

IMMANUEL MESSENGER

A Monthly Publication Of Immanuel Christian Reformed Church

June/July 2011



Tractor Dave Comes to Ripon in July

Dave Wolfsen, a retired tractor salesman from Michigan, is beginning a journey on June 1. He will be driving his antique tractor across America, through all 48 continental states.

For 36 years Wolfsen sold tractors for a living. Now retired, he has time to devote to his other passion: helping people in need.

Daily events are being planned at each stop along the way, where Wolfsen will speak about global hunger and disaster response—and how Foods Resource Bank and Christian Reformed World Relief Committee are working to end it. Tractor Dave is coming to Ripon on July 13, and an event is being held in the Immanuel CRC parking lot. Be sure to save the date.

To follow Dave's progress, go to www.tractorrideracrossus.org. You can also donate to his goal of raising \$200,000 for CRWRC and FRB.



CHRISTIAN REFORMED
WORLD RELIEF
COMMITTEE

be **CRWRC**

Volunteers for CRWRC-DRS Leave in June

A group of Immanuel members will be working this summer to rebuild homes damaged by floods in the Munster, Indiana, area in 2008.

This will be a new experience for several members of the Disaster Relief Services team, but a few veterans are also part of the group. Most of the team will be volunteering from June 18 through June 24. Bob & Jean De Jong, Doug & Helen Vander Wall, Bill & Sue Lemkuil, Kimberly De Jong, Bea Overgaauw, Nicholas Viss and Wanda Meems have all signed up to work for a week. They will be painting, framing, hanging sheet-rock, mudding & taping, doing finish carpentry work or preparing meals.

Syd & Carol Postma and Lorna Van Gilst will be working for two weeks. Albert and Marcella Veldstra and LeRoy Krikke will be working for three weeks.

Munster, Indiana, is not the only site where CRWRC-DRS teams are working. Teams are also serving in Biloxi, Mississippi, and Galveston, Texas. These sites will be closing for the summer and reopening in the fall.

As the spring tornado disasters are evaluated, many more opportunities for CRWRC-DRS responders will be available. If you would like more information about CRWRC-DRS, feel free to contact Albert Veldstra at (209) 612-9438 or afveldstra@gmail.com.

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SPECIAL DATES

- ◆ June 5 - Combined morning service, 10:00 a.m.
- ◆ June 12 - Pentecost Sunday
- ◆ June 12-18 Hi-Camp for our high school students
- ◆ June 12-18 Family Camp at Mount Hermon.
- ◆ June 12- Combined service at Immanuel with AVCRC & First CRC, 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ June 5, 19, 26 - Combined evening services at Immanuel with AVCRC, 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ June 27-July 1 VBS, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>1 Avery Barnes
Phil De Jong
Joe Hidalgo
Bill Mulder
Dori Shaner</p> <p>2 Herman De Sterke
Pete Douma</p> <p>3 Mackenzie McCullough</p> <p>4 Jill De Jong
Brian Vos</p> | <p>5 Ron De Jong
Izaak Hidalgo
Mike Leusink</p> <p>6 Fred Douma</p> <p>9 Karissa Lamsma
Sheri Hoekman-Teach</p> <p>11 Aurora Riffée
Leo Rubio
Elaine Vander Veen</p> <p>12 Kelsey Nilsson</p> <p>14 Kaitlyn Corral
Ali Peralta</p> <p>16 Mary Eskes</p> <p>17 Michael Fondse
August Kuipers
Daniel Meems
Kristie Sanny
Zachary Van Zwaluwenburg</p> | <p>20 Joe Barsland
Allison Mendes
Joe Mendes
Natalie Mendes
Ed Mulder</p> <p>22 Ralph Meems
Monica Vander Schaaf</p> <p>25 Alice Fondse
John Shaner</p> <p>27 Sylvia Colyn</p> <p>29 Ghailan Chahouati
Justin Corral</p> <p>30 Allen Hoek
Grace Prins</p> |
|--|---|--|



- 1 Wayne Bruns
- 3 Sherry Krikke
Marjorie Sytsma
Conn Witt
- 4 Andy Sytsma
- 5 Kristi Burleson
Addison De Jong
Ann Meade
- 6 Nicolle Driesen
- 7 Don Vos
- 9 Ben Couch
Lyndsey Viss
Gina Wever

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>10 Karen Hoek
Willem Kroese
Joshua Leusink
Anita Pollard
Nicholas Winters</p> <p>12 Sawyer De Vries</p> <p>13 Lori Barnes
Linda Pierce</p> <p>14 Diane Brown
Judy Vander Plaats</p> <p>15 Marjorie Vander Schuur</p> <p>16 Carlos Alvarez
Ismael Alvarez
Gina Aranda</p> <p>17 Jessica Beukelman
Thomas Corey
William Verver</p> <p>18 Denise Van Till</p> | <p>20 Robyn Reyes
Mitchell Van Zwaluwenburg</p> <p>21 Thomas Hoek
Sherman Verver</p> <p>23 Alan Fondse</p> <p>25 Paul Vander Veen</p> <p>26 Rylee Beidleman
Caden Norton</p> <p>27 Harry Hettinga
Jack Mayer</p> <p>28 Scott De Jong
Derek Meester
Ethan Schenk</p> <p>29 Sheila Frowsing
Theresa Stevens
Anetta Tubergen</p> <p>30 Heather Hollander
Natalie Merrill
Sandy Kamps</p> <p>31 Ethan De Jong</p> |
|--|--|

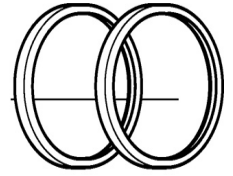
ADVANCE NOTICE: There will be combined morning services at 10:00 a.m. on June 5, July 3, August 7 and September 4. We look forward to these services where we will all worship and praise our Great God together!

