

August 2011

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF  
THE RISEN SAVIOR**

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**Sunday Worship Themes -  
August**

7<sup>th</sup>: "God's Promise of  
Salvation"

*Romans 10:8b-13*

14<sup>th</sup>: "Mercy - For Whom?"

*Matthew 15:21-28*

21<sup>st</sup>: "Awesome!"

*Romans 11:33-36*

28<sup>th</sup>: "Marks of the Christian"

*Romans 12:9-21*

*We invite you to read, pray  
and prepare for each time of  
worship.*

*jws*

# THE BIBLE ON TRIAL

Beyond A Reasonable Doubt

*The Bible ... how can we know what it says is true? What is it about this fascinating book that has compelled people to give their lives to defend its claims?*

Men and women are invited to join the Men's Bible Breakfast group to view and discuss this video at 8:00 AM beginning August 4th in the Fellowship Hall. Four one hour episodes will provide the "evidence" - you are the jury.

A continental breakfast will be available. Please reserve your place on the signup sheet in the narthex.

## Musical Comedy and Pizza Night

Sunday, August 21, 5:30 till 7:30PM in Fellowship Hall, Francisco Rentería, who sings with the Arizona Opera Co., will entertain you with one of the funniest and greatest musical comedies. Forget about cooking dinner, just come and enjoy pizza and the fabulous show! Admission is by donation (suggested donation - \$10). If you have any questions, please call 625-2612 or e-mail [JisunL@risen-savior.org](mailto:JisunL@risen-savior.org)

**Need Help!!!** For the Musical Comedy and Pizza Night, we need lots of people for a "prep squad" (arrive early) and a "cleaning squad" (stay after the show). If your heart feels called to this, please contact Ji Sun @325-3199 or e-mail [JisunL@risen-savior.org](mailto:JisunL@risen-savior.org) Any help will be appreciated. Thanks!

## The Parson's Paragraphs

Are your 100 days of R & R (Rest & Reflection) going well? What are thinking about - doing - planning? For whom are you praying? With whom are you working? To whom are you witnessing? What are you reading? What are you sharing? I'm waiting to hear!

Prayer continues to be central to our lives - not simply 'what we do' but 'Whose we are!' Please consider the many opportunities listed below for prayer (and this is just a beginning) ... and I pray you will engage in two or more! Some are individual, and others are corporate.

Praying Holy Scripture. As you read a portion of God's Word, pause to think about its meaning and impact; then, meditate on its implications for you, and pray about them. Many "pray the Psalms" in this fashion.

Praying the Altar Prayers. 'But doesn't the pastor do that?' Yes --- but think of the increased meaning and import for you if/as you pray them, also, visualizing the people or concerns mentioned. Just think - we might hear a few "Amen!" responses ... aloud ... and from Lutherans! ☺

Prayer continues to be central to our lives - not simply 'what we do' but 'Whose we are!'

9:38. Remember? Matthew 9.38 encourages us to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest. Some of us set our watches or phones to ring at 9:38 each day: we are reminded ... and we pray!

Prayer Break. What a joy to gather for breakfast, to fellowship, to share Scripture, and to pray. While there may be occasional noise in the restaurant, we work to listen well to each other --- then pray silently. You are welcome any Tuesday, 8:00AM, at Jerry Bobs.

Prayer Chain. By telephone and email, we are connected to those who make requests for others and for themselves. In addition, we are connected to others on the Chain --- and we can feel the Holy Spirit working in and through us . . . and praying with and for us!

30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim world. We are encouraged and challenged to pray from August 1-30 (Ramadan—the holy month of fasting in Islam). Contrary to the "all religions are the same" mantra, we want all to know and follow Jesus - the only Savior; the Way, the Truth and the Life.

366 Days of Prayer around the English District. We remember in prayer the wonderful varieties of ministry God directs in the USA and Canada among His people of the English District - LCMS.

Praying for \_\_\_\_\_. She is the waitress or hairdresser; he is the golfing buddy or co-volunteer. They are the new (or long-time) neighbors; they are the friends with whom you share food or games. And --- he, she or they are people who may not know their Savior! This takes prayer, then social interaction, then verbal witnessing.

For - with - about whom or what are you praying? I pray the Lord blesses this important time, ministry, and response to His Word. Amen!

*John Wm Stieve*

"Following Christ into People's Lives"

## Goodbye...Hello

It seems like life is full of goodbyes. Whether it is trips to the store, moving away from home, or passing on from this world to be with the Lord, it seems like we are always saying goodbye. Goodbyes can feel sad to us, especially when we aren't sure when we will see a loved one again. But there is a different kind of goodbye, that is not a product of change in distance or location. It is a goodbye, brought on by a change in relationship or position. And this article is that kind of goodbye.

At the Gracepoint worship service on July 10<sup>th</sup>, I formally accepted our new congregation's call to be their pastor. This means that I will be released from my call to Risen Savior. I will no longer be the associate pastor here. It is the Lord's time. So it is time for me to say goodbye, in an official capacity.

I have truly enjoyed serving as vicar and pastor at Risen Savior and I could not have imagined a more supportive, caring and nurturing place to begin my growth in the pastoral ministry. This is a terrific church. I think you truly understand what it means to be blessed, to be a blessing to others. Thank you all for your kind words and encouragement. Thank you for your patience and help in the growth of our mission church to this point. And thank you for the little notes, the pats on the back, and the babysitting. And thank you for your continued prayers and support as we move forward through our first years as a church.

