footh | 20 Sophia Nichols | 28 Michael Dohrn |
| Delores Frisch | Joseph Jensen | Amanda Tess | Donald McLean |
| Paige Hastings | Judith Myrlie | 21 Rodney Herbison | 29 Sharon Johnson |
| Gina Myrlie | 13 Deven Friese | Chase Klocow | Orlin Myrlie |
| 4 Elijah Sievert | Scott Hunter | Jeremy Miller | 30 Richard Burt |
| 5 CJ Fischer | Jennifer Traynor | Jude Rich | Bethany Ohm |
| Tyler Monson | 14 Sandra Enger | 22 Doris Jensen | Neil Olson |
| 6 Nancy Kuehl | Tristan Hulse | Britany Staab | |
| 7 John Gahr | Paige Seidl | 23 Elizabeth Isebrand | |
| 8 Betty Becker | Micah Sievert | Dale Krueger | |

THINGS TO DO

Crown of Life Movie Night!



A Return to Grace

AMC Showplace Inver Grove 16 – Reserved Theater
April 26 - 6:30 pm

500 years ago, Martin Luther triggered a seismic upheaval that rocked the western world — with an impact that continues to reverberate to this day. This entertaining new film follows the great adventure story of Luther's life, packed with political intrigue, kidnapping, secret hideouts, and life-or-death showdowns. At the same time, it's a story about the most important questions of life. "Who am I?" "What is my purpose?" "How do I get right with God?"

All tickets must be purchased in advance for \$9 at:
<http://shepherd.NewLutherMovie.com> (This ticket link will be on the COL Website and Facebook pages)

For questions call Dan or Lori Oberstadt 651-455-8986



April 8 – EAGAN

April 15 – WSP

Registration – 10:00 am
Hunt – 10:30 am

Snacks, games, crafts, photo booth. Children 3–9

JUST FOR FUN



?? GUESS WHO

HINTS

- Born in New London, WI
- Former Chairman Full-time Education Committee
- Likes to golf in spare time
- Huge Packer Fan

Steve Wolfrath grew up in the Appleton, WI area. After college, Steve and Chris

were married and had a strong desire to live and work in Appleton near family. God had a different plan. In 2004, Steve moved his family from Wisconsin to Minnesota due to a job relocation with Thrivent and joined Crown of Life. Steve now works at Ameriprise Financial. Steve and Chris have 3 sons and a daughter — Joel + wife Katie live in Rochester, MN, Jon teaches English in China, Nathan is a junior at Wisconsin Lutheran College and Lauren is a 10th grader at St. Croix Lutheran.



Photo: Recent trip to China

RIDDLES

- 1 The day before yesterday I was 25 and the next year I will be 28. This is true only one day in a year. *What day is my birthday?*
- 2 Brothers and sisters I have none but this man's father is my father's son. *Who is the man?*

ANSWERS TO MARCH PUZZLES:

WORD SCRAMBLE – ENGINEERS, TEMPTED, SHINE, SAVIOR

Please direct ideas, questions or comments about this issue to ZacharyPudlo@crownoflifemn.org



CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

West St. Paul Campus – 115 Crusader Ave W, West St. Paul MN 55118

Eagan Campus – 4150 Pilot Knob Rd, Eagan MN 55122