Names that are bolded are celebrating 80+ years. Praise God for his goodness and faithfulness.

Joe & Sally Hidalgo, June 1, 1991
 Jeff & Joann Bear, June 2, 2006
 Neil & Sarah Elgersma, June 2, 2007
 Fred & Cynthia Corral, June 5, 1999
 Henry & Ann Kort, June 8, 1958
 Buzz & Ruth Leusink, June 11, 1975
 Ken & Margaret Roos, June 14, 1963
 Andy & Karen Sytsma, June 14, 1974
 Mike & Susan Norton, June 17, 1989
 Philip & Kimberly De Jong, June 18, 1976
 Randy & Janet Engel, June 18, 1988
 Rob & Nell De Vries, June 19, 1992
 Elroy & Connie De Winkle, June 19, 1982
 Mark & Karalee Vos, June 20, 1992
 Bob & Jean De Jong, June 21, 1968
 Bill & Sue Lemkuil, June 21, 1975
 Leverne & SarahJean Tanis, June 21, 1955
 Warren & Carole Wissink, June 21, 1972
 Dave & Brenda Normoyle, June 24, 2006
 Nicholas & Lyndsey Viss, June 24, 2006
 David & Gina Roos, June 25, 2004
 Leland & Amy Petersen, June 26, 2004
 Jake & Judy Kamper, June 27, 1969
 Keith & Karrie Terpsma, June 27, 1998
 Herman & Anneke de Sterke, June 28, 1961 (Civil)
 Ed & Evelyn Viss, June 28, 1968
 Wayne & Carol Bruns, June 29, 1985
 Syd & Shelli De Vries, June 29, 1991
 John & Melody den Dulk, June 29, 1979
 Andrew & Melissa Viss, June 30, 2007

Celebrating

An Anniversary This Summer



Stan & Tracy Vander Veen, July 3, 1964
 Jim & Sylvia Colyn, July 7, 1990
 Herman & Anneke de Sterke, July 9, 1961 (Church)
 Bryan & Pam Huisken, July 10, 2004
 Robert & Marge Vander Schuur, July 10, 1953
 Gordon & Elaine Vander Veen, July 10, 1970
 Jim & Sheri Teach, July 15, 1994
 Leo & Lindsay Rubio, July 17, 2010
 LeRoy & Sherry Krikke, July 23, 1965
 Todd & Audrey Keast, July 25, 1992
 Ralph & Marcia Meems, July 26, 1975
 Don & Gert Vos, July 27, 1962
 Eddie & Michele Erdelatz, July 30, 1994



OFFERING SCHEDULE

June 2011

AM

PM

June 5

Ripon Christian (CEP)
& Mission Giving

River Rock CRC

June 12

General Fund
(Vacation Bible School)

Stockton Gospel Center

June 19

Immanuel CRC
Building Fund

CRWRC Disaster Relief

June 26

Deacons Fund

Haven of Peace



"My father didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it." —Clarence Kelland

Summer Evening Worship Services:

Pastor Glenn Gerdes will be preaching at our combined "Mount Hermon" service, here at Immanuel on June 12. For all of June, and July 3, 10, & 17, Immanuel will host combined evening services with Almond Valley. Almond Valley will host the evening services for July 24 & 31 and all of August. The final service will be a special service of worship and communion, and our worship leader will be Mount Hermon's Dave Talbott. Pastors Ken Boonstra, Bret Lamsma, and Lloyd Wicker (of Almond Valley CRC) are teaming up to bring the messages for our evening services this summer. The theme of their cooperative series is "Things We Wish Jesus Had NOT said."

When on Vacation
When on vacation, be with us in spirit.
The rest of the summer, be with us in person.

Special dates

- Ascension of the Lord, June 2**
- Pentecost, June 12**
- Flag Day, June 14**
- Trinity Sunday, June 19**
- Father's Day, June 19**
- First Day of Summer, June 22**
- Independence Day, July 4**

Slow down

Walk a little slower, Daddy, said a little child so small. I'm following in your footsteps and I don't want to fall.

Sometimes your steps are very fast; sometimes they're hard to see. So walk a little slower, Daddy, for you are leading me.

Someday when I'm all grown up, you're what I want to be. Then I will have a little child who'll want to follow me.

And I would want to lead just right, and know that I was true; so walk a little slower, Daddy, for I must follow you.