We have come a long way in the past 3 years, when we established our presence in Sahuarita. But there is still much important work to do: From completing our incorporation, setting up our own financials, securing permits to move our worship services to the new property, beginning a capital campaign to build a worship facility that will allow us to grow and most importantly, continuing the ministry that our Lord has called us to Sahuarita.

So this is goodbye. But it is also hello. Because our relationship is changed now. I am no longer your pastor. But I am still a pastor, carrying on the same ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ to people the Lord has prepared for us. My hope and my vision is that our two congregations will always be connected in this important work.

My hope and prayer is that our ministry together would reflect the Word as it comes to us in Ephesians 4:

*"Walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit--just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call--one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."*

To God alone be the glory! † - Pastor Steve

# Light in The Darkness

The All Sufficient One- I AM

The name of God most frequently used in the Old Testament is Jehovah. (Nearly 7,000 times). You may know that we will see this word in our Bible as Lord (using small capital letters). Throughout Genesis 1 we see the word God in nearly every verse. This is Elohim- the supreme God, divine, ruler.

Genesis 2:4 is the first time we see "Jehovah" (YHWH), "...in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens." And so for the rest of chapter 2, our Creator is referred to as "LORD God" instead of just 'God'.

Vine's Dictionary of the Bible explains that the 4 letter Hebrew word, YHWH, is the divine, personal name, denoting personal relationship. YHWH relates to the verb "to be". Though the meaning is debated, one focus is that this God was an eternal, self-existent One with unique being.

So, the eternal, supreme God, ruler and creator of all tells us His personal Name so we can have a personal relationship with Him. WOW.

*Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" Exodus 3:13-14*

Well known Bible teacher, Kay Arthur, says "when God made this statement to Moses, His people understood for the first time the significance of what *Jehovah* meant...that His name went with His covenant promise to...Abraham regarding the land of Canaan."

The Bible records many promises made by our LORD God and not one of them has failed to come to pass, though we are still waiting. I Am promises to sustain all of creation, provide for all our needs, the presence of the Holy Spirit that we may know our Savior, be comforted in our anxiety and suffering, and that He has prepared a place for us with Him in His heaven where we will spend the rest of eternity with Him.

Some of you have amazing accounts of how God has made Himself known to you in very real and dramatic ways. Others of you may be wondering if God really exists if you don't have a powerful story. Regardless, Jehovah is the creator of an amazing universe- no one created Him. Jehovah is the covenant maker and keeper, He never fails or reneges, though we break our promises to Him often.

Think about the many ways, especially the subtle ones, in which our Lord, the Alpha and Omega, the changeless, eternal God reveals Himself to you each day. Also think about the people with whom you can share this real and personal God by words and deeds. This is not a legalistic "you must do it" statement. It's a Gospel motivated "get to" or "I can't help but...".

First Tuesday Women's Bible Study  
August 2, 10 AM,  
We will finish the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of "Speak the Truth". Copies of the handout will be in the narthex on goldenrod paper.

Tip of the Month- E Scrip @ Safeway  
It's the time of year when Safeway gives 10% back to schools and organizations registered with escrip. If you have a Safeway "Club Card" please link it to LCRS. Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) and follow the instructions. Our "Group Number" is **9607072**. If you need help, I will be glad to assist you.

This is an easy way for you to donate to our Compassion fund at no additional expense to you. Just shop at Safeway, swipe your shoppers card so you can get your sales prices, and LCRS gets 1% donated of your purchase total (10% on selected items 8/10-9/13/2011).

The money earned is deposited into the compassion fund so food and gas cards can be purchased for people in need. During the month of May, we earned \$14.76. Thanks to all who are signed up for escrip!

Operation Christmas Child  
This congregation has been involved in this special project for many years. It is time to start preparing to get started. A project coordinator is needed. Time commitment: mid Sept- mid Nov. Job description: assist with publicity, set up and maintain display, work with the area coordinator to make sure boxes get to Denver in time to be prepared. Please let me know if you are interested.

Following Christ into people's lives,

*Deaconess Jeri Morrison*

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*Sunday Morning*

*Adult class*

*July 31- August 21*

*“Miracles” will resume and conclude. This class will meet in the Fellowship Hall approximately 15 min. after the conclusion of worship.*

*Each week is its own lesson. Please come even if you have missed other class sessions.*



*Today's Light  
Saturdays, 3:15*

*Led by George and Evie Klammer, this group reads through the Bible in about 2 years. There are readings for you to do at home for about 15 minutes each day. Then they meet on Saturdays to discuss that week's readings.*

*This is a great way to read through the Bible! The reading plan is not too difficult, it encourages daily reading. Participants are encouraged to keep a journal of their thoughts and questions. The group discussion promotes accountability and a deeper understanding of God's Word.*



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*Little Lambs Worship*

*For Children ages 3-5 years old This program is off to a great start. The volunteers are enthusiastic; the children get an opportunity to worship at their own developmental level.*

*A nursery will likely be available for younger children by the time this is published.*

*Please let Deaconess know if you are expecting young visitors to come to church with you so we can plan for their participation.*



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*The Bible on Trial*

*Hosted by: Men's Bible Breakfast*

*Thursdays of August, 8 AM*

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All men AND women, and anyone from the community is invited to participate in this provocative Lutheran Hour Ministries program.

The videos will be shown in the Fellowship Hall followed by discussion.

Breakfast will be served!

**Vacation Bible School—Kid's Camp—Gracepoint**