—Author unknown

I was not born to be free: I was born to adore and to obey." —C.S. Lewis



Hire-A-Teen

Summer is here, and with that, joyful groups of teens now are free to hang out at home or wander through town, looking for things to do. There are several **industrious teenagers** in our church, each of whom would be happy to work this summer as your **babysitter, lawn mower, weed puller, house cleaner, or any other kind of job** you could put together.

To assist our teens in finding work, the church office secretaries are willing to keep a list of teens available.

Young people interested in being on the list may drop in at the office to leave their contact information and any work experience or references (None needed to be on the list).

Adults of the congregation are encouraged to contact the office when in need of some temporary help.



Graduating from 8th grade this year:

Stephen Bodem, Ripon Christian, attending Northwood High School in Irvine, California.

Kyle Colyn, Ripon Christian

Dani Erdelatz, Ripon Christian

Carley Tillema, Ripon Christian

Paige Van Laar, Stella Brockman School graduate, going to Sierra High School, Manteca.

Tristan Vos, Ripon Christian

A word for graduates

Congratulations to the young members of our congregation who are graduating! No doubt you look forward to the next phase of your lives with excitement, anticipation and perhaps a little apprehension.

We hope these words, adapted from Phillips Brooks, will serve you well as you embark on your journeys:

“Do not pray for an easy life; pray to be a stronger person. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers but for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you will be the miracle. Every day you shall wonder at yourself and the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God.”

High School Graduates:

Tara De Vries, daughter of Syd & Shelli De Vries, graduates from Ripon Christian on June 3. She will attend Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois, in the fall.

Janelle Engel, daughter of Randy & Janet Engel, graduates from Ripon Christian on June 3. She will attend Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa, in the fall.

Christian Krikke, grandson of LeRoy & Sherry Krikke will graduate from Ceres High School on June 2. He will be going to college in Columbia, California.

Kelsey Nilsson, daughter of Jim Nilsson and granddaughter of Larry & Sandy Oates, is graduating from Ripon High School, where she has been actively involved in the FFA, athletics and clubs on campus. She will be attending CalPoly San Luis Obispo to study Agricultural Communications.

Logan Vos, son of Brian & Lynette Vos, graduates from Ripon Christian on June 3. He is planning to attend Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois.

College Graduates:

Matthew & Janaye (De Winkle) Gerrelts graduated from Dordt College on May 6. They are moving to Boulder, Colorado, where Matthew will be starting a pre-med program at University of Colorado. Janaye hopes to find an elementary school teaching job.

Karen Hoek graduated from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She has earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (BSN) and plans to return to Ripon to look for work in the area.

Aaron Hollander, son of Tim & Cathy Hollander, graduated from California State University, Fresno. He has a Bachelor of Science, Agriculture Business degree and plans to work in produce sales with Kingsburg Orchards.

Graduation is a ceremony that marks the end of study and the beginning of education.
—Evan Esar

Managing Job Stress

Unfortunately, stress is something no one can just eliminate, so you need your own strategies to deal with it. Just as physical disease or spiritual issues can derail your overall health, job stress can greatly affect your emotional or mental well-being, which can then sabotage your physical and spiritual health. Many times headaches, sore muscles, and certain stomach ailments can be symptoms of unrelieved stress.

Understanding the causes and effects of work-related stress is important in developing the strategies for change. The most important factor in any stress management program is the belief that positive alternatives exist. Feeling trapped without choices is the greatest stressor of all.

There are two ways to approach work related stress. You can reduce environmental stressors, and you can change your response to this stress. Discussing your concerns and suggestions with a supervisor is often helpful.

Suggestions for change:

- Be appropriately assertive and don't feel guilty about saying "no" to prevent becoming over-loaded.
- Recognize that personal problems of co-workers can cause them to function in unhealthy ways. Remember that you did not cause these problems, and be as supportive of co-workers as you can while at work.
- Practice relaxation skills and avoid unhealthy escape mechanisms such as smoking, drinking alcohol or using drugs.
- Make sure to take your breaks and vacations.
- Exercise--this is an excellent way to deal with stress and the biochemical effects of tension and pressure. Take a brisk walk outside during lunch or exercise after work.
- Become more efficient with your time. Learn to avoid time wasters such as unnecessary phone calls, idle talk, and gossip.

Christians are not immune to stress and troubles. We need to do what the psalmist did and put our hope and trust in God's promises.

You are my refuge and my shield. I have put my hope in your word.

Psalm 119:114

Judy Vander Plaats, RN

Highway of life

While we're speeding down the highway
Let's count mileposts in sequence.
They all seem so close together,
Almost like a picket fence.
Our birthdays, too, are in the fast lane,
Which should make this thought serene:
From life's milestones to its tombstones,
There is little space between.
Hence, this moral: Let's start giving
Much less time to stress and strife;
While we race to make a living,
Let's take time to make a life.

—Dave Wadley



Remember to access our
Helping Hands Ministry
during times of crisis or
change in your life by
calling the church office,
599-6163.

Coffee Break 2010-2011

submitted by Gert Vos

Another Coffee Break season has come to a close. We had a fantastic year with an all time high attendance in the fall. We had to solicit a fourth set of leaders in order to accommodate the 52-55 women in the morning. The evening group averaged between eight to fifteen women. Some nights we had two groups and other times we met altogether as one. About one fourth of the women were not Immanuel members.

We used a variety of study books this year. We started out the season by studying the topic of prayer. Some very interesting discussions took place concerning prayer. Our second series of lessons was based on the times of the Judges of Israel. This study was quite an eye opener and rather gruesome at times. We definitely saw the hand of God working among the people "that did what was right in their own eyes." After the Judges, we thought we were ready to experience some of God's grace as revealed to us in the book of Ephesians. The book of Ephesians is short, but it contains the mystery of God's marvelous love for us and God's purpose for the church. We finished up the season with three lessons on "The Joy of Sharing Jesus." Paul reminds us to be confident and willing to "answer everyone" who has questions about the hope that we have for our future.

This season we had two special service projects. For Valentine's Day, the morning Coffee Break group made "Love Bags" for the residents at Mary Graham Children's Center and the Haven of Peace. The evening group delivered balloons and treats to several of our own church members who are confined to their homes. At Easter time, we made a HUGE Easter basket of all kinds of things and delivered it to the Haven of Peace. The directors of these homes are very appreciative that others remember those living in temporary shelters.

Thanks be to God for another great Coffee Break year.



Coffee Break Small Groups



Dear friends at Immanuel,

Thank you so much for your recent gifts to World Missions for our support. What a blessing it is to partner with you as we serve the Fulbe here in Guinea.

It has been a busy trekking season this year so far. It has been amazing to watch how God provides for us and "paves" the way as we go from village to village. It has also been great to see Scripture that was gifted to leaders in villages years ago being read and re-read and passed around! Thanks for praying!

In Christ, The Hoflands

"The test of courage comes when we are in the minority. The test of tolerance comes when we are in the majority."
—Ralph W. Sockman



Messenger Staff

Editor: Geri Witt; Copy Editor: Lorna Van Gilst
Contributors: Lauri Howard, Judy Vander Plaats

Geri Vos

Birthdays: Margaret Roos

Library: Alice den Dulk

Assembly / Distribution: Gladys Duyst

Thanks to all of you for your efforts!



DEADLINE:
Newsletter Articles
July 10, 2011

New in the Library

June 2011



CHILDREN'S BOOKS

I Want To Know About Jesus by Rick Osborne and K. Christie Bowler.
My Heart – Christ's Home by Robert Boyd Munger.

FICTION

Heroes of Quantico Series by Irene Hannon.

- A-1 *Against All Odds* When a deadly threat turns personal, can the FBI's finest protect her?
 A-2 *An Eye For An Eye* Both had enemies – but who was the killer's real target?
 A-3 *In Harm's Way* The danger is real, but can she convince the FBI her story is true?

Books 2 and 3 of the *Rock Harbor Series* by Colleen Coble. (We already have books 1 and 4.)

- A-2 *Beyond A Doubt* Nothing seems beyond a doubt when Bree opens a cold-case file with clues too close for comfort.
 A-3 *Into The Deep* A local scientist misses his son's birthday party and turns up dead in Lake Superior.

A-1 *Leaving* by Karen Kingsbury. The *Bailey Flanigan Series*, book one.

Discover the joy of reading, or rediscover it! Summer is a great time to relax and read a book. The library volunteers will check out books for two weeks but will be flexible for returns that conflict with vacation schedules. The Immanuel library is open before and after the morning services. The library is located "under the stairs" in the front entry, and there is also an entry from the Orange Street side entrance. If you have any suggestions or donations for the library, please feel free to contact the office, secretary@immanuelcrc.org. or Alice den Dulk, denDulk61@aol.com.

Follow God's song

In Max Lucado's *The Song of the King* (Crossway Books), three knights long to marry a princess, so her father arranges a contest. Suitors must travel through a dark forest full of frightening creatures. Each suitor may select one travel partner.

One suitor selects the princess's brother, who displays an ivory flute, one of only two in the kingdom; the other flute is his father's. The flutes play the same song. "[The] king will play from the castle wall," the prince says. "Follow his song, and you will find the castle."

How did the winning suitor avoid getting confused by creatures who imitated the king's song? "I knew ... only one ... could play the song as you do," he tells the king. "So I asked [the prince] to travel with me. As we journeyed, he played. I learned your song so well that though a thousand false flutes tried to hide your music, I could still hear you."

God's song is love, and his Son, Jesus, plays it, too. When Jesus is our companion through life's darkness and confusion, he'll lead us safely to our heavenly King.

By Enabling Hearing, Churches Lead

(reprinted from the Spring 2011 *Breaking Barriers, Disability Concerns*)

David G. Myers, member of Hope Church (RCA), Holland, Michigan; author of *A Quiet World: Living with Hearing Loss*; and recipient of 2011 President's Award from the American Academy of Audiology



Imagine yourself as a person with significant hearing loss. At worship, or perhaps in a movie theater, you struggle to carve meaning out of the spoken word. Given two assistive listening options, which would you prefer:

To make the effort to locate, check out, wear, and return a special headset that likely is incompatible with your hearing aids or cochlear implant, and that delivers the same sound to everyone?

To inconspicuously push a button that transforms your hearing aids into wireless loudspeakers that broadcast sound customized for your own hearing needs?

Option 1 is the prevalent assistive listening technology in the USA. Option 2, assistive listening that is directly hearing aid compatible, is the common option in worship facilities in the UK and Scandinavia...and in West Michigan, where most churches in Holland/Zeeland and Grand Rapids now offer this user-friendly "hearing loop" assistance. Moreover, it has spread to many other Michigan venues, including school auditoriums, the Grand Rapids Airport, and even the 12,200 fixed seats of Michigan State University's basketball arena.

Happily, the momentum is spreading. In Wisconsin, some five dozen facilities have responded affirmatively to an audiologist-led campaign (www.loopwisconsin.com). There, too, churches are leading the culture in making sound more conveniently accessible. One Wisconsin parishioner recalls, "The first Sunday the loop system was activated in my church was one of the most memorable days of my life. For the very first time I was able to hear every word, and it was as if the pastor was speaking directly into my ear. As I looked around the congregation, other people who wear hearing aids had looks of wonder on their faces, and I knew they were experiencing the same thing. Some of us had tears streaming down our cheeks."

Similarly, in Arizona, New Mexico, Silicon Valley (California), Rochester (New York), Chicago, and New York City, thanks to grassroots initiatives, people are hearing the word with refreshing clarity. In fact, the response has been so wonderful that the Hearing Loss Association of America and the American Academy of Audiology have launched a "Get in the Hearing Loop" national campaign, which culminates June 18-20 with a national conference in Washington, D.C.

Sometimes, the church seems to follow the culture. In supporting people with hearing loss, the church is leading the culture. (For more information—including sound demonstrations, lists of looped facilities, and vendors—see www.hearingloop.org.)

Hearing assistance available at Immanuel: All of the following options use a receiver (labeled R). A is an "Over the ear" phone.



B is the headphone.



C is the "ear bud" or in ear phone.



D is the telecoil necklace, using the technology as mentioned in the "Enabling Hearing" article. It uses the receiver and the telecoil function on your hearing aid device.



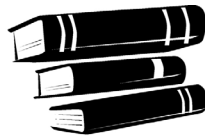
If you would be interested in bring this technology to a complete 'loop' at Immanuel CRC, please talk to our Technology team heads, Jim Teach and/or Ralph Meems.

CRCNA and Classis Central California Appoints Disability Advocate

Classis Central California now has a Regional Disability Advocate for the churches in our classis. Our Regional Advocate is a volunteer who promotes the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the life of the 34 congregations in the Central California Classis. The Regional Advocate provides training, resources and regular encouragement to the Church Advocates. The Regional Advocate also assesses needs and resources, assists in accessibility audits of church facilities, and provides information and advice to church families and people with disabilities.

Immanuel member Christine Hager is the Central California Classis Regional Disability Advocate. Christine, Reggie and their son, Ben Couch, live in Ripon. Christine is an Assistant Clients' Rights Advocate for Disability Rights California. She has worked with and supported people with disabilities for the last 19 years. Christine brings great enthusiasm to her new role as she strives to integrate all members of the community, people with disabilities in particular, into the church family.

In healthy churches, all of God's people belong, and all serve God with the gifts he has given them. Jesus' body, the church, has many parts but is ONE; therefore, each member of Christ's body (each person) is essential for a healthy church. "The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ...those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable." (1Corinthians 12:12, 22)



BOOK REVIEW – *NIGHT* by Elie Wiesel
Lauri Howard, Coordinator of Ministries

Our May book discussion included a DVD of an interview at the Auschwitz death camp with author Elie Wiesel, a teen-aged survivor of the Holocaust, who lost most of his family during this tragic time.

As you can imagine, the book is difficult to read and often times unbelievable. However, I came away with an immense respect for Wiesel's ability not only to survive, but also to bring attention to injustices throughout the world.

Wiesel was able to lift himself out of his grief to bestow hope for fellow sufferers. His selfless character, generosity and empathy for others were major factors in his being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986. Author of more than 40 books, Wiesel has been a professor at Boston University since 1976. A truly amazing man and inspiring life story.

BOOK REVIEW

RECOMMENDED READING

Lauri Howard

I just finished a book that captured my attention. I had to run out to Target last night to get book #2 in the series. *The Walk* by Richard Paul Evans is the story of a man who has it all – money, success, happy marriage – and literally loses everything in a very short time. Overcome with grief, he leaves his old life behind and starts out on a walking trip across the United States, from Seattle to Key West. Along the way he meets people who help renew his faith and restore his will to live. He, in turn, helps others who are in need.

The writing style is captivating. Mr. Evans is a bestselling author for good reason. He has sold more than 14 million copies of previous works, such as *The Christmas Box*, *The Gift*, *The Last Promise*. Four of his books have been made into movies. Mr. Evans' deep faith in God shines through his stories.

I highly recommend this series and can't wait for the next to come out. My copies will be in the library to sign out. Enjoy!

PENTECOST MOBILE

Make this craft as a reminder that God's Holy Spirit is all around you.

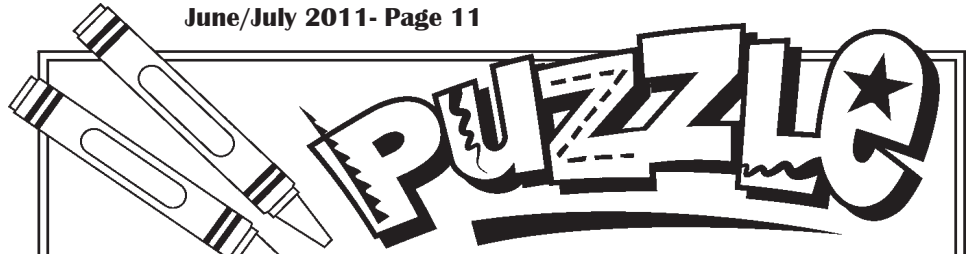
What you need:

- Tissue paper (red, yellow, orange), torn into squares
- Plastic transparency
- Craft glue
- Paintbrush
- Construction paper
- Black marker
- Wire hanger
- White copy paper
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Hole punch
- Fishing line



What you do:

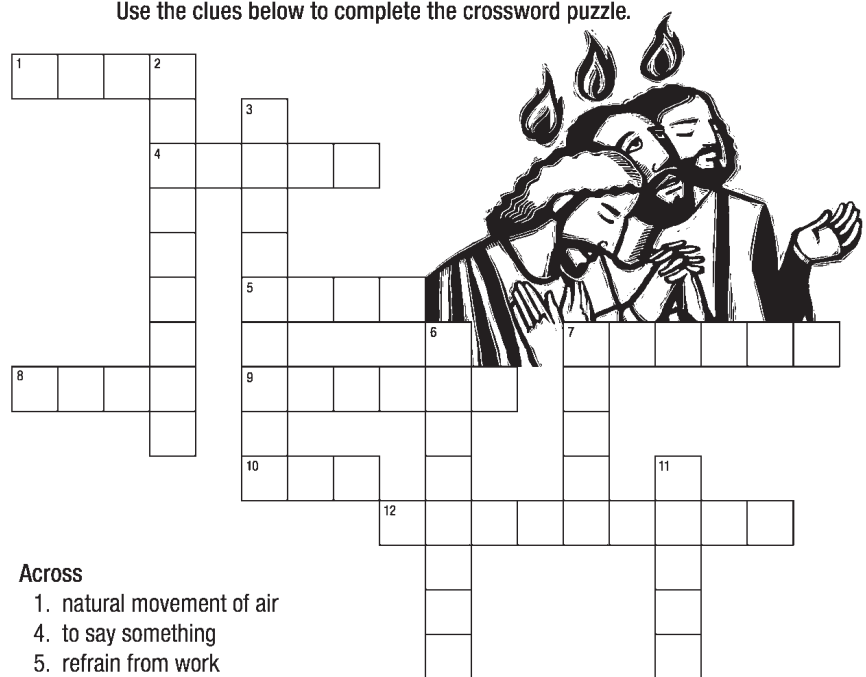
1. Overlap tissue squares as "flames" on the transparency.
2. "Paint" glue (thinned with water) over the squares.
3. Fold construction paper in half. Write out Acts 2:4 at the top, by the fold.
4. Poke the hanger through the middle of the fold.
5. On the white paper, write "Holy Spirit" in English, Spanish (*Espiritu Santo*), French (*L'esprit Saint*), etc.
6. Cut out a flame pattern and trace it on the back of the transparency.
7. Cut out flames and glue the "Holy Spirit" names on them.
8. Thread fishing line through a hole atop each flame and tie flames onto the hanger.



The Spirit Comes

ACTS 2 TELLS ABOUT A SPECIAL DAY
WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME TO THE DISCIPLES.

Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.



Across

1. natural movement of air
4. to say something
5. refrain from work
7. place where God is
8. a combustion or burning that gives light, heat and smoke
9. part of mouth that can taste and lick
10. the time between sunrise and sunset
12. the day the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples

Down

2. followers of Christ
3. moved apart
6. quickly and unexpectedly
7. a building where people live
11. vibrations that travel through the air

Answers: Across 1. wind, 4. speak, 5. rest, 7. heaven, 8. fire, 9. tongue, 10. day, 12. Pentecost; Down 2. disciples, 3. separated, 6. suddenly, 7. house, 11. sound

~ Christian Symbols ~ RAM

This Old Testament symbol of Christ represents him as the leader of the "herd," as well as a sacrifice for people's sins. Jesus' sacrificial death was foretold in Genesis 22, when God instructed Abraham to kill his only son, Isaac. But God provided a ram to take Isaac's place, just as he provided Jesus, God's only Son, to take our place on the cross.



June is a popular month for weddings. The gospel of John tells about a wedding Jesus attended at Cana. At the reception, he offered a special gift. What was it?



- A. Money
- B. Pottery
- C. Healing
- D. Wine

Answer: (See John 2:1-11.)

Devotional on The Philippian Jailer from www.kidscorner.net

MEMORY VERSE: Acts 16:31 "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved."

What if it was you? What would you do if you were the jailer in charge of two prisoners named Paul and Silas?

Imagine that you are an ordinary person whose job is to be in charge of the local jail. You do your job well because you know that if a prisoner ever escapes, the officials will kill you as punishment. One day two beaten bloody men are brought to your jail. You are told, "The judges are very angry with these two men. Guard them carefully!"

You put these two criminals into the very most inner cell you have. You fasten their feet in stocks. There's no way these prisoners will ever escape from your jail. Every hour you check on them, just to make sure.

These two men are strange. What are they doing? They are praying to their God and singing songs about someone named Jesus. You listen to their words. You wonder about Jesus before you fall asleep at the jail.

Suddenly, a violent earthquake shakes the entire jail. The prison doors fly open. The chains on the prisoners fall off. You wake up. You see all the doors open. You figure that every prisoner has escaped. You are in so much trouble that you decide to kill yourself with your sword. But wait...you hear a voice. The voice is saying, "Don't hurt yourself! We are all here!" The voice belongs to Paul.

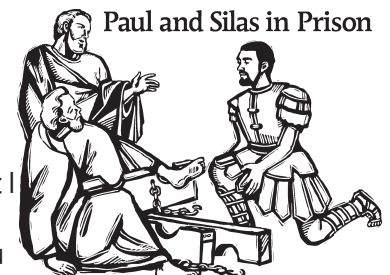
You rush to their cell. You fall down before them. What do you say? You ask, "What must I do to be saved?"

Paul answers you, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." That very night you and your entire family become Christians.

What is the most important question that anyone can ever ask? It's the jailer's question: What must I do to be saved? The answer-believe in Jesus-is what thousands of people need to hear. Give the answer-believe in Jesus-to someone today!

Kids Corner:
Check out the Kids
Corner website
www.kidscorner.net

Kids Corner is a member of the HisKids.net alliance—working together to provide quality entertainment for kids that is Christ-centered and Bible-based. Visit HisKids.net to find more great Christian programs for kids. Then email Kids Corner at kids@kidscorner.net for your very own Bible study.



Paul and Silas in Prison

Mustard ice cream

Jonathan Acuff, author of *Stuff Christians Like* (Zondervan), remembers watching a child accidentally squirt mustard on an ice cream sundae at Chuck E. Cheese. When an employee tried to hand the embarrassed boy a new bowl, he insisted he was okay and just began stirring the mustard into his ice cream.

Acuff says he's put a lot worse than mustard in his proverbial sundae. "For most of my adult life, I thought that being a Christian just meant stirring harder," he writes. But no amount of effort on our part can make us good enough. "I finally saw how broken my bowl really was and realized that I could not fix me with me," Acuff says. That's when he realized Jesus came for the sick.

"Let's quit trying to be enough," Acuff urges Christians. "Let's stop trying so hard. Let's be sick. Let's be loved."



PATRIOTIC PARFAIT

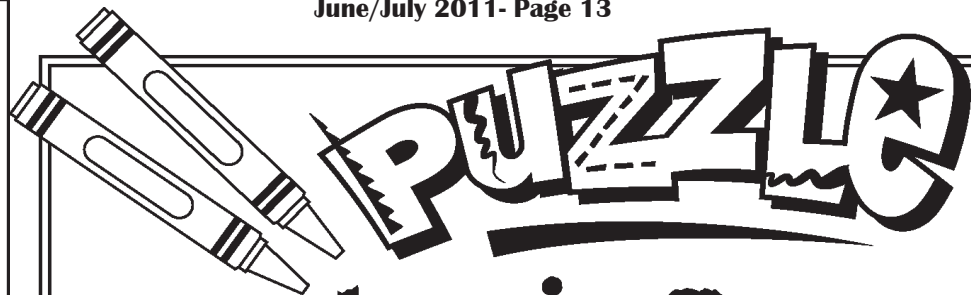
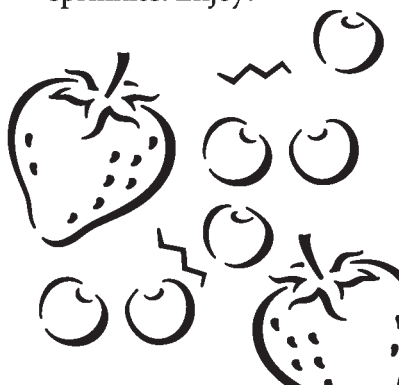
On the 4th of July, make this healthy, festive dessert to share with family and friends.

What you need:

- Clear glasses or plastic cups
- Spoons
- Vanilla yogurt
- Cut strawberries
- Fresh blueberries
- Coconut, whipped cream, red and blue sprinkles (optional)

What you do:

1. Place a couple of spoonfuls of vanilla yogurt at the bottom of each glass or cup.
2. Add cut strawberries to cover the yogurt layer.
3. Add more yogurt over the strawberries.
4. Add a layer of blueberries.
5. Repeat the layers until you reach the top of the glass or cup.
6. For extra fun, add coconut, whipped cream and sprinkles. Enjoy!



Freedom in Christ

This Independence Day, remember that our true freedom comes from faith in Jesus.

★★★★★

Directions: In each set of letters, determine the pattern. Then write the letter that completes the pattern, to reveal Galatians 5:1, niv.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

F	Q	L	V	C	R	O
G	R	K	U	D	Q	P
H	S	J	T	E	P	Q
—	—	—	—	—	—	—

I	O	B	H	A	L	P	Q	K	D	W
H	P	C	G	B	M	O	R	J	C	V
G	Q	D	F	C	N	N	S	I	B	U
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

F	E	U	L	P	W	E	D	V
E	F	T	K	Q	V	F	C	U
D	G	S	J	R	U	G	B	T
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

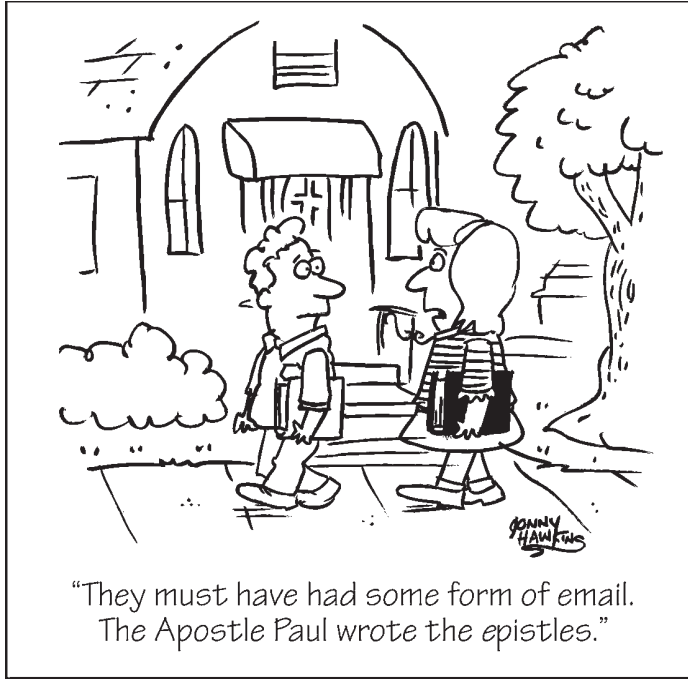
P	B	Q	R	V	C	O	H	B
Q	C	R	S	U	D	P	G	C
R	D	S	T	T	E	Q	F	D
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Answers: It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. (Galatians 5:1, NIV)

~ Christian Symbols ~ SEEDS

The Bible often uses seeds as symbols of faith or God's Word. In the Old Testament, seeds also refer to offspring. Jesus said people who believe in him can perform mighty deeds with "faith the size of a mustard seed" (Luke 17:6, NRSV). Many of Jesus' teachings use seed imagery; for example, in the parable of the four soils, he said the seed, God's Word, can grow only when people hear it, "hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance" (Luke 8:15, NRSV).



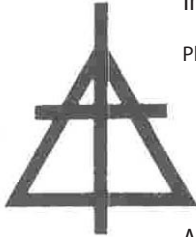


Service & Group Times

Sunday Worship Services - 8:30am, 11am, 6pm
 Combined service August 7 and September 4, 10:00 a.m.
 Church School for all ages- Resumes in September
 Choir- Resumes in September
 Chimes choir- 1st-3rd Monday nights, 7:00 p.m.
 Craft Group - 3rd Fridays - 7:00 pm
 Young Couples - 4th Friday of the month
 J Crew (7th & 8th Grades) - watch for announcements
 Journey (9th-12th Grade) - watch for announcements
 Cadets (4th-8th Gr. Boys) - Resumes in September
 Men's Bible Study- Resumes in September
 Friendship Class- Resumes in September
 Women in the Word-
 Morning Seekers - Resumes in September
 Mary & Martha Bible Study - Resumes in September
 G.E.M.S. (5th-8th Gr. Girls) - Resumes in September
 COMING SOON--Wednesday Bible class 1st-4th grade
 Coffee Break Women's Bible Study - Resumes in September
 Saturday Men's Bible Study-

Staff / Contacts
 OFFICE HOURS are Tuesday-Friday 8:30am-3:00pm
 Lead Pastor: Rev. Ken Boonstra
 Pastor of Youth Ministries: Rev. Bret Lamsma
 Ministry Coordinator: Lauri Howard
 Secretary (W&F)/Worship Coordinator: Geri Witt
 Secretary (Tu,W,Th): Lindsay Rubio
 Bookkeeper: Melanie Mendes
 Custodian: Audrey Keast

Email Prayer Chain : secretary@immanuelcrc.org
 CDs of Sunday Services : Ralph Roos (599-2862)
 Bulletin Deadline : Thursday, 9:00 am
 August Messenger Deadline: July 10
 e-mail to : secretary@immanuelcrc.org
 Church Office Hours : 8:30am-3pm
 Tuesday- Friday



Immanuel Christian Reformed Church
 517 Orange Avenue Ripon, CA 95366
 Phone: (209) 599-6163 ♦ Fax: (209) 599-6164
www.immanuelcrc.org

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